

What We Do

The mission of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is to build strong, vibrant communities. Using state and federal resources, DCA promotes and implements community and economic development, local government assistance, and safe and affordable housing across the state.



DCA March/April Newsletter

April is Fair Housing Month Housing discrimination has many faces. But, no matter what form it takes, housing discrimination is illegal! At DCA, our commitment to Fair Housing is ongoing and enduring. Fair Housing is an integral part of building strong, vibrant communities. We want everyone to understand what Fair Housing means, and we need you to help get the message out.

[..... read more here](#)

Last chance to sign up for DCA's spring Community Planning Institute!

Is your city or county about to update your local comprehensive plan? Do you need help implementing your plan? DCA has just the workshop to get your community on the road to successful planning for a bright future! The Office of Planning and Environmental Management is hosting its spring Community Planning Institute at Unicoi State Park & Lodge April 20-21. To register, please visit DCA's Community Planning Institute website.

[..... read more here](#)

Rusty Haygood named new DCA Deputy Commissioner

In March, Commissioner Camila Knowles named Rusty Haygood as the new Deputy Commissioner of Community Development & Finance for Georgia's Department of Community Affairs. The announcement followed the departure of Christopher Nunn, who was appointed by Gov. Nathan Deal as Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services. The transition took place on April 1.

[..... read more here](#)

RURAL bill to be signed into law

In March, the State Legislature passed the R.U.R.A.L. bill – Revitalizing Underdeveloped Rural Areas Legislation. This legislation creates incentives to help our smallest, most rural downtown areas impacted by adverse economic conditions and adds to our resources on the rural economic development front.

[..... read more here](#)

DCA names pilot community for first Community Assistance Team

A new resource the department is launching this year to help Georgia communities is DCA Community Assistance Teams. Last year, Commissioner Knowles announced the formation of these teams and encouraged communities to apply to serve as pilot projects. The selection process was kept open through January, and Monticello-Jasper County has been selected as our pilot for the new CAT program.

[..... read more here](#)

Eight cities join Georgia's Exceptional Main Streets program

Eight additional cities have been selected to join Georgia's Exceptional Main Streets (GEMS) program. These communities join eight existing programs as proven leaders in downtown development. Together, each of these 16 cities has been carefully chosen due to the overwhelmingly positive impact that the Main Street Program has had on its local historic district.

[..... read more here](#)

Coming Up!

April

26 | SHTF visit to Macon

May

9 | Codes

International Energy Conservation Codes (IECC) Meets at DCA

16 | MLK Jr.

Advisory Council Meeting

25 | LIHTC

Application Intake for Housing Finance and Development

June

15 | Codes

International Energy Conservation Codes (IECC) Meets at DCA

22 | Codes

State Codes Advisory Committee meets at DCA



Camila Knowles
Commissioner

Carmen Chubb
Deputy Commissioner
Housing

John Ellis
Deputy Commissioner
Finance & Operations

Rusty Haygood
Deputy Commissioner
Community Development & Finance

Seth Coker
Director of Government
and External Relations

MaryBrown Sandys
Director of Marketing
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