

## **Kirkland Dion Carden**

I grew up in Duluth and have lived in the city since 2004. I currently live in the Riverbrooke subdivision. I am a proud graduate of Duluth High School. I regularly attend Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church. Duluth is my home and the community in which those that I love have chosen to call home. Like you, I've chosen to invest in the future of Duluth.

In 2015 I received a Bachelors of Arts degree in Political Science at Georgia State University. While in college, I served as a Legislative Aide to Minority Leader State Senator Steve Henson during the 2014 legislative session, during this time I worked on a variety of prominent issues facing Gwinnett.

Immediately after graduating, I began working for a local engineering firm called Jacobs Engineering as an Urban Planning Technician. This position required me to analyze facts involved in the land-use decision-making process, read, interpret, and apply government codes and regulations. Currently, I work as a Transportation Planner with the Office of Planning at the Georgia Department of Transportation, where it's my responsibility to serve as a liaison to local government staff and work to improve transportation across our state.

I have had a long-standing personal commitment to the people of Gwinnett County and specifically the City of Duluth, which is why I participated in the [Duluth L.E.A.D Academy](#) (2011), [The Duluth Citizens Police Academy](#) (2016) and [The Citizen's Budget Advisory Board](#) (2016). Through these programs I gained an understanding from city staff on how our city functions and developed an understanding of how I could contribute to this city's future development.