



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Economic development director leaving Georgetown County

GEORGETOWN COUNTY — Wayne Gregory, Georgetown County’s economic development director for the last eight years, will leave his position, and the coast, at the end of August.

Gregory, who lives in the Pawleys Island area, turned in his resignation on July 26. He will move to the Midlands, where he has accepted a position as director of economic development for the City of Columbia.

“I will always be grateful for the opportunity to have served as economic development director for Georgetown County,” Gregory said. “Living here in such a great community has been a wonderful experience. I have also enjoyed my work experience and appreciate the support County Council members, County Administrator Sel Hemingway, former County Administrator Tommy Edwards and all the county employees have provided me over the years. Leaving the Georgetown County community was a tough decision but I am excited about the opportunity to serve as director of economic development for the City of Columbia.”

In his time with the county, Gregory has successfully worked on projects leading to the creation of 875 jobs and the investment of more than \$422 million into local communities based on a list of nearly 20 projects he took part in. He also oversaw construction of the county’s spec building, and was involved in facilitating the expansions of SafeRack and International Paper, recruitment of Davis Aircraft Products, which relocated to Andrews in June, and site certification of the Georgetown County Business Center industrial park and Coastal Tech Park.

Davis Aircraft Products’ move to Georgetown County alone is expected to generate a \$5.5 million investment and 100 new jobs. Additionally, since December 2011, three companies in the county announced expansions, bringing a total investment of \$29.2 million and the promise of 137 jobs.

“Wayne was recognized as a bright, rising star in the economic development arena eight years ago, and it has been enjoyable to watch him develop into the professional that he has become,” said County Administrator Sel Hemingway. “His reputation across the state and experience in developing and working with prospects make him an attractive target for other jurisdictions. I sincerely express my gratitude for Wayne’s service to the citizens of Georgetown

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County and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.”

Others who worked with Gregory over the years describe him as dedicated and thorough.

“He was always good to work with. He’s attentive to detail and very knowledgeable about his field,” said Dan Scheffing, a former chairman of the Georgetown County Economic Development Commission. Scheffing served on the commission for seven years until his last term expired last year.

“Wayne always had the support of the commission and County Council, and there’s no doubt he had the county’s best interests at heart,” Scheffing said.

The commission just last month was absorbed into the Alliance for Economic Development in an effort to maximize resources and streamline economic development efforts within the county.

“We enjoyed having him involved in economic development in Georgetown County,” Bill Crowther, the Alliance’s executive director, said of Gregory. “We hate to see him go when we’re just embarking on this new initiative and spirit of cooperation, but we wish him well in his new venture.”

Prior to joining Georgetown County’s staff, Gregory served more than three years as the Project Manager for the Greenville Area Development Corporation. He is a graduate of Furman University and holds a master’s degree in public administration from Clemson University. He is an active member of the South Carolina Economic Developers’ Association, the Southern Economic Development Council, and the International Economic Development Council. Additionally, he serves on the board of directors for the Waccamaw Workforce Investment Board, which works with local workforce development offices to meet the needs of job seekers and employers. He is a past chairman of the board of directors for the Georgetown County United Way and serves on the board of directors for the Lowcountry Food Bank.

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