

## A RESOLUTION

### **AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE 2014-2018 REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM UPDATE TO THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR REVIEW**

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 was intended to address statewide land use and growth issues and establish a three-tiered, bottom-up planning process of consensus-building and integration of local needs and concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, regional planning, the second tier of the process, involves many planning and development issues which are common to jurisdictions throughout the area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission has developed a Regional Plan for its twelve county region, coterminous to Service Delivery Region Five; and

**WHEREAS**, the regional agenda contains mutually agreed upon goals, objectives, policies and implementation strategies which will be used to coordinate activities of the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission, local governments, public agencies, and other parties in the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission has received input from committees and local governments concerning the Regional Work Program; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission will submit the 2014-2018 Regional Work Program Update to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for review and approval and will work collaboratively with other regional partners and local governments to implement jointly-agreed upon priorities.

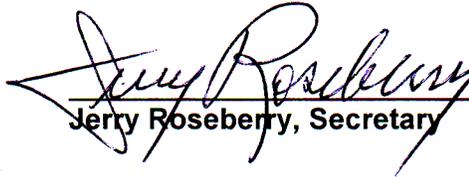
**ADOPTED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014 at Athens, Georgia



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**Kevin Little, Chairperson**



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**Frank Turner, Vice Chairman**



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**Jerry Roseberry, Secretary**

**ATTEST:**



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**James R. Dove, Executive Director**



# Northeast Georgia Plan 2035

## Regional Work Program 2014 Update

For transmission by the  
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Council,  
March 20, 2014

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## Regional Planning

The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission adopted the Northeast Georgia Plan 2035 in 2012, thereby fulfilling the State of Georgia's requirement for a full update to its regional plan once every five years. Annual updates to the plan's Regional Work Program (RWP) component are also required. This document updates the three required sections: *Monitoring Report*, *Report of Accomplishments* and an updated list of projects identified in *Activities 2014-2018*.

### Review by Regional Commission Staff

Each project in the RWP for 2013-2017 was classified according to the Regional Commission departments responsible for the projects. In early 2014, staff at the Regional Commission were surveyed to evaluate the status of work items in the RWP based on the following criteria:

- Completed
- Ongoing
- Upcoming
- Postponed and estimated completion date
- Abandoned and reason for abandonment

### Review by Regional Commission Council

The Regional Commission's Planning and Government Services Advisory Committee, a standing committee of its Council, reviewed the *Monitoring Report*, *Report of Accomplishments* and the proposed *Activities 2014-2018* for recommendation to the Council.

## Results

There were 31 projects identified in 2013-2017 RWP. Of these, one is complete, four are upcoming and 26 are described as ongoing. The new 2014-2018 RWP carries over all ongoing projects and eliminates completed projects.

No amendments to the Regional Agenda or its Areas Requiring Special Attention section are required at this time. Progress on key features of each of the Issues and Opportunities included in the Regional Agenda is addressed in the *Report of Accomplishments* section of this document.

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION

Regional Work Program Planning and Coordination activities are those which the Regional Commission undertook in 2013 to assist local governments and other regional partners to act in accordance with the Regional Agenda.

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
<b>I. Development Patterns</b>							
1.1	Facilitate local government greenway, bicycle, and pedestrian planning and education	2013-2017	NEGRC, local governments	\$25,000 per plan	GDOT, GDCA, Local	Ongoing	Developing local plans under the GDOT contract
1.2	Catalog, assess, and plan for recreation, cultural, agricultural, and tourism resources, including farmland protection	2013-2014	NEGRC	\$22,500 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	Phase one of Regional Tourism Study complete, phase two underway
<b>2. Resource Conservation</b>							
2.1	Review RIR designations annually and assist communities with implementation of RIR management plan as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,000+ annually	GDCA	Ongoing	Ongoing in 2013. RIR nominations to be opened in 2014-2015
2.2	Develop and implement water quality plans and programs	2013-2017	NEGRC, local governments	\$20,000 -30,000 per plan	GEPD, GDCA	Ongoing	Ongoing under new contract from 2012
2.3	Continue to develop planning-level datasets of water and wastewater collection systems	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$10,500 per set	GDCA	Ongoing	Collection of water and wastewater GIS datasets completed for Walton County and underway in Barrow County
2.4	Assist local governments with conservation funding opportunities, as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, GDNR, NPS	Ongoing	No requests to date
2.5	Assist local governments in assessing historic resources and pursuing related funding opportunities, as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, GDNR, GDOT	Ongoing	Assisted City of Maxeys with National Register of Historic Places nomination, City of Elberton with procurement of architect for feasibility study of historic hotel, City of Porterdale historic gym and depot rehabilitation assistance, ARC grant (awarded) developed for Rock Gym improvements in Elbert County

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
<b>2. Resource Conservation (continued)</b>							
2.6	Engage in collaborative mitigation planning with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to address air pollution issues, if necessary	2013-2017	NEGRC	Minimal	NEGRC, GDNR	Ongoing	No requests to date
2.7	Assist with regional solid waste planning efforts	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$8,400 annually	NEGRSWA, GDCA	Ongoing	RC provides administrative support to Regional Solid Waste Management Authority
2.8	Update the RIR plan to improve readability and usefulness of the document for local governments and developers.	2014	NEGRC	\$25,000	GDCA	Upcoming	Plan to be revised in 2014
<b>3. Community Facilities and Infrastructure</b>							
3.1	Encourage local governments to implement Northeast Georgia Plan 2035	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$22,000 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	Regional Plan is cited by NEGRC staff at various meetings with local governments.
3.2	Provide technical and staffing support for local and multi-jurisdictional transportation planning efforts	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDOT, GDCA	Ongoing	Focus areas: Bike/Ped, SRTS, Rural Public Transportation
3.3	Assist local governments with hazard-mitigation planning and implementation, as requested	2013-2014	NEGRC	\$22,000 per plan	GEMA	Ongoing	PDM update completed for Greene County. PDM updates underway for Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Oconee and Oglethorpe County.
3.4	Support GDOT's work on a connectivity study for the Athens-Atlanta corridor by attending stakeholder meetings and providing other requested assistance	2013-2014	NEGRC	Minimal	GDOT, GDCA	Ongoing	Staff attended meetings and provided other communication/assistance

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
<b>4.</b>	<b>Social and Economic Development</b>						
4.1	Assist local governments with economic development planning and funding opportunities	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, EDA, ARC	Ongoing	Assistance is ongoing developing Urban Redevelopment Plans, Opportunity Zone designations, OneGeorgia EDGE and REBA applications with multiple local governments
4.2	Assist local governments with housing programs such as Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) and Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH), as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA	Ongoing	Participated on the Auburn, Greensboro, and Porterdale GICH teams. Project development assistance to Madison in neighborhood revitalization efforts
4.3	Quantify regional need for workforce housing and recommend action items for increasing its availability near jobs	2013-2014	NEGRC	\$21,000	GDCA	Complete	Regional Housing Study completed
4.4	Develop community-level plans, strategies, and inventories to promote and protect local agriculture and local food assets	2013-2016	NEGRC	\$15,000 -25,000 per plan	GDCA, USDA	Ongoing	Provided guidance and technical assistance to communities interested in food hub development
4.5	Develop regional tourism and branding study and/or plan	2013-2016	NEGRC	\$25,000 -35,000 annually	GDCA, GDED	Upcoming	Regional Tourism Plan phase one completed in 2013,
4.6	Develop study on homelessness in Northeast Georgia	2015-2016	NEGRC	\$15,000 -25,000	GDCA	Upcoming	Project to be initiated in 2015
4.7	Develop a regional food systems study of growers, suppliers, buyers, distribution, etc.	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$20,000 -30,000	GDCA	Upcoming	Project to be initiated in 2014
4.8	Evaluate regional readiness to respond to the demands of a projected rapid increase in Northeast Georgia's aging population	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$20,000 -30,000	GDCA	Upcoming	Project to be initiated in 2014

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
<b>5. Government Relations</b>							
5.1	Market the Planning and Government Services (PGS) Division and educate local government officials through newsletter and in-house training programs and workshops	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$10,000 -20,000 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	PGS services marketed through NEGRC's <i>Update</i> monthly newsletter and website, hosted five education sessions for local governments
5.2	Host and coordinate Northeast Georgia Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,500 annually	GDOT	Ongoing	Task Force meetings hosted regularly
5.3	Disseminate historic preservation information pertaining to Section 106 Reviews to local governments	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$4,000 annually	GDNR	Ongoing	Information disseminated as needed

## REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - REVIEWS

Regional Work Program Review activities are those for which the Regional Commission provided advisory review and comment to outside actors in 2012.

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
R.1	Review and comment on developments that meet the established criteria to be considered Developments of Regional Impact	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$10,000 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	Nine DRIs reviews were completed in 2013
R.2	Review and comment on developments that could impact Regionally Important Resources	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA	Ongoing	Applications reviewed as required
R.3	Respond to requests for Intergovernmental Consultation Reviews	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$1,500 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	Reviews coordinated when necessary
R.4	Coordinate with MACORTS transportation planning efforts, including review of and comment on long- and short-range plans and other documents.	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,000 annually	GDOT	Ongoing	Reviews coordinated when necessary
R.5	Respond to requests for comment on Historic Resources Support inquiries (GDOT)	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,000 annually	GDOT	Ongoing	Commented when requested
R.6	Review local government applications for EDA funding for consistency with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs)	2013-2017	NEGRC	Minimal	EDA	Ongoing	Applications reviewed as required

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION

Regional Work Program Planning and Coordination activities are those which the Regional Commission will undertake in 2013-2017 to assist local governments and other regional partners to act in accordance with the Regional Agenda.

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Issue/ Opp.
<b>1. Development Patterns</b>						
1.1	Facilitate local government greenway, bicycle, and pedestrian planning and education	2014-2018	NEGRC, local governments	\$25,000 per plan	GDOT, GDCA	P1, P2, P3, E11, E14, H4, C5
1.2	Catalog, assess, and plan for recreation, cultural, agricultural, and tourism resources, including farmland protection	2014	NEGRC	\$22,500 annually	GDCA	P1, E6, E10, E11, E12
<b>2. Resource Conservation</b>						
2.1	Review RIR designations annually and assist communities with implementation of RIR management plan as requested	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$2,000+ annually	GDCA	I8
2.2	Develop and implement water quality plans and programs	2014-2018	NEGRC, local governments	\$20,000 -30,000 per plan	GEPD, GDCA	P1, E11
2.3	Continue to develop planning-level datasets of water and wastewater collection systems	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$10,500 per set	GDCA	C2
2.4	Assist local governments with conservation funding opportunities, as requested	2014-2018	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, GDNR, NPS	E10, E11, I8
2.5	Assist local governments in assessing historic resources and pursuing related funding opportunities, as requested	2014-2018	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, GDNR, GDOT	I8, E12
2.6	Engage in collaborative mitigation planning with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to address air pollution issues, if necessary	2014-2018	NEGRC	Minimal	NEGRC, GDNR	P1, P2, I3
2.7	Assist with regional solid waste planning efforts	2014-2018	NEGRC	Varies	NEGRSWA, GDCA	P1, C3, I5
2.8	Update the RIR plan to improve readability and usefulness of the document for local governments and developers.	2014	NEGRC	\$25,000	GDCA	I8

## REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Issue/ Opp.
<b>3. Community Facilities and Infrastructure</b>						
3.1	Encourage local governments to implement Northeast Georgia Plan 2035	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$22,000 annually	GDCA	C2, C3, C4, C5
3.2	Provide technical and staffing support for local and multi-jurisdictional transportation planning efforts	2014-2018	NEGRC	Varies	GDOT, GDCA	P1, E13, E14, C4, C5, C6
3.3	Assist local governments with hazard-mitigation planning and implementation, as requested	2014	NEGRC	\$22,000 per plan	GEMA	P1
3.4	Support GDOT's work on a connectivity study for the Athens-Atlanta corridor by attending stakeholder meetings and providing other requested assistance	2014	NEGRC	Minimal	GDOT, GDCA	E13
<b>4. Social and Economic Development</b>						
4.1	Assist local governments with economic development planning and funding opportunities	2014-2018	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, EDA, ARC	P1, P3, E7, E9, E10, H12, I2, I6
4.2	Assist local governments with housing programs such as Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) and Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH), as requested	2014-2018	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA	P1, P2, P3, H1, H2, H3, H4
4.3	Quantify regional need for workforce housing and recommend action items for increasing its availability near jobs	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$21,000	GDCA	P1, P3, H1, H2, H3, H4, H5
4.4	Develop community-level plans, strategies, and inventories to promote and protect local agriculture and local food assets	2014-2016	NEGRC	\$15,000 -25,000 per plan	GDCA, USDA	E10, E11, E12
4.5	Develop regional tourism and branding study and/or plan	2014-2016	NEGRC	\$25,000 -35,000 annually	GDCA, GDED	E6
4.6	Develop study on homelessness in Northeast Georgia	2015-2016	NEGRC	\$15,000 -25,000	GDCA	H5
4.7	Develop a regional food systems study of growers, suppliers, buyers, distribution, etc.	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$20,000 -30,000	GDCA	P1, E6, E10, E13
4.8	Evaluate regional readiness to respond to the demands of a projected rapid increase in Northeast Georgia's aging population	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$20,000 -30,000	GDCA	P1, P2, H1, C1, C4, C5

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Issue/ Opp.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Government Relations</b>					
5.2	Market the Planning and Government Services (PGS) Division and educate local government officials through NEGRC's "Update" newsletter and in-house training programs and workshops	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$10,000 -20,000 annually	GDCA	E12, H5, C3
5.3	Host and coordinate Northeast Georgia Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$2,500 annually	GDOT	E11, E14, C5, I4
5.4	Disseminate historic preservation information pertaining to Section 106 Reviews to local governments	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$4,000 annually	GDNR	E12

## REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - REVIEWS

Regional Work Program Review activities are those for which the Regional Commission will provide advisory review and comment to outside actors for 2013 to 2017.

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Issue/ Opp.
R.1	Review and comment on developments that meet the established criteria to be considered Developments of Regional Impact	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$10,000 annually	GDCA	P1, E8, E14, I8
R.2	Review and comment on developments that could impact Regionally Important Resources	2014-2018	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA	P1, I8
R.3	Respond to requests for Intergovernmental Consultation Reviews	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$1,500 annually	GDCA	I7
R.4	Coordinate with MACORTS transportation planning efforts, including review of and comment on long- and short-range plans and other documents.	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$2,000 annually	GDOT	E13, E14, H4
R.5	Respond to requests for comment on Historic Resources Support inquiries (GDOT)	2014-2018	NEGRC	\$2,000 annually	GDOT	E12
R.6	Review local government applications for EDA funding for consistency with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs)	2014-2018	NEGRC	Minimal	EDA	E1

**Acronyms:**

**ARC:** Appalachian Regional Commission  
**Authorities:** Sewer and Water Authorities  
**BOE:** Local Boards of Education  
**DOL:** US Department of Labor  
**DRI:** Developments of Regional Impact  
**EDA:** US Economic Development Administration  
**GDCA:** Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
**GDED:** Georgia Department of Economic Development  
**GDHS:** Georgia Department of Human Services  
**GDNR:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**GDOE:** Georgia Department of Education  
**GDOT:** Georgia Department of Transportation  
**GEMA:** Georgia Emergency Management Agency  
**GEPD:** Georgia Environmental Protection Division

**HUD:** US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
**JDANEG:** Joint Development Authority of Northeast Georgia  
**MACORTS:** Madison Athens-Clarke Oconee Regional Transportation Study  
**NEGRC:** Northeast Georgia Regional Commission  
**NEGRC WDD:** Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Workforce Development Division  
**NEGRSWMA:** Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority  
**NPS:** US National Park Service  
**PDM:** Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan  
**RIR:** Regionally Important Resources  
**TDR:** Transfer of Development Rights  
**USDA:** United States Department of Agriculture