



**Georgia Chamber
Rural Prosperity Summit**
OCTOBER 3-4, 2023

Day 1: Full Day

9:30 AM **Registration**

10:00 AM **Call to Order**

Welcome Remarks

Morgan Law, Chief Experience Officer, Georgia Chamber

Presenting Sponsor Remarks

Elyse Davis, Community & Economic Development Director, Georgia Power

State of Rural Prosperity

Introduced by: **Elyse Davis**, Community & Economic Development Director, Georgia Power

- Part I – Featured Session Speaker
 - **Chris Clark**, President & CEO, Georgia Chamber
- Part II – Audience Q&A

State of Agriculture

Introduced by: **Sydne Smith**, Director of Governmental & Community Affairs, Oglethorpe Power Corporation

- Part I – Featured Session Speaker
 - **Tyler Harper**, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Agriculture
- Part II – Panel Discussion
 - **Laura Perry Johnson**, Associate Dean for Extension, University of Georgia
 - **Arthur Tripp**, State Director, USDA Farm Services Agency
 - Moderated by: **Tyler Harper**, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Agriculture

12:10 – 12:50 PM **Networking Lunch**

State of Rural Education

Introduced by: **Mike Mitchell**, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Comcast

- Part I – Featured Session Speaker
 - **Bronwyn Ragan-Martin**, Deputy Superintendent of Rural Education & Innovation, Georgia Department of Education
- Part II – Panel Discussion
 - **Aaron Geter**, Superintendent, Wilkinson County Schools
 - **Bronwyn Ragan-Martin**, Deputy Superintendent of Rural Education and Innovation, Georgia Department of Education
 - **Richard Smith**, Executive Director, First District RESA

- Moderated by: **Kathleen Da Silva**, Regional Engagement Manager, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education
- Part III – Audience Q&A

1:50 – 2:05 PM **Networking Break**

Breakout Sessions I & II

Room #1: Creating Community Impact Partnerships

Matt Stevens, Senior Director of Strategic Impact, Creature Comforts Brewing Co.

Moderated by: **Matt Forshee**, Community & Economic Development Manager, Georgia Power

Room #2: Creating Community Leadership Programs

Laura Russ, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator, Albany Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Moderated by: **Scott Purvis**, Community & Economic Development Manager, Georgia Power

Room #3: Creating Communities for All to Thrive

Brittany Burnett, President & CEO, United Way of the CSRA

Kay Keller, President & CEO, United Way of Northeast Georgia

Moderated by: **Andrew Carnes**, Community & Economic Development Manager, Georgia Power

State of Rural Sustainability

Introduced by: **Corey Babb**, Environmental Consulting Client Manager, Woodard & Curran

- Part I – Featured Session Speaker
 - **Carl Garofalo**, Director of Sustainability Solutions, Southern Company Gas
- Part II – Audience Q&A

Reception Sponsor Remarks

Kelly Caudle, Vice President of Strategy & Programs, Georgia Humanities

Closing Remarks

Tiffany Holmes, Director of the Center for Rural Prosperity, Georgia Chamber

5:00 – 6:00 PM **Networking Reception**

Creature Comforts Brewing Co.

271 W. Hancock Ave., Athens, GA 30601

DAY 2: MORNING

7:30 – 8:00 AM **Breakfast**

8:00 AM **Call to Order**

Welcome Remarks

Jeff Petrea, Regional Director, Georgia Power

Breakfast Sponsor Remarks

Adam Smith, Senior Vice President of Commercial Banking, Truist

State of Rural Healthcare

Introduced by: **Morgan Law**, Chief Experience Officer, Georgia Chamber

- Part I – Panel Discussion
 - **Billy Hickman**, Georgia State Senator, District 4
 - **Charles Tarbutton**, President and Director, B-H Transfer Co. and Board Member, Georgia HEART Hospital Program
 - **Carlyle Walton**, CEO, Phoebe Sumter Medical Center
 - Moderated by: **Lisa Kelly**, Executive Director, Georgia HEART Hospital Program
- Part II – Audience Q&A

Special Remarks

Paige Pushkin, Executive Director, Georgia Foundation for Public Education

State of Rural Transportation

Introduced by: **Tiffany Holmes**, Director of the Center for Rural Prosperity, Georgia Chamber

- Part I – Featured Session Speaker
 - **Russell McMurry**, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Transportation
- Part II – Panel Discussion
 - **Paula Dowell**, Vice President of Integrated Planning, HNTB
 - **Sandy Lake**, Director of Logistics, Georgia Center of Innovation
 - **Stacy Watson**, Director of Economic & Industrial Development, Georgia Ports Authority
 - Moderated by: **Seth Millican**, Executive Director, Georgia Transportation Alliance
- Part III – Audience Q&A

10:10 – 10:25 AM **Networking Break**

State of Rural Economic Development

Introduced by: **Elyse Davis**, Community & Economic Development Director, Georgia Power

- Part I – Panel Discussion
 - **Walt Farrell**, Vice President of Community & Economic Development, Georgia Power and 2023 Rural Prosperity Council Vice Chairman, Georgia Chamber
 - **Daryl Ingram**, Senior Vice President & Chief External Officer, Electric Cities of Georgia
 - **Pat Merritt**, Vice President of Community & Economic Development, Georgia EMC
 - Moderated by: **Grant Cagle**, Executive Director, Georgia Economic Developers Association
- Part II – Audience Q&A

Closing Remarks

Morgan Law, Chief Experience Officer, Georgia Chamber

11:30 AM **Adjourn**