



# LIVABLE COMMUNITIES COALITION

*Working to improve metro Atlanta's quality of life through smart growth*

James F. Durrett, III  
Executive Director  
The Livable Communities Coalition

Jim Durrett is Executive Director of the Livable Communities Coalition, an organization formed in August 2005 to promote smart growth development in the Atlanta region. The Coalition of approximately 40 organizations is a diverse network of leaders, community and economic development experts and resources, all aligned to help the community address the opportunities and challenges of growth and development. The Livable Communities Coalition works to improve the quality of life in metropolitan Atlanta by sharing and promoting smart growth principles, advocating public policy that promotes smart growth, and supporting projects that accelerate smart growth.

Previously, Durrett served for five years with the Urban Land Institute (ULI) as Executive Director of ULI's Atlanta District Council. ULI is a research and education think tank dedicated to land use and real estate development issues. Durrett came to ULI from the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, where he held the position of Vice President of Environmental Affairs. Previous work experience included two-and-a-half years as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of The Georgia Conservancy, and ten years as a professional geologist with Golder Associates.

Durrett was a member of the Georgia Environmental Advisory Council from 1998 until 2005, a position 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 was a member of the inaugural class of the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership and a participant in the Regional Leadership Institute. He has also served on numerous collaborative committees and task forces working on growth management issues in the state of Georgia.

Non-profit board experience includes six years on the board of trustees of the Georgia Conservancy, three years on the board of PEDS, a pedestrian advocacy organization, which he chaired in 2005, and eight years on the board of trustees of the Hambidge Center, an artist residency program on 600 acres in Rabun County, Georgia. He chaired that board for the past two years. Durrett also served for two years in his community as president of the Briarcliff Woods Civic Association. Durrett is a frequent speaker at local and national conferences and workshops on land use and environmental matters.

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, and their two children, James (17) and Ryan (15).