

CID Continues Economic Development Meetings – Oct. 11



More than 100 representatives from business, community and government sectors in DeKalb County and the metro area participated in the CID's economic development plan kickoff meeting in August.

The October 11 gathering is the second of three public meetings with business and community representatives. This meeting will highlight draft study recommendations and discuss proposed initiatives.

CID Chairman Larry Callahan said the public meeting will focus on employer retention and growth as well as area mobility improvements. The planning effort is a partnership

between the CID, Atlanta Regional Commission and DeKalb County Development Authority.

"Our stakeholders and partners provide valuable insight on those actions and investments that will foster area and countywide job growth," Callahan said. "Our CID is working at all levels to attract employers that will bring 2,000 new jobs here before the end of 2013."

Stone Mountain CID Economic Development Meeting

Thursday, October 11, 2012

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Eagle Rock Distributing

1375 Beverage Drive, Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Meeting attendance is by RSVP only. Contact Amanda Hatton:
amanda.hatton@jacobs.com or 678.333.0476



CID Board Member Profile Rusty McKellar

Pattillo Industrial Real Estate

opportunity, medical care and artistic opportunity, and I am grateful to be a part of each," McKellar said.

His participation with the CID's board gives him a first-hand opportunity to join others working for the benefit of the surrounding community.

"Our individual members have exhibited leadership by bonding together and investing in the greater good of the community," McKellar said. "Through their sacrifice and faith in the organization, we can create value and enhance opportunities throughout the CID."

"Without ambition, one starts nothing," he added. "Without work, one finishes nothing." I am honored to be part of the CID and look forward to exceeding expectations."

Rusty McKellar has personal and professional connections to the CID area and greater DeKalb County.

Since 1989, McKellar has worked for Pattillo with a focus on property development/management, sales, purchases, property taxes and insurance.

Additionally, McKellar has served on the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce board since 1997. He is also an active, long-time board member with the ART Station and Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC).

"These organizations enhance the quality of life through economic

Traffic signal upgrades progressing



The extensive work of installing new mast arms and upgrading the traffic signals at intersections throughout the CID will be complete before 2012 ends.

The over-the-roadway arms are installed along with fully functioning new signals. Concrete and sidewalk work near the new signals will be complete in October. The ramps will meet American with Disabilities (ADA) access requirements.

Beginning in 2013, the CID will install new street signs that are illuminated by light-emitting diodes (LED) on each mast arm, greatly enhancing safety and access. These LED illuminated street signs will be funded by a grant from the State Road & Tollway Authority.

In the meantime, the CID continues to work closely with DeKalb County to address much-needed infrastructure maintenance and repairs. An updated list of these repairs is on our website.

Recently, a new traffic signal was installed on East Ponce de Leon Avenue at Roadhaven Road. This is a significant traffic enhancement and safety project that has been planned for some time, but DeKalb County was required to obtain a permit from CSX Railroad before work could commence. This permit was recently obtained and the new signal was installed this month.

CID successfully launches job-centered planning effort



DeKalb Commissioner Jeff Rader, SMCID Chairman Larry Callahan, DeKalb Commissioner Sharon Barnes Sutton, DeKalb Commissioner Stan Watson, SMCID Board Member Steve Craine and SMCID President Emory Morsberger.

Stakeholders came together in August to discuss how the CID can serve as an employment generator for the county and region. The CID possesses a strategic location and resources for economic success. To build on this base, the following areas were recommended for improvement:

1. To retain and attract businesses, upgrade infrastructure and built environment.
2. To strengthen the CID's ability to capture business opportunities, streamline and modernize County development processes.
3. To improve employment prospects for DeKalb students and residents, build stronger partnerships between the business community, DeKalb County Public Schools and area technical schools.
4. Positively brand the area to increase business retention and attract new businesses.

The Stone Mountain Community Improvement District (CID) wants your feedback as it creates a first-of-its-kind strategic plan to attract employers to available commercial and industrial properties. Join the CID and partners on October 11, to provide input and draft recommendations.

Learn more at Stonemountaincid.com/economic-development



Patrece Keeter, DeKalb Supervising Engineer; SMCID President Emory Morsberger and Burke Brennan, DeKalb Chief Communications Officer

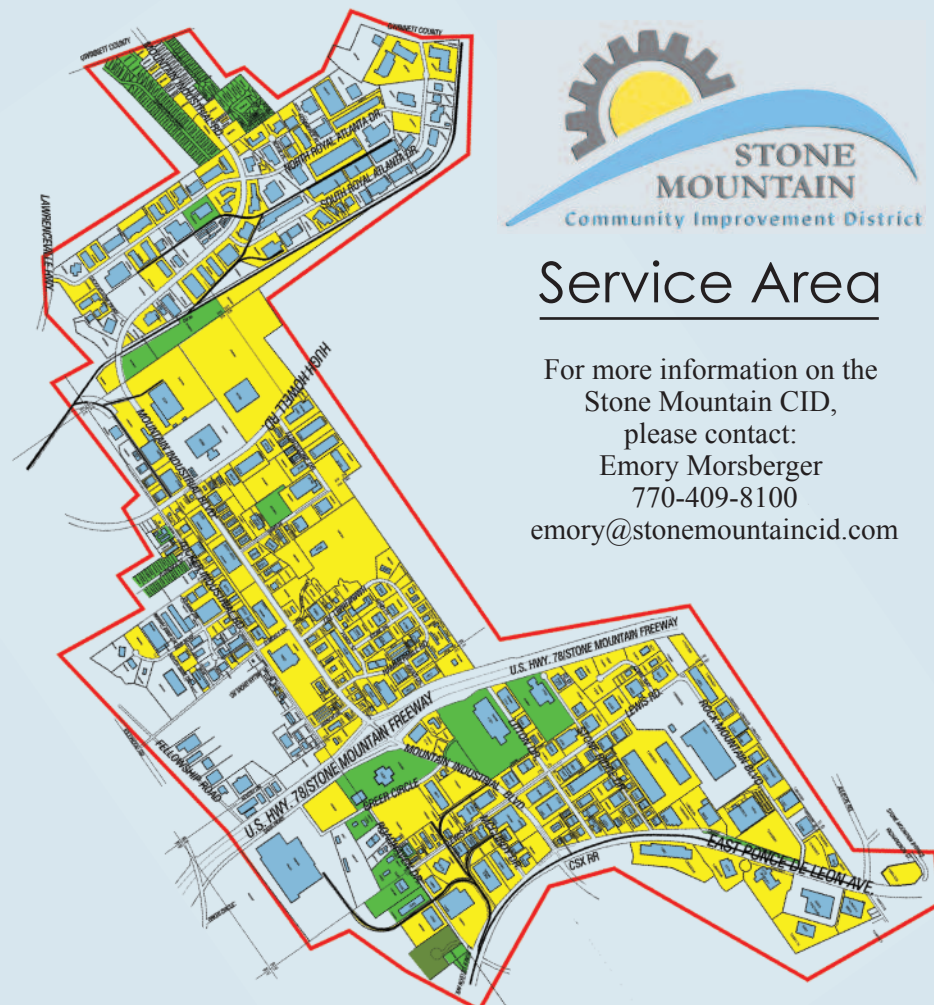


Joe Arrington, Neighborhood Leader; DeKalb Commissioner Jeff Rader and Judy Turner, DeKalb Development Authority Chair.

Economic development survey ends Oct. 12

Responses will help the economic planning teams to identify specific opportunities for improving the Stone Mountain CID area moving forward.

Surveymonkey.com/s/29RM7CN



Service Area

For more information on the Stone Mountain CID, please contact:
Emory Morsberger
770-409-8100
emory@stonemountaincid.com

The Stone Mountain CID Board meets monthly in the conference room of the Pierre Construction Company –1677 Lewis Way, Stone Mountain... check our web site for meeting times and dates.

CID urges defeat of new business tax

The CID's Board of Directors has expressed to County Commissioners its opposition to a new excise tax on DeKalb businesses.

County leaders are debating whether to adopt an new excise tax on the utilities sold to manufacturers.

The CID is opposed to this new tax because of its impact on existing and future manufacturers considering the area for investment and job growth. The following are excerpts from the CID's letters to County Commissioners:

One of our primary goals is to create 2,000 new jobs by the end of 2013. The new tax will hurt our ability to create those jobs and will lead to more empty buildings in our (22% vacant) area. Less jobs means less income in the area and a continued worsening local economy.

Georgia's elimination of the tax on utilities was initiated to make Georgia more competitive with adjoining states that do not charge the tax. New companies were not locating in Georgia partially because

of the burden of this tax in Georgia that did not exist in other southeastern prospective sites – causing Georgia to lose jobs.

Please remember that manufacturing jobs have a tremendous multiplier effect. Each new manufacturing position leads to 4-15 new jobs depending on the sector involved!

Now we cannot allow DeKalb to make itself noncompetitive with other counties, states and countries.