

Stephanie Aylworth and Joel Cordle Receive Georgia Downtown Development Professional Designation

Roswell, GA – Douglasville Main Street Manager, Stephanie Aylworth and Dahunega Downtown Development Authority / Better Hometown Director, Joel Cordle have successfully completed the Georgia Downtown Association's Professional certificate level one review, and as a result have received the designation of *Georgia Downtown Development Professional*. The Georgia Downtown Development Professional certificate review was recently held in conjunction with the 2009 Annual Georgia Downtown Conference in Roswell, Georgia.

In order to be eligible for the level one review, a candidate must have: at least two years of experience in the field of downtown development; fifty hours of documented training class time; and two letters of recommendation. The review consists of an oral presentation in which the candidate must document his/her downtown organizational and management success, and a written exam covering downtown development issues, tools and resources.

"The Georgia Downtown Development Professional has demonstrated a thorough working knowledge in the professional practice of downtown development in Georgia", says Monica Callahan, President of the Georgia Downtown Association. "The Georgia Downtown Professional Designation Program distinguishes downtown managers who have reached a milestone of professional success in Georgia and who are committed to continuing professional growth."

The professional development program designates three levels of professional success, each requiring and recognizing more professional success than the preceding level. The program has been endorsed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the Georgia Department of Economic Development and the University of Georgia's Fanning Institute.