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August 25, 2014

Interim CEO Lee May  
DeKalb County Board of Commissioners  
1300 Commerce Drive  
Decatur, GA 30030

Re: DeKalb County Economic Development Strategic Plan

Dear Interim CEO May,

The Council for Quality Growth would like to express its support for the DeKalb County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan. As a trade association with a 29-year history of promoting balanced and responsible growth in the Metro Atlanta region and DeKalb County, we have been very attentive to the creation of this Economic Development Strategic Plan, and have remained engaged during all stages of this process, encouraging all of our members to do the same.

In December 2013, at the request of DeKalb County staff, the Council hosted a stakeholders group to help Angelou Economics in their data collection and early planning efforts. Over 40 Council members spanning all sectors of the development industry attended this stakeholders group and provided valuable input. Our staff and members have also provided input and worked with the Commissioners and County staff at several of our Advisory Committees over the past year; at these meetings, DeKalb County staff and elected officials provided regular updates on the evolution of this plan, and our members have provided feedback. Finally, the Council has actively encouraged our membership and business colleagues to participate in the survey created by Angelou Economics for this project, sending it out to over 10,000 individuals on multiple occasions.

We would like to thank Interim CEO May, the Board of Commissioners, as well as Ms. Borrero and DeKalb County staff, for their work to create this Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan, as well as for their ongoing commitment to responsible growth in DeKalb County.

The Council would like to express our support for the proposed Economic Development Strategic Plan and respectfully urge the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners to approve this document.

Sincerely,



Michael Paris  
President & CEO  
Council for Quality Growth



James Touchton  
Director, Policy & Government Affairs  
Council for Quality Growth

