



Camden County Joint Development Authority Darren Harper, Project Manager

Darren Harper is the Project Manager for the Camden County Joint Development Authority (JDA). He began his position with the JDA in August, 2014 as part of the process to streamline and enhance economic development efforts throughout Camden County. Prior to his arrival at the JDA, Darren was Director of Economic Development for the City of Kingsland. He has extensive experience and background in architecture, historic preservation, downtown development, economic development, and project finance.



Mr. Harper supports the Executive Director of the JDA, James Coughlin, in business and industry attraction, retention, and expansion efforts throughout Camden County. He also assists in identifying and securing funds to support community economic development efforts. In realizing that true economic development is not constrained by boundary lines, Mr. Harper believes in establishing collaborative relationships with other organizations at the local, regional, state, and national level to help improve the local quality of life. He worked as a team member with representatives from the City of Kingsland, City of St. Marys, City of Woodbine and Camden County in successfully completing projects such as the Signature Community program, the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs – Quality Growth Resource Team visit, and the Georgia Tech Economic Diversification Study.

Darren is a member of the Georgia Economic Developers Association, the Southern Economic Development Council, the National Society for Leadership and Success and the Northeast Florida Chapter of NAIOP. In 2012, Darren was instrumental in facilitating the relocation and expansion of Summer Industries from Northeast Florida to Kingsland, Georgia. Summer Industries is the fourth largest manufacturer of spiral paper core tubing in the United States.

Mr. Harper is a 1993 graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Historic Preservation. He currently resides in Kingsland.