

Purchasing Director Ted Burgess named Chairman of the Legislative Committee

Fayette County, Georgia, May 15, 2019 – The Governmental Purchasing Association of Georgia (GPAG) is an organization dedicated to promoting ethical standards, professional development, and legislation that promotes effective and efficient purchasing. Shortly after being named the county's Director of Purchasing, Ted Burgess became a GPAG member.

In the summer of 2016, Ted joined GPAG's Legislative Committee. In that capacity, he tracked and analyzed state legislation and federal initiatives that impact procurement, presented updates at GPAG's business meetings, and wrote articles for the quarterly newsletter.

In the summer of 2017, he developed and coordinated a statewide survey of city, county, and board of education procurement professionals. This led to training sessions at spring and fall conferences, and exploration with the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of the possibility of developing new training courses.

In the fall of 2018, Ted was given the opportunity to appear before the House Study Committee on County Governance, which the Georgia Legislature had formed to study efficient, effective, and responsive government. He testified about procurement best practices used in Fayette County, and offered recommendations for legislation that would improve local government outcomes. His recommendations were included in the Study Committee's final report to the House of Representatives.

In early 2019, he accepted the position of Legislative Committee Chairman. Within the Committee, he formed and headed the Legislative Review Team. During the state's legislative session, the Team monitored each bill that would impact state or local government purchasing. Under Ted's leadership, the Legislative Team reached out to the Association County Commissioners of Georgia, House Governmental Affairs Committee members, and others. They offered suggestions to help formulate legislation that could be implemented consistently across the state and would produce the desired outcomes.

"Ted is an outstanding member of the Fayette County team. He tirelessly works with all departments and agencies that makeup Fayette County government and his actions have a direct benefit of our citizens and community," said County Manager Steve Rapson. "The County applauds his professionalism and dedication, resulting in him being named Chairman of the Legislative Committee and aiding in his goal of connecting public purchasing with the resources necessary to succeed throughout the State of Georgia, the United States, and Internationally."

Ted looks forward to continued improvement of procurement outcomes locally, and to professional development of the function across Georgia.

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(Photo included)