



Judy Putnam, Communications Director  
770-609-8821 (Direct), [jputnam@peachtreecornersga.gov](mailto:jputnam@peachtreecornersga.gov)  
[www.peachtreecornersga.gov](http://www.peachtreecornersga.gov)  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Economic Development Academy Graduates Two from Peachtree Corners

**PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA, Dec. 13, 2016** – Councilmember Lorri Christopher (Post 5) and Peachtree Corners staff member Jennifer Howard were among the six recent Gwinnett graduates completing the Board of Georgia Academy for Economic Development’s 2016 Region 3 Multi-Day Training Program.

The Academy’s multi-day program is taught one day a month over a four-month period and includes economic and community development training. The class also offers training in business recruitment and retention, tourism project development and downtown development.

“The city is pleased that Councilmember Christopher and Ms. Howard have completed this important training,” said Mayor Mike Mason. “The information they gleaned from the classes will be of great benefit to the city’s future economic development plans.”

The curriculum also features leadership skills such as consensus building, ethics in public service and collaborative leadership. The program offers class members the opportunity to understand the complexities of economic and community development on the local, regional and state levels. Graduation took place on Nov. 10.

Also among the graduating class was Lynette Howard, Gwinnett Commissioner for District 2. Ms. Howard’s district includes Peachtree Corners.

Corinne Thornton, Director of the Georgia Academy for Economic Development said, “One of the goals is to encourage multi-county cooperation. Many times the participants discover the issues facing their community are the same as those facing other communities in their region.”

The next Region 3 Georgia Academy for Economic Development begins August 2017. For more information contact John VanBrunt at [john.vanbrunt@dca.ga.gov](mailto:john.vanbrunt@dca.ga.gov) or 706-825-1356.

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