

Jim Durrett

President & CEO, The Buckhead Coalition

Executive Director, The Buckhead Community Improvement District



Jim Durrett is president & chief executive officer of the Buckhead Coalition and executive director of the Buckhead Community Improvement District (CID). The Coalition is an invitation-only membership organization. The CID is a local government entity. The Buckhead Coalition's mission is to advocate on behalf of the community within the city of Atlanta and metropolitan region; to support the well-being of Buckhead's residents, businesses and visitors; to convene public and private sector leaders and partner organizations; and to connect Buckhead to other areas of the city and region. The mission of the Buckhead CID is to create and maintain a safe, accessible and livable urban environment in the heart of the Buckhead commercial area. They meet the

challenges of growth by investing tax dollars collected from commercial property owners within the district, as well as other funds they leverage from outside the district, to make meaningful improvements in the transportation network and public realm that connect people and places.

Durrett is actively involved in the community and currently serves on the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) board of directors (which he chaired in 2011) and the HUB404 Conservancy board of directors (treasurer.) He represents MARTA on the Atlanta Regional Commission's Transportation and Air Quality Committee.

Prior to heading up the Buckhead CID, Durrett was founding executive director of the Livable Communities Coalition, a not-for-profit organization formed in 2005 to promote smart growth development in the Atlanta region. Before that, Durrett served for five years with the Urban Land Institute (ULI), the largest network of cross-disciplinary real estate and land use experts in the world, as the first executive director of ULI's Atlanta District Council, and the second ULI District Council executive director in the U.S. In addition, Durrett was with the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce as the vice president of environmental affairs and was the senior vice president and chief operating officer of The Georgia Conservancy. Durrett began his professional career as a hydrogeologist in the Atlanta office of Golder Associates, an international geotechnical and environmental engineering consulting firm.

From 1998 to 2005, Durrett was a member of the Georgia Environmental Advisory Council, appointed by the Governor to advise the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and the Governor on environmental policy matters. He is a graduate of Leadership Atlanta, the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership, and the Regional Leadership Institute. He also has served on numerous collaborative committees and task forces working on growth management, affordable housing, aging, and environmental issues in the state of Georgia.

Previous non-profit board membership and leadership includes The Biophilic Institute; 3KEYS; Georgians for Passenger Rail; the Georgia Conservancy; PEDS; the Hambidge Center; and VSA Arts of Georgia. He was also a founding member of ULI's Health Leaders Network, and was a member of the Responsible Property Investment Council of ULI (chairman from 2019-2021)

Durrett attended the Westminster Schools in Atlanta and earned a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Virginia and a master's degree in Geology from the University of Georgia. He completed post-graduate work in hydrogeology at the University of Texas. He is an Atlanta native and lives in DeKalb County with his wife, Pat. They have two grown sons, James and Ryan.

6/17/2025