

WHO WE ARE:

For more than two decades, The Collaborative Firm (TCF), the largest minority-owned land use planning and real estate development company, in the Southeastern United States, has hosted the South Metro Development Outlook (SMDO) Conference to convene some of South Metro Region's most reputable subject-matter experts, civic leaders, and policy professionals with an interest in fostering smart growth, advancement and sustainability in Atlanta's southern crescent. Founded by Michael Hightower, TCF's Managing Partner, the summit focuses on Clayton, Coweta, Douglas, Fayette, Henry, South Fulton, and Spalding counties, as well as the City of Atlanta.

WHAT WE DO:

The 22nd annual South Metro Development Outlook (SMDO24) Conference is taking place on Wednesday, March 20th, 2024, from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm, at the Georgia International Convention Center (GICC) in College Park, GA. The theme for this year's conference is "South Metro: Soaring to New Heights."

HOW WE DO IT:

This year, over 30 program speakers and panelists will provide invaluable information to over 600 SMDO attendees about a variety of topics to include but not limited to **Economic Forecast & Regional Growth**; **Addressing Climate Change**; **Synergies between Electric Vehicles & Artificial Intelligence**; and **Atlanta International Airport**; among others.

Some of the confirmed featured speakers include Anna Roach, Executive Director of Atlanta Regional Commission; Collie Greenwood, General Manager & CEO of MARTA; Meg Pirkle, Chief Engineer of Georgia Department of Transportation; Debra Lam, Executive Director of Partnerships for Inclusive Innovation; Chris Pumphrey, President of Elevate Douglas Economic Partnership; Michael Smith, Senior Deputy General Manager of Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport; Paula Hammond, National Transportation Market Leader of WSP; and Cassi

Key sponsors of SMDO2024 include Amazon, ATL Airport CID, Aerotropolis Atlanta, and The Collaborative Firm.

The South Metro Development Outlook Conference was established in 2003 and has emerged to become the largest development conference of its kind in South Metropolitan Atlanta. It was birthed out of the need to provide a platform that convenes elected officials, industry experts, and seasoned professionals to candidly discuss cutting-edge solutions and strategies on relevant topics of interest, that align with the current state of South Metro.