Monday, September 9th

8:15-8:30  Welcome and Introductions
David Mixson – Associate Director, Government and Economic Development Institute
Auburn University
Mike Swinson – Director, Economic Development Spire

8:30 – 9:30  The History of Economic Development
Dr. Edwin C. Bridges – Director Emeritus, Alabama Department of Archives and History

9:30 – 9:45  Break

9:45 – 11:15  Alabama Government and Economic Development
Joe A. Sumners, Ph.D. – Founder and Manager of Wicked Solutions LLC,
and Executive Director Emeritus of GEDI

11:15 – 12:30  Lunch (on your own)

12:30 – 1:15  Alabama’s Infrastructure: How are We Doing?
Joe Meads – Principal and Owner, SAIN Associates

1:15 - 1:30  Break

1:30 – 3:15  Alabama Workforce Recruitment, Training, and Development
Ed Castile – Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Department of Commerce of Alabama
Jeff Lynn – Vice Chancellor of Workforce and Economic Development,
Department of Commerce of Alabama

3:15 – 3:30  Break

3:30 – 4:00  Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development
Tommy Glascock – Deputy State Superintendent, Education, Career, and Technical Education, Workforce Development Division

4:00 – 5:00  Panel: Career and Technical Education/Workforce
Moderator: David Mixson – Associate Director, GEDI
Panel Members: Audrey Marshall – Coordinator Work-based Education, Auburn City Schools
Amy Brabham – Workforce Director, City of Auburn
Lindsay Jordan – Career Coach, Elmore County Schools

5:00 – 6:30  Reception – Sponsored by Alabama Power Co. and CDG Engineers & Associates Inc.
Tuesday, September 10th

8:00 – 9:30  Retail as an Essential Economic Development Strategy
            Jeff Rouzie – Marketing/Research, Retail Strategies

9:30 – 9:45  Break and Load Bus

9:45 – 10:00  Travel to Auburn Industrial Park

10:00 – 10:45  Tour Auburn Industrial Park

10:45 – 11:45  Bus to East Chase

11:45 – 12:45  Lunch at East Chase (on your own)

12:45 – 1:15  Bus to Hyundai

1:30 – 3:30  Tour and Story of Hyundai Recruitment
            Ellen McNair – Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce

3:30 – 4:00  Photo, Break and Load Bus

4:00 – 5:00  Travel to Auburn

5:00 p.m.  Adjourn for day
Wednesday, September 11th

8:00 – 9:00  International Trade and Investment
Brian Davis – Director, Alabama International Trade Center University of Alabama
Hilda Lockhart – Director, International Trade Division, Alabama Department of Commerce

9:00 – 9:15 Break

9:15 – 10:30 State and Federal Economic Development Incentives
Angela Smith - Alabama Department of Commerce
Alex Flachsbart – Opportunity Zones Alabama

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 12:00 Alabama Resources to Support Local Economic Development
Anita Archie – Deputy Director, ADECA
Chris Beeker III – Director, USDA Rural Development

12:00 – 1:15 Lunch (on your own)

1:15 – 1:45 Alabama Department of Commerce
Greg Canfield – Secretary of Commerce, Alabama Department of Commerce

1:45 – 2:15 Economic Development Partnership of Alabama
Steve Spencer – President, Economic Development Partnership of Alabama

2:15 – 2:45 Economic Development Association of Alabama
Jim Searcy – Executive Director, Economic Development Association of Alabama

2:45 – 3:00 Break
3:00 – 4:00  Panel: Programs Supporting Small Towns and Local Economies
Moderator:  Jennifer Ryan, Communications and Marketing Manager, GEDI
Panel Members:  Sidney Hoover – Executive Director,
Alabama Communities of Excellence
Trisha Black – Field Services Specialist, Main Street Alabama
Brian Hilson – EDAA Rural Development

4:00 – 4:15  Break

4:15 – 5:15  Panel: The Role of Utilities in Alabama Economic Development
Moderator:  David Mixson – Associate Director, GEDI
Panel Members:  Patrick Murphy – VP Marketing and Economic Development,
Alabama Power Company
Mike Swinson – Director of Economic Development, Spire
Caleb Goodwyn – Economic and Community Development
Representative, PowerSouth Energy Cooperative
Thursday, September 12th

8:00 – 8:30 Know Your Community Tool
   David Mixson - Associate Director, GEDI Auburn University
   Jonathan Gross – Research & Consulting, GEDI Auburn University

8:30 – 9:30 Panel: Inspiration and Insights from Alabama’s Rural Economic Developers
   Moderator: Jennifer Ryan
   Panel Members: David Thornell (invited) – Phillis Belcher (invited) – Executive Director, Greene County IDA

9:30 – 9:45 Break

9:45 – 10:45 Panel: Economic Development from the Company’s Perspective
   Moderator: David Mixson
   Panel Members: Keith Hettig (invited)
                   TBD

10:45 – 11:00 Photo and Break

11:00 – 12:00 Graduation Luncheon