



**Shirlynn Fortson** serves as the Director of Economic Development for the City of Brookhaven. In this role, she works to increase Brookhaven's visibility in the corporate, small business, retail, development, and real estate worlds as an ideal location to do business. Her responsibilities include marketing, site location assistance to new and expanding companies, business retention, serving as a liaison between the State, County, and utility partners, and managing the City's Incentives Program via her role as Executive Director of Brookhaven's Development Authority.

Prior to her appointment as Brookhaven's Director of Economic Development, Mrs. Fortson served as a Statewide Project Manager on the Corporate Solutions team at the Georgia Department of Economic Development. In that role, she recruited new industry on behalf of the State, generating hundreds of jobs and millions in investment for Georgia. Brownell also managed the relocation and expansion of various high-profile companies, notably HD Supply, Equifax, Stanley Black and Decker, and Courion.

Mrs. Fortson received her Master's degree in Strategic Communications from Troy University, and her Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs from the University of Georgia, and she also holds a real estate license. An active member in the Atlanta community, she is involved with several initiatives around the state including the Atlanta Chapter of Urban Land Institute, the Atlanta BeltLine Young Leadership Council, Leadership DeKalb class of 2018, the Liberian Consulate of Georgia, and a host of other organizations.