

**Rodney L. Swink, FASLA**, is the director of the North Carolina Office of Urban Development in the state's Department of Commerce. He is responsible for leading downtown revitalization and development efforts statewide. His award-winning work has resulted in over \$700 million of new investment in Main Street community downtowns since 1984 when he became director.



A registered landscape architect, Rodney has been active in ASLA for over 20 years, serving as ASLA national president in 2001-2002 and as ASLA Vice President for Policy in 1993-95. He has held several North Carolina chapter offices including President and Trustee. Rodney has chaired numerous ASLA committees, including the ASLA Annual Meeting Program Committee, the ASLA Awards and Medals Committee, the Society's Task Force on Diversity and the committee that rewrote the Society's Code of Professional Conduct. He also has chaired the Licensure Committee and worked with CLARB and CELA on a model definition of landscape architecture. He has served on the Task Force on Public Practice and the Membership Committee.

In 1998 Preservation North Carolina presented Rodney with the prestigious Robert E. Stipe Professional Award stating, "perhaps no other individual in this state has been called upon by so many communities with an urgent cry for help to assist in saving that community's historic fabric." More recently he was the recipient of the 2003 North Carolina Award from the N.C. Chapter of ASLA, the 2002 Frank B. Turner Award from the NC State Construction Office, the 2001 Bramham/Marcus Humanitarian Award from NC Partners of the Americas.

Rodney has a long history of community involvement including serving as chair of the Raleigh Appearance Commission when it tackled billboard regulation, initiated its citywide landscape ordinance and improved its street tree program. He is a founding member of the board of Scenic North Carolina and he has served on several other advisory boards including Preservation North Carolina and the NCSU Friends of the Gallery. Rodney has served as president of North Carolina Partners of the Americas, a non-profit organization working with Cochabamba, Bolivia. He has lectured at the Universidad Mayor de San Simón in Cochabamba, led workshops with local government planners and citizen groups on strategic planning and development, and natural resource protection and facilitated the exchange of cultural and technical resources.

Upon graduation with a Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture, Rodney went to work with the N. C. Division of Forest Resources where he helped create the state's urban forestry program. More recently Rodney has been a visiting lecturer in the landscape architecture program at NC State University's College of Design and a guest lecturer at other universities. Rodney serves on the Landscape Architecture Advisory Board for both his alma mater NC State University and for North Carolina A&T State University. Rodney is a 2004 recipient of the "Wings on Wings" award of the NC State University College of Design.