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A THRIVING MIDDLE GEORGIA



2023 ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

 Middle Georgia Regional Commission

REPORT ON PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The Middle Georgia Regional Commission (MGRC), through the Regional Agenda process, is given the responsibility and authority to set achievement levels for local governments of the region. In doing so, MGRC recognizes that all local governments of the region are different and that some standards may be quite easily attainable for larger, well-funded governments, but more difficult to meet for other cities and counties. For this reason, MGRC has set Essential Standards, as well as Excellence Standards for the local governments of Middle Georgia. Essential Standards are differentiated from Excellence Standards, which may require increased planning, coordination, and financial commitment.

The Middle Georgia Regional Commission is dedicated to ensuring that every local government is able to meet all Essential (minimum) Standards of the Regional Agenda. Regional Commission staff will assist local governments with any tasks necessary to attain the Essential Standards at minimal or no cost. As of March 24, 2023, twenty-five of the thirty-one local governments have achieved either the Essential or Excellence Standards. Throughout FY 2024, MGRC will provide technical assistance to the remaining six local governments to achieve the Essential Standard.

2023 Report of Regional Performance Standard Attainment – Effective May 2023

Jurisdiction	Standards Met	Notes/Other Excellence Designations
Baldwin County	Community of Excellence	Current GICH Participant
City of Milledgeville	Community of Excellence	GICH Certified Alumni; AARP Age-Friendly
Crawford County	Essential Standards	
City of Roberta		Delinquent on FY22 RLGf
Houston County	Essential Standards	
City of Centerville	Community of Excellence	GICH Certified Alumni; AARP Age-Friendly
City of Perry	Community of Excellence	PlanFirst Designee; GICH Certified Alumni
City of Warner Robins	Community of Excellence	GICH Certified Alumni
Jones County	Community of Excellence	PlanFirst Designee; GICH Certified Alumni; AARP Age-Friendly
City of Gray	Community of Excellence	GICH Certified Alumni
Macon-Bibb County	Community of Excellence	AARP Age-Friendly
Monroe County	Essential Standards	
City of Culloden		City lacks a website
City of Forsyth	Community of Excellence	
Peach County	Essential Standards	
City of Byron	Community of Excellence	GICH Certified Alumni
City of Fort Valley	Community of Excellence	PlanFirst Designee
Pulaski County	Essential Standards	
City of Hawkinsville	Community of Excellence	
Putnam County	Community of Excellence	SolSmart Designee
City of Eatonton	Community of Excellence	GICH Certified Alumni
Twiggs County	Essential Standards	
Town of Danville	Essential Standards	
City of Jeffersonville		Delinquent on FY19 - FY21 RLGf, 2022 GOMI
Wilkinson County	Essential Standards	
City of Allentown	Essential Standards	
City of Gordon	Essential Standards	
City of Irwinton	Essential Standards	
City of Ivey	Essential Standards	
City of McIntyre	Essential Standards	
Town of Toombsboro	Essential Standards	

RLGF: Report of Local Government Finance; GOMI: Government Management Indicators survey

MGRC Assistance to Local Governments not Currently Meeting Essential Standards:

The 2017 changes to the Regional Planning Requirements (Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia Chapter 110-12-6) eliminated penalties associated with communities that do not reach the Essential Standards set forth in the Regional Plan. However, MGRC still recognizes a responsibility to assist local governments however possible in the attainment of these standards. MGRC is currently undertaking the following activities to assist local governments in the attainment of the Essential Standards:

- MGRC staff transmits regular messages to all local governments that are delinquent on Department of Community Affairs (DCA) reports, including the Report of Local Government Finance (RLGF) and Government Management Indicators (GOMI) survey. MGRC also serves as a liaison between local communities and the DCA Office of Research and Surveys, as necessary.
- MGRC has offered website development services to the City of Culloden.

REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Middle Georgia Regional Implementation Program contains action items for the Middle Georgia Regional Commission and its regional partners for the purpose of promulgating the opportunities and vision developed by stakeholders for the Regional Plan. The report on the following pages details accomplishments of the Regional Implementation Program through March 9, 2023. Projects are either listed as **complete**, **underway**, **canceled**, or **ongoing** (items that represent a continuous process for MGRC rather than a one-time project). Additional comments are provided in some areas where available.

The Middle Georgia Regional Commission completed an update to its Regional Work Program in 2021, adding several additional items as new areas of work. Newly added projects are still underway, and no new programmatic additions are proposed for the Regional Work Program for 2023. As such, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission proposes to readopt the existing 2021-2025 Community Work Program without further amendments. This will be the final year of this work program, as MGRC will begin full updates to the Regional Plan in early FY 2024.

Middle Georgia RWP Implementation Report (2023-2027)



Priority	Strategy	Action	Partners	Implementation Status Update
Leverage state and federal assets for economic development projects, specifically in areas that are eligible for additional need-based assistance.	Appropriate funding opportunities should be pursued where possible to support economic development initiatives, locally and regionally.	Provide technical assistance to local governments, authorities, and chambers for economic and industrial recruitment.	MGRC, EDA, GDEcD	Ongoing
		Pursue funding avenues to aid in providing infrastructure to industrial parks/sites.	MGRC, DCA, USDA, CGJDA	Ongoing – Two OneGeorgia Equity projects are underway for sewer improvements. One is serving the I-16 Industrial Park in Twiggs County, and the other project benefits the Griswoldville Industrial Park in Jones County. MGRC is also assisting with an application for sewer improvements in the City of Gordon.
		Research, prepare and administer grants/loans to support economic development.	MGRC	Ongoing – MGRC is continuing to administer EDA and OneGeorgia EDGE grants for the City of Byron, City of Hawkinsville, Macon-Bibb County, Monroe County, and MidState Energy.
	Local communities should work with state and federal partners in economic development to better meet their needs.	Develop and aid in the implementation of projects/activities identified in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) for the region.	MGRC, EDA	Ongoing – new CEDs adopted in 2022.
		<i>Administer an EDA CARES Act recovery planning project to supplement the regional CEDs with a focus on economic recovery and resilience throughout the region.</i>	<i>MGRC, EDA</i>	<i>Complete – Recovery and Resilience plan was submitted to EDA in September 2022.</i>
		Administer an EDA CARES Act revolving loan fund to provide much-needed capital to businesses in Middle Georgia affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.	MGRC, EDA	Ongoing – MGRC continues to promote these lending opportunities and make new small business loans.
Implement local incentives to assist new and existing businesses.	Long-term planning should be developed to ensure the availability of resources for economic development.	Conduct economic impact analysis to determine cost-benefit for economic development projects.	MGRC	Ongoing
	Local communities should work with state and federal partners in economic development to better meet their needs.	Provide technical assistance for the creation of state Opportunity Zones, Rural Zones, local Enterprise Zones, and Redevelopment Plans.	MGRC, DCA	Ongoing
Work with Middle Georgia Economic Alliance and other local partners to support and market region to potential economic investors.	Local governments should coordinate marketing strategies for tourism and industry recruitment.	Assist in a joint economic development initiative to market the region.	MGRC, MGEA, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Promote, encourage and engage in economic development initiatives of joint development authorities.	MGRC, CGJDA, FLRDA, MGRDA	Ongoing

Priority	Strategy	Action	Partners	Implementation Status Update
Redevelop blighted or vacant buildings and brownfield sites to help strengthen local economies.	Downtown revitalization plans should be promoted and encouraged as a means for promoting job creation and entrepreneurship.	Prepare grant applications for remediation of brownfield sites.	MGRC, EPA, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC is working on a regional assessment grant for 2023.
		Assist with the development of downtown development or redevelopment plans and special tax districts.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC is supporting the City of Gordon with a Downtown Plan with redevelopment plan updates expected in the City of Fort Valley and in Baldwin County.
Invest in the region’s technological infrastructure to attract makers, entrepreneurs, and young professionals.	Local communities should work with state and federal partners in economic development to better meet their needs	Implement the Digital Economy Plan for the Middle Georgia region.	MGRC, GTA, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Assist communities with the implementation of Smart City technologies to improve service delivery and attract high-skill workers to the region.	MGRC, OLDCC, MGEA, GTA, GaTech, Local Governments	Ongoing – The GA-AIM project includes opportunities to continue supporting the implementation of Smart City technologies as part of building a workforce ready for AI.
		Facilitate the ongoing operation of Makerspaces in Middle Georgia.	MGRC, GTA, Local Governments	Ongoing
Address the needs of RAFB and aerospace assets to attract new development and expansion of current industries.	Appropriate businesses should be identified and targeted for industry recruitment and expansion efforts, based on the strategic assets of the community.	Assist the 21 st Century Partnership and its efforts to support Robins Air Force Base activities, expansion efforts, and new missions.	21st Century Partnership, MGRC	Ongoing
		<i>Continue implementation of plans to remediate encroachment issues near RAFB.</i>	<i>MGRC, DOD, CGJDA, DNR, Local Governments</i>	<i>Complete – Current phase of encroachment mitigation has been substantively completed. Next phases of work will be developed in the upcoming months in to aid in implementation of the 2022 Middle Georgia-Robins AFB Sustainability Plan.</i>
Use natural and cultural resources, especially Ocmulgee Mounds National Historic Park, to help grow tourism and economic prosperity in the region.	Local communities should work with state and federal partners in economic development to better meet their needs. Appropriate businesses should be identified and targeted for industry recruitment and expansion efforts, based on the strategic assets of the community.	Engage in planning processes and funding opportunities that support the expansion of the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historic Park along the corridor from Macon-Bibb County to Hawkinsville.	MGRC, GDEcD, Local Governments	Ongoing – The National Park Service is continuing a Special Resource Study on future expansion potential for the Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park. MGRC is participating as needed as an agency involved with land use planning in the corridor. This project would have significant benefits for the attraction of outdoor recreational tourists to Middle Georgia.
		Promote Middle Georgia tourism industry.	MGRC, GDEcD, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Assist with the promotion of the film industry in Middle Georgia.	MGRC, GDEcD	Ongoing
Use EB-5 designation to encourage foreign investment.	Appropriate funding opportunities should be pursued where possible to support economic development initiatives, locally and regionally.	Promote and provide technical assistance with the Foreign Trade Zone and EB-5 Foreign Investor Program in eligible areas of Middle Georgia.	MGRC	Ongoing
Assist local government participation in the	Promote and encourage development that provides a variety of	Provide technical assistance to local Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) communities.	MGRC, DCA, UGA	Ongoing – MGRC is currently supporting Baldwin County as they begin the GICH Program. MGRC also assists communities in maintaining Certified Alumni status. Crawford County is planning a 2023 GICH application.

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programs designed to promote affordable and accessible housing options.	residential options, including affordable housing opportunities.	Promote affordable housing options.	MGRC, DCA, Housing Authorities Local Governments	Ongoing
		Promote and provide safe, clean, and affordable housing choices.	Housing Authorities, Local Governments	Ongoing
	Address substandard and dilapidated housing in Middle Georgia communities.	Assist local governments with preparing Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) and CDBG grant applications.	MGRC, DCA, Housing Authorities Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC assisted the Jones County with a CHIP Grant application in January 2023 and has started administration of the City of Gray’s 2022 CHIP grant.
Create urban redevelopment plans and strengthen local code enforcement activities to alleviate substandard housing conditions and blight.	Address substandard and dilapidated housing in Middle Georgia communities.	Perform Housing Assessments, focusing on both urban and rural areas, and data collection, as requested.	MGRC, DCA, Local Governments	Ongoing – Completed assessment of Eatonton in 2022 and Haddock in will be completed by April 2023.
		Assist local governments with the preparation of housing-focused Urban Redevelopment Plans.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Assist local governments with the creation and management of Land Bank Authorities.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Provide technical assistance to local governments in reviewing and updating zoning codes to remove barriers to appropriate housing development.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing – currently assisting several local governments with updates to zoning codes.
Support local public and non-profit agencies to meet housing needs and provide homebuyer education services.	Promote and encourage development that provides a variety of residential options, including affordable housing opportunities.	Promote, encourage, and participate in housing-related workshops, conferences, and symposiums.	MGRC, Local Governments, Housing Authorities	Ongoing
		Prioritize lending opportunities for housing developments focused on low- or mixed-income, elderly, or residents with disabilities.	MGRC	Ongoing
		Partner with local governments, housing authorities, social service agencies, non-profits, etc. to promote housing options for those most in need.	MGRC	Ongoing
Leverage availability of vacant storefronts in downtown areas for new housing developments.	Promote and encourage development that provides a variety of residential options, including affordable housing opportunities.	Consider town centers as housing destinations for potential "pioneer" populations, such as baby boomers and college students.	MGRC, DCA, Local Governments, Housing Authorities	Ongoing
		Assist local governments with identifying resources and funding options (such as the LIHTC, DDRLF, and CDBG programs) to support affordable infill housing development.	MGRC, DCA, GMA, Local Governments, Housing Authorities	Ongoing
Assist local governments that lack technological or Geographic	Local governments should evaluate options for lowering the cost of	Create, maintain, promote, and host web pages for local governments, development authorities, and other regional entities.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC continues to host about 35 websites for local governments, authorities, and nonprofits.
		Create, maintain, and promote internet-based map services.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing

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Information Systems (GIS) capabilities to improve the efficiency of their services.	service delivery and improving efficiency	Create road and structure point data layers to support E-911 mapping services.	MGRC, GEMA, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Explore the feasibility of acquiring highly accurate elevation (LiDAR) data and region-wide ortho-aerial photography.	MGRC, USGS, NOAA, FEMA, GIO, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Provide tax parcel maintenance service.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC continues to provide for four counties.
		Develop strategies for enhancing social media and communications capabilities for MGRC and local governments	MGRC	Ongoing
Develop plans for local infrastructure maintenance and improvements, including planning for capital to support continued growth.	Local governments should evaluate options for lowering the cost of service delivery and improving efficiency.	Assist with land development ordinances or implementation of impact fees to reduce potential losses from new service provision.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Assist local governments with the development and preparation of Solid Waste Management Plans, as requested.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Develop risk assessment reports and assist in the local hazard mitigation and pre-disaster mitigation planning processes.	MGRC, GEMA, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC is completed a planning process with Monroe County in 2022 and is currently working with Baldwin County on plan updates.
Apply for state and federal grants and loan funding for improvements to community facilities throughout the region, specifically in areas of high need.	Local governments should monitor infrastructure to make repairs or upgrades as necessary and follow best management practices.	Assist local governments in efforts to upgrade and/or extend water/sewer infrastructure.	MGRC, DCA, USDA, GEFA, Local Governments	Ongoing – The City of Forsyth received a 2022 CDBG for water improvements. Administering water/sewer grants for Hawkinsville, Ivey, and Twiggs County.
		Assist local governments with improvements to stormwater management and drainage infrastructure.	MGRC, DCA, USDA, EPD, Local Governments	Ongoing – Administering drainage grants for Eatonton, Hawkinsville, and Irwinton.
	Pursue funding sources for maintenance and new construction of community facilities.	Assist local efforts to upgrade or develop new community facilities, such as Senior Centers, Head Start, Workforce Development, Boys and Girls Clubs, Libraries, etc.	MGRC, DCA, USDA, Local Governments	Ongoing – Administering Health Department grants in Crawford County, Jones County, Peach County, and Twiggs County. MGRC is also assisting with a health clinic grant application for Twiggs County, in partnership with the Development Authority of the City of Jeffersonville and Twiggs County. Finally, MGRC is assisting Pulaski County with a reapplication for a CDBG for a new Senior Center.
		Assist local governments in efforts to upgrade or develop new government administration facilities.	MGRC, USDA, Local Governments	Ongoing
	Develop and preserve recreational programs.	Assist local efforts to upgrade or develop new recreational facilities and services.	MGRC, DNR, NPS, Local Governments	Ongoing – Crawford County is pursuing a 2023 CDBG application for a new recreation center.
	Local communities should focus on lowering ISO ratings and supporting law enforcement agencies.	Assist local efforts to upgrade or develop new public safety facilities and services.	MGRC, FEMA, DOJ, USDA, DCA, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC regularly assists with various FEMA and DOJ grants to aid firefighting and police activities.
		Assist communities with grant funding to support critical infrastructure and disaster resilience.	MGRC, FEMA, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC is administering funds for the City of Ivey force main that was damaged in the Lake Tchukolako dam failure. Funds have also been requested for Peach County to acquire new generators.

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	Natural gas service should be considered an important asset for economic development.	Assist local governments in efforts to upgrade and/or extend natural gas infrastructure.	MGRC, USDA, EDA, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC currently administering an EDA grant for MidState Energy to expand capacity.
Collaborate with historical societies, historic preservation commissions, and similar groups to protect areas where culturally-important resources are at risk	Promote development practices that do not negatively impact natural, cultural, and historic resources.	Conduct and comment on Section 106 undertakings involving historic resources.	MGRC, HPD	Ongoing
		Provide outreach, training, and technical assistance on Historic Preservation to local governments and other interested parties.	MGRC, HPD	Ongoing
	Capitalize on the natural, cultural, and historic resources that are present within the region, utilizing their presence to tell the region’s story.	Conduct historic resources inventories for local governments	MGRC, HPD	Ongoing – MGRC completed a historic properties inventory for the City of Warner Robins in 2022.
		Provide technical assistance to local Historic Preservation Commission, Historical Societies, and other organizations.	MGRC, HPD, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Assist local governments with activities related to the Certified Local Government program; assist in the preparation and adoption of local preservation ordinances.	MGRC, HPD	Ongoing
	Promote and support existing Main Street communities and encourage new cities.	Assist communities with state and federal historic preservation initiatives and programs including the Main Street Program and the Preserve America Institute.	MGRC, HPD, DCA	Ongoing
Extend and enhance regional trail system, including Ocmulgee Heritage Trail, Lower Oconee Water Trail, Ocmulgee Water Trail, and Central Georgia Rail Trail to improve green connectivity, economic activity, and recreation opportunities.	Promote additional avenues of access to natural, cultural, and historic resources for recreation, education, and tourism, as a driver of economic activity	Provide technical assistance to the Ocmulgee Water Trail Partnership, the Lower Oconee Water Trail group, and other blueway-focused organizations.	MGRC, HPD, DCA, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Provide technical assistance to the Central Georgia Rail to Trail Association for the development of the rail trail between Macon-Bibb and Milledgeville.	MGRC, OWTP, LOWT, GDOT	Ongoing
		Assist local governments with the preparation of applications and grant administration for the Recreational Trails Program.	MGRC, DNR, Local Governments	Ongoing
Agritourism can promote the economy and the preservation of agricultural lands.	Enhance existing natural, cultural, and historic resources with appropriate development.	Assist local governments and other community organizations in promoting small farms and small communities through the "Georgia Grown" and "Celebrating Rural Georgia" programs.	MGRC, DCA, Georgia Dept of Agriculture, Local Governments, Community Organizations	Ongoing
Ensure safe and secure parks, campgrounds, river access, and boat	Enhance existing natural, cultural, and historic resources with	Assist local governments with preparing and administering Land and Water Conservation Fund grants.	MGRC, DNR, NPS, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC is assisting with the administration of LWCF grants for the City of Forsyth, Monroe County, Jones County, and the City of Hawkinsville. Jones County has also received a Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program grant for the property known as “Jake’s Woods.”

Priority	Strategy	Action	Partners	Implementation Status Update
ramps, particularly in where they can be economic drivers.	appropriate development.			
Update and promulgate the Regional Resources Plan to encourage tourism and help preserve resources.	Promote the protection and utilization of the region's natural, cultural, and historic resources.	Prepare update to the Regionally Important Resources Plan.	MGRC, DCA	Underway – Project is being actively informed by comprehensive plans and will be completed in early FY 2024.
Enhance mobility management programs for residents who are elderly, disabled, or in need of reliable transit services.	Encourage street connectivity and improved access and mobility for all persons, regardless of mode of transportation	Assist local governments with Transit Development Plans.	MGRC, GDOT, Local Governments	Ongoing – MGRC completed the plan for Jones County in 2022. Plans for Peach County and Monroe County will both be completed in FY 2023. The Putnam and Wilkinson County TDPs are planned for FY 2024.
		Facilitate the Middle Georgia Regional Mobility Manager program	MGRC, GDOT, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Pursue expanded transit service and options for special population groups, including senior citizens (through 5311 programs), veterans, adult students, and workforce program participants.	MGRC, GDOT, Local Governments	Ongoing – GDOT is expected to assist with a Regional Transit Development Plan that will analyze coordination opportunities between transit systems and will examine opportunities for more effective service provision.
		Administer the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) Coordinated Transportation Program in the Middle Georgia region.	MGRC, DHS, Third-Party Operators	Ongoing
Develop and implement local bicycle and pedestrian plans, with an emphasis on complete streets, particularly in downtown areas and near educational facilities	Promote the logical connectivity of the regional transportation network	Continue phased construction of Oconee River Greenway and the Fishing Creek Community Trail in Milledgeville and Baldwin County.	FHWA, DNR, Oconee River Greenway Authority, Local Governments,	Ongoing
		Provide technical assistance to bicycle and pedestrian stakeholder groups, including CGRTA, OWTP, LOWT, Wilkinson County Bike Friendly Committee, etc.	GDOT, MGRC, Local Stakeholders	Ongoing
	Promote alternative transportation choices, such as walking, biking, carpooling, and taking public transportation.	Maintain and update the Middle Georgia Bicycle and Pedestrian website.	MGRC, GDOT	Ongoing
		Update WRATS Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.	MGRC, GDOT, WRATS	Ongoing
		Prepare Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans for interested communities.	MGRC, Local Governments, GDOT, Bike-Ped Advisory Committees	Ongoing
		Perform Safe Routes to School walk safety audits or travel plans for elementary and middle schools.	GDOT, MGRC, Local Schools	Ongoing

Priority	Strategy	Action	Partners	Implementation Status Update
		Facilitate Complete Streets and other training for local communities.	GDOT, MGRC, Local Stakeholders	Ongoing
Investment in maintenance and improvement of regional transportation infrastructure.	Coordinate with the Ga. Dept. of Transportation, Georgia Ports Auth., State Road and Tollway Auth., and other state agencies, for funding improvements for the transportation network.	Serve on Macon Area Transportation Study Technical Coordinating and Policy Committees.	MGRC, MATS	Ongoing
		Serve on Warner Robins Area Transportation Study Technical Coordinating and Policy Committees.	MGRC, WRATS	Ongoing
		Assist local governments, MPOs, and other entities in understanding transportation funding opportunities.	MGRC, Local Governments, MATS, WRATS	Ongoing
	Improve the condition of the region's road network, with attention to the condition of high-priority bridges, roads, and culverts.	Support local governments in finding innovative solutions for transportation investments.	MGRC	Ongoing
		Assist local governments with identifying and prioritizing bridges, culverts, and unimproved roads for future investment.	GDOT, MGRC, Local Stakeholders	Ongoing
Address areas where rapid, development has strained the transportation grid.	Coordinate land use planning activities with transportation network improvements.	Incorporate policies and strategies in local comprehensive plans that link land use and transportation improvements.	MGRC, DCA, GDOT, Local Governments,	Ongoing
Pursue the development of an inland port, container yard, or intermodal hub to facilitate freight movement.	Promote the planning for, construction of, and movement on regional and inter-regional freight routes.	Identify opportunities for improving the east-west connectivity across the Ocmulgee River for a more efficient flow of goods, services, and people.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing
Development of a multi-modal transportation hub with passenger rail and bus service.	Communicate the importance and feasibility of passenger rail service.	Promote passenger rail and bus service between Macon-Bibb and Atlanta.	MGRC, Local Governments, Georgians for Passenger Rail	Ongoing
		Promote and support the efforts of the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition, including planning for smart growth and transit-oriented development—highlighted by passenger rail service opportunities within the corridor.	MGRC, TRRC, ARC, I-75 CCC, MGCAC, MATS, WRATS, Local Governments	Ongoing – I-75 Central Corridor Coalition and Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition are continuing to promote this investment and are actively pursuing opportunities to prioritize this project at the state and federal levels.
Beautification and enhancement of key transportation corridors.	Improve the condition of the region's road network, with attention to the condition of high-priority bridges, roads, and culverts.	Assist local governments with efforts to beautify transportation corridors, particularly community gateway entrances, including wayfinding and placemaking.	MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing
Explore joint use of the runway at Robins	Coordinate with the Ga. Dept. of Transportation, Georgia Ports Auth.,	Explore opportunities to take advantage of the region's existing airfields, such as public-private partnerships and expansion needs.	MGRC, OLDCC, Airport Authorities,	Ongoing

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Air Force Base and other opportunities for partnerships related to aerospace industries.	State Road and Tollway Auth., and other state agencies, for funding improvements for the transportation network.		RAFB, Local Governments	
Pursue a reduction in sprawl through infill development, adaptive reuse of existing structures, and open space protection measures in places of rapid growth.	Smart Growth principles should be promoted throughout the region, especially in urban and suburban communities. This includes the promotion of infill development and greyfield or brownfield redevelopment.	Assist local governments in the preparation/ modification and adoption of local land use ordinances, zoning ordinances, and/or development regulations.	MGRC, DCA	Ongoing – currently working with numerous communities on zoning ordinance updates.
		Promote growth and development in areas that can be efficiently served by existing infrastructure.	MGRC, I-75CCC, MGCAC	Ongoing
		Encourage the placement of new schools near existing infrastructure.	MGRC	Ongoing
Undertake inter-jurisdictional land use planning to promote cohesive development and efficient movement of people, goods, and services.	Local governments should coordinate their land use planning across jurisdictional boundaries.	Administer and manage the Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) program in the Middle Georgia region.	MGRC, DCA	Ongoing
		<i>Prepare the Middle Georgia - Robins Air Force Base Sustainability Plan as an update and expansion of the 2004 Joint Land Use Study for Robins Air Force Base.</i>	<i>MGRC, RAFB, OLDCC, Local Governments, 21st Century Partnership</i>	<i>Completed in 2022</i>
		Provide Geographic Information Systems (GIS) digital mapping and Global Positioning System (GPS) data collection services to local governments	MGRC, GIO	Ongoing
Promote dialogue between businesses and educational institutions to ensure that students receive the necessary skills for success.	Promote collaboration between school systems, private schools, technical colleges, colleges, universities, and local industry.	Provide employer-specialized recruiting services to regional industries.	MGRC, MGC, GDEcD, TCSG, colleges/univ.	Ongoing
		Coordinate applicant certification services for job seekers.	MGRC, MGC, GDEcD, TCSG, colleges/univ.	Ongoing
		Encourage the development of targeted, innovative workforce development programs in public K-12 schools.	MGRC, MGC, GDEcD, TCSG, school districts, colleges/univ.	Ongoing
Grow collaboration between workforce development agencies.	Provide tools to develop the workforce for the region's existing industries.	Provide technical assistance to job seekers.	MGRC, MGC, GDEcD, TCSG, colleges/univ.	Ongoing
		Promote collaboration between workforce development agencies throughout the region.	MGRC, MGC, GDEcD, TCSG, colleges/univ.	Ongoing
Expand registered apprenticeship programs, work-based learning, and	Promote collaboration between school systems, private schools, technical colleges, colleges, universities, and local industry.	Undertake and support workforce development and implementation initiatives.	MGRC, MGC, GDEcD, TCSG, colleges/univ.	Ongoing
		Coordinate and promote on-the-job training and apprenticeship opportunities.	MGRC, MGC, GDEcD, TCSG, colleges/univ.	Ongoing

Priority	Strategy	Action	Partners	Implementation Status Update
on-the-job training opportunities.				
Expand job training and transitional support for those leaving military service.	Provide tools to develop the workforce for the region's existing industries.	Promote awareness of transitional support, on-the-job training, and veterans' preference opportunities for veterans seeking employment.	MGRC, MGC, VECTR Center, GDEcD, TCSG, colleges/univ.	Ongoing
Provide job training for the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated.	Provide tools to develop the workforce for the region's existing industries.	Promote awareness of state-level criminal justice reform among job seekers.	MGRC, MGC, GDEcD, TCSG, colleges/univ.	Ongoing
Publicize and promote counseling and advocacy services available to seniors.	Encourage a person-centered approach to service provision.	Conduct wellness-related activities through the Wellness Program, providing education, health screenings, nutrition information, exercise, disease management and prevention, and safe usage of medication to seniors and persons with disabilities.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing – includes CDSM, Tai Chi, A Matter of Balance, Bingocize, PSMP, and Senior Farmers Market programs.
	Promote and encourage more effective ways to communicate with the senior population.	Market the Area Agency on Aging in all counties in the Middle Georgia region through community education programs and health fairs.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
		Plan, sponsor, and conduct a region-wide annual event in support and recognition of the U.S. Administration on Aging's Older American Month activities.	MGRC, Vendors	Ongoing – plans are underway to host a celebration in 2023 for Older American Month.
Provide assistance tailored to older residents to help them age in place while contributing to the local economy.	Provide resources to help seniors age in place.	Operate as fully functioning Aging and Disability Resource Connection and No Wrong Door System.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
		Complete eligibility assessments for the Elderly and Disabled Waiver Program, which helps elderly and/or individuals with disabilities remain in their homes and communities and prevents seniors from being prematurely institutionalized.	DCH, MGRC	Ongoing
		Administer in-home case management program for non-Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services clients.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
		Function as Local Contact Agency for nursing home residents seeking to transition to the community. Offer Options Counseling to assist residents in locating community resources.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
		Administer the Nursing Home Transition for the Department of Community Health. These funds enable funding to follow a person from a nursing home back to their community.	DCH, DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
		Administer Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME) program.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing

Priority	Strategy	Action	Partners	Implementation Status Update
	Encourage a person-centered approach to service provision.	Administer the Matter of Balance fall prevention program.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
		Administer the Elder Abuse Prevention Program by providing public education and outreach to identify and prevent elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
	Focus on the long-term sustainability of aging services programs.	Administer the National Family Caregiver Support Program.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
Expand the regional network of community-based services with coordination between public, private, and non-profit organizations.	Focus on the long-term sustainability of aging services programs.	Maintain, update, and secure new resources for inclusion in the statewide Empowerline Pro database.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
		Provide programmatic and fiscal training, technical assistance, and monitoring to Area Agency on Aging subcontractors.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
	Encourage a person-centered approach to service provision.	Create and maintain Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan to serve as lead as notified by Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services, or by a localized emergency team in the Middle Georgia counties, to assist seniors and/or persons with disabilities.	DHS, MGRC	Ongoing
Assist local governments with innovation to meet the changing needs of seniors.	Remain cognizant of the quickly growing senior population during planning efforts.	Encourage local governments to incorporate universal design concepts and account for the aging population in local comprehensive plans.	DCA, MGRC	Ongoing
		Provide local governments with information regarding grant funding opportunities for senior housing.	DCA, MGRC	Ongoing
Increase cooperation and support of economic growth and prosperity, regardless of the exact location where growth and development occur.	Promote and encourage ongoing relationship-building between local and regional leaders.	Facilitate the Middle Georgia Regional Leadership Champions program.	MGRC, UGA, Georgia Power	Ongoing – 7 th cohort will launch in 2024
	Promote and encourage cooperation and collaboration between jurisdictions in developing solutions for shared regional issues.	Provide technical assistance and training opportunities for the Middle Georgia Economic Alliance.	MGRC, MGEA	Ongoing
		Provide technical assistance and staff support to the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority.	MGRC, CGJDA	Ongoing
		Promote and provide technical assistance for P4 partnerships between Robins Air Force Base and the surrounding communities.	MGRC, 21 st Century Partnership	Ongoing
		Provide technical assistance and staff support to the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition.	MGRC, I-75CCC	Ongoing
Coordinate planning related to the region's shared natural and cultural resources in support of tourism and	Promote and encourage cooperation and collaboration between jurisdictions in developing solutions for shared regional issues.	Assist local governments in supporting the Ocmulgee National Park and Preserve Initiative.	MGRC, DCA, DNR, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Coordinate with other Regional Commissions and local governments in determining US Bike Routes through Middle Georgia.	MGRC, GDOT	Ongoing
		Assist GDOT in implementing the state's Complete Streets Policy throughout the region.	MGRC, GDOT	Ongoing

Priority	Strategy	Action	Partners	Implementation Status Update
economic development.	Coordinate communication between affected jurisdictions and public entities on decisions likely to impact them.	Provide technical assistance and staff support to the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition and take actions to improve air quality.	EPA, GDOT, EPD, MGCAC, MGRC, Local Governments	Ongoing
		Assist local governments with coordinating TMDL and Watershed Improvement Plans.	MGRC, EPD	Ongoing
Facilitate communication and dialogue among regional leaders to help create a regional approach to solving problems.	Coordinate communication between affected jurisdictions and public entities on decisions likely to impact them.	Conduct Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs (Executive Order 12372) to ensure consistency of proposed projects with regional and local planning documents.	MGRC	Ongoing
		Review and comment on long-range transportation plans for consistency with the Regional Plan.	MGRC	Ongoing
		Review and comment on developments in close proximity to resources identified in the Regional Resource Plan.	MGRC	Ongoing
		Review all Developments of Regional Impact submitted by Regional Commissions that adjoin Middle Georgia.	MGRC	Ongoing
		Review statewide plans and programs for local and regional application.	MGRC	Ongoing
		Review local comprehensive plans and service delivery strategies.	DCA, MGRC	Ongoing