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 – Sr. Vice President, Corporate Development,  
Montgomery 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 – Incentives Manager, Alabama Department of Commerce
Alex Flachsbart – Founder & CEO, Opportunity Alabama

10:30 – 10:45  Break

10:45 – 12:00  Alabama Resources to Support Local Economic Development
Anita Archie – Deputy Director, ADECA
Quinton Harris – Area 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: Inspiration and Insights from Alabama’s Rural Economic Developers

Moderator:  Jennifer Ryan

Panel Members:  
David Hutchison – Executive Director, Butler County Commission for Economic Development
Phillis Belcher - Executive Director, Greene County IDA
Brenda Tuck – Rural Development Manager, Alabama Department of Commerce

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: 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 – Rural Development Strategist,
                   EDAA Rural Development

9:30 – 9:45  Break

9:45 – 10:45  Panel: Economic Development from the Company’s Perspective

    Moderator: David Mixson

    Panel Members: Tim Beasley – HR Manager, RAPA L.P.
                   Todd Shackett – President,
                   Southern Union State Community College
                   Dave DeBaets – Retired VP, Briggs and Stratton

10:45 – 11:00  Photo and Break

11:00 – 12:00  Graduation Luncheon