



GEORGIA TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT

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GENERAL SESSION SPEAKERS



MICHAEL "SULLY" SULLIVAN

Michael L. "Sully" Sullivan is the President & CEO of ACEC Georgia. Sully currently serves on the following statewide and regional boards: Georgia Chamber of Commerce (Board of Governors & Board of Directors); Georgia Transportation Alliance (Executive Committee and Past Chairman); and Council for Quality Growth (Board of Directors). Sully also previously served as a member of the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia - TCSG; Georgia Regional Transportation Authority - GRTA; Gwinnett County Water & Sewer Authority (Chairman, 2008-2019, Member 2003-2019); Brookwood Schools Foundation Board of Trustees; and the Gwin Oaks Elementary School Council. Sully also previously served as the President of the National Association of Engineering Council Executives (NAECE).

Sully has been named to Georgia Trend Magazine's annual list of 100 Most Influential Georgians, James Magazine's annual list of Most Influential Georgians, James Magazine's annual list of Georgia Super Lawyers and was named a Georgia Super Lawyer Rising Star by Law & Politics and Atlanta Magazine. Sully has been actively engaged in politics for more than 25 years at the local and statewide level and has served as counsel, advisor and campaign manager for numerous elected officials, candidates, political organizations and regional and local referendum campaigns.

Sully is a proud "Double Dawg," having received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Georgia School of Law and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. Sully and his wife, Rebecca (who is also a "Double Dawg" attorney), have two children: Grace and Nash. The Sullivans live in Gwinnett County and attend Grace Fellowship Church in Snellville.



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RUSSELL MCMURRY

Russell R. McMurry, P.E., serves as commissioner for the Georgia Department of Transportation, the state agency responsible for the nation's 10th largest state transportation system, with an operating budget of over \$ 4 billion and a staff of nearly 3,700. Commissioner McMurry began his career with the department in 1990 as an engineering intern working in construction; he served in a variety of roles prior to being named chief engineer. He was then appointed by Governor Nathan Deal as the department's planning director before being appointed as commissioner by unanimous vote of the State Transportation Board in 2015.

McMurry currently serves as secretary/treasurer of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) as well as chair of the Council on Highways and Streets and a member of the Strategic Management Committee; he is a member of several other national committees and organizations; and is a board member for the Atlanta Transit Link Authority (ATL), Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA), the State Depository Board and the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund. He is also a member of the College of Engineering & Information Technology (CEIT) Corporate Advisory Committee at Georgia Southern University and the University of Georgia College of Engineering Advisory Board. McMurry also serves as Vice Chair of The Eastern Transportation Coalition and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board (TRB), which is part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

McMurry has received numerous accolades and recognitions, including being named Georgia Trend's 2018 Georgian of the Year, and is consistently included in its list of the 100 Most Influential Georgians. He was also named one of Atlanta's most powerful leaders in Atlanta Magazine's "Atlanta 500" and named one of James Magazine's Most Influential Georgians. McMurry graduated cum laude from Georgia Southern University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering technology and is a registered professional engineer in the state of Georgia.



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MEG PIRKLE

Meg Pirkle has served GDOT as the Chief Engineer since January 1, 2015. She is responsible for the Divisions of Engineering, Construction, Operations, Intermodal, and P3/Program Delivery, as well as the offices of TIA and Engineering Services.

Pirkle began her career with GDOT in 1989 as an engineering trainee and has served in a variety of roles throughout her career. Her experience consists of Transportation Planning Engineer, State Scheduling Engineer, Assistant Director of Preconstruction, and Executive Assistant to the Chief Engineer, where she was the Program Manager for the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA).

Prior to being named Chief Engineer, she served as the Director of Operations for three years. Pirkle earned a Bachelor of Civil Engineering in 1989 from Vanderbilt University and a Master of Civil Engineering in 1997 from the Georgia Institute of Technology and is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Georgia.



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COLLIE GREENWOOD

MARTA General Manager and CEO Collie Greenwood is a 35-year transit veteran with experience ranging from frontline operations to executive leadership.

As Chief Service Officer at North America's third largest transit system, the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), Greenwood oversaw bus, rail, accessible transit, station services, transit security, and a structured maintenance program for all modes. Additionally, he guided the TTC through several transformative initiatives, including station transformations, mobility service consolidation, and reduced overtime costs through the organized distribution of transitional work.

Greenwood joined MARTA as the Chief of Bus Operations and Urban Planning in July 2019 and was appointed Deputy General Manager of Operations and Urban Planning in 2020. In January 2022, the MARTA Board of Directors named him Interim General Manager and CEO. The Board voted to confirmed him in this role in October 2022.

In this role, Greenwood will lead MARTA's largest and most ambitious expansion and modernization program since its founding over 40 years ago. Greenwood will work closely with his senior leadership team to develop and deliver major capital projects to enhance the customer experience, including the addition of new railcars and electric buses to the MARTA fleet.

Greenwood is an active member of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), serving as Vice Chair of its Standards Development Oversight Council, and is a founding Board Member of Georgia's Fulton Technology and Energy Enhancement Authority (FTEEA).

Collie holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.



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REP. RICK JASPERSE

Rick grew up in Kingsport, Tennessee. Upon graduation from The University of Georgia's College of Agriculture with a degree in Food Science, Rep Jasperse started work as the Assistant County Agent in Bartow County in 1980. He stayed there for a few years, wisely married Marcia Rowlett, and then went to Bleckley County in South Georgia to further his experience in agriculture. Pickens County was their final stop and has been their home since 1983. Rep Jasperse and Marcia live on a small farm and, over the years, have grown a little bit of everything.

Rep Jasperse has been very active in our community over the years. He has served on various boards and clubs. He has been on the Mountain Conservation Trust Board, Chattahoochee Technical College Board, and Appalachian Cattlemen's Association. He was a long-time member of the Jasper Lion's Club and is now a member of the Jasper Rotary Club. He was President and game announcer of the Pickens High School Tip-Off Club. He has cooked pork and chicken BBQ for many organizations and events to raise money for charity. He coached little league baseball for years with some great parents. Rick and his family had a small landscaping business for a number of years.

Rep Jasperse retired in 2009 after 29 years as a County Agent. Budget reductions at the University put a few of the older employees out to pasture. As an educator with the University of Georgia College of Agriculture and Pickens County, his role was to teach, inform, and empower folks.

Rep Jasperse entered a new world of service in 2010 when he was elected to be the State Representative for what is now the 11th District, which is part of Gordon County, part of Murray County, and all of Pickens.

Rep Jasperse currently serves as the Chairman of the Education Committee, Secretary of Rules, and as a member on the following House Committees: Agricultural and Consumer Affairs, Appropriations, Health & Human Services, Higher Education, Human Relations & Aging, Public Safety & Homeland Security, and Regulated Industries.



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SENATOR STEVE GOOCH

Senator Steve Gooch was elected to the Georgia State Senate in 2010. Senator Gooch is a Republican representing the 51st District, which includes Fannin, Union, Gilmer, Lumpkin, White, Dawson, and parts of Pickens and Forsyth counties.

Senator Gooch was elected as the Majority Whip of the Senate Majority Caucus in 2014. Prior to serving as the Senate Majority Whip, Senator Gooch served as the Secretary of the Senate Majority Caucus and as chair of the Senate Transportation Committee.

Senator Gooch serves as Vice-Chairman of the Transportation Committee and Secretary of the Appropriations Committee. Additionally, he serves on the Finance and Regulated Industries and Utilities Committees and as Ex-Officio on the Assignments and Rules Committees.

Senator Gooch graduated from North Georgia College and State University, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He currently serves as the Executive Director for the Development Authority of Lumpkin County and is a former Georgia Department of Transportation board member. Prior to being elected to the Georgia State Senate, he served as the sole Lumpkin County Commissioner.

Senator Gooch and his wife Shannon have three children: Samuel, Seth, and Sawyer.



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JANNINE MILLER

Jannine Miller is the Director of Planning at the Georgia Department of Transportation, serving on the Executive Leadership Team alongside Commissioner Russell McMurry. She was appointed to the position by Governor Brian Kemp and confirmed by the General Assembly in June 2020. In this role, Ms. Miller is responsible for the short - term and long - range planning and investment strategy of Georgia's State and Federal transportation funds for roads and bridges.

Highlights of Miller's 18 - year career in transportation infrastructure include serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary and Senior Advisor to Secretary Elaine Chao at the U.S. Department of Transportation, working directly with Federal transportation operating and financing offices. Miller also served as Senior Advisor to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, responsible for programs and policies related to rural infrastructure development and financing.

Prior to her service in the Federal government, Miller in several other roles in the public and private sectors, including was Director of the Center of Innovation for Logistics at the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Senior Manager of Supply Chain Finance at The Home Depot, Executive Director of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, and Senior Planner at the Atlanta Regional Commission.



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SETH MILLICAN

Prior to joining the Georgia Transportation Alliance, Seth worked as Vice President of Public Affairs at Brock Clay Government and Public Affairs. He began his career working in various staff positions in the Georgia General Assembly. Millican earned his B.S. in Social Sciences from Thomas Edison State College. He's married to his high school sweetheart, Kara, and they have three children: KJ, Eden Grace, and Gabriel. He loves Georgia sports teams, hunting, books and writing (on politics and culture), his faith, and his family.

Millican has been recognized in various publications for his work on behalf of political causes and policy related initiatives. He was appointed by Governor Nathan Deal to Chair the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment Commission and also serves on the board of the Georgia Wildlife Federation. He is also a founding member of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association Transportation Investment Advocacy Center, co-chair of the Council of State Chamber's Transportation Committee, a member of the American Enterprise Institute's Leadership Network, and a member of the U.S. Chamber's Transportation Infrastructure and Logistics Committee.



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ANNA ROACH

Anna Roach is Executive Director & Chief Operating Officer of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). In this role, she directs the agency's work in policy areas that span the various disciplines under ARC's purview. She also leads the commission's engagement with elected and appointed officials at the federal, state, and local levels.

Prior to joining ARC in 2022, Roach served as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Strategy Officer of Fulton County. A lawyer by training, Roach has worked as a management consultant focusing on operational and business process efficiencies and has held several key legal leadership positions during her career.

Roach is a member of the Rotary Club of Atlanta and the American Bar Association. She serves as an advisory board member at Tyler Technologies, as well as Avenu Insights and Analytics, and is a past board chair of the Atlanta March of Dimes.

She holds a Juris Doctor from St. John's University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the State University of New York, College at Cortland. Roach resides in the City of South Fulton with her husband and four children.



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BALRAM BHEODARI

As leader of the world's busiest and most efficient airport, Balram "B" Bheodari oversees all facets of Airport governance, including operations and a multibillion-dollar capital improvement program designed to pave the way for Atlanta's growth over the next 20 years.

His priorities are focused on three strategic pillars: People, Purpose and Performance. Those pillars encompass a comprehensive safety and security platform, a robust customer experience program, a sustainable enterprise, healthy financial performance, innovative technology framework, and completion of ATL's critical capital program on schedule and within budget.

A retired Army aviator, Bheodari navigated ATL through the most challenging period of the COVID-19 pandemic, from drawdown to resumption of its expansive operations.

He has an extensive career in aviation executive management. In early 2009, Bheodari commissioned ATL's first Operational Readiness and Transition (ORAT) team, which developed and implemented the activation plan for a consolidated Rental Car Center and the ATL SkyTrain automated people mover. Two years later, he expanded the ORAT team and spearheaded the 1.2-million-square-foot Maynard H. Jackson Jr. International Terminal opening, which accommodated more than 12 million international travelers each year before the pandemic.

Bheodari holds the American Association of Airport Executives Accredited Airport Executive (AAE) designation. Additionally, he has earned the International Airport Professional (IAP) accreditation from Airports Council International and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Bheodari graduated from Troy University with a Bachelor of Science degree in aviation management. He also completed the Emory University Executive Education Management Leadership and Development Programs. He retired from the U.S. Army with 22 years of active military service in the aviation branch as an instrument-rated aviator.



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GRIFF LYNCH

Griff Lynch is the Executive Director of the Georgia Ports Authority (GPA), a 1,500-person strong state authority that owns and operates strategic port terminals serving American commerce.

As Executive Director, Lynch oversees the nation's third-busiest gateway for containerized trade and second-busiest auto port complex in Savannah and Brunswick, respectively. Together, these form one of the largest economic engines in the U.S. Southeast.

Lynch brings 30 years of operational and commercial experience to his role.