

# ***RESOLUTION***

## ***GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION'S COUNCIL***

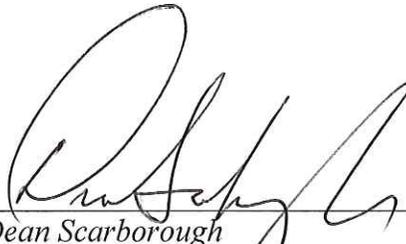
**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 requires the Georgia Mountains RC to develop and maintain a Regional Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs has promulgated certain rules containing the Minimum Standards and Requirements for Regional Planning; and

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Mountains RC staff has prepared the 2016 Annual Update to the Regional Work Program portion of the Regional Plan in accordance with the Minimum Standards and Requirements; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Georgia Mountains RC Council does hereby authorize transmittal of the GMRC Regional Work Program Update to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

**ADOPTED**, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.



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*Dean Scarborough*  
*GMRC Council Chairman*



**REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM**

**2016 ANNUAL UPDATE**

**DRAFT**

*March, 2016*

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Georgia Mountains Regional Commission (GMRC) is the regional planning and community development agency for a 13 county area in northeastern Georgia. To guide and coordinate special activities, and as directed by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, the GMRC maintains a Regional Plan in accordance with the requirements established by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

This document represents the required annual update of the Regional Plan, which consists of four components: 1) A description of the monitoring and evaluation procedures that are undertaken to measure the effectiveness of the Regional Plan; 2) An assessment of the Regional Plan at achieving goals and objectives, and identifying any plan modifications to enhance its effectiveness; 3) A Report of Accomplishments that have occurred in the past year; and 4) A new Regional Work Program for the upcoming five year time frame.

## **MONITORING ACTIVITIES AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES**

Progress with the Regional Work Program as a whole is reviewed as part of the annual update process with the GMRC Council. However, monitoring and evaluation of progress with the Regional Work Program is performed regularly throughout the year. This involves several layers of status reports and meetings, and involved input from various committees, local government officials and other stakeholder groups.

- *Staff Project Reports* – The progress of GMRC projects is reported to the Executive Director and the full Council in monthly Staff Project Reports (SPRs). The SPRs identify the status of each project and is displayed by jurisdiction. The SPRs also provide primary staff contact for each work item and a brief description of progress as needed. Copies of these are found with the minutes of each Council meeting packet.
- *End of Year Review* – The update process for the Regional Work Program features an additional overview and evaluation of the status of each project and feasibility of remaining work items. The results provide the first indication of how priorities may need adjusting going forward. This becomes the basis of the draft update and is circulated to local governments for review and comment, providing the first opportunity for nominating new projects for the coming year.
- *Correlating RC Programs* - Additional review of progress with the Regional Plan includes cross-over work with other regional reporting efforts and projects, including the Federally mandated GMRC Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and all GMRC products for the Department of Transportation (GDOT).
- *Local Government Interaction* – Copies of the Regional Work Program were also distributed to local communities for review and input on the identified objectives and work items. No new regional projects were added as a result of this effort.

## **RESULTS OF THE 2016 MONITORING AND EVALUATION PROCESS**

The following is a summary of progress made on several primary GMRC initiatives from 2015:

- The GMRC is no longer supporting implementation of the Department of Human Services (DHS) Coordinated Transit program due to conflicts over DHS contract language and concerns regarding liability coverage. The GMRC will continue to update individual transit plans for Counties as part of out contractual services with GDOT.
- In response to findings from the Department of Audits, GMRC planning staff are updating the formality and records for local plan implementation meetings. These now include agendas, sign-in sheets and copies of minutes as needed. Coordinating local plan submittals and adoptions also remains an issue and the GMRC is undergoing a year-long effort to get every government into full compliance with QLG status and mindful of approaching deadlines.
- The GMRC is in the middle of assisting two counties and three cities with local plan updates and at least 4 more scheduled for the next fiscal year. The concept of the GMRC using DCA funds to develop these documents is well received, but collection of the data to assist in some efforts has shown mixed results. Local officials appreciate the smaller, more streamlined formats but there is disagreement concerning the optimal approach to developing future development strategies.
- The City of Lula's PlanFirst application was successful for 2015 and more communities have considered nominations for 2016 and beyond. The communities of Oakwood, Stephens County and Forsyth County have expressed their intentions.
- Habersham and Banks County continue to move forward with the introduction of new land use management policies, requiring the GMRC to monitor their development for coordination with adjoining communities and impacts on regional trends.
- There has been no substantial increase in the volume of Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) activity, however there has been several small review requests for properties within the Metropolitan River Protection Act (MRPA) corridor. As these shift to established properties seeking reviews for expansions or redevelopment, some of the requests are testing the boundaries of information covered under the active Corridor Plan for both the GMRC and the Atlanta Regional Commission. A revisit of these rules and standards may be required within the coming years.
- Progress with the *Teens in the Driver Seat* program administered by GDOT has been slow, with most area schools struggling to secure student participation. The GMRC is working with GDOT in revising the strategy for outreach and implementation, which may require contract amendments.
- Coordination with our various partners in water resource management continues, with both the Coosa-North Georgia and Savannah-Upper Ogeechee Water Councils updating their management plans beginning in FY16. The GMRC remains involved on both fronts, including the administration of one SEED grant project within Habersham County to assess nutrient pollution within the Soque River watershed.

## **EVALUATION - COORDINATED PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

As part of the State's regional planning standards the GMRC must establish two achievement thresholds for local governments. These standards, rated as Minimum and Excellence Standards, identify specific ordinances, programs, or requirements that may be implemented by local governments in order to realize the Regional Vision and/or address the Regional Issues and Opportunities. Going forward these performance measures will be used to help a) evaluate the effectiveness of the GMRC's Regional Plan implementation efforts, and b) to help identify the various levels of planning and community development desired by the local communities.

In establishing these standards for the GMRC, the approach was to create a framework that works with the current level of planning requirements expected of local governments, then encouraging each community to pursue their own higher standards for community development. In this regard the Minimum is something every local government can readily achieve by simply maintaining their existing level of obligations, and for which the GMRC is available to assist. To achieve the Excellence Standard communities must then employ/adopt a certain volume of policies and practices from the list included here. Communities achieving the Excellence Standard will be eligible for extra assistance from the GMRC and DCA.

With the Regional Plan now 3 years old the GMRC has begun surveying and monitoring the local governments for their compliance with these standards. A combination of interviews with local staff and officials, as well as discussion during any *Local Plan Implementation Assistance* meetings, were used through February 2016 to determine the current status for each local government. Going forward these status indications will be reviewed and updated as needed on an annual basis as the GRMC performs its Regional Plan updates.

### **Minimum Standard**

Items included here are considered essential activities for local governments to undertake for achieving their own planning ambitions and for consistency with the regional plan. The intent is to ensure a consistent and predictable basic level of local requirements across the region. All local governments in the region will be expected to attain the Minimum Standard within three years of adoption of the regional plan, or risk losing Qualified Local Government status.

- Maintain a local Comprehensive Plan, approved by DCA and adopted by the local government
- Maintain and be compliant with all necessary Service Delivery Strategies
- Maintain and participate in a local Hazard Mitigation Strategy
- Maintain and participate in a Local Emergency Operations/Response Plan
- Maintain compliance with State requirements for solid waste management and reporting
- Adopt the necessary minimum rules established by the DNR Part V Environmental Planning Criteria

**Excellence Standard**

The Excellence Standard consists of 66 policies/activities considered desirable for local governments to undertake for achieving their own planning aspirations and for consistency with the regional plan. The intent is to lay out a menu of recommended best practices for local governments to select for implementation. Each recommended best practice a local government implements will count toward achieving the Excellence Standard threshold established by the Department. The Excellence Standard will be awarded to any community employing any 20 of the standards listed, with at least 1 standard in each of the 7 elements. *(See the GMRC Regional Plan for a full list of all eligible items)*

**2016 Performance Evaluation**

GOVERNMENT	STANDARD		COMMENT
	MIN.	EXC.	
Banks County	X		
Town of Homer	X		
City of Maysville	X		
Dawson County	X	X	
City of Dawsonville	X		
Forsyth County	X	X	
City of Cumming	X	X	
Franklin County	X		
City of Canon	X		
City of Carnesville			Needs Comp Plan update
City of Franklin Springs	X		
City of Lavonia	X		
City of Royston	X		
Habersham County	X		
City of Clarkesville	X		
City of Cornelia	X		
City of Demorest			Needs Comp Plan update
Town of Mt. Airy	X		
Town of Alto	X		
City of Tallulah Falls			Needs Comp Plan update
Hall County	X	X	
City of Clermont			Needs Comp Plan update
City of Flowery Branch	X	X	
City of Gainesville	X	X	
City of Oakwood	X	X	
City of Lula	X	X	
City of Gillsville			Needs Comp Plan update
Hart County	X		
City of Hartwell	X		
Town of Bowersville	X		

**2016 Performance Evaluation (cont'd)**

GOVERNMENT	STANDARD		COMMENT
	MIN.	EXC.	
Lumpkin County	X		
City of Dahlonega	X	X	
Rabun County			Needs SDA update
City of Clayton			Needs SDA update
City of Dillard			Needs SDA update
City of Mountain City			Needs SDA update
City of Sky Valley			Needs SDA update
Town of Tiger			Needs SDA update
Stephens County	X		
City of Toccoa	X	X	
Town of Avalon			Needs Comp Plan update
City of Martin			Needs Comp Plan update
Towns County	X		
City of Hiawassee	X		
City of Young Harris	X		
Union County	X		
City of Blairsville	X		
White County	X		
City of Cleveland	X		
City of Helen	X	X	

**Results of Performance Evaluation**

This was the first full assessment of local government activity using the regional Plan performance measures, and several issues/questions were raised as part of the evaluation. In general the scoring for minimum standards was lower than anticipated but that standard remains in relatively easy reach of all local governments. *(Discussed further below)* The excellence standards, however, were not as clear as originally conceived and will likely need refinement in the near future. There are also some items that were inadvertently duplicated across themes, essentially allowing for those actions/policies to count twice. These issues will be addressed when the Regional Plan is due for its full update within 3 years.

*General Observations*

- Every community met at least one *Excellence* standard in every element. Only 2 communities (small towns) met less than 10 *Excellence* standards.
- 20 communities are within 5 actions/policies of attaining the *Excellence* level, and the GMRC will work to assist those communities with options for reaching this benchmark within the next 3 years.

- Several communities are in need of comprehensive plan updates, but all of these should be resolved within the coming year. Carnesville, Demorest and Tallulah Falls have all done recent updates but need to follow through with renewed submittal, review and approval procedures. Clermont is undergoing a full update process right now with plans for submittal to DCA in June, 2016. The small municipalities of Avalon and Martin are working on updates that can be incorporated into the upcoming Stephens County Joint Plan update. Gillsville will update their plan in the fall of 2016. The GMRC will assist all of these governments with an eye toward having all projects completed and approved in 2016.
- Rabun County recently completed an update to their Service Delivery Strategy (SDA) with the exception of water and sewer service, where the City of Clayton and Rabun County remain at odds over territory and other issues. This matter is scheduled for mediation or possible court redress in 2016, though both parties are sustaining negotiations when possible. All parties involved are aware of the impact of this delay on their QLG status.
- There's some concern that the *Excellence* standards provided are skewed toward cities and/or urban settings, enabling them to score more points more easily than counties. Much of this stems from standards for things such as sidewalks and infill development policies. The GMRC will review the standards this year to make sure that there is ample opportunity for rural communities to comfortably achieve an *Excellence* designation.
- Every community will gain additional points as the update of the State's various Regional Water Plans is completed next year, as this process will involve surveys for local compliance with the State measures.
- There will need to be some clarity on some standards, such as what constitutes a management plan for sidewalks or utilities. Some communities have short-term budgets and work schedules that they consider improvement plans for those elements, whereas others feature more detailed, long-term analyses.
- It's been suggested the GMRC conduct an educational forum discussing these standards, how local communities can meet them, and what each suggested policy/action would mean for the community. At the least the GMRC will begin incorporating deeper discussions about these standards into the Local Plan Implementation meetings, and will explore options for other forums to ensure all key local stakeholders are familiar with the standards.

## **Areas Requiring Special Attention**

As part of the planning process the GMRC is tasked to provide an assessment of select issues and concerns to recognize specific locations in need of special attention through physical investment or change of policy. This section provides an update of the Areas Requiring Special Attention identified within the current 2013 Regional Agenda, where there has been no change to the geographic allocation of these areas but some changes to note regarding the scope of the issues.

### *Areas where significant Regionally Important Resources (RIRs) (Natural and Cultural) are likely to be impacted by development*

No significant change in scope or concerns since 2013. Most communities are making/enabling improvements regarding water quality concerns, and no major development activity within proximity to RIR's has been identified. Hall County saw the establishment of a new Greenspace Committee through the local chamber of commerce, while Forsyth County and other cities within the reach of metro Atlanta have made strides in acquiring new park space. Further, all communities have thus far reported compliant with their respective regional Water Management Plans as mandated by the Department of Natural resources.

### *Areas where rapid development or change of land uses may outpace the availability of community facilities and services, including transportation*

As the arterial between large and growing metropolitan centers the I-85 Corridor remains on track to receive increased growth and demand for utilities, possibly beyond local capacity. Banks County is making headway to address development policies and utility planning in the area, while Lavonia and Franklin County are pursuing infrastructure and utility improvements to support growth in their portion of the corridor. (**Map ID – I-85 Corridor**)

Additional arterial roadways that serve multiple purposes and are at risk of over-congestion. Highways 129 and 17 in particular provide critical access for local and through traffic, particularly tourists traveling into the Georgia Mountains region. Congestion levels and development pressures can increase as these roads are explored for commercial and industrial growth, while communities relying such growth are also looking to preserve the free-flow of traffic and the scenic appeal of these rural arteries. Habersham County has done an assessment of Highway 365 and enacted beginning land use policies along the corridor, while White County and Forsyth County are pursuing road improvements to upgrade capacity and conditions. (**Map ID – North-South Arterials**)

### *Areas in need of redevelopment and/or significant improvement*

There are no large areas with regional-scale concentrations of land in need of redevelopment, though there are several communities with industrial size properties that remain/will be vacant or underutilized. Some older town centers and neighborhoods should be improved through redevelopment programs, and the GMRC is supporting multiple efforts to revitalize these

historic downtowns through planning efforts, grant applications and pursuit of opportunity zone designations. (*Map ID – Town Centers*)

*Areas with significant infill development opportunities*

The many historic town centers referenced above would benefit through proper infill development that compliments community character and form while also injecting new economic activity. Concentrating urbanized development within and around existing urban centers is an efficient way to maximize resources while preserving rural lands elsewhere.

Several counties in the region are strategizing how to absorb new growth as they transition from their historic agricultural base. Improved management measures may be needed to handle in-migration without incurring land use conflicts or adversely impacting natural resources. As a collective these communities have not only the land but access to water, utilities and sound infrastructure. (*Map ID – Agricultural Transition*)

*Areas of significant disinvestment, poverty, and/or unemployment*

Coming out of the recession there are no regionally significant areas with concentrations of poverty or disinvestment that are not already being addressed through local programs. Pockets of Hall County feature the largest concentrations of poorer households but this is not a regional condition and local programs are actively addressing issues such as housing, infrastructure and job skills training. Additional current programs and projects such as the North Georgia Network (fiber-optic infrastructure) and expansions with area technical colleges are helping to mitigate this issue.

***Staff Assessment Regarding ARSAs***

At the early stage no new actions are necessary to address concerns within these areas. Within the past four years there have been either local, state or regional actions to address at least some aspect of the issues cited. On some efforts there will be much attention paid to early results of measures regarding the corridors and agricultural areas as more communities explore forms of land use management measures, so these will be of keen focus during the Regional Plan's 5 year update.

There have been no calls for new ARSAs at this time.

**GMRC REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM – 2015 LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

<b>Work Item</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Develop a region wide downtown economic database that includes historic resources; Place on the web	In Progress	
Develop single map redevelopment plans for historic downtowns	Complete	
Develop in-house service for calculating cost-benefit analyses for new development & utility improvements	Complete	
Develop Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan	In Progress	
Develop regional development build-out scenario	In Progress	
Develop regional water infrastructure map.	In Progress	
Establish a local food guide and local assessments.	In Progress	
Inventory and map agri-tourism assets of the region.	In Progress	
Develop Highway 441 Tourism Study	Postponed	Deferred as local gvts. and GDOT adjust to new revenues; To be addressed in 2018
Develop Commuter Traffic Study	Postponed	Deferred as local gvts. and GDOT adjust to new revenues; To be addressed in 2018
Initiate GMRC Downtown Association	In Progress	
Inventory and assessment of local water service rates	Postponed	To be done with Water Council Plan updates in FY17
Develop a hi-tech strategy for the region	Complete	
Develop an inventory of tourism industry resources.	Complete	
Develop promotional material for area farmer's markets and canneries	In Progress	
Develop comprehensive road improvement plan combining local and State goals	In Progress	
Develop a freight/ truck route transportation plan	In Progress	
Develop new template for local water planning	Complete	
Inventory and assessment of local water service conservation strategies	Complete	Response rates to surveys poor; Will be redone at future date
Develop inventory of energy data and benchmarking.	Cancelled	Removed as need among local gvts.
Establish an action plan for funding critical facilities and Infrastructure improvements.	Complete	
Develop an entrepreneurship training program for teachers.	Cancelled	Service provided through other organizations

**2015 LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Cont'd)**

<b>Work Item</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Create model design standards and incentive programs for downtown areas	In Progress	
Develop Fire Protection Services. Assessments for 2 more counties.	Complete	
Develop and distribute preparedness and post-disaster recovery material.	Postponed	Reduced as priority; To be addressed in 2019
Inventory local housing programs, leaders and policies in each community.	In Progress	
Inventory of septic system management programs.	Complete	Response rates to surveys poor; Will be redone at future date
Assessment of septic system inventory	Complete	Response rates to surveys poor; Will be redone at future date
Develop long-range management plans for targeted corridors in conjunction with GDOT and local stakeholders	Postponed	Deferred as local gvts. and GDOT adjust to new revenues; To be addressed in 2018
Develop and implement a public awareness campaign about health information technology	Postponed	Reduced as priority; To be addressed in 2018

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**GMRC REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM – 2015**

Action	I/O	Goal	Responsibility	Costs	Funding Sources
<b>2016</b>					
Develop a region wide downtown economic database that includes historic resources; Place on the web	8, 11, 43		GMRC	\$15,000	GMRC
Develop single map redevelopment plans for historic downtowns	43, 44		GMRC, HPD, DCA	\$15,000	GMRC, DCA, ARC
Develop Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan		DM1.1	GMRC	\$50,000	FMEA, GEMA
Develop regional development build-out scenario	22-24, 36, 38, 42		GMRC, DCA, DED, EPD	\$20,000	DCA, GMRC
Develop regional water infrastructure map.	23, 24	CFS3.2	GMRC, Local Govts.	\$10,000	EPD, GEFA
Establish a local food guide and local assessments.	8, 14	ED9.3	GMRC, EDA, DED	\$10,000	EDA, DCA
Inventory and map agri-tourism assets of the region.	2	ED12.1	GMRC, EDA, DED	\$5,000	EDA, DCA
Initiate GMRC Downtown Association	9, 10, 14, 43, 44	LU2.3	GMRC, EDA, DED	NA	
Develop promotional material for area farmer's markets and canneries	2, 8	ED10.2	GMRC, DED	\$5,000	EDA, DED
Develop comprehensive road improvement plan combining local and State goals	1, 27, 28	CFS1.1	GMRC, Local Govts., DOT	\$15,000	DOT
Develop a freight/ truck route transportation plan	27, 28	CFS1.3	GMRC, Local Govts., DOT	\$15,000	DOT
Create model design standards and incentive programs for downtown areas	43, 44	ED14.2	GMRC, DED	\$5,000	EDA, DED
Develop Fire Protection Services Assessments for counties.		DM	GMRC, Local Govts.	\$10,000	DCA, GEMA
Inventory local housing programs, leaders and policies in each community.	3, 4, 5, 6, 7	H1.1	GMRC, DCA, Local Govts.	\$5,000	DCA

**2016 Regional Work Program Update**  
Georgia Mountains Regional Commission

Action	I/O	Goal	Responsibility	Costs	Funding Sources
<b>2016</b>					
Update Regional Source Water Assessment Plan	1, 16, 17, 23		GMRC, EPD	\$50,000	EPD
Explore potential for increased rural transit services within the region	1, 3		GMRC, GDOT	\$10,000	GDOT
Develop template for comprehensive neighborhood plans and standards	36, 40, 41	LU4.1	GMRC, DCA	\$5,000	DCA
Develop updated concept for, and inventory of, primary agricultural areas	2, 36	LU5.2	GMRC, DNR, DCA	\$10,000	DNR
Creation of a regional food hub.	8	ED9.1	GMRC, EDA	\$15,000	EDA
Develop an I-85 corridor access and multi-modal study.	27, 32		GMRC	\$150,000	GA DOT, GA DCA, Local Govt., GMRC
Assist local governments and business in the development of multi-county tourism task force focusing on Lake Hartwell.	9, 14		GMRC, Local Govts, Local Chambers	\$5,000	GMRC
Start a school mentor / Junior Achievement program in every junior high and high school in the region.	26	ED5.1	GMRC, DED	TBD	EDA, DED
Develop and distribute educational materials for entrepreneur programs.	14	ED8.4	GMRC, DED	TBD	EDA, DED
Program promoting Career Days in primary and secondary schools.	26	ED5.3	GMRC, DED	TBD	EDA, DED
Develop program linking local schools with area Technical Colleges.	26	ED5.4	GMRC, DED	\$5,000	EDA, DED
Host a one-day entrepreneurial education workshop in conjunction with the SBDC and Universities.	11, 12, 14	ED8.3	GMRC, DED	TBD	EDA, DED
Regional assessment of emergency services			GMRC, GEMA	\$10,000	GEMA, FEMA
Develop Regional Rural Transit Plan	3		GMRC	\$20,000	GDOT, GMRC
Develop regional growth and tourism strategy specifically for historic downtowns	2	LU2.1	GMRC, DCA, DED	TBD	GMRC, DCA
Develop a metro-area growth strategy to support urbanizing communities	5, 23, 32	LU6.2	GMRC, Local Govts.	TBD	DCA

**2016 Regional Work Program Update**

Georgia Mountains Regional Commission

Action	I/O	Goal	Responsibility	Costs	Funding Sources
<b>2017</b>					
Review regional Future Development Strategy; Amend as needed	36-44		GMRC	\$10,000	DCA
Update NHRGIS, survey of regional historic resources	16		GMRC, HPD	\$30,000	HPD, DCA
Inventory and develop plans to improve local and regional airports.	30	CFS2.2	GMRC, DOT	\$10,000	DOT
Develop inter-regional/state telecommunications strategy	1	CFS6.6	GMRC, EDA, DED	TBD	EDA, DED
Targeted market research study to identify innovation opportunities that correspond to the assets of the region.		ED6.3	GMRC, EDA, DED	\$10,000	EDA, DED
Inventory outside forms of equity financing and possible venture capital opportunities.		ED6.4	GMRC, EDA, DED	TBD	EDA, DED
Create growth management programs that provide developer incentives and guidelines as well as methods of increased responsibility and accountability to the local community.	37, 41		GMRC, Local Govts, Dev. Authorities	\$25,000	Local Govt., Dev. Authorities, DCA, DNR, Private Development
Education re: environmental impacts of various materials and products placed in landfills	15, 16, 22, 40		GMRC, Local Govt., Regional Authorities	\$1,000/yr	GMRC, Local Govt., DCA, DNR
Produce survey and distribute to local housing leaders.	3, 4, 5, 6, 7	H1.2	GMRC	\$2,500	DCA
Provide educational seminars and workshops on housing programs and services.	4, 5, 6, 7	H2.1	GMRC, DCA	\$2,500	DCA
Inventory and assessment of local water service rates	23	CFS5.4	GMRC, Local Govts	\$5,000	DCA, DNR, GMRC

**2016 Regional Work Program Update**

Georgia Mountains Regional Commission

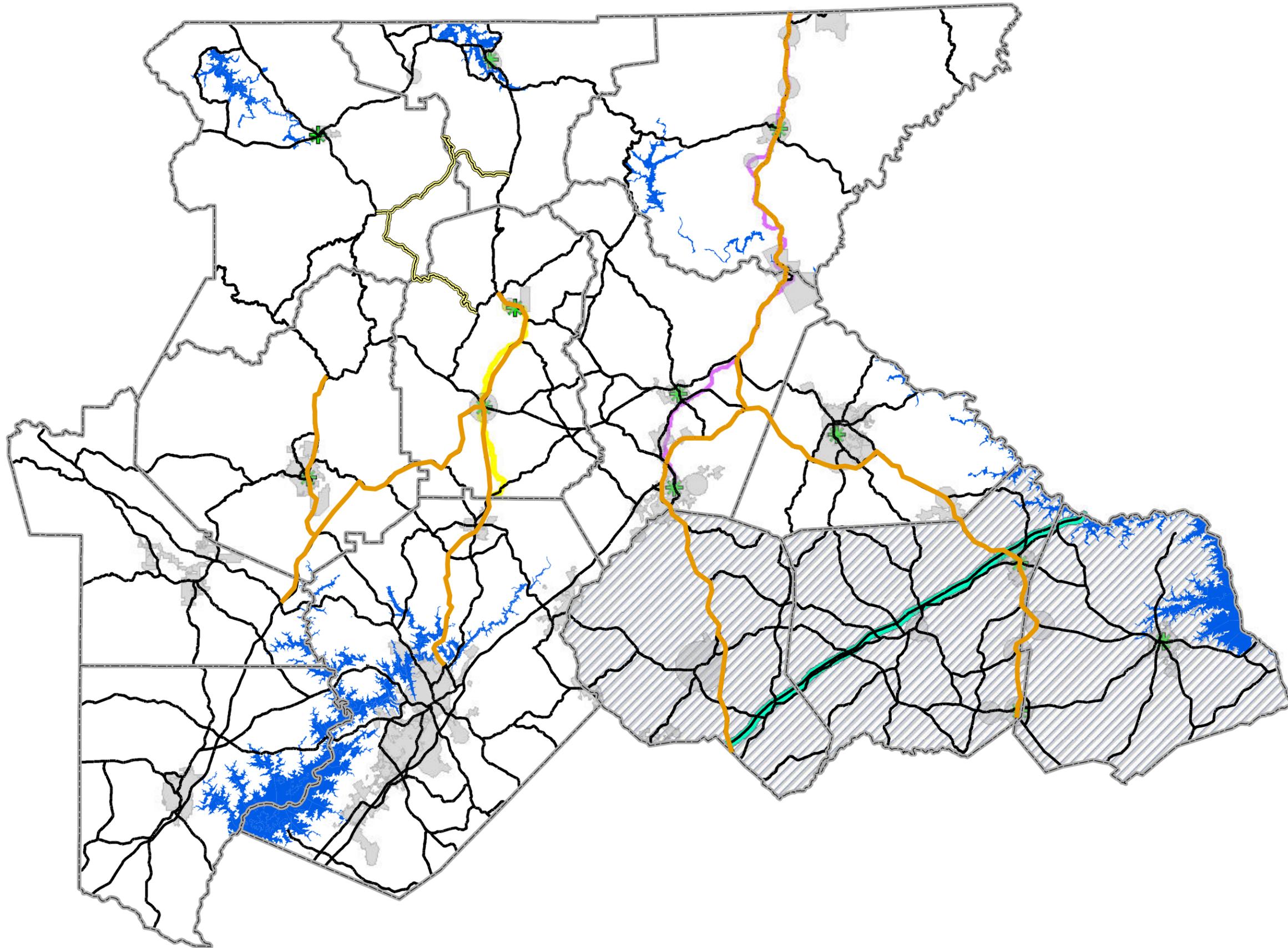
Action	I/O	Goal	Responsibility	Costs	Funding Sources
<b>2018</b>					
Develop a regional strategic housing plan.	3, 4, 5, 6, 7	H3.1	GMRC, DCA	\$15,000	DCA
Develop Regional Post-Disaster Response Framework.		DM3.1	GMRC, GEMA	\$15,000	GEMA
Update Regional Bike/Ped Strategy & related work program	29		GMRC, GDOT	\$15,000	GDOT
Develop Regional Plan update			GMRC, DCA	\$50,000	DCA
Develop summary report on housing survey findings	4, 5, 6, 7	H1.3	GMRC	\$2,000	DCA
Develop Highway 441 Tourism Study	9, 28		GMRC, GDOT, GED	\$20,000	GMRC
Develop Commuter Traffic Study	27, 28, 31		GMRC, GDOT	\$10,000	GDOT, GMRC
Develop long-range management plans for targeted corridors in conjunction with GDOT and local stakeholders	27, 28, 32	LU3.1	GMRC, Local Govts., GDOT	\$10,000	DCA, DNR, GMRC
Develop and implement a public awareness campaign about health information technology	13, 25	CFS9.3	GMRC, DED	\$5,000	EDA, DED

**2016 Regional Work Program Update**

Georgia Mountains Regional Commission

<b>2019</b>					
Conduct local and regional disaster preparedness workshops		DM2.1	GMRC, GEMA	\$5,000	GEMA
Assessment of energy efficiency standards in local codes			GMRC, DCA, MEAG, Ga Power	\$10,000	EDA
Explore downtown tourism networking with NC and SC			GMRC, EDA, DED	\$5,000	EDA
Develop and distribute preparedness and post-disaster recovery material.		DM2.2	GMRC, GEMA	\$5,000	GEMA
<b>2020</b>					
Develop inventory of guidelines and plans for energy efficient sites and building methodologies in the region.		CFS11.2	GMRC, EDA, DED	\$10,000	EDA, DED
Identify and create a database of entrepreneur support resources in the region.	14, 26	ED6.1	GMRC, EDA, DED	\$5,000	EDA, DED
Creation of an entrepreneurial network.	14, 26	ED6.2	GMRC, EDA, DED	TBD	EDA, DED
<b>2021</b>					
Interim update – Local compliance with Regional Performance Standards			GMRC	TBD	GMRC

**Georgia Mountains  
Regional Commission  
Regional Plan 2011  
Areas Requiring  
Special Attention**



**Legend**

- North South Arterials
- Richard Russell Scenic Highway
- Major Roads
- Major Lakes
- Municipalities
- Town Centers
- I-85 Corridor
- Tallulah Falls Trail and Greenway
- Gainesville Northwestern Route
- Agricultural Transition

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