Rivian Project Planning Committee Overview

On March 14, 2022, the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) announced the makeup of the four committees being established to ensure public input into a variety of factors involved in the planning stages of the carbon-conscious campus for the 7,500-job Rivian project at Stanton Springs North. Local and state committee members represent a wide cross-section of all four Joint Development Authority (JDA) counties, and volunteered or agreed to serve in this capacity. Meetings are being planned for each of the committees within the Jasper, Morgan, Newton, and Walton county area for ease of planning and public input. Information regarding the dates and location of meetings will be available at: www.georgia.org/rivian. Each committee will have a designated official staff coordinator and assistants, along with a representative from Rivian participating. At the conclusion of committee meetings, recommendations will be developed by the committees and reported to the State of Georgia and Rivian.

This committee approach will ensure direct coordination of considerations from across multiple jurisdictions and land parcels, and the public feedback process will allow all communities to have a voice across the decision-making process. The state has committed to continuously work with city and county governments to ensure that every concern is heard, and every question is answered.

1. Workforce Development

Mission Statement: To meet current and future workforce needs for Rivian and other existing industries as well as for future prospects within the region. To effectively plan for future workforce growth and demand and address key issues like wages, in-demand careers, and industry trends with input from the private sector. To coordinate with K-12 systems, the University System of Georgia, and the Technical College System of Georgia to identify necessary training programs are in place and a sufficient pipeline of future workers will exist to meet industry needs.

Staff lead: Mark Peevy, Assistant Commissioner, External Affairs and Facilities, Technical College System of Georgia  
Assistant: Asher Dozier, Vice President of Economic Development, Newton County Industrial Development Authority

Members:  
Buds Cain, Director, Foothills Academy  
Dr. Virgil Cole, Superintendent, Morgan County Schools  
Nathan Franklin, Ed.D., Superintendent, Walton County Schools  
Samantha Fuhrey, Ed.S., Superintendent, Newton County Schools  
C. Kenny Garland, Ed.S., Superintendent, Jasper County Schools  
Douglas A. Hicks, Dean, Oxford College of Emory University  
Dr. Robbie Hooker, Superintendent, Social Circle School System  
Weyman Hunt, Owner, Godfrey’s Feed  
Kathryn Loofofsky, Regional Coordinator, Region 5, Georgia Department of Labor
2. Local Business Engagement

**Mission Statement:** To identify and engage local businesses with the opportunity to provide goods and services from Rivian and its suppliers. Such opportunities include those provided directly from Rivian, as well as indirect opportunities resulting from Rivian’s location (i.e. suppliers, indirect demands like housing and retail).

**Staff lead:** Hank Evans, Director, Project Implementation and Corporate Development, Georgia Department of Economic Development

**Assistant:** Naceo Denney, Area Manager, Georgia Power

**Members:**
- Representative Dave Belton, R-House District 112
- Andrea Malcom Campbell, Sales Executive REALTOR, Malcom & Malcom Realty
- Ron Carter, Regional Visitor Information Center Coordinator, City of Covington
- Shey Daniel, Manager, Morgan County Chamber of Commerce
- Debbie Harper, President, Newton County Chamber of Commerce
- Gregg Simon, Senior VP of Project & Partner Development, Economic Development, Metro Atlanta Chamber
- Teri Smiley, President, Walton County Chamber of Commerce
- Mandi Tanner, President/Executive Director, Jasper County Chamber of Commerce

3. Site Design and Environmental

**Mission Statement:** To have subject matter experts provide feedback to ensure that Rivian’s site and operation meets requisite State, Federal, and local ordinances to protect the environment and communities. To provide feedback on site design such that design and operation maximize positive impacts on the community and minimize any negative impacts.

**Staff lead:** John Eunice, Deputy Director, Environmental Protection Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

**Assistant:** Charna Parker, Director, Walton County Planning and Development

**Members:**
- James Boylan, Assistant Branch Chief, Air Protection Branch, Georgia Environmental Protection Division
- Ed Hutter, Vice President, Hutter & Associates LLC
- Chuck Jarrell, Director, Morgan County Planning Department
- Betty Jean Jordan, PE, Owner, Polyscape, LLC
- Barbara Schlageter, Planning and Zoning Administrator, City of Social Circle
- Anna Truszczynski, Branch Chief, Watershed Protection Branch, Georgia Environmental Protection Division
- Randy Vinson, President, Live/Work Building Co. LLC

4. Quality of Life
Mission Statement: To identify opportunities for Rivian to participate in local civic engagement and other public benefits that will positively impact the local communities. To identify opportunities locally and across the State of Georgia for land conservation initiatives.

Subcommittees: Civic Engagement, Public Benefits, Land Conservation

Staff lead: Rusty Haygood, Deputy Commissioner, Community Development & Finance, Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Civic Engagement:
Assistant: Kristen Miller, Senior Regional Director, Georgia Department of Economic Development

Members:
Joellen Artz, Retired Citizen
Pastor Lonnie Brown, President, Morgan County NAACP
Ned Butler, Vice President of Land Development, Reliant Homes
Representative Susan Holmes, R-House District 125
Cindy Little, Executive Director, F.I.S.H.
Stephen Morris, Attorney, Morris Law LLC

Public Benefits:
Assistant: Beth Eavenson, Regional Representative, Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Members:
Mayor Bruce Altznauer, City of Rutledge
Lisa Anderson, Small Business Owner
Mayor David Keener, City of Social Circle
David Kent, CEO, Piedmont Newton Hospital
Mayor Fred Perriman, City of Madison

Land Conservation:
Assistant: Rope Roberts, Northeast Region Economic Development Manager, Georgia Power

Members:
Doc Eldridge, Former CEO, Athens Chamber; Former City of Athens Mayor; Twin Lakes Recovery Center Board Member
David Hays, Board Member, Georgia Water & Soil Conservation District, Upper Ocmulgee River
Thom Litts, Assistant Director, Wildlife Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Robert Trulock, President, Madison-Morgan Conservancy
Christine McCauley Watts, Executive Director, Madison-Morgan Conservancy
Mike Worley, President and CEO, Georgia Wildlife Federation

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