Monday, September 9th

8:15-8:30  Welcome and Introductions
  Mike Swinson – Director, Economic Development Spire

8:30 – 9:30  The History of Economic Development
  Dr. Edwin 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

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

Laura Anglin – Career Coach, Chambers County

5:00 – 6:30  Reception – Sponsored by Alabama Power and CDG
Tuesday, September 10th

8:00 – 9:30  Retail as an Essential Development Strategy
            Matt Petro – Chief Development Officer, 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– Alabama International Trade Center

9:00 – 9:15 Break

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

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 12:00 Alabama Resources to Support Local Economic 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
                Mary Helmer – President/State Coordinator, Mainstreet 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 – CEO, Northwest Alabama Economic Development Alliance
   Phillis Belcher – 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: TBD

10:45 – 11:00  Photo and Break

11:00 – 12:00  Graduation Luncheon