



GEORGIA GETS ANOTHER CHANCE AT JEKYLL ISLAND

The State of Georgia embarks on the opportunity to redevelop Jekyll Island and this time it is determined to do it and do it the best way possible for Georgia and all Georgians.

The Jekyll Island Revitalization Group has been selected as one of the finalists in the bid for the revitalization of Jekyll Island. This group has assembled a “Dream Team” of the nation’s best developers, land planners, architects, environmentalists, and financiers and is supported by almost 50 Georgians who serve on its Board of Directors and Advisory Council. Leading this group is Wood Partners, based in Atlanta and ranked as one of the top development firms nationally. Jimmy Baugnon, Development Director at Wood Partners says, “This is a great opportunity for our Georgia based company to be involved in a project that will create a generational legacy for all Georgians for years to come.” Serving on the Board is Chuck Leavell, a member of the Rolling Stones, land conservationist and one of the nation’s foremost advocates of environmental conservation, and author of three books on the environment. Chuck says, “Jekyll Island is one of the most beautiful places on earth. It has tremendous potential for Georgia, and no doubt we all want to see it reach that potential using respect, environmental sensitivity and loving care.” Also serving on the Board is George Benson, former Dean of the University of Georgia’s Terry College of Business and the current President of the College of Charleston. The Advisory Council includes the Director of the University of Georgia’s Institute for Ecology, the Director of Georgia Tech’s City and Regional Planning, the Dean of the University of Georgia College of Environment and Design, the former Director of The Georgia Conservancy, and the Dean of Georgia Tech’s School of Architecture. The Advisory Council also includes the Mayors of nine Georgia cities and towns including Albany, Macon, Athens, Savannah, Augusta, Brunswick, Valdosta, Toccoa, and Gainesville, further broadening representation from throughout the entire state of Georgia. This group also has as Board Members or Advisory Council Members all four of the Georgians appointed by the Governor to serve on the Georgia Land Conservation Council. Truly this is a project for all Georgians led by Georgians.

The Jekyll Island Revitalization Group is composed of renowned leaders in each of its respective industries. Leonard Wood, founder of Wood Partners, adds a top U.S. multi-family developers to the partnership with almost \$5 billion in new developments during the past nine years. Wade Shealy is the creative visionary with

more than 24 years of experience in low-impact coastal resort development and a current member of the Governor's Land Conservation Council for Georgia. Andrés Duany is considered the Father of New Urbanism and Light Imprint Development, the creator of Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND), and the author of SmartCode. Our architects include Lew Oliver, the architect for the 2006 National Community of the Year, and nationally recognized Robert A. M. Stern, one of America's most celebrated architects.

The partners of the Jekyll Island Revitalization Group have been involved in many successful and recognized communities such as Seaside, Rosemary Beach, The Village of Baytowne Wharf at Sandestin, Celebration, Alys Beach, Abacoa, Owls Head, Wellington, Windsor, and Disney Yacht and Beach Club in Florida; Hampton Island and Vickery in Georgia; Habersham, Spanish Pointe, I'On, and Kiawah Island Beach Club in South Carolina and Aspen Highlands Village in Colorado.

According to Wade Shealy, partner in Jekyll Island Revitalization Group, "This is certainly a rare and unique opportunity for a world-class team to embrace nature and the environment while setting a new standard in town planning. Our goal is to create a vibrant, new, innovative beach town that works economically, while using the highest green building guidelines and incorporating and embracing the expertise of knowledgeable environmentalists and stakeholders on our team. We plan on creating a 'work of art.' Our team will create ways to design environments that will balance the desire for privacy with opportunities for connectedness and stimulation that is key to our development concept. Our goal is more privacy, more individuality and yet more community. Our belief is that town planning and architecture should be inseparable. Jekyll Island and its culture wear the patina of time. This new town will accommodate the automobile while celebrating the pedestrian. Visitors will find narrow streets, courtyards with magnificent fragrances, boutique retail and a variety of dining all overlooking the seaside plaza. The civic area, retail and residential will all work together to create a walkable seaside town for everyone to enjoy."

Andrés Duany, founder of Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company and a world-renowned land planner, believes this project is a wonderful opportunity for Jekyll Island, for Georgia, and for all Georgians.

Duany says, "The idea of a traditional beachfront town that has a diversity of housing, and a blend of experiences for younger and older people, rich and poor, is what forms the bonds of a real community. It's the way for all Americans to come together; it is the essence of what a beach community should be.

Our new town will create many new jobs; instead of a central kitchen, it will incorporate many little restaurants. Instead of a central shop, or a shopping center run by a single operator, it will allow many people to get into business for themselves.

Our new town will offer housing of different types that include very affordable options both to own or to rent. It will be attractive to people of all income levels. There's no doubt that Jekyll Island must be open to Georgians of all income levels. This town will be as beautiful as the nature around it. I can't imagine it won't become one of the most desirable places to vacation."

The partnership offered between the Jekyll Island Revitalization Group and the Jekyll Island Authority will strengthen the vision and efforts to make Jekyll Island an island for all Georgians – affordable and accessible.

Our future proposals will include placing a conservation easement on the 65% undeveloped land to protect it from any additional future development and creating an "Along the Way" program highlighting the many scenic towns and attractions en route to Jekyll Island, thus supporting the Governor's Road Improvement Program (GRIP).

We plan to promote a revitalized Jekyll Island statewide by engaging local government, the media, community organizations, and our community leaders and, in essence, encourage all nine million Georgians to promote Jekyll Island, making it one of the largest grassroots efforts in recent history.

Our goal is to create a walkable town that is intimate, quaint, enchanting, and embraces the architecture of the Great American Summer. Our architecture will be inspired by the Historic District and will incorporate the elements of shingle style with picturesque compositions giving the town a village-like scale similar to Charleston, SC.

Another goal for our group is to develop permanent funding sources to help promote Historic Preservation, Land Conservation, Environmental Education, with special projects like the Sea Turtle Rehabilitation program.

Natural resource conservation and the creation of alternative energy uses and sources are and will always be in the forefront of everything we do. Jekyll Island will become a model community to be admired and replicated.

With Georgians working together, we can make Jekyll Island a place for all Georgians.

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