



# ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

(10-COUNTY REGION, 68 CITIES, 4.1 MILLION PEOPLE)

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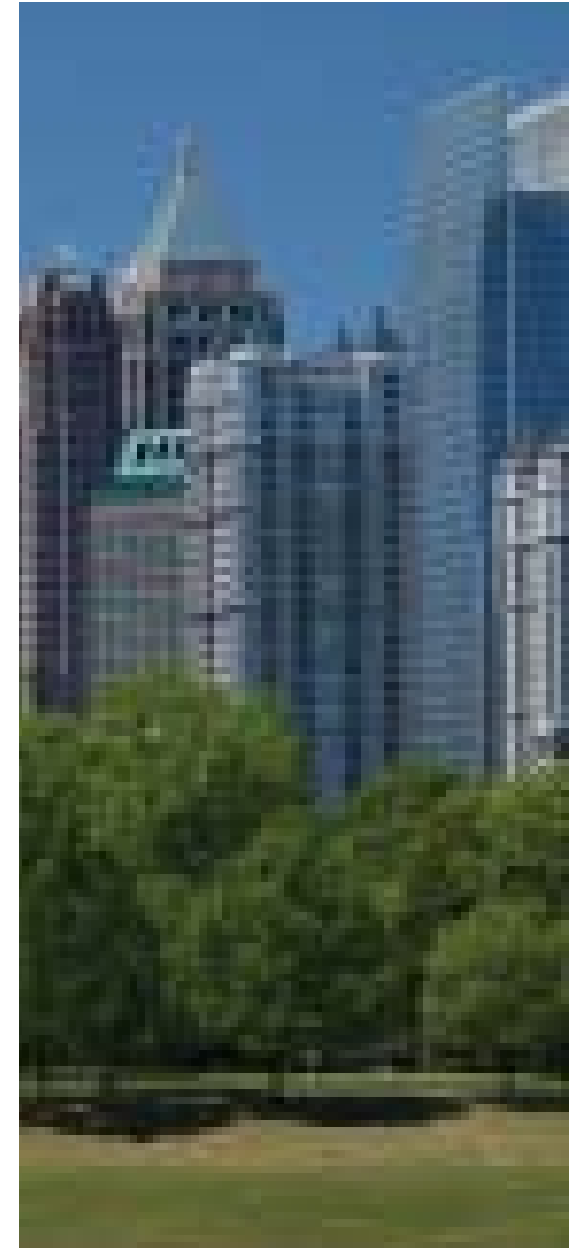
## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

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The Atlanta Regional Commission seeks a dynamic and visionary leader, who is prepared to help shape a major metropolitan region, effectively manage a highly professional staff and interact openly and effectively with a diverse membership, representing a wide variety of views and interests. The Director must be adept at articulating ARC's vision, fostering a collaborative and inclusive organization, directing programs and services, maintaining strong relationships with all regional constituencies and working with an active, highly engaged Board.





## ABOUT THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) is the regional planning and intergovernmental coordination agency for the 10-county area including Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties, as well as the City of Atlanta. This 10-county area has a population of 4.1 million and 68 cities with a total land area of 3,000 square miles. For nearly 65 years, ARC and its predecessor agencies have helped to focus the region's leadership, attention and resources on key issues of regional consequence. ARC is dedicated to unifying the region's collective resources to prepare the metropolitan area for a prosperous future.

ARC was created in 1971 by the local governments in the region, pursuant to legislation passed by the Georgia General Assembly. ARC receives local, state, and federal funds to administer programs, develop plans, and subcontract funds to local governments and other operating agencies. ARC is the comprehensive planning agency for the Atlanta region in the areas of transportation, land use, environmental planning, aging services, community services and workforce development. It is the designated Area Agency on

Aging (AAA), serves as the administrative agency for the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board, provides planning staff to the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District and is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning.

The ARC Board is composed of officials of political subdivisions and private citizens, representing districts of approximately the same population within the region. Thirty-nine members comprise the Board: 23 local elected officials, 15 private citizens and a representative of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

Currently, the Atlanta Regional Commission has a staff of 160 professional employees. Its budget for 2011 is \$59.2 million, with approximately 51% of the funds passed through to local governments or to non-profit entities providing services to local governments.

For more information about ARC, please visit [www.atlantaregional.com](http://www.atlantaregional.com).



## ABOUT THE POSITION

The Director is responsible for providing strategic leadership and overall management of the ARC, including personnel, financial and programmatic activities in accordance with policies, values, strategies and long-term goals as established by the Commission Board. This includes oversight of the development and implementation of the policies and programs of ARC, the identification of interjurisdictional issues, the development of new program initiatives and securing funding to underwrite ARC programs, activities and services.

The Director is responsible for ARC Board policy coordination and Commission support, intergovernmental cooperation, state and congressional legislative coordination and the building of civic partnerships. The Director also provides key staff support to the Commission Board and other high-level policy and staff committees, as well as representing ARC before a variety of organizations, agencies, governments and business and non-profit entities in the Atlanta metropolitan area.



## PROFILE OF THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate for the Director position will be a well-rounded, proven executive who can effectively lead and manage a prestigious agency responsible for regional planning and intergovernmental coordination for the Atlanta region. The successful candidate must possess strong leadership, management, interpersonal and oral/written communications skills. Experience in reporting to and working with a policy board is essential.

Graduation from a college or university with a Bachelor's degree is required, with a Master's degree preferred. Candidates should possess a broad and extensive background in executive-level management and administration, with experience in public leadership preferable. Knowledge of regional planning and implementation is required, as well as knowledge of local government structure, processes and operations and familiarity with legislative and regulatory processes of state and federal government agencies.

The ideal candidate will have experience developing strategic planning practices which anticipate future opportunities, issues and concerns; assisting in the development of annual goals and action plans and longer-range objectives and strategies; and the ability to provide a sense of clear direction to a complex, multi-interest organization. In addition, the candidate should have experience overseeing the preparation and administration of financial plans and budgets and the ability to provide appropriate and timely analyses of financial matters to the Commission Board.

Successful candidates should also possess the following competencies, skills and abilities:

- Is a visionary leader and manager who is able to inspire people around that vision, while still maintaining a focus on implementation.
- Possesses proven interpersonal skills and is approachable, tactful and takes the initiative to meet people, collaborate and establish relationships.
- Understands and leverages the agendas and interests of each major constituency group.
- Is an effective communicator with a proven record of positive public relations and media interaction, with strong public speaking and writing skills, and is comfortable being a major spokesperson for ARC.
- Fosters open communications with and among management personnel, making sure to build a culture of trust, collaboration, innovation, high performance and integrity.
- Facilitates and achieves consensus among diverse groups and interests through persuasiveness and conflict resolution.
- Displays maturity, self-confidence and strength of professional convictions to assertively provide administrative insights, counsel and supportive leadership to the Commission Board and staff.
- Is a passionate, enthusiastic leader who can quickly earn respect and credibility inside and outside ARC, possessing particular ability to instill confidence in and promote a positive image of ARC and achieve results related to its activities, programs and services.
- Is a skilled and objective negotiator and problem-solver, one who can represent ARC well with all constituencies and contacts, and where appropriate, develop alliances and partnerships with other organizations.

- Possesses the professional and personal capability to effectively represent the interests of a diverse membership at local, regional, state and federal levels.
- Has the ability to work effectively with a professional, multi-disciplined management team and staff.
- Possesses a national and global perspective on innovative strategies for shaping excellent regions.

## COMPENSATION

The starting salary for this position is set by the Commission Board and will be market competitive, depending on the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate. In addition, an excellent benefits package will be provided.

## HOW TO APPLY

Interested persons should send confidential resumes to:

**James L. Mercer, President**  
**The Mercer Group**  
**5579 B Chamblee Dunwoody Road, #511**  
**Atlanta, Georgia 30338**  
**Email: [jmercer@mercergroupinc.com](mailto:jmercer@mercergroupinc.com)**  
**Phone: 770.551.0403**  
**Fax: 770.399.9479**  
**Website: [www.mercergroupinc.com](http://www.mercergroupinc.com)**

The Atlanta Regional Commission does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, sex, religion or disability