



Release Date: February 2025

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Council for Quality Growth Announces Matthew Yarbrough as Director of Policy & Government Affairs

The Council for Quality Growth has announced Matthew Yarbrough as its new Director of Policy and Government Affairs. With extensive experience in local governance, public affairs, and policy advocacy, Yarbrough is well-positioned to advance the organization's mission.

“Matthew has a deep understanding of public policy and his track record of working with community leaders makes him a perfect fit for this role,” stated Michael Paris, President and CEO of the Council. “His ability to build strong relationships and advocate for smart growth policies will be great assets to our team.”

Yarbrough has built a strong career in public affairs and government relations over the years, particularly in Gwinnett County. Most recently, he was Public Affairs and Political Strategist at Gate City Public Affairs, where he played a key role in shaping communications strategies and strengthening relationships between elected officials and community organizations. He has also served as District Director and Outreach Director for U.S. Congresswoman Carolyn Bourdeaux, leading legislative outreach efforts, organizing policy forums, and working closely with local governments to address key issues. His experience in policy development and civic engagement has impacted the communities he has served.

Over the years, Yarbrough has worked alongside public officials at county, state, and federal levels while managing high-profile policy campaigns and overseeing fundraising efforts. His ability to craft effective



Michael Yarbrough

public messaging, develop policy strategies, and build meaningful partnerships has contributed to positive change in the region.

Yarbrough earned a Master of Arts in Political Science from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, International Affairs, and History from the University of Georgia. He is currently involved in regional leadership initiatives, serving on various civic and business association boards, including the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce Foundation and the Gwinnett Coalition.

“I am so honored to join the Council for Quality Growth and look forward to becoming a member of the team that is shaping our region’s future,” says Yarbrough. “Quality growth and smart policy decisions are essential in fostering strong, resilient communities. I look forward to collaborating with stakeholders across the metro area to reach these goals.”

The Council for Quality Growth is a nonprofit advocacy organization promoting growth within the metro Atlanta area. With Yarbrough’s leadership in policy and government affairs, the organization will continue its mission of fostering public-private partnerships that drive sustainable growth and strategic infrastructure planning.

The Chason Group, an executive search firm specializing in economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, foundations, and other nonprofit groups, assisted the Council for Quality Growth with the search process.