



Enterprise Zones

INCENTIVES

- Local property tax exemption
- Local abatement or reduction in occupation taxes, regulatory fees, building inspection fees, and other fees that would otherwise be imposed on qualifying business

Program Overview

Recognizing the need for revitalization in many areas of Georgia, the General Assembly enacted the Enterprise Zone Employment Act in 1997. Enterprise Zones are a local redevelopment tool intended to improve geographic areas within cities and counties that are suffering from disinvestment, underdevelopment, and economic decline, encouraging private businesses to reinvest and rehabilitate such areas. The Enterprise Zone area must meet at least three of five criteria: Pervasive poverty established using the most current United States Census; an unemployment rate (average for the preceding year) at least 10% higher than state or significant job dislocation; underdevelopment evidenced by lack of building permits, licenses, land disturbance permits, etc. lower than development activity within local body's jurisdiction; general distress and adverse conditions (population decline, health and safety issues etc.); and general blight evidenced by the inclusion of any portion of the nominated area in an urban redevelopment area.