



**Where Georgia comes together.**

Department of Economic Development

In 2013 Mayor and Council, in a progressive and visionary move for a municipality the size of Perry, created the Department of Economic Development and the position of Economic Development Director to oversee the department and its operations. Understanding the competitive environment between communities for jobs, private investment, and businesses, Mayor and Council wanted to ensure that the City of Perry remains as competitive and attractive as possible for new businesses while proactively working with existing businesses to ensure they are happy here in Perry.

The overall focus of the Department of Economic Development is traditional economic development which is businesses retention, business expansion, and business recruitment. We want our businesses to be able to produce their product or provide their service as efficiently as possible and be able to focus on that productivity or service provision without undue interference or burdens from the outside. We hope that our businesses are so successful they expand their operations here in Perry and we want the success of our existing businesses to attract additional business to Perry. It can be complicated, but above everything else we want to be there for our businesses. The most important role of the Department of Economic Development is to serve as that liaison to our businesses and ensure that Mayor and Council are plugged into the needs and desires of the Perry business community.

The Department of Economic Development provides a wide range of services to City of Perry businesses and prospective businesses. Housed within the Department are the Perry Classic Main Street Program and Downtown Development Authority, which focus on downtown development and marketing, and the City's Communications Manager whose primary focus is to provide information, proactively engage Perry residents and businesses, and educate the community in regards to City activities and resources. Further, the Perry Housing Team is under the auspices of the Department of Economic Development with the goal of ensuring safe and affordable housing for all Perry citizens. We will do our best to help with whatever is needed and if we can't help we will point you in the direction of someone that can. A snapshot of some of our activities for FY 2017 are below:



**235 Business  
Visits**



**30 Operational  
Assistance Requests**



**87 Site Location  
Assistance Requests**



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While the support of existing businesses and the attraction of new businesses to Perry will always be our “bread and butter”, the Department and our operations go well beyond this general focus and necessarily so. We want to ensure that the City is doing everything it can to foster a healthy economic and pro-business environment. Increasingly, the overall operations of the City of Perry, and all cities for that matter, are becoming intertwined in advancing the community forward, cultivating smart and healthy growth, and developing and strengthening the overall quality of life found in the particular locale.

We are here to help. Please do not hesitate to reach out for anything you may need.

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