

southern georgia regional plan stakeholder involvement program



2012 - 2032



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Prepared by Southern Georgia Regional
Commission

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introduction

The eighteen counties in this region include rural counties, urban areas, internationally renowned wildlife preserves, small villages, bigger cities, interstates, dirt roads, a nationally important military base, along with the diverse population living in and around these areas; all united by a down home love for South Georgia, and the desire to be the best it can be for its residents, businesses and visitors alike.

The Regional Plan has set out to capture this spirit and the diverse values through its stakeholder involvement program which consists of three elements:

- 1) The identification of the various stakeholders;
- 2) The identification of participation techniques; and
- 3) The schedule of completion for the Regional Agenda.

In order to be able to paint a true picture of this region for the Regional Agenda, a variety of outreach efforts have to be employed including face to face conversations, visits, workshops, e-mail campaigns, website updates, face book updates and newspaper updates for public meetings.

identification of stakeholders

The following is a listing of initially identified stakeholders.

As the process moves forward and more stakeholders are identified, they will be added to this list:

Local Governments:

Atkinson County
City of Pearson
City of Willacoochee
Bacon County
City of Alma
Ben Hill County
City of Fitzgerald
Berrien County
City of Alapaha
City of Enigma
City of Nashville
Ray City
Brantley County
City of Hoboken
City of Nahunta
Brooks County
City of Barwick
City of Morven
City of Pavo
City of Quitman
Charlton County

City of Folkston
City of Homeland
Clinch County
City of Argyle
City of Dupont
City of Fargo
City of Homerville
Coffee County
City of Ambrose
City of Broxton
City of Douglas
City of Nicholls
Cook County
City of Adel
City of Cecil
City of Lenox
City of Sparks
Echols County
Irwin County
City of Ocilla
Lanier County
City of Lakeland

Lowndes County
City of Dasher
City of Hahira
City of Lake Park
City of Remerton
City of Valdosta
Pierce County
City of Blackshear
City of Patterson
City of Offerman
Tift County
City of Omega
City of Tifton
City of Ty Ty
Turner County
City of Ashburn
City of Rebecca
City of Sycamore
Ware County
City of Waycross

Other Stakeholders:

Airport Authorities
Boards of Education
Chambers of Commerce
Citizens
Councils on Aging
Development Authorities
EMA/EMS
Fire Departments
Historic Preservation Boards
Hospitals/Medical Centers
Housing Authorities
Main Street Organizations
Moody Air Force Base
Police Departments
Southern Georgia Regional
Commission
State and Federal Agencies
Universities/Colleges
Valdosta/Lowndes MPO
Workforce Development Boards

identification of participation techniques – part I

We will employ the following participation techniques to involve the stakeholders in the development of the Regional Plan, create awareness of the plan, and gather a broad range of input into the plan. Some of the participation techniques are more intended to disseminate information, others to solicit input and participation.

Informational Techniques:

Regional Plan Update Webpage

This webpage will be part of the Regional Commission website where all the information regarding the Regional Plan Update will be displayed. The webpage will provide information on all meetings, PDF draft documents and will also include contact information for staff to provide more information, clarifications or details upon request.

Facebook Information Sharing Page

The Facebook page “Southern Georgia Regional Commission Information Center” will serve as an information clearing house to distribute information on meetings, progress, and provide opportunity for comments, especially for those stakeholders that are not able to attend meetings.

E-mail

E-mails will be utilized to notify and invite stakeholders to workshops, meetings and public hearings.

identification of participation techniques – part II

Participation Techniques:

Steering Committee

During the 2010 Major Amendment to the Regional Plan, a Steering Committee was established from within the Southern Georgia Regional Commission members. This same Steering Committee will continue to serve during this Full Update of the Regional Plan.

Work Sessions

Work sessions with stakeholders will be utilized to provide input and feedback on the formulation of a regional vision statement, regional issues and opportunities, and the implementation program including the guiding principles, performance standards, activities and work program as proposed by staff.

Surveys

A short survey will be developed to solicit input from Stakeholders on issues and opportunities and performance standards. The survey will be distributed by e-mail and available for download on the web page and Facebook page.

Required Public Hearing

A public hearing as required will be held at the end of the planning process to present the Draft Regional Agenda to the stakeholders and present an additional region-wide opportunity for comment.

Webpage and Facebook Page

Both the webpage and Facebook page will not only provide information but are also geared towards providing comments, engaging in discussion and contacting staff.

proposed completion schedule for regional plan

Transmittal Regional Assessment & Involvement Program	DCA review period	Development of Regional Agenda			Draft agenda to Regional Commission	Public Hearing ; Transmittal By Regional Commission	DCA 60 day review period		Adoption By Regional Commission
		Stakeholder Involvement							
May 2012	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February 2013