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Commissioner  
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Commissioner  
ROY THOMPSON  
Commissioner



THOMAS M. COUCH  
County Manager  
HARRY STARLING  
Chief Financial Officer  
JEFF S. AKINS  
Chief Legal Counsel

## BULLOCH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 23, 2008

*Mike Gledhill*  
~~Lisa Smith~~  
Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs  
60 Executive Park South, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30329



Re: Service Delivery Strategy Update Certification

Dear Ms. Smith:

Enclosed is the Service Delivery Strategy Update Certification form, which is in reference to the Statesboro-Bulloch County Fire District.

Representatives from Bulloch County, City of Statesboro, Town of Brooklet, Town of Portal, and Town of Register have all signed the agreement.

This fully signed original verifies that our strategy has been revised to reflect our preferred arrangements for providing local services.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (912) 764-6245.

Sincerely,

*Jeff S. Akins*  
Jeff S. Akins  
Staff Attorney

Encl.

cc: Mr. Tom Couch (with Encl.)  
Mr. Andy Welch (with Encl.)





**SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY UPDATE  
CERTIFICATIONS**

Instructions:

This two page form must, at a minimum, be signed by an authorized representative of the following governments: 1) the county; 2) the city serving as the county seat; 3) all cities having a 2000 population of over 9,000 residing within the county; and 4) no less than 50% of all other cities with a 2000 population of between 500 and 9,000 residing within the county. Cities with a 2000 population below 500 and local authorities providing services under the strategy are not required to sign this form, but are encouraged to do so.

**UPDATED SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY FOR Bulloch COUNTY**

We, the undersigned authorized representatives of the jurisdictions listed below, certify that:

1. We have reviewed our existing Service Delivery Strategy and have determined that:  
(Check only one box for question #1)

- A. Our Strategy continues to accurately reflect our preferred arrangements for providing local services throughout our county and no changes in our Strategy are needed at this time; or
- B. Our Strategy has been revised to reflect our preferred arrangements for providing local services.

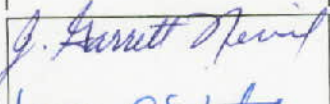

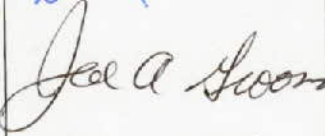


If Option A is selected, only this form, signed by the appropriate local government representatives must be provided to DCA.

If Option B is selected, this form, signed by the appropriate local government representatives, must be submitted to DCA along with:

- an updated "Summary of Service Arrangements" form (page 2) for each local service that has been revised/updated;
  - any supporting local agreements pertaining to each of these services that has been revised/updated; and
  - an updated service area map depicting the agreed upon service area for each provider if there is more than one service provider for each service that has been revised/updated within the county, and if the agreed upon service areas do not coincide with local political boundaries.
2. Each of our governing bodies (County Commission and City Councils) that are a party to this strategy have adopted resolutions agreeing to the Service Delivery arrangements identified in our strategy and have executed agreements for implementation of our service delivery strategy (O.C.G.A. 36-70-21);
3. Our service delivery strategy continues to promote the delivery of local government services in the most efficient, effective, and responsive manner for all residents, individuals and property owners throughout the county (O.C.G.A. 36-70-24(1));
4. Our service delivery strategy continues to provide that water or sewer fees charged to customers located outside the geographic boundaries of a service provider are reasonable and are not arbitrarily higher than the fees charged to customers located within the geographic boundaries of the service provider (O.C.G.A. 36-70-24 (2));
5. Our service delivery strategy continues to ensure that the cost of any services the county government provides (including those jointly funded by the county and one or more municipalities) primarily for the benefit of the unincorporated area of the county are borne by the unincorporated area residents, individuals, and property owners who receive such service (O.C.G.A. 36-70-24 (3));

6. Our Service Delivery Strategy continues to ensure that the officially adopted County and City land use plans of all local governments located in the County are compatible and nonconflicting (O.C.G.A. 36-70-24 (4)(A));
7. Our Service Delivery Strategy continues to ensure that the provision of extraterritorial water and sewer services by any jurisdiction is consistent with all County and City land use plans and ordinances (O.C.G.A. 36-70-24 (4)(B)); and
8. Our Service Delivery Strategy continues to contain an agreed upon process between the county government and each city located in the county to resolve land use classification disputes when the county objects to the proposed land use of an area to be annexed into a city within the county (O.C.G.A. 36-70-24 (4)(C))' and;
9. DCA has been provided a copy of this certification and copies of all forms, maps and supporting agreements needed to accurately depict our agreed upon strategy (O.C.G.A. 36-70-27).

*'If the County does not have an Annexation/Land Use dispute resolution process with each of its cities, list the cities where no agreed upon process exists:*

SIGNATURE:	NAME: (Please print or type)	TITLE:	JURISDICTION:	DATE:
	J. Garrett Nevil	Chairman	Bulloch County	02/07/08
	William S. Hatcher	Mayor	City of Statesboro	02/07/08
	Joe A. Grooms	Mayor	Town of Brooklet	02/07/08
	Larry Motes	Mayor	Town of Portal	02/07/08
	James L. Oates	Mayor	Town of Register	02/07/08



3. List each government or authority that will help to pay for this service and indicate how the service will be funded (e.g., enterprise funds, user fees, general funds, special service district revenues, hotel/motel taxes, franchise taxes, impact fees, bonded indebtedness, etc.).

<i>Local Government or Authority:</i>	<i>Funding Method:</i>
Bulloch County	See attached Exhibit "A"
City of Statesboro	See attached Exhibit "A"

4. How will the strategy change the previous arrangements for providing and/or funding this service within the county?

See attached Exhibit "A"

5. List any formal service delivery agreements or intergovernmental contracts that will be used to implement the strategy for this service:

<i>Agreement Name:</i>	<i>Contracting Parties:</i>	<i>Effective and Ending Dates:</i>
Agreement for Fire Protection Services	Bulloch County and City of Statesboro	February 7, 2008 through June 30, 2009

6. What other mechanisms (if any) will be used to implement the strategy for this service (e.g., ordinances, resolutions, local acts of the General Assembly, rate or fee changes, etc.), and when will they take effect?

7. Person completing form: Jeff S. Akins/Staff Attorney for Bulloch County  
 Phone number: 912-764-0108 Date completed: February 7, 2008

8. Is this the person who should be contacted by state agencies when evaluating whether proposed local government projects are consistent with the service delivery strategy?  Yes  No

If not, provide designated contact person(s) and phone number(s) below:

Thomas M. Couch, County Manager 912-764-6245

## **EXHIBIT A**

Bulloch County has nine organized fire departments located throughout the county. Eight departments are presently fully volunteer and operated by the County, and one (Statesboro) has a combination of full-time professional and part-time fire fighters. The county is divided into nine fire districts with each fire department providing fire protection within but not limited to the respective fire districts. The fire districts are illustrated on the attached map designated as **Map #1**. The Statesboro, Brooklet, Portal, and Register fire departments provide fire protection to each municipality in addition to their respective county fire district. Fire calls for the entire county are received and dispatched through the Bulloch County 911 system. Any future professional services in the eight districts will be funded as addressed below.

The County has established by Resolution a Statesboro Fire Tax District (the "SFT District"), which is shown as the area in blue on the attached map designated as **Map #2**. Full-time, professional fire service is provided to the City of Statesboro by the Statesboro Fire Department, which also provides by formal agreement the same level of fire protection to the SFT District. The County shall reimburse the City of Statesboro for such service to the SFT District as follows:

- County funding for the period July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008, shall be 1.4 mils on all property within the SFT District.
- County funding for the period July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009 shall be 1.8 mils on all property within the SFT District.

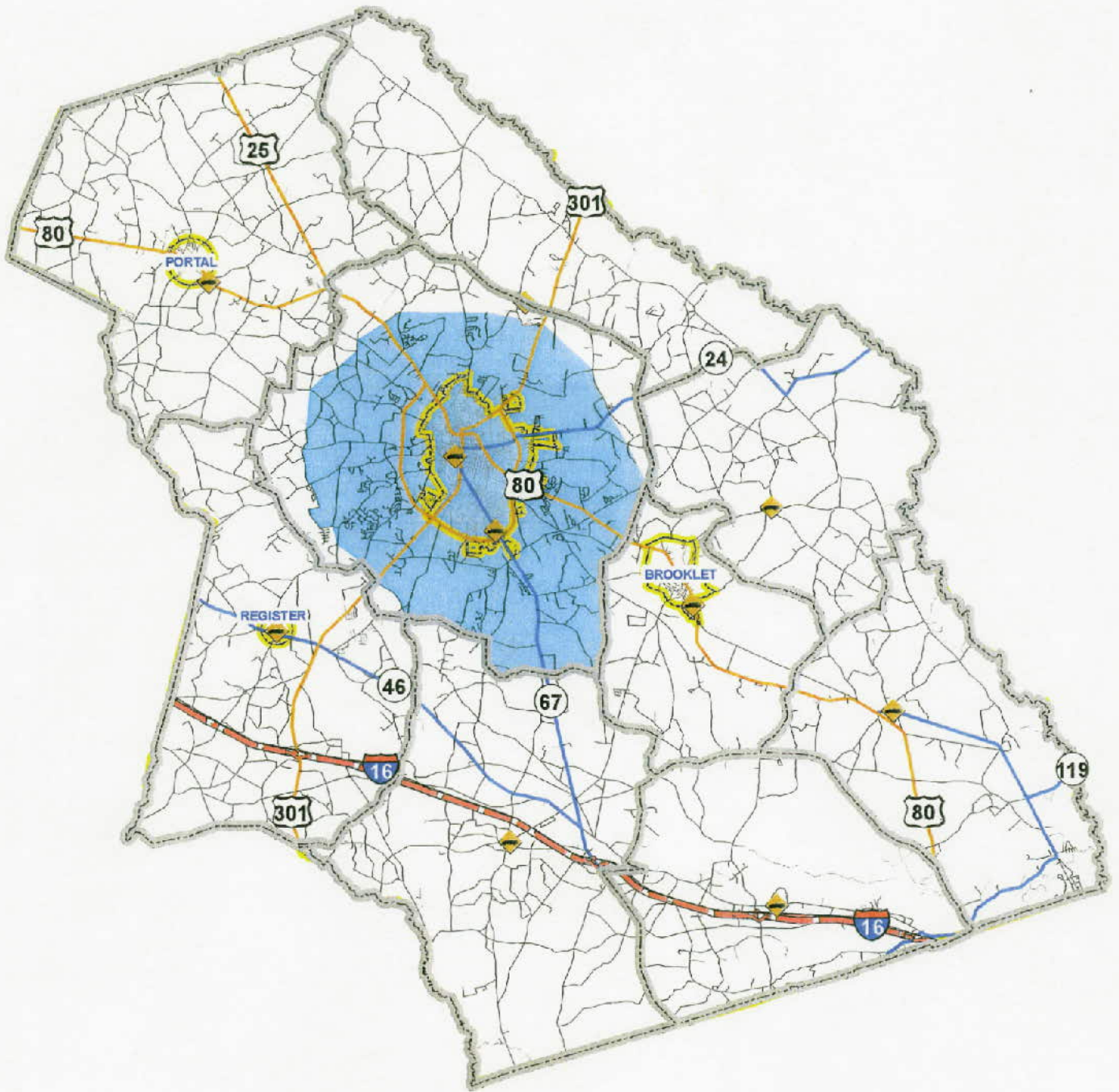
The County shall remit all such tax receipts to the City of Statesboro by the 20th day of each month for which tax receipts are collected prior to the beginning of that particular month.

Fire protection to other areas of the county is provided by the County through eight rural volunteer fire departments, the capital costs for which may be funded through Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. However, the County may choose to employ professional fire fighters to assist in providing the service in these areas. The Rural Fire Departments respond on occasion to major fires within the City of Statesboro, and RFDs provide backup manpower and equipment to the Statesboro fire station when the City department is fully engaged on other calls.

County fire delivery infrastructure will not be built in the SFT District during the term of the Agreement for Fire Protection Services referenced herein, which Agreement has a term commencing on February 7, 2008 and ending on June 30, 2009.

For the period July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008, County fire service outside the City limits of Statesboro and outside the SFT District shall be funded from the general fund. Effective July 1, 2008, fire services outside the City limits of Statesboro and outside the SFT District will be funded by millage levied or fees assessed on that outside area only.

The City of Statesboro and Bulloch County shall negotiate in good faith for the delivery of fire suppression services after June 30, 2009, with a goal of consummating such future agreement by October 31, 2008.






0 4,450 8,900 17,800 Feet  
 1 inch equals 20,226.9 feet



MAP # 1

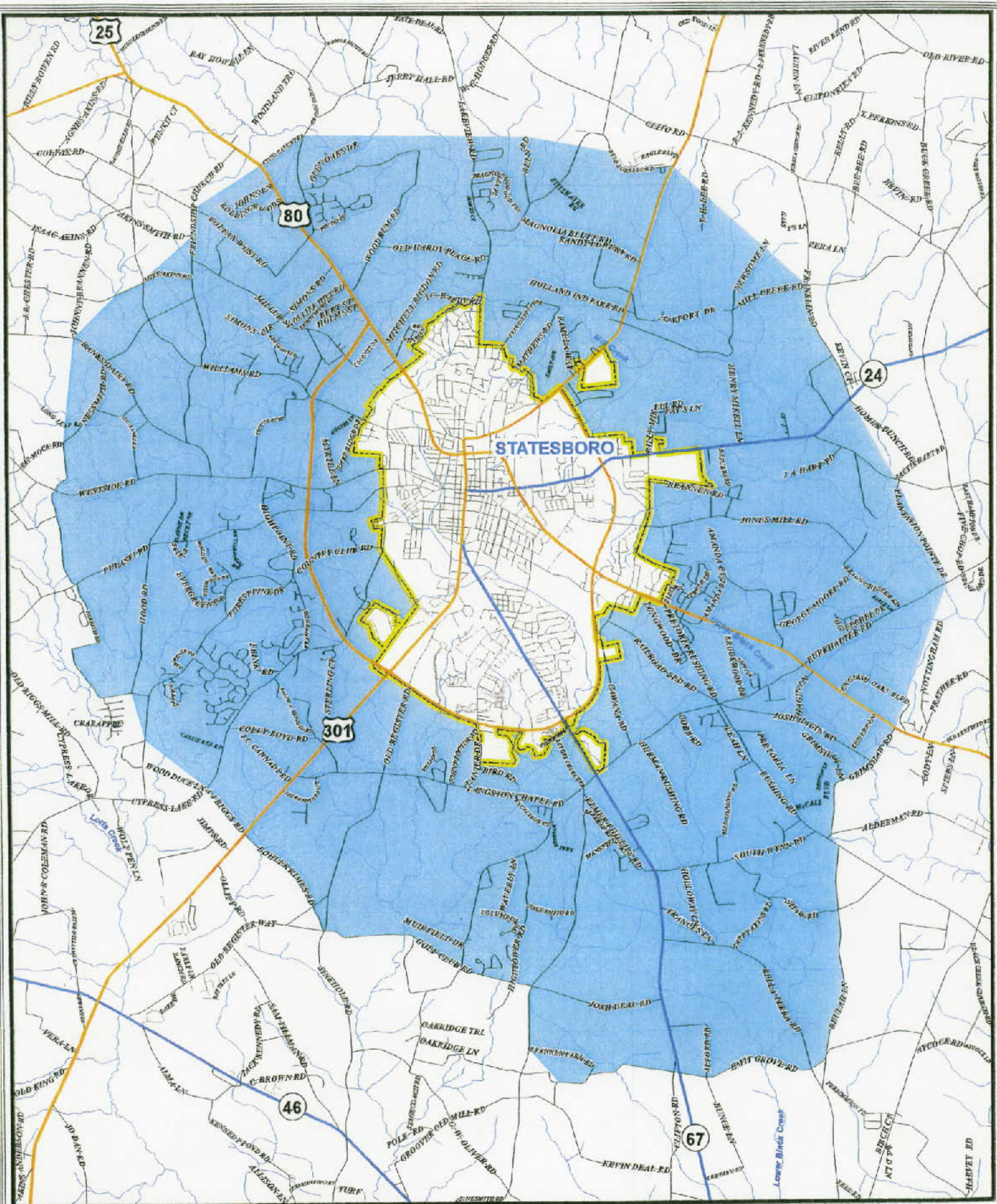
**BULLOCH COUNTY**  
*Fire Districts*

-  County Fire Zones
-  County/City Limits
-  Fire Tax District



2010 Census  
 U.S. Department of Commerce  
 Bureau of Economic Analysis





**STATESBORO**



0 1,420 2,840 5,680 Feet  
1 inch equals 9,250 feet



**MAP # 2**

**BULLOCH COUNTY  
Fire Tax District**

- Statesboro City Limits
- Fire Tax District



Bulloch County Board of Commissioners  
100 North Main Street  
Statesboro, Georgia 30428  
912.768.2200