2011 – 2015

Regional Work Program

Report of Accomplishments

Evaluation and Monitoring

The **Evaluation and Monitoring Plan** specifically details how the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) will evaluate regional progress in achieving the Regional Vision by means of the items detailed in the Regional Work Program. These activities are evaluated and monitored annually in accordance with the state planning requirements; making sure that the plan is accomplishing the desired results and that no changes or amendments are needed. The RC had initial meetings with a majority of the governments in our region and provided any technical assistance needed so that they will be able to meet the minimum performance standards.

Performance standards have two achievement thresholds, a Minimum and an Excellence Standard. These standards are met by identifying ordinances, programs, or requirements that maybe implemented by local governments in order to realize the Regional Vision and/or address the Regional Issues and Opportunities. Minimum Standards are activities that have been approved regionally by all local governments. All local governments in the region are expected to attain the Minimum Standard within three years of adoption of the region plan (2015), or risk losing Qualified Local Government status.

Several governments are well on their way to meeting the performance standards within the three year period based on initial and midpoint evaluations. We have a small number of governments that have minor deficiencies that we feel will be addressed. Baseline data was obtained at the initial meeting to enable the local government and Regional Commission to determine a starting point and begin the process. Most governments have formed evaluation committees that will work with the RC in obtaining data and providing information and feedback when needed.

The performance standards have been thoroughly reviewed with governments and many are aspiring to not only meet the Minimum Standards but also the Excellence Standards. RC staff developed a checklist that contains acceptable evidence that the standard has been met. A copy of this checklist is provided to the local government at the time of the initial review and a copy is forwarded to Georgia Department of Community Affairs annually.

The RC staff is conducting midpoint evaluations with governments that we met with in FY 2012. A draft resolution or letter will be prepared with the RC findings and recommendations so that adequate follow-up and notification is given. A copy of the resolution and checklist will be shared with the Evaluation Committee and a copy forwarded to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

The Annual Work Program and Evaluation and Monitoring procedures are conducted throughout the year. On a monthly basis the Planning staff meets with the Executive/Planning Director and other departments to discuss the Regional Work Program (RWP) in addition to current and future projects. Another goal of the meeting is to look for ways to fully integrate the RWP. Any revisions or deficiencies identified are drafted and evaluated by the Executive/Planning Director for possible inclusion in the next RWP. There were only minor revisions in the RWP that are the results of changing regional conditions, funding opportunities and local planning priorities.

Areas Requiring Special Attention

The RC has surveyed local governments in the region and there have been minimal changes and development in the region; governments are effectively implementing their plan and there have been no changes in the identified areas requiring special attention nor have any new areas developed.

Regional Hearing

As required, a regional hearing was conducted on March 28, 2013. There were no comments, additions or revisions received as a result of the regional hearing.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission conducted its first customer survey for local governments on September 4, 2012. The purpose of the survey was to identify the quality of services being provided and any gaps in service provision. The brief six question survey was distributed to 138 government officials across in our Region. The survey had a response rate of 46% or 64 of the 138 recipients. At least one response was received from each of the fourteen counties in the region. The detailed results of that survey can be viewed on our website: http://www.swgrc.org/about-the-rc/performance-survey-results/

Assessment of Regional Plan's Effectiveness

The RC was successful in accomplishing the majority of the strategies outlines in the Regional Work Program. As the report of accomplishments demonstrates, the RC has generally been successful in achieving the goals, objectives and strategies in the Regional Work Program.

The RC continues to undertake informal assessment of the Plan's effectiveness through feedback from local governments and stakeholders during trainings and various other meetings.

Report of Accomplishments:

In accordance with DCA 110-12-6-.05(2)(d)3., the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission has conducted the required regional hearing and is pleased to submit the following Regional Work Program and Report of Accomplishments for FY 2013.

Regional Work Program 2011-2015 Report of Accomplishments

Housing

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	ROA Status
Work with Housing Task Force to develop cooperation and sharing of ideas on a regional basis through regular meetings.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, RPN, HTF,	$2,000	DCA contract, Agency budgets	Ongoing
Seek funding sources for regional Housing Task Force operation.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, RPN, HTF	N/A	N/A	Ongoing
Host workshops, train and encourage leadership designed to increase the development of regional housing agencies and promote innovative ideas.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, RPN, HTF	$1,500	RC, NPO	No longer intended to be undertaken - Duplication of Housing Task Force Efforts
Work with local and state housing authorities, human service agencies, and related organizations to assess the housing needs of special populations throughout the Region.	Planning	2011-2015	FC, MH, DD, AD, COC, PH, RPN, HTF, RC, RAC	N/A	N/A	Complete. Delete
Host community development workshops to educate bankers, real estate developers, non-profits and governmental entities on the basics of community development programs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, RPN, HTF, Board of Realtors	$500	DCA, Sponsors	Complete. Delete
Solicit corporate sponsors to fund attendance at community development training programs sponsored by the Federal Home Loan Bank, Fannie Mae and others.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, RPN, HTF, local organizations	N/A	N/A	Not Complete. Delete. Lack of interest from potential corporate sponsors
Provide Planning and technical assistance to the Housing Task Force, existing community development organizations and local governments to develop an affordable housing strategy.	Planning	2011-2015	HTF, RC,	N/A	N/A	Ongoing
Host regional housing conference/summit targeting local governments, developers and nonprofits which highlights best practices that encourage collaborative partnerships that increase the supply of affordable housing	Planning	2011, 2013, 2015	HTF, RC,	$500	DCA contract, Agency budgets	Ongoing
Promote workshops, peer support programs and other events which build local capacity and describe successful methods of leveraging community development resources.	Planning	2011-2015	HTF, RC,	$1,500	RC, RCDI, local governments, NPO	Complete. Delete
~~Host community development workshops to educate~~ employers, bankers, real estate developers, faith based organizations, non-profits and government entities about ~~community development programs and housing resources~~	Planning	2011-2015	HTF, RC,	$1,000	RC, RCDI, local governments, NPO, local banks	Ongoing
Promote and support programs targeting the housing needs of seasonal and migrant workers.	Planning	2011-2015	HTF, RC, FC, DFACS	N/A	Agency budgets	Complete. Delete. Lack of interest
Work with Credit Counseling agencies to host, coordinate workshops that educate first-time homebuyers on barriers to homeownership and provide available housing resources.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, HTF, FC	$2,000	RC, DCA, Grants, Local Banks	Ongoing
Coordinate financial educational classes for high school students, in-school, out of school youth that focus on responsible credit management.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, HTF, Schools, FC	N/A	RC, School Boards, Local Banks	Postponed due to rigors of mandated school curriculum
Work with the Housing Task Force to maintain the regional, comprehensive web-based source of housing information, housing resources and related issues.	Planning	2011-2015	RC,	$500	RC, DCA	Ongoing

Work with local governments and factory-built housing manufacturers to develop affordable and compatible housing to use as infill development.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, HTF, DEcD	$3,000	DCA, RC, Agency budgets	No longer intended to be undertaken - Not a priority of local government
Utilize federal and state rehabilitation programs, loans or grants assistance programs for maintenance assistance, home equity conversion mortgage programs, shared housing programs and smaller affordable low and moderate income housing units to meet housing challenges.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, local governments, USDA, SOWEGA CAC	Dependent upon project	CDBG, CHIP, local governments	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance and planning to Credit Counseling agencies to find new funding opportunities and develop a tracking system that prevents duplication and provides greater efficiency and accountability.	Planning	2011-2015	HTF, RC,	Dependent upon project	local governments matching funds	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance to local governments that desire programs for maintaining affordable housing stocks	Planning	2011-2015	RC, HTF,	Varies	Agency Budgets	Ongoing
Promote a series of workshops highlighting successful community service programs in which volunteers work to preserve the historic housing stock through rehabilitation assistance.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, HTF, COC	$1,500	RC,	Complete. Delete.
Assist Local governments with the development of or update to zoning ordinances.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	Varies	local governments	Complete. Delete.
Transportation						
Activity	**Category (Planning or Review)**	**Timeframe**	**Responsible Party**	**Estimated Cost**	**Funding Source(s)**	
Work with local governments to identify potential transportation programs to meet public transportation needs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Local Governments, HS Agencies	$2,000	DHR Admin. GDOT Contract	Ongoing
Support the development of pedestrian and bicycle plans to be included in local comprehensive plans.	Planning	2011-2015	RC,	$20,000	RC Dues, Fee For Service, DCA Contracts, GDOT Planning Contract	Ongoing
Support regional transportation planning.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Local Governments	$2,000	GDOT and, DCA Contracts, RC Dues	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance in the preparation of transportation plans.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$5,000	GDOT Contract, DCA Contracts	Complete. Delete.
Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the coordinated transit program to provide access to medical facilities and services.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	Unknown	DCH/DOT/DCA	Ongoing
Identify feasible multipurpose trail projects which would have regional economic development impacts.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, GDOT PAC	$2,000	RC Dues	Complete. Delete.
Provide planning and technical assistance to local governments in the development of multipurpose trails.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Local Governments	$2,000	RC Dues	Complete. Delete.
Work with interested citizens and local governments to designate scenic byways.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Tall Timbers, GA Conservancy,	$2,000	GDOT Planning Contract	Ongoing
Continue to support non-metro regional transportation committee composed of RC Council members.	Planning	2011-2015	RC,	$2,000	Dues, DCA Discretionary Contract	Complete. Delete.
Continue to support the Regional Transportation Collaborative composed of local government officials, road superintendents, economic development agency representatives, and private citizens	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Regional Transportation Collaborative, local governments	$2,000	RC Dues, DCA Discretionary Contract	No longer intended to be undertaken. RTC no longer exists.

Provide assistance to local governments with understanding the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and which projects are included annually.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$5,000	GDOT Planning Contract	Complete. Delete.
Provide planning assistance in the development of intermodal/multimodal facilities throughout the area	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Regional Transportation Collaborative	$10,000	RC Dues, Transit Grant	Complete. Delete.
Coordinate with the Department of Transportation, local government officials and economic development agencies to promote development of state bicycle routes, air transportation and rail throughout the Region.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Regional Transportation Collaborative	$2,000	GDOT Planning Contract	No longer intended to be undertaken. Accomplished through other activities
Provide assistance in the development and administration of transportation enhancement programs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$5,000	GDOT Planning Contract	Ongoing
Provide for the planning, administration and operation of a regional transit program serving twelve counties and providing general public transit services.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$60,000	GDOT Transit Contract	Complete. Delete.
Community Facilities						
Activity	**Category (Planning or Review)**	**Timeframe**	**Responsible Party**	**Estimated Cost**	**Funding Source(s)**	
Promote the adoption and utilization of Capital Improvement planning and budgeting in all Southwest Georgia communities.	Review	2011-2015	RC,	Varies	RC, DCA	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance in Capital Improvement Planning and budgeting for local government officials	Planning	2011-2015	RC,	Varies	RC, DCA	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance to local governments in service delivery planning and implementation.	Planning and Review	2011-2015	RC,	$2,000	RC, DCA	Complete. Delete. Mandated through DCA contract
Provide technical assistance to local governments in the development of infrastructure improvement plans supported by grant and loan assistance.	Planning and Review	2011-2015	RC	Varies	RC Dues	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance in recommending water, sewer rate structuring for local governments.	Planning	2011-2015	Consultants,	Varies	Agency Budgets	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance in the development of grants, loans, facilities and programs as identified to help implement public safety programs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	Varies	RC Dues	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance in the development of local and regional hazard mitigation and disaster preparedness plans.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, DCH	Varies	RC, DCA, Federal funds	Complete. Delete.
Provide technical assistance to local governments in the provision of general governmental services, operations and facilities.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, State Agencies, Colleges	Varies	RC Dues, Fees,	Ongoing
Provide grant assistance to local governments in the provision of needed governmental facilities.	Review	2011-2015	RC	Varies	RC dues, various grant sources	Complete. Delete.
Provide planning and technical assistance to local governments in the development of community and regional parks.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$2,500	RC Dues	Ongoing
Generate support for bike routes during the local comprehensive planning process.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Local governments	Part of comp plan	Local	Postponed. Comp Plans have been deferred.
Organize meetings between the regional library personnel and local governmental officials to determine the need, desire for new facilities.	Planning	2011-2015	Regional Library, local governments	N/A	Regional Library	Ongoing

Provide planning technical assistance in the planning, development and financing of new library facilities.	Planning and Review	2011-2015	Regional Library, Rural Library Project	N/A	Regional Library	Ongoing
Advocate regional infrastructure planning through the Service Delivery Strategy process and during comprehensive plan updates over the planning horizon.	Planning and Review	2011-2015	RC Dues	$2,000	RC	Ongoing
Provide planning for special infrastructure needs in identified target areas.	Planning	2011-2015	RC Dues	Will Vary	RC	No longer intended to be undertaken. Expertise of Engineer required.
Identify needed resources to support infrastructure needs in special target areas.	Planning	2011-2015	RC Dues	N/A	RC	Ongoing
Develop eco-tourism recreation plans for the Flint and Chattahoochee River Corridors.	Planning	2011-2012	RC, RPN, SWGATA, Golden Triangle, Riverway	$5,000	RC Fees, Grants	No longer intended to be undertaken. Limited local support
Provide planning and technical assistance to regional human service agencies through RPN to develop human infrastructure by partnering and sharing resources for greater efficiency and service provision; highlighting best practices for duplication.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, RPN, CLCP, Human Services Agencies	$5,000	RC fees, DCA Contract, Grants	Ongoing

Intergovernmental Coordination

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	
Support the update of the Service Delivery Strategy to help ensure the efficient delivery of services.	Planning	Every 5 years	RC, local governments	Part of comp plan update fee	Fees	Complete. Delete. RC is required to do it anyway.
Encourage the sharing of information between local governments for greater efficiency.	Planning	2011-2015	Local Governments	None	N/A	Ongoing
Support local government officials in training opportunities offered by the Carl Vinson Institute, Georgia Municipal Association, Association County Commissioners of Georgia or others to enhance their leadership abilities.	Planning	2011-2015	Local Governments	Will Vary	Local Governments General Funds	Not Accomplished. Delete. No longer intended to be undertaken. No available resources

Economic Development

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	
Support periodic economic development forums for local and state government officials and leaders, and area Senators and Representatives.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, DEcD	$1,000	Sponsors	Complete. Delete.
Provide technical assistance in the preparation of Employment Incentives Program (EIP), Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 Loan, Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) and other program applications for business expansion or start up.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$75,000	EDA	Ongoing
Promote the use of Economic Development Administration (EDA) planning studies, which identify compatible industrial mixes.	Planning	2011-2015	SWGA COC, RC, DecD	$500	EDA	Ongoing
Promote the development of regional food processing centers to strengthen the Region's agribusiness community.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, DecD	$1,500	EDA	Not Accomplished. Delete. No longer intended to be undertaken.
Support and promote all types of tourism activities within the region	Planning	2011-2015	RC, RPN, SWGATA	$1,000, depending on agency	Dues, operating budgets	Ongoing
Acquire funding to increase RLF funding capacity when feasible.	Planning	20,112,012	RC	$500	Grants, EDA	Ongoing
Educate local governments, economic development agencies and local bankers on EIP, RLF and other economic development tools through one on one meetings.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, DEcD	$2,000	EDA	Ongoing

Provide technical assistance and preparation of One Georgia, EIP and EDA grant applications	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$1,500	EDA	Ongoing
Promote the development of current Business Retention and Expansion Program (BREP) reports for each county to increase business retention activities in the Region.	Planning	2011-2015	BOS, RC, DEcD	$1,000	DCA	Ongoing
Promote the use of the Georgia Chamber's regional listing of existing manufacturers to capture opportunities in regional trading, complimentary manufacturing.	Planning	2011-2015	BOS, RC, DEcD	$250 per copy	Agency budgets	Complete. Delete. Duplication of Service
Educate chambers of commerce, development authorities, libraries on the availability of business plan development software and other business development information.	Planning	2011-2015	UGA Business Outreach Services	$2,000 yr.	UGA Business Outreach Services	Complete. Delete. This work is done by SBDC.
Host an entrepreneurial forum to promote doing business with local, state and federal government.	Planning	20,112,013	COCs, RC, DEcD,	$1,000	Sponsors	Complete. Delete. This work is done by GA Tech.
Promote the use of Georgia Tech's Local Government Fiscal Impact Analysis (LOCI) and Univ. of Ga.'s computer models for cost benefit analysis of potential business ventures.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, DEcD	$500	EDA, agency budgets	Ongoing
Work with DEcD, COC's and other organizations to develop a regional tourism development and marketing strategy through use of tourism website.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, RPN, DEcD, SWGATA,	$30,000	RC Local Projects Allocation,	Complete. Delete. Someone else does it.
Develop a campaign to promote regional recreational opportunities related to development for fishing, boating, bicycling and hiking and other outdoor activities	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Partnership, Tourism Assoc.,	$40,000	Grants	Not Complete. Delete. No local interest.
Support the development of a new welcome center to serve the tourism sector, on U.S. 19 at GA, Fla. line.	Planning	2011-2015	SWGA COC, RC, DEcD	None	None	Not Complete. Delete. No local interest.
Provide technical assistance in the preparation of grants to support and expand tourism development.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	None	Member Dues	Not Complete. Delete. No grant funding for tourism development applicable to SW GA
Coordinate with GA Tech and others to disseminate information to local governments on emerging technology trends.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, GA Tech, DEcD, Tech Colleges	$1,500	DCA contract; Member Dues, GA Tech	Not Complete. Delete. No local interest.
Support initiatives for technology-based economic development in rural areas.	Planning	2011-2015	RC; DEcD, GA Tech	NA	Agency Budget	Ongoing
Facilitate planning and provide technical assistance in the preparation of economic development grants for multi-county development projects.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, COC's, DEcD,	varies	Grant	Ongoing
Increase the capability of GIS as a tool for economic developers in the Region.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, ITOS	$35,000	Dues, Contracts	Ongoing
Seek Regional Assistance Program grants or other resources that could be utilized for business expansion, infrastructure, etc., needed to develop the area.	Planning	2011-2015	RC; DEcD, local governments	Varies	Local Governments	Ongoing
Promote and distribute marketing materials highlighting tax credit and other available incentives for development in the target areas.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, DEcD	$2,000	Local Dues	Ongoing
Develop and implement a variety of strategies to make the region attractive to retirees.	Planning	2011-2015	COC's, RC, DEcD,	Varies	Local Governments, Contracts, Dues	Ongoing
Host annual workshops on downtown revitalization.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$2,000 yr.	Grants, Contracts	Not Complete. Delete. No local interest.
Provide technical assistance in developing revitalization plans, regulations and programs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Forestry Comm.	$3,000 yr.	HPD Contract	Ongoing
Provide grant writing assistance where needed.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$3,000 yr.	HPD Contract	Complete. Delete.

Provide planning and technical assistance to youth organizations and other stakeholders to conduct Youth Summit targeting high school students to encourage business development and decrease dropout rate	Planning	2011-2016	RC, Youth Organizations	$10,000	Grants, DCA Contract, Local Sponsorship	Complete. Delete.
Land Use						
Activity	**Category (Planning or Review)**	**Timeframe**	**Responsible Party**	**Estimated Cost**	**Funding Source(s)**	
Provide technical assistance to local governments pursuant to the development and implementation of land use plans and regulations.	Planning and Review	2011-2015	RC	Varies	DCA Contract,	Ongoing
Promote the adequate and efficient provision of infrastructure at the most reasonable cost to the taxpayers through the use of land use regulations.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	Varies	Member Dues	Complete
Work with local planning commissions, the Southwest Georgia Historic Preservation Advisory Committee, Georgia Trust, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), local governments and private property owners to designate scenic byways.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, TALL TIMBERS, GA Conservancy, Local Planning Depts.	$1,000 YR.	SHPO Contract, Dues, Agency budgets	Ongoing
Review local land use plans to identify potential land use conflicts and provide technical assistance in resolving the issues of incompatible uses or zoning districts when requested.	Review	2011-2015	RC	$5,000	DCA, Dues, Quality Growth Program	Ongoing
Promote workshops on land use planning and growth management topics.	Planning	2011-2015	RC,	$3,000	Grants, Sponsors, GPA/DCA	Ongoing
Develop and distribute technical literature to the Region's cities and counties regarding land management training opportunities and programs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Tall Timbers, GA Conservancy	None	None	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Work with individual planning commissions to educate members on the relationship between planning and zoning.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	None	None	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance to the respective governments and state agencies in the development of a resource management plan for the Red Hills Region.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Tall Timbers, GA Conservancy	$15,000	RC, Tall Timbers, GA Conservancy	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Natural and Cultural Resources						
Activity	**Category (Planning or Review)**	**Timeframe**	**Responsible Party**	**Estimated Cost**	**Funding Source(s)**	
Identify significant natural properties that are suitable for acquisition by the state Greenspace Program, other funding sources or through private conservation easements.	Planning	2011-2015	Jones Center, Local Governments, Red Hills, NRCS	$2,000	Jones Center, Local Governments, Red Hills, NRCS	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Provide technical assistance to local governments with the implementation of well head protection programs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Golden Triangle RD&D, PH	$1,000	RC, Golden Triangle RD&D, PH	Ongoing
Develop educational and media presentations and materials that promote the proper capping of wells.	Planning	2011-2015	District Health,	$2,000	District Health,	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Develop a program to identify and cap all open wells by the year 2013.	Planning	2011-2012	District Health, counties	$100,000	District Health, counties	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Encourage the retrofitting of old wells and developing curbing program for all older wells through the development of incentives.	Planning	2011-2015	District Health, NRCS	$50,000	District Health, NRCS	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services

Identify, prioritize areas of aquifer vulnerability within the Region and address septic tank and well concerns in these areas, with emphasis on Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plans.	Planning	2011-2015	District Health, RC, Jones Center, Local governments	$30,000	District Health, RC, Jones Center, Local governments	Not Complete. Delete. Public Health Departments already do this.
Host workshop or field day on the FARM*A*SYST and HOME "A" SYST programs.	Review	2012-2014	EXT Service,	None	EXT Service,	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Provide technical assistance to Regional TMDL Advisory Committee which provides coordinated regional implementation of TMDL Plans.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	Varies by Project	RC	Not Complete. Delete. No committee.
Participate in regular meetings of area natural resource agencies to enhance collaboration.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Tall Timbers, GA Conservancy, JW Jones	N/A	Agency budgets	No longer intended to be undertaken. Our presence at meetings is not requested.
Assist local governments with the adoption, proper administration and enforcement of DNR's Part V. Criteria to protect significant groundwater recharge areas.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Health Departments	$10,000	DCA Contract, Dues	Complete. Delete.
Assist local governments with the adoption, proper administration and enforcement of DNR's Criteria for Protected River Corridors.	Planning	2011-2013	RC	$10,000	DCA Contracts,	Complete. Delete.
Educate the general public on the use of conservation easements and other methods of protecting sensitive reaches of river corridor from development.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Tall Timbers, GA Conservancy, JW Jones, NRCS	$1,000	Dues	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Assist local governments with applications for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, EPD, Local Governments	$500	Local Dues	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Work with FEMA and local governments to determine and meet the need for Flood Insurance Rate Maps.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, Local Governments	None	None	No longer intended to be undertaken - duplication of services
Provide technical assistance at the local level in historic preservation education, preservation tools and development strategies.	Planning and Review	2011-2015	RC, HPAC,	$18,000	Dues, HPD Contract	Complete. Delete. Covered under HPD contract
Utilize the Regional Historic Preservation Advisory Council to conduct and support local preservation activities.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$5,000	HPD Contract	No longer intended to be undertaken. HPD contract budget constraints.
Hold regional workshops to inform target audiences of the methods and benefits of historic preservation as well as on historic preservation tools and techniques.	Planning	201,120,132,015	RC, HPAC,	$2,500	DCA, HPD, Dues	No longer intended to be undertaken. HPD contract budget constraints.
Prioritize potential nominations and participate in developing nominations for the National Register.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, HPAC	$3,000	HPD Contract, DCA, Dues, Fees	Ongoing
Assist interested counties nominate eligible courthouses to the National Register.	Planning and Review	2011-2015	RC, HPAC	$3,500	HPD, DCA, Dues	Complete. Delete. Virtually all eligible have ben nominated.
Develop and maintain a listing of foundations, corporations and state and federal grant resources which might support preservation activities.	Planning	2011-2015	RC,	$500	HPD	Complete. Delete.
Distribute annual package of historic preservation grant listings and tax credit information to each community, COC and historic societies in the Region.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$1,000	HPD, RC Dues	Postponed - Lack of resources
Support development of heritage education resource, guide book for each county.	Planning	2011-2015	RC,	$2,500	DCA, HPD Dues, Fees	No longer intended to be undertaken. Lack of interest from local government.
Educate local elected officials, downtown development agencies and private property owners on the economic impact of preservation programs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$5,000	HPD Contract	Ongoing
Provide technical assistance in the nomination of historic main streets to the National Register.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$5,000	HPD Contract	Ongoing

Assist local marketing and retail recruitment programs of chambers of commerce through education and technical assistance.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$1,000	HPD Contract	Postponed. Lack of resources
Sponsor local workshops on tax incentives, facade programs, appropriate signage, retail marketing and recruiting, etc.	Planning	2011-2015	RC,	$2,500	HPD Contract, DCA, Local Dues	Postponed. Lack of resources
Provide technical assistance in the establishment of Main Street and Better Home Town revitalization programs.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$2,000	HPD Contract	Complete. Delete.
Encourage the education of local elected officials on the *Standards for Rehabilitation*.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$2,000	HPD, DCA Dues	Complete. Delete.
Assist local governments in creating and following preservation plans for significant historic resources within their jurisdiction.	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$5,000	DCA, HPD Dues, Fees	Ongoing
Provide local education on the role and establishment of historic preservation commissions.	Planning	2011-2015	RC, UGA	$2,500	HPD, Local Dues	No longer intended to be undertaken. Duplication of services
Assist all existing historic preservation commissions to maintain, and utilize their HPD Certified Local Government status, or if not certified, become a HPD Certified Local Government (CLG).	Planning	2011-2015	RC	$3,500	HPD, Dues	Ongoing
Promote the use of the "Adopt a Stream" program in all communities, with initial focus on all streams currently not meeting water quality standards in Southwest Georgia.	Planning	2011-2015	Flint River Water Policy Center, RC, KAB, Educational Inst., local governments	None	None	No longer intended to be undertaken. Duplication of services

2012 – 2016

Southwest Georgia

Regional Work Program

Southwest Georgia Regional Work Program 2012-2016 DRAFT

Housing

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Guiding Principles Addressed	Issues & Opportunities Addressed
Work with Housing Task Force to develop cooperation and sharing of ideas on a regional basis through regular meetings.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, RPN, HTF,	$2,000	DCA contract, Agency budgets	H6, H7, H14	H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H11
Seek funding sources for regional Housing Task Force operation.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, RPN, HTF	N/A	N/A	H1	H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H11
Provide Planning and technical assistance to the Housing Task Force, existing community development organizations and local governments to develop an affordable housing strategy.	Planning	2012-2016	HTF, RC,	N/A	N/A	H6	H5, H7, H9
Host regional housing conference/summit targeting local governments, developers and nonprofits which highlights best practices that encourage collaborative partnerships that increase the supply of affordable housing	Planning	2012-2016	HTF, RC,	$500	DCA contract, Agency budgets	H1, H8, H9, H10, H11, H12, H13	H5,H11, H7
Host community development workshops to educate employers, bankers, real estate developers, faith based organizations, non-profits and government entities about community development programs and housing resources.	Planning	2012-2016	HTF, RC,	$1,000	RC, RCDI, local governments, NPO, local banks	H1, H6	H3, H5
Work with Credit Counseling agencies to host, coordinate workshops that educate first-time homebuyers on barriers to homeownership and provide available housing resources.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, HTF, FC	$2,000	RC, DCA, Grants, Local Banks	H2	H2, H5
Coordinate financial educational classes for high school students, in-school, out of school youth that focus on responsible credit management.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, HTF, Schools, FC	N/A	RC, School Boards, Local Banks	H2, H6	H2
Work with the Housing Task Force to maintain the regional, comprehensive web-based source of housing information, housing resources and related issues.	Planning	2012-2016	RC,	$500	RC, DCA	H6, H14	H5, H3

Utilize federal and state rehabilitation programs, loans or grants assistance programs for maintenance assistance, home equity conversion mortgage programs, shared housing programs and smaller affordable low and moderate income housing units to meet housing challenges.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, local governments, USDA, SOWEGA CAC	Dependent upon project	CDBG, CHIP, local governments	H1	H2, H3
Provide technical assistance and planning to Credit Counseling agencies to find new funding opportunities and develop a tracking system that prevents duplication and provides greater efficiency and accountability.	Planning	2012-2016	HTF, RC,	Dependent upon project	local governments matching funds	H6	H2, H3, H9
Provide technical assistance to local governments that desire programs for maintaining affordable housing stocks	Planning	2012-2016	RC, HTF,	Varies	Agency Budgets	H10, H11	H4
NEW Explore the feasibility of a Regional Land Bank	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$5,000	Agency budgets	H1	H8, H11
NEW Provide regional training events that build capacity and promote best practices in housing and community development.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$6,000	DCA Contracts,	H6	H12

Transportation

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Guiding Principles Addressed	Issues & Opportunities Addressed
Work with local governments to identify potential transportation programs to meet public transportation needs.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, Local Governments, HS Agencies	$2,000	DHR Admin. GDOT Contract	T4, T5, T6	T3, T4, T5
Support the development of pedestrian and bicycle plans to be included in local comprehensive plans.	Planning	2012-2016	RC,	$20,000	RC Dues, Fee For Service, DCA Contracts, GDOT	T4, T5	T2, T3
Support regional transportation planning.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, Local Governments	$2,000	GDOT and, DCA Contracts, RC Dues	T7, T8, T9	T3, T4, T6
Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the coordinated transit program to provide access to medical facilities and services.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	Unknown	DCH/DOT/DCA	T8	T3, T4
Work with interested citizens and local governments to designate scenic byways.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, Local Governments	$2,000	GDOT Planning Contract	T9	T7

Provide assistance in the development and administration of transportation enhancement programs.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$5,000	GDOT Planning Contract	T7	T2
NEW Provide technical assistance to local governments to digitize all county roads to complement 911 systems.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	Varies	GDOT Planning Contract	T2, T4	T1
NEW Provide technical assistance for comprehensive road inventory update.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, Local Governments	Varies	GDOT Planning Contract	T2, T5	T2
NEW Provide technical assistance to local governments to develop retroreflectivity signage plan.	Planning	2012-2016	Local Governments	Varies	GDOT Planning Contract	T2, T4	T2

Community Facilities

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Guiding Principles Addressed	Issues & Opportunities Addressed
Promote the adoption and utilization of Capital Improvement planning and budgeting in all Southwest Georgia communities.	Review	2012-2016	RC,	Varies	RC, DCA	C1, C2, C3, C5, C6	C1, C5
Provide technical assistance in Capital Improvement Planning and budgeting for local government officials	Planning	2012-2016	RC,	Varies	RC, DCA	C1, C2, C3, C5, C7	C1, C6
Provide technical assistance to local governments in the development of infrastructure improvement plans supported by grant and loan assistance.	Planning and Review	2012-2016	RC	Varies	RC Dues	C1, C2, C3, C5, C6	C1, C3
Provide technical assistance in recommending water, sewer rate structuring for local governments.	Planning	2012-2016	Consultants, Local Governments	Varies	Agency Budgets	C1, C3, C5,C6	C5 C9
Provide technical assistance in the development of grants, loans, facilities and programs as identified to help implement public safety programs.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	Varies	RC Dues	C2	C6
Provide technical assistance to local governments in the provision of general governmental services, operations and facilities.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, State Agencies, Colleges	Varies	RC Dues, Fees,	C1, C2, C3, C5, C5	C5,C6,C7
Provide planning and technical assistance to local governments in the development of community and regional parks.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$2,500	RC Dues	C7, C8	C2, C4

Generate support for bike routes during the local comprehensive planning process.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, Local governments	Part of comp plan	Local	C2, C7	C2
Organize meetings between the regional library personnel and local governmental officials to determine the need, desire for new facilities.	Planning	2012-2016	Regional Library, local governments	N/A	Regional Library	C1, C8	C2, C4
Provide planning technical assistance in the planning, development and financing of new library facilities.	Planning and Review	2012-2016	Regional Library, Rural Library Project	N/A	Regional Library	C1	C2, C4
Advocate regional infrastructure planning through the Service Delivery Strategy process and during comprehensive plan updates over the planning horizon.	Planning and Review	2012-2016	RC Dues	$2,000	RC	C1, C2	C1, C7
Identify needed resources to support infrastructure needs in special target areas.	Planning	2012-2016	RC Dues	N/A	RC	C1, C3	C1, C7
Provide planning and technical assistance to regional human service agencies through RPN to develop human infrastructure by partnering and sharing resources for greater efficiency and service provision; highlighting best practices for duplication.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, RPN, CLCP, Human Services Agencies	$5,000	RC fees, DCA Contract, Grants	C1, C7, C8	C2, C4

Intergovernmental Coordination

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Guiding Principles Addressed	Issues & Opportunities Addressed
Encourage the sharing of information between local governments for greater efficiency.	Planning	2012-2016	Local Governments	None	N/A	I1, I2	I1, I3, I4
NEW Work with local government officials to identify training opportunities offered by Carl Vinson, Georgia Municipal Association, Association of County Commissioners of Georgia to enhance leadership skills and meet achieve/meet performance standards.	Planning	2012-2016	Local Governments	None	N/A	I3	I1, I2, I3

Economic Development

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Guiding Principles Addressed	Issues & Opportunities Addressed

Provide technical assistance in the preparation of Employment Incentives Program (EIP), Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 Loan, Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) and other program applications for business expansion or start up.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$75,000	EDA	E1, E3	E4
Promote the use of Economic Development Administration (EDA) planning studies, which identify compatible industrial mixes.	Planning	2012-2016	SWGA COC, RC, DecD	$500	EDA	E3	E4, E8
Support and promote all types of tourism activities within the region	Planning	2012-2016	RC, RPN, SWGATA	$1,000, depending on agency	Dues, operating budgets	E4, E5	E12
Acquire funding to increase RLF funding capacity when feasible.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$500	Grants, EDA	E6	E4
Educate local governments, economic development agencies and local bankers on EIP, RLF and other economic development tools through one on one meetings.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, DEcD	$2,000	EDA	E6	E4
Provide technical assistance and preparation of One Georgia, EIP and EDA grant applications	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$1,500	EDA	E3, E7	E4, E6, E9
Promote the development of current Business Retention and Expansion Program (BREP) reports for each county to increase business retention activities in the Region.	Planning	2012-2016	BOS, RC, DEcD	$1,000	DCA	E6	E4, E9
Promote the use of Georgia Tech's Local Government Fiscal Impact Analysis (LOCI) and Univ. of Ga.'s computer models for cost benefit analysis of potential business ventures.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, DEcD	$500	EDA, agency budgets	E1	E9
Support initiatives for technology-based economic development in rural areas.	Planning	2012-2016	RC; DEcD, GA Tech	NA	Agency Budget	E3,E7, E8	E6, E7, E9
Facilitate planning and provide technical assistance in the preparation of economic development grants for multi-county development projects.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, COC's, DEcD,	varies	Grant	E6	E9, E13
Increase the capability of GIS as a tool for economic developers in the Region.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, ITOS	$35,000	Dues, Contracts	E3	E7, E9
Seek Regional Assistance Program grants or other resources that could be utilized for business expansion, infrastructure, etc., needed to develop the area.	Planning	2012-2016	RC; DEcD, local governments	Varies	Local Governments	E6	E9, E13
Promote and distribute marketing materials highlighting tax credit and other available incentives for development in the target areas.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, DEcD	$2,000	Local Dues	E2, E5	E3, E6, E9, E11

Develop and implement a variety of strategies to make the region attractive to retirees.	Planning	2012-2016	COC's, RC, DEcD,	Varies	Local Governments, Contracts, Dues	E7	E2, E5, E11
Provide technical assistance in developing revitalization plans, regulations and programs.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, Forestry Comm.	$3,000 yr.	HPD Contract	E5	E3, E9
NEW Collaborate with state agencies to provide training and technical assistance to the public and private agencies to increase capacity and create an economic vision and plan.	Planning	2012-2016	RC; DEcD, local governments	Varies	RC fees, DCA Contract, Grants	E1, E3,	E1-E9

Land Use

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Guiding Principles Addressed	Issues & Opportunities Addressed
Provide technical assistance to local governments pursuant to the development and implementation of land use plans and regulations.	Planning and Review	2012-2016	RC	Varies	DCA Contract,	L3, L5	L1, I3
Work with local planning commissions, the Southwest Georgia Historic Preservation Advisory Committee, Georgia Trust, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), local governments and private property owners to designate scenic byways.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, TALL TIMBERS, GA Conservancy, Local Planning Depts.	$1,000 YR.	SHPO Contract, Dues, Agency budgets	L5	L4, L7
Review local land use plans to identify potential land use conflicts and provide technical assistance in resolving the issues of incompatible uses or zoning districts when requested.	Review	2012-2016	RC	$5,000	DCA, Dues, Quality Growth Program	L3	L3
Promote workshops on land use planning and growth management topics.	Planning	2012-2016	RC,	$3,000	Grants, Sponsors, GPA/DCA	L5, L6	L1
Work with individual planning commissions to educate members on the relationship between planning and zoning.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	None	None	L5, L6	L1, L4

Natural and Cultural Resources

Activity	Category (Planning or Review)	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Guiding Principles Addressed	Issues & Opportunities Addressed
Provide technical assistance to local governments with the implementation of well head protection programs.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, Golden Triangle RD&D, PH	$1,000	RC, Golden Triangle RD&D, PH	R2	R4
Prioritize potential nominations and participate in developing nominations for the National Register.	Planning	2012-2016	RC, HPAC	$3,000	HPD Contract, DCA, Dues, Fees	R5	R2
Distribute annual package of historic preservation grant listings and tax credit information to each community, COC and historic societies in the Region.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$1,000	HPD, RC Dues	R5	R2
Educate local elected officials, downtown development agencies and private property owners on the economic impact of preservation programs.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$5,000	HPD Contract	R6	R2,R3, R4
Provide technical assistance in the nomination of historic main streets to the National Register.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$5,000	HPD Contract	R5, R6	R3
Assist local marketing and retail recruitment programs of chambers of commerce through education and technical assistance.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$1,000	HPD Contract	R6	R2
Sponsor local workshops on tax incentives, facade programs, appropriate signage, retail marketing and recruiting, etc.	Planning	2012-2016	RC,	$2,500	HPD Contract, DCA, Local Dues	R5	R3
Assist local governments in creating and following preservation plans for significant historic resources within their jurisdiction.	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$5,000	DCA, HPD Dues, Fees	R5, R6	R3
Assist all existing historic preservation commissions to maintain, and utilize their HPD Certified Local Government status, or if not certified, become a HPD Certified Local Government (CLG).	Planning	2012-2016	RC	$3,500	HPD, Dues	R5, R7	R4

Regional Hearing
Regional Work Program

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission
181 E. Broad Street
Camilla, Georgia
Thursday, March 28, 2013
12:00 PM until 2:00 PM
Sign In Sheet

1. Stephen Kent, RC Staff
2. Barbara Reddick, RC Staff
3. Kerrie Davis, RC Staff
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