

EDAA



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA**

2024 **WINTER** CONFERENCE

JANUARY 29-31, 2024

RENAISSANCE MONTGOMERY HOTEL & SPA
201 TALLAPOOSA STREET, MONTGOMERY, AL 36104

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA

2 North Jackson Street, Suite 302, Montgomery, AL 36104

Phone: (334) 676-2085

edaa.org



PASSWORD
EDAA2024

2024 WINTER CONFERENCE

AGENDA



Exhibit Setup

MPAC Atrium

8:00 – 1:00

Registration

MPAC Atrium

11:00 – 5:00

Welcome

MPAC

1:30 – 1:45

**A Conversation With Ellen McNair,
Secretary, Alabama Department of Commerce**
Sponsored by: TVA

1:45 – 2:30

ADECA Update

Kenneth Boswell, Director, ADECA

2:30 – 3:00

Break

Sponsored by:

Baldwin County EDA

Dunn Building Company, LLC

Goodgame Company, Inc.

JESCO, Inc.

Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce

Terracon Consultants

3:00 – 3:25

AIDT Workforce Update

Ed Castile, Deputy Secretary, Workforce Development
Alabama Department of Commerce

3:30 – 3:50

EDPA Update

Greg Barker, President

3:50 – 4:20

The SEEDS Act – Process Overview

Thomas Tyson, PowerSouth Energy Cooperative, Moderator
Greg Blalock, EDPA
Cedric Colbert, GLS
Ted Clem, Alabama Department of Commerce

4:20 – 5:00

Opening Reception

Sponsored by:

Agracel

Bradley

Grow Southeast Alabama

5:30 – 6:30

Dinner on Your Own

6:30



Breakfast

Sponsored by:
Eufaula Barbour County Chamber of Commerce
TriRivers Waterway Development Association

7:00 – 8:00

Exhibit

MPAC Atrium

8:00 – 4:45

The Foreign Threat to American Business – The State of Alabama Counterintelligence Briefing

Michael C. Casey, Director, National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC)

8:15 – 9:15

The Alabama Port System – Economic Development and the Inland Ports System

John Driscoll, Alabama Port Authority

9:15 – 10:00

Break

Sponsored by:
Butler County Commission for Economic Development
Dynamic Civil Solutions
Horizon Point Consulting, Inc.
Lowndes County Economic Development
Morgan County Economic Development Association
The Westervelt Company

10:00 – 10:20

The Alabama Film Office – The Economic Impact of the Entertainment Industry in Alabama

Brian Jones, Media and Location Coordinator, Alabama Film Office

10:20 – 10:50

Governor's Luncheon

Governor Kay Ivey, State of Alabama

Sponsored by:
Alabama Municipal Electric Authority (AMEA)

Dave Echols Award

11:00 – 1:00

Alabama's Four-Year Universities Impact on Economic Development, Talent Retention, and Attraction

Miller Girvin, EDPA, Moderator
Steve Pelham, Auburn University
Dan Blakley, University of Alabama
Willam Filmore, Troy University

1:20 – 2:00



How the Convergence Between AI and GIS is Changing Site Selection

Ron Bertasi, CEO, GIS WebTech

2:00 – 2:45

Break

Sponsored by:

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC
CSX

Economic Development Partnership of Alabama
Jackson County Economic Development Authority
Marshall County Economic Development Council
St. Clair County Economic Development Council

2:45 – 3:05

Childcare and the Impact on Labor Participation – Solutions and Funding Opportunities

Whitney Barlow, Alabama Technology Network, Moderator
Marcia Johnson, USDA

Faye Nelson, Deputy Commissioner Family Resources
Holly Glasgow, Director of Child Development, Shelton State
Community College

Lillian Brand, Women’s Foundation of Alabama

3:15 – 4:45

Reception

Sponsored by:

ARCO Design/Build
Central Alabama Electric Cooperative

5:00 – 6:00

Dinner on Your Own

6:00

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31



Breakfast

Alabama A

Sponsored by:

PowerSouth Energy Cooperative

7:15 – 8:00

Exhibits

8:00 – 11:00

Panel of Veteran Economic Developers

David Hutchison, Butler County Commission for Economic Development, Moderator

Ellen McNair, Secretary, Alabama Department of Commerce

Don Smith, St. Clair Economic Development Council

David Knight, Walker County Economic & Industrial Development Authority

8:00 – 8:45

The Importance of Emotional Intelligence in Economic Development Organizations

Arturo Menefee, University of Alabama Center for Economic Development

8:45 – 9:30

Legislative Update – 2024 Session Outlook

Josh Blade, Bradley

Dave Stewart, Bradley

Derrick Trotter, Bradley

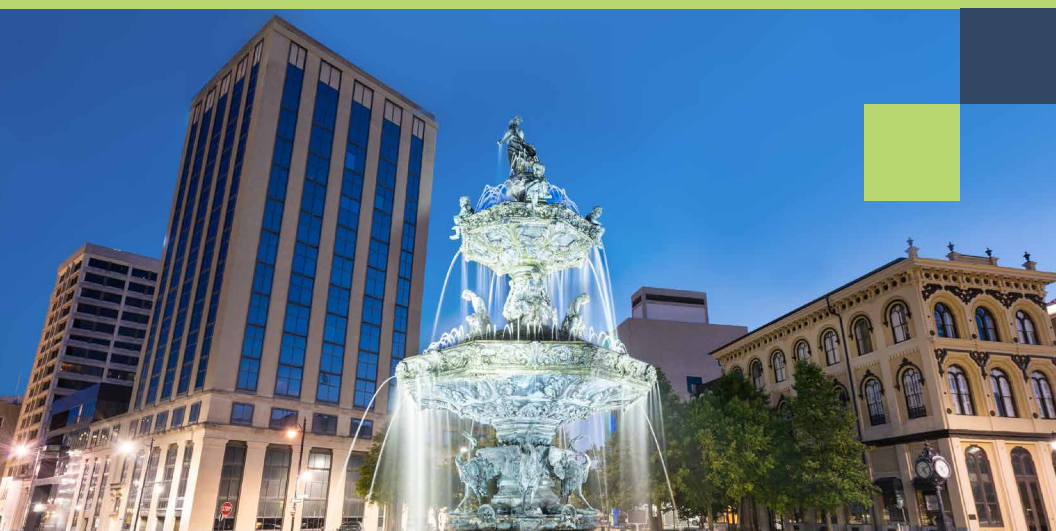
9:30 – 10:00

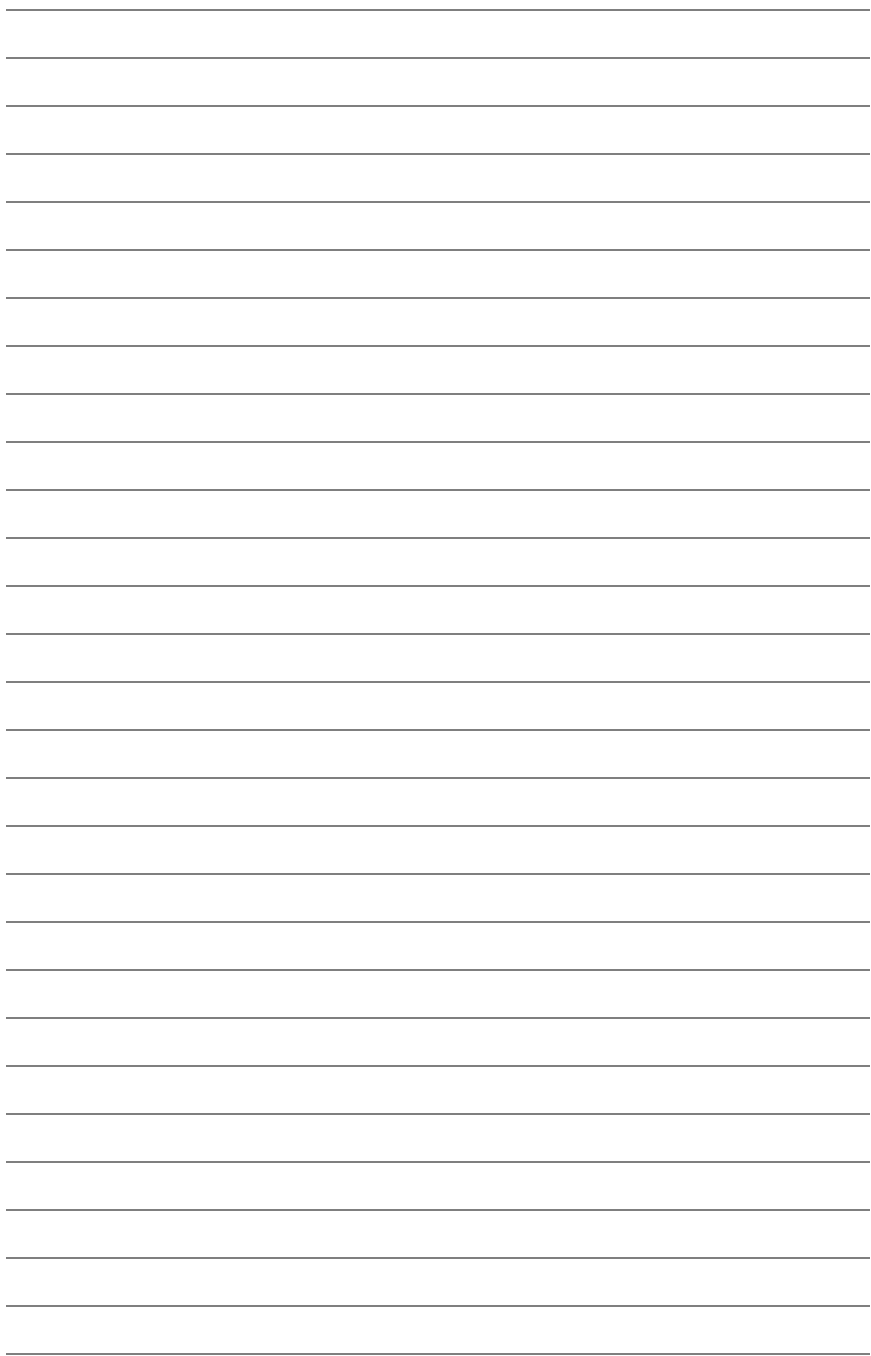
EDAA Business Session and Board Elections

10:00 – 10:30

Closing Remarks & Adjourn

10:30 – 10:45





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EVENT SPONSORS

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Association

SESSION SPONSORS

TVA

EXHIBITORS

ACCS Innovation Center
ADEM Brownfield Redevelopment
Alabama Forestry Commission
Alabama Technology Network
ATLAS Technical Consultants
CONNEX Alabama
Discover Shelby
ECS Southeast
Fite Building Company
GIS WebTech
Higher Education Partnership of Alabama
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Sain Associates, Inc.
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Huntsville/Madison County Chamber
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Norfolk Southern Corporation
North Alabama Industrial Development
Association
Port of Huntsville
Prattville Area Chamber of Commerce
Randolph County Economic Development
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South Alabama Electric Cooperative
SSOE, Inc.
Stifel - Merchant Capital Division
Talladega County Economic Development
Authority
The Industrial Development Board of
Lawrence County
The University of West Alabama

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Authority
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Terracon Consultants, Inc.
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Due North Media
JTI Electrical & Instrumentation
Lake Martin Area Economic Development
Alliance
Marengo County Economic Development
Authority
Monroe County Economic Development
Authority
Ozark - Dale County Economic
Development Corporation
Retail Strategies
Scottsboro Industrial Development Board
Shoals Economic Development Authority
Trade and Industry Development
Walker County Economic & Industrial
Development Authority
Westervelt Ecological Services
Wiregrass Economic Development
Corporation

2023–2024
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Second Vice President

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Brooks Kracke
Immediate Past President

Shane Kearney
Cary Cox

Nathan Lee

Allison Brantley

Chris Busby

Lee Johnson

Lisa Miller



2024 **WINTER
CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE**

Rosalyn Sales
Conference Chair

Kevin Taylor
Conference Co-Chair

Whitney Barlow

Greg Blalock

Cary Cox

Ansley Emfinger

Nick Hadley

David Hutchison

Melody Lee

Griffin O'Connor

Kristi Pieper

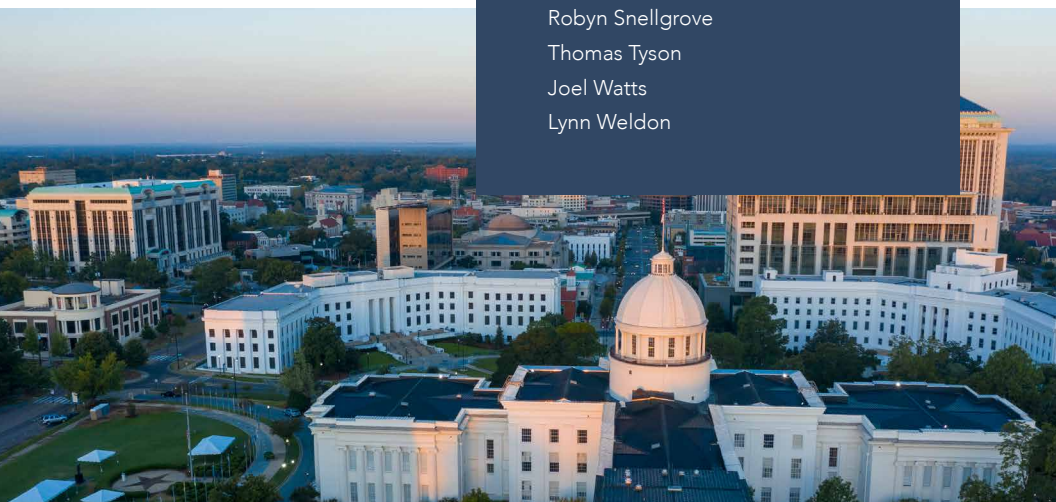
Marley Schmid

Robyn Snellgrove

Thomas Tyson

Joel Watts

Lynn Weldon



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PARTNER

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Birmingham Business Alliance
Central Alabama Electric Cooperative
Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville/
Madison County
EDPA
Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce
Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce
North Alabama Industrial Development
Association

PRINCIPAL

Alabama SBDC Network
Alabama Municipal Electric Authority
Butler County Commission for Economic
Development
Chambers County Development Authority
City of Auburn/Auburn IDB
City of Opelika/Opelika IDA

Cullman Economic Development Agency
Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce
Jefferson County Economic Development
Authority
LaBella Associates
Morgan County Economic Development
Association
Norfolk Southern
Prattville Area Chamber of Commerce
Randolph County Economic Development
Authority
Talladega County Economic Development
Authority
The Aviation Council of Alabama
Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development
Authority
TVA
Walker County Development Authority

SUSTAINING

City of Hoover
Covington County Economic Development
Commission
Elmore County Economic Development
Authority
Gadsden Etowah County Industrial
Development Authority
Marshall County Economic Development
Council
St. Clair Economic Development Council
The Industrial Development Board of
Lawrence County

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