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## Georgia Developers Tour Greater Rome

**R**ome and Floyd County leaders rolled out a welcome mat for developers from all over Georgia last month during the group's tour of Northwest Georgia. More than 20 statewide project managers from *Georgia Power* and the *Georgia Department of Economic Development* made the trip as part of an annual tour that sends the group to different regions of the state each year.

During the tour of Rome and Floyd County, the developers learned about the strength of the medical and educational resources in the community, as well as the positive impact international manufacturing is making here. They also heard about the excitement caused by the new aviation and avionics programs being added by *Coosa Valley Technical College* at *Richard B. Russell Regional Airport* in 2007, and how companies in the aviation, life sciences and advanced manufacturing industries are being recruited by Rome and Floyd County.

Another major portion of the event involved a tour of all five of the area's industrial parks and both vacant

manufacturing space and soon-to-be-available office developments that would fit corporate, regional and divisional headquarters.

The trip to Rome and Floyd County by these influential project managers was part of a two-day, six-county tour.

*Commissioner Garry Fricks, Floyd County Board of Commissioners*, understands the importance of the opportunity to showcase this community to so many people. "These statewide developers have the huge responsibility to know the strengths and weaknesses of hundreds of communities. We are extraordinarily excited to be able to host this group and teach them all about Rome and Floyd County."

Many thanks go to *Hawthorn Suites, T. Martooni's* and *Old Havana Cigar Company* for the hospitality and flexibility with scheduling. Of course, we thank Georgia Power and the Georgia Department of Economic Development officials for taking time to visit our community. The tour had a truly unique experience in Rome and Floyd County. ■

### CHAMBER BOARD ENDORSES SPLOST

- REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION
- INCREASE COMMUNITY SAFETY
- EXHIBIT ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY
- ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE
- EVERYONE BENEFITS
- SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE DETAILS