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Tuesday, October 6

8:00 am **Registration**

10:00 am **Introduction:** Ben Kinney, Publisher, Business North Carolina

10:15 am **Broadband 2.0: From Access to Adoption and Digital Skills**
- Tracy Doaks, CEO, MCNC
- Dr. Lisa Hill, Executive VP of Instruction and Workforce Development, Beaufort County Community College
- Cyndy Yu Robinson, Executive Director, Kramden Institute

11:15 am **Industrial Recruitment, Logistics, and Ports: Competing for the Next Wave of Projects**
- Brian Clark, Executive Director, NC Ports
- Ches Chesson, Executive Director, Main Street Edenton
- Trey Cash, COO, NC Global Transpark Economic Development Region
- Simon Rich, President, Riverbulk

12:15 pm **Lunch | Keynote: Maritime Trades and the Defense Industrial Base**
- Trey Goodson, Chief Information Officer, NCEast

1:15 pm **Healthcare Workforce, Behavioral Health, and Hospital Sustainability**
- Senitria Goodman, CEO, Trillium
- Lorrie Basnight, Executive Director, AHEC East
- Maggie Woods, Director, Rural Health Transformation Program

2:00 pm **Break**

2:15 pm **NC Coastal Resilience**
- Dr. Reide Corbett, Executive Director, Coastal Studies Institute
- Monica Thibodeau, Mayor, Duck, NC
- Harrison Marks, Executive Director, NC Coastal Land Trust
- Bree Charron, Water Quality Program Dir, North Carolina Coastal Federation

3:15 pm **Keynote: Data Centers: Richmond County's AWS Journey**
- Martie Butler, Management Analyst & Economic Developer, Richmond County

4:30 pm **Cocktail | Networking Session**

Wednesday, October 7

8:00 am **Breakfast: Networking**

9:00 am **Housing, Main Streets, and Talent Retention**
- Ben Farmer, Planning and Development Services Director, Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments
- Liz Parham, CMSM Director, NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center
- Victoria Newcombe, Mayor, Rich Square
- Mondale Robinson, Mayor, Enfield

10:00 am **Deeply Rooted: Why We Choose Eastern North Carolina**
- Jamie Davis, The Hackney
- Ana Shellem, Shell'em Seafood
- Luke Owens, Native Fine Diner
- Matt Register, Southern Smoke BBQ

11:00 am **Break**

11:15 am **Building a High-performance B2B Distribution Platform by Unlocking the Power of Rural Talent and Strategic Logistics**
- John Garver, President, Southco Distributing

12:00 pm **Trailblazers Awards Lunch**
Trailblazers are North Carolinians under 40 years old who are achieving significant business success and making a positive impact in communities with populations under 150,000.