DEKALB COUNTY

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NEWS RELEASE

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CEO ELLIS HOSTS COMMUNITY JOBS FORUM

DeKalb's voice will be included in the national discussion on jobs creation

DECATUR – DeKalb County CEO Burrell Ellis hosted a community jobs forum on December 18, 2009 in the Maloof Auditorium in Decatur in response to the call from President Obama for leaders across the country to hold events where citizens could share their ideas for jobs creation in their communities.

"This should be a discussion about the real issues—and real solutions—as they relate to unemployment in our community," CEO Ellis said. "This is your opportunity to help by contributing your thoughts on how we can get as many people back to work—in our county—as soon as possible."

The jobs forum was held in conjunction with several county departments including DeKalb Workforce Development, DeKalb County Office of Economic Development, DeKalb Community Development, and the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment. More than 100 individuals participated in the community jobs forum including government professionals; the Georgia Department of Labor; members of the healthcare, energy, infrastructure, green jobs, academia, finance/banking, information technology, and communications industries; labor organizations; local and state chambers of commerce; and citizens.

Participants discussed several topics related to jobs creations including identifying thriving industries in the county, industries that have been hit the hardest by the downfall in the economy, and opportunities for growth and obstacles to job creation that exist in DeKalb.

Ideas and suggestions from the community jobs forum will be compiled and included in a jobs creation report, which will be submitted to the White House.

(MORE)

CEO Burrell Ellis welcomes participants to the community jobs forum.

Participants share their ideas for jobs creation with facilitators.

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