



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW ST. MARYS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR SELECTED Jeffrey Adams accepts Director Position in St. Marys

ST. MARYS, Ga., (June 1, 2015) – The City of St. Marys welcomes Jeffrey Adams as Community Development Director. He will begin his duties with the City on Wednesday, July 1. Mr. Adams brings twenty years of land planning, research and expertise to the City of St. Marys. Before joining St. Marys, Mr. Adams provided the Flint Hills of Kansas and Blaine County, Idaho, regional and long-range planning support.

Mr. Adams says he “welcomes the opportunity to help lead the land development of such an engaged and dynamic community. St. Marys is taking great strides towards future development through the visioning and planning work now under way. I look forward to leading this effort and working with a great staff in developing a plan that builds on the historic legacy of St. Marys, leverages its unique natural and cultural resources, while infusing it with strategic economic vitality.”

Mr. Adams enjoys working with communities and engaging them in the planning process. He has led numerous communities and organizations towards visioning, strategic and comprehensive planning processes that have led to more vibrant futures. While in Idaho, as Regional Planner for Blaine County he led the County through a two-year, award winning, visioning process and comprehensive re-write of its planning and zoning code, called *Blaine 2025*. The effort was awarded the Idaho Smart Growth Award for Citizen Participation, in 2007.

Mr. Adams has served on numerous boards and commissions and researched and written reports on a range of areas, from transportation and land use planning to workforce and economic development. Mr. Adams is accomplished at grant writing and support, economic and land use modeling and brings a rich background in GIS mapping analysis.

Mr. Adams began his career in planning working for sustainable development in military housing, with his work with the Army Corp of Engineers' Construction and Energy Research Lab, in Champaign, IL. He has a Bachelors of Landscape Architecture from the University of Georgia, a Masters of Landscape Architecture from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana and a Doctorate in Social Theory, from the University of London's London Consortium.

Mr. Adams is happy to return home, to Georgia. He and his wife Marilyn, who was Housing Program Manager for the Athens Housing Authority for fifteen years, enjoy working with affordable housing and historic preservation, have two children and look forward to being active members of this great historic community. The Adams have been frequent visitors to the area over the past thirty years and recognize the unique legacy the community has for its role as gateway to Cumberland Island National Seashore.

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