

Hancock County

Short-Term Work Program Update 2012-2016

Prepared by the CSRA Regional Commission

June, 2011

Project Background

In 2008, the Hancock County prepared and adopted a “partial” update of the County’s *Comprehensive Plan* in accordance with the recertification schedule established by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). According to the recertification schedule, Hancock County is required to have a full update of their Comprehensive Plan prepared and adopted by June 30, 2011. In February of 2001 DCA offered local governments with upcoming recertification dates the option of updating *their Short-Term Work Program (STWP)* in lieu of preparing a full update. The “deferral option” was initiated to as a way for local governments to continue to work towards the implementation of their existing Comprehensive Plans while working with increasingly limited financial resources.

After consideration Hancock County decided that taking advantage of the deferral option would be in their best interest. Their reason for this decision was based on current budget constraints and the fact that the existing Comprehensive Plan remains relevant.

Hancock County held the required public hearing for the STWP Update on July 12, 2011 for the purposes of obtaining public comment on the draft STWP. Following the Public Hearing the Board of Commissioners approved a resolution to officially transmit the draft STWP to the Central Savannah River Area Regional Commission and DCA for review. A copy of the transmittal resolution is included in the Appendix of this submittal.

The following presents Hancock County’2012-2016 Short Term Work Program:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT								
ELEMENT	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Cost	Source	Responsibility
Continue efforts to recruit biofuel or other sustainable energy facilities to the County	X	X	X	X	X	Estimated \$25,000 for strategy development	Budget/ Grants	County/Development Authority/Chamber of Commerce
Develop new Economic Development Plan to market the community		X				\$50,000	Budget/ Grants	County/Development Authority/Consultant
Actively support efforts to reduce unemployment through partnerships with community organizations. Capitalizing on tourism and agricultural resources unique to Hancock County	X	X	X	X	X	Staff time	Budget	County /GA Work Ready/ Sandersville Tech/ Board of Education/ HC3 Job Training/ East GA Consortium One Stop

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

ELEMENT	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Cost	Source	Responsibility
Develop Master Plan for Hancock County's portions of the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway				X	X	\$25,000	Byway Funds/TEA/County	Historic Scenic Byway Commission/County
Join with Putnam County to develop a dual park at the SR 16 bridge at Lake Oconee and expand upon existing boat ramp site					X	\$100,000 est.	TEA/Grants/County	Historic Scenic Byway Commission/County
Under take watershed assessment of Ogeechee River and Town Creek to address water quality issues and to determine extent of stream impairments			X			\$25,000	Grants	County in cooperation with neighboring jurisdictions

COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES

ELEMENT	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Cost	Source	Responsibility
Continue expand County water system to serve areas south of Devereux towards Lake Sinclair, Linton and Warren Chapel communities, north from Sparta towards Culverton and Powelton	X	X	X	X	X	\$5,000,000	County/USDA/GEFA/CDBG	County
Secure intergovernmental agreement with Baldwin County for an additional water supply for the County	X	X				\$25,000 (cost of interconnection and legal costs)	County	County
Lobby Georgia Department of Transportation to extend SR 77 from present termination at SR 16 to SR 22 in Devereux. Western part of Hancock County has no paved north-south route	X	X	X	X	X	\$2000 (travel and associated costs to capital)	N/A	County
Establish Fire Stations in the Hickory Grove, Powelton, Culverton and Linton Communities	X	X	X	X		\$150,000 per building	SPLOST	County

COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES, CONTINUED

ELEMENT	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Cost	Source	Responsibility
Design and construct a new administrative building to house County offices and court facilities behind the existing Courthouse.	X	X				\$2,000,000	USDA/ Budget	County
Continue to find buyer/operator for Hancock Memorial Hospital		X	X	X	X	\$50,000 (legal fees, closing cost, advertising)	N/A	County/Hospital Authority
Improve and Pave Existing County dirt roads	X	X	X	X	X	1.5-2 million	SPLOST	County
Expand Sewer District #1 to serve additional areas northwest of Sparta	X	X	X	X	X	\$500,000	GEFA/ CDBG	County
Actively support local efforts to increase academic achievement	X	X	X	X	X	Staff Time	Budget/ Grants	County/Communities in Schools

HOUSING

ELEMENT	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Cost	Source	Responsibility
Review County ordinances and incorporate Unsafe Building Abatement Code and Standard Housing Code.	X	X				\$5,000	Budget	County
Perform Housing Survey and Map project to identify and document areas of substandard housing.				X	X	\$25,000	Budget/ Grants	County (Consultant/RC)

LAND USE

ELEMENT	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Cost	Source	Responsibility
Rewrite and Update Zoning Ordinance and Development Regulations .Included in this update will be provisions for signage to match standards listed in the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway program; Overlay Districts for natural resource protection and Modifications to lot size requirements for lots with public sewer		X	X			\$25,000	Budget/ Grants	County

The Following Table presents a *Report of Accomplishments* for Hancock County's previous STWP. A majority of the projects contained in the 2008-2011 STWP are currently underway and have been carried-over into the updated 2012-2016 STWP.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT					
ELEMENT	TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED	CURRENTLY UNDERWAY	POSTPONED	NO LONGER CONSIDERED
Construct truck driving range behind Hancock Campus of Sandersville Tech	2009-2010	X			
Continue efforts to recruit biofuel or other sustainable energy facilities to the County	2009-2013		X		
Develop new Economic Development Plan to market the community	2010		X		
Develop Native-American and African-American biking, walking, and driving tours of areas along the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway	2012-2013				X (Due to Limited Funding)

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES					
ELEMENT	TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED	CURRENTLY UNDERWAY	POSTPONED	NO LONGER CONSIDERED
Develop Master Plan for Hancock County's portions of the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway	2011		X		
Join with Putnam County to develop a dual park at the SR 16 bridge at Lake Oconee and expand upon existing boat ramp site.	2013		X		
Under take watershed assessment of Ogeechee River and Town Creek to address water quality issues and to determine extent of stream impairments	2011		X		

COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES

ELEMENT	TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED	CURRENTLY UNDERWAY	POSTPONED	NO LONGER CONSIDERED
Continue expand County water system to serve areas south of Devereux towards Lake Sinclair, Linton and Warren Chapel communities, north from Sparta towards Culverton and Powelton	2009-2013		X		
Secure intergovernmental agreement with Baldwin County for an additional water supply for the County.	2009		X		
Lobby Georgia Department of Transportation to extend SR 77 from present termination at SR 16 to SR 22 in Devereux. Western part of Hancock County has no paved north-south route.	2009-2013		X		
Establish Fire Stations in the Hickory Grove, Powelton, Culverton and Linton Communities.	2010-2013		X		
Design and construct a new administrative building to house County offices and court facilities behind the existing Courthouse.	2009-2010		X		
Continue to find buyer/operator for Hancock Memorial Hospital	2010-2013		X		
Improve and Pave Existing County dirt roads	2009-2013		X		
Expand Sewer District #1 to serve additional areas northwest of Sparta	2009-2013		X		

HOUSING

ELEMENT	TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED	CURRENTLY UNDERWAY	POSTPONED	NO LONGER CONSIDERED
Review County ordinances and incorporate Unsafe Building Abatement Code and Standard Housing Code.	2009-2010		X		
Perform Housing Survey and Map project to identify and document areas of substandard housing.	2012-2013				

LAND USE

ELEMENT	TIMEFRAME	COMPLETED	CURRENTLY UNDERWAY	POSTPONED	NO LONGER CONSIDERED
Rewrite and Update Zoning Ordinance and Development Regulations .Included in this update will be provisions for signage to match standards listed in the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway program; Overlay Districts for natural resource protection and Modifications to lot size requirements for lots with public sewer	2009-2010		X		

HANCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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HANCOCK COUNTY RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

Adoption of the Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Short Term Work Program 2012-2016

WHEREAS, Hancock County has completed a Comprehensive Plan five-Year Short Term Work Program 2012-2016 update; and,

WHEREAS, Hancock County's Five-Year Work Program 2012-2016 update was prepared in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; and,

WHEREAS, Hancock County's 5 Year Short-Term Work Program 2012-2016 update has been reviewed by the Central Savannah River Area Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and found to be in compliance with the minimum Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Hancock County Board of Commissioners do hereby adopt the Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Short Term Work Program 2012-2016 and that a copy of this resolution shall be submitted to the Central Savannah River Area Regional Commissioner.

Adopted this 17 day of January 2012



Rev. Samuel Duggan, Chairman
Hancock County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: *Mamie D. Smith*