

# **The City of Hampton's**

## **Downtown Development Authority**

Downtown development authorities are used in cities throughout the state as a mechanism to revitalize and redevelop municipal central business districts. The City of Hampton created its Downtown Development Authority ("HDDA") on December 11, 2001, in Ordinance No. 127.

### **What does the Hampton DDA do?**

In the State of Georgia, Downtown development authorities have been created by the General Assembly in O.C.G.A. § 36-42-1 et seq. The general powers of the HDDA include but are not limited to make and execute contracts, agreements, and other instruments necessary or convenient to exercise the powers of the authority; to purchase, lease, or otherwise and to hold, lease, and dispose of real and personal property; to finance, refinance, construct, renovate, or manage projects and to pay the cost of any project from the proceeds of revenue bonds or other obligations of the authority ; to borrow money to further or carry out its public purpose ; to issue revenue bonds, ; to make application for loans, grants, guarantees, or other financial assistance ; to extend credit or make loans to any person, corporation, partnership ; to encourage and promote the improvement and revitalization of the downtown development area and to make, contract for, or otherwise cause to be made long-range plans or proposals for the downtown development area in cooperation with the municipal corporation within which the downtown development area is located; to serve as an urban redevelopment agency pursuant to state law.

### **Eligibility to Serve on the HDDA?**

The HDDA consists of a board of seven directors who are appointed by the City Council to serve staggered four-year terms. Directors must be taxpayers who live in the city, or they must own or operate a business located within the downtown development area. Directors must also be taxpayers who live in Henry County. One of the directors can be a member of the Hampton City Council. Board members do not receive any compensation for serving on the HDDA, except for reimbursement for actual expenses incurred in performing their duties.

### **Are there Training Requirements for DDA Board Members?**

With the exception of a member who also serves on the city council, all DDA board members must take at least eight hours of training on downtown development and redevelopment programs within the first 12 months of their appointment to the HDDA.

### **How do I Apply to Serve on the HDDA?**

To apply for the HDDA, please submit your resume to [rfairley@hamptonga.gov](mailto:rfairley@hamptonga.gov)