

# Georgia Municipal Association

## DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

### Consultation Services

#### Program Description

The Development Authority Consultation program was created in response to many inquiries from member cities requesting information and consultation regarding Development Authority activation and management, economic and downtown development visioning and strategic planning, and development project design, funding, implementation, and management.

#### Program Objectives

The program provides city leaders, authority members, development staff, and stakeholders with development methodologies strategies, and best practices tailored for their individual vision and goals. The focus of the program is Development Authority led development project design, funding, and implementation.

#### Program Offerings and Fees

Cities will enter into a contractual agreement with GMA for payment of consultation services prior to consultation. Participating cities will benefit from a cache of resources and best practices assembled by GMA's Community and Economic Development professional staff.

- **Development Authority Activation and Assessment** – assistance with development authority activation and board appointments processes and assessment of development authority readiness to design, fund, and implement development projects.  
**Fee Structure:** Flat fee of \$100 for assessment and consultation services.
- **Development Authority Mechanics and Management Training** – development authority training, and best practices as it relates to the statutory or constitutional purposes and deal making. (This does not satisfy the 8-hour basic DDA training requirement).  
**Fee Structure:** Hourly rate of \$50 for meetings, training, and consultation services.
- **Visioning and Planning Sessions** – joint development authority and city visioning and planning sessions. (Cities wishing to participate will need to have an active development authority, development staff, and community stakeholders or potential developer(s) and or projects.  
**Fee Structure:** Flat fee of \$1000 for visioning and planning sessions.
- **Development Project Design, Funding, and Implementation** – assist with creating an action plan for development project design, funding, implementation, and management. (Cities wishing to participate will need to have completed the Visioning and Planning Session with a GMA consultant.)  
**Fee Structure:** Hourly rate of \$100 for project development, design, funding, implementation, and management sessions and project consultation. There are typically 5 sessions for each project and meetings in-between sessions with staff and key stakeholder team members.
- **Place Based Economic Development Strategy Training** – training for elected, city staff, and authority members on how to implement a place-based economic development strategy in both public and private development projects. This is advanced economic development theory and training. (Cities wishing to participate will need to have completed the Development Authority Mechanics and Management Training GMA consultant.)  
**Fee Structure:** Flat fee of \$300 for 2 training sessions and workshops.

For more information contact the program manager at [srussell@gacities.com](mailto:srussell@gacities.com) or 678-244-0511.

