



City of Cornelia, Georgia

Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update 2013

May 7, 2013

Submitted to:

Georgia Mountains Regional Commission and the
Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Introduction

The City of Cornelia, Georgia has completed this Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 110-12-1, Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning, effective January 1, 2013. The Update includes a Report of Accomplishments for the Short Term Work Program 2008 – 2013, and an updated Community Work Program for the period of 2013 – 2018.

The City held two public hearings to accept public input on the Update. These hearings were held on January 24, 2013 and in association with the regularly scheduled City of Cornelia Council meeting on May 7, 2013. Documentation regarding public outreach is included in the Appendix.

Report of Accomplishments

The Report of Accomplishments is an assessment of the City's existing Community Work Program (CWP). This requirement gives the City the opportunity to evaluate how many of the tasks previously defined have been implemented and eliminate activities that are no longer desirable or feasible for the City to pursue. At a minimum, the Report of Accomplishments must identify the current status of each activity in the previous Community Work Program. At a minimum, local governments must indicate activities that:

- Have been completed;
- Are currently underway (including a projected completion date);
- Have been postponed (explaining why and when it will be resumed); or
- Have not been accomplished and are no longer activities the local government intends to undertake (explaining why).

ACTIVITY	STATUS	COMMENT
General Administration		
Main Streetscape (Hodges to Chattahoochee)	Postponed	This project has been postponed due to funding concerns.
Main Streetscape (Front to Wyly)	Postponed	This project has been postponed due to funding concerns.
Property Acquisition for new Municipal Building	Postponed	This project has been postponed due to funding concerns, and will be replaced with a New City Hall project.
New Municipal Building	Postponed	This project has been postponed due to funding concerns, and will be replaced with a New City Hall project.
Telephonic upgrade	Completed	
Computer software upgrade	Completed	
New signs at the entrances to the City	Completed	
Hodges Streetscape	Completed	
South Main Street sidewalk project	Postponed	This project will be completed with SPLOST 6 funding.
Level Grove/Wayside Street sidewalk project	Postponed	This project has been renamed Cornelia Bike/ Ped Pathway. Phase I construction will go out for bid in 2013.
Public Works		
New garage to house vehicles	Postponed	This project has been postponed due to funding concerns.
Composting facility	Not Accomplished	This project has been indefinitely postponed until grant funding becomes available.
Street resurfacing priority plan	Completed	

ACTIVITY	STATUS	COMMENT
New multi-purpose tractor	Postponed	This project has been postponed until grant funding becomes available.
<i>Sanitation</i>		
New compactor truck	Completed	
New scooter truck	Not Accomplished	Changes in sanitation operations eliminated the need for this vehicle.
Implement composing of leaves and wood chips	Postponed	This project has been postponed until grant funding becomes available, and will be replaced with the purchase of a new chipper machine.
<i>Planning Department/Better Hometown</i>		
New downtown parking lot	Postponed	This project has been postponed due to unavailability of property. Once appropriate property is identified this project will be implemented.
Façade Grants for Downtown	Currently underway	This is an annual grant program.
Complete Revitalization Plan	Completed	
Develop Infill Development Plan	Postponed	This project has been postponed due to funding concerns.
Revitalization Phase I	Completed	Renamed Urban Redevelopment Phase I
Revitalization Phase II	Underway	Renamed Urban Redevelopment Phase II
Revitalization Phase III	Underway	Renamed Urban Redevelopment Phase III
<i>Recreation</i>		
Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan	Completed	
New restroom at City Park	Completed	
Gateway Park Project	Postponed	This project has been postponed due to funding concerns.
City Park trail project	Completed	
Trail project from Depot to Veterans Memorial Dr.	Currently underway	This project is being completed in conjunction with new construction and road improvements. The Wal-Mart segment has been completed. The remainder of the segment to Veterans Memorial Dr. is planned in association with future road improvements by DOT.
New park at Hodges & Level Grove	Not Accomplished	This project has been replaced with the Mud Creek Greenway project.
Recreation Center	Not Accomplished	This project has been eliminated from the City's priorities due to cost.
Skate park	Postponed	This project will be implemented during the upcoming CWP. It was postponed due to citizen concerns.

ACTIVITY	STATUS	COMMENT
Public Safety		
Replace 6 patrol cars	Completed	
Replace 6 patrol cars	Completed	
New snorkel truck	Not Accomplished	This task will be replaced with the purchase of an aerial fire truck in the upcoming CWP.
New Extrication tools	Completed	
Second Fire Station on North End of Town	Completed	Purchased 2011
Water		
Plant upgrade and expansion	Postponed	This task will be implemented during the upcoming CWP.
Reservoir dredging	Underway	This task has been included in the development of the new Reservoir, currently in the design phase.
Water tank rehabilitation	Completed	
New elevated storage tank on North end of City	Postponed	This task has been postponed until funding becomes available.
Meter replacement	Completed	
Old Cleveland/Hoyt water line replacement	Completed	
Reservoir overflow improvements	Underway	This task has is included in the development of the new Reservoir, currently in the design phase.
Booster station at Fieldale	Postponed	This task has been postponed until funding becomes available.
Sewer		
Yates Street water & sewer project	Completed	
Install sewer lines/lift station to serve the Camp Creek	Completed	
Stormwater infiltration project	Completed	
Plant expansion	Postponed	This project is postponed until funding is available.
South J. Warren lift station upgrade	Completed	
North J. Warren lift station upgrade	Postponed	This project will be implemented during the upcoming CWP. It will be renamed Pump Station Replacement/Upgrades.
Alpine lift station update	Postponed	This project will be implemented during the upcoming CWP.

Community Work Program (CWP)

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) requires a CWP be developed and implemented by the City as detailed in Chapter 110-12-1, Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning, effective January 1, 2013. This element of the comprehensive plan lays out the specific activities the community plans to undertake during the next five years to address the priority Needs and Opportunities and to achieve portions of the Community Goals. This includes any activities, initiatives, programs, ordinances, administrative systems (such as site plan review, design review, etc.) to be put in place to implement the plan. The DCA requires the CWP to be submitted every five years (minimum), to provide an implementation guide to the City. The Community Work Program must include the following information for each listed activity:

- Brief description of the activity;
- Legal authorization for the activity, if applicable;
- Timeframe for initiating and completing the activity;
- Responsible party for implementing the activity;
- Estimated cost (if any) of implementing the activity; and
- Funding source(s), if applicable.

ACTIVITY	SCHEDULE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	COST ESTIMATE	FUNDING SOURCE
General Administration				
North Main Streetscape	2015 - 2018	Cornelia	\$1.0 Million	DOT, CDBG, SPLOST
South Main Streetscape	2015 - 2018	Cornelia	\$500,000	DOT, CDBG, SPLOST
New City Hall Purchase and Renovations	2017	Cornelia	\$500,000	SPLOST, General Revenue
Cultural Arts Center	2014 - 2015	Cornelia	\$3.0 Million	Grant Funding/Loan Assistance Programs
Safe Routes to School Travel Plan Implementation	2013 - 2015	Cornelia	\$400,000	SRTS infrastructure Grant
Hodges/Irvin and Level Grove Road Streetscapes	2013 - 2015	Cornelia	\$1.5 Million	TE Grant, General Revenue
Main Street, Clarkesville and Wayside Streetscapes	2015 - 2018	Cornelia	TBD	TE Grant, SPLOST, DOT, CDBG, TIGER
Public Works				
New Garage/Mechanics Shop	2017	CoPUD	\$50,000	General Revenue
Community House Floor	2014	CoPUD	\$40,000	General Revenue
Community House Roof	2013	CoPUD	\$40,000	General Revenue
Depot Back Room Renovation	2016	CoPUD	\$20,000	General Revenue
New multi-purpose tractor	2015	CoPUD	\$100,000	General Revenue

ACTIVITY	SCHEDULE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	COST ESTIMATE	FUNDING SOURCE
<i>Sanitation</i>				
New Chipper Machine purchase	2014	CoPUD	\$25,000	GEFA Grant, General Revenue
<i>Planning Department/Better Hometown</i>				
New downtown parking lot	2016	CoDDA	\$200,000	USDA ED Grant
Façade Grants for Downtown	2013 - 2018	CoDDA	\$100,000	DDA Funds
Develop Infill Development Plan	2014	CoBZD	\$1,000	General Revenue
Urban Redevelopment Phase II	2015	CoBZD	\$200,000	CHIP, CDBG
Urban Redevelopment Phase III	2017	CoBZD	\$100,000	CHIP, CDBG
<i>Recreation</i>				
Community House Parking Lot	2015	CoPUD	\$50,000	General Revenue
Implement Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan	2013 - 2018	CoPUD	Staff Time	General Revenue
Cornelia to Mount Airy Rail Trails	2015 - 2018	CoPUD	TBD	Grants, SPLOST, DOT, General Revenue
Chenocetah to Lake Russell Trail	2015 -2018	CoPUD	TBD	Grants, SPLOST, DOT, General Revenue
Mud Creek Greenway	2013 - 2015	CoPUD	\$272,000	319 Grant Funding, General Revenue
Tallulah Falls Rail Trail	2017	CoPUD	\$2 million	Grants, SPLOST, DOT, General Revenue
Northern Gateway Park	2018	CoPUD	\$350,000	DOT, Grants, General Revenue
Skate park	2018	CoPUD	\$350,000	General Revenue, Grants
<i>Public Safety</i>				
Purchase Snorkel/Aerial Fire Truck	2013	CoFD	\$500,000	SPLOST, General Revenue
<i>Water</i>				
Plant upgrade and expansion	2013 - 2018	CoPUD	\$13.2 Million	SPLOST, Water Revenue
Development of a new Reservoir	2013	CoPUD	\$3.8 Million	SPLOST, Water Revenue, GEFA
New elevated storage tank on North end of City	2017	CoPUD	\$2.0 Million	SPLOST, Water Revenue, GEFA
Reservoir Dredging	2014	CoPUD	\$2.0 Million	SPLOST, Water Revenue, GEFA
Dam Maintenance	2014	CoPUD	\$1.0 Million	SPLOST, Water Revenue, GEFA

ACTIVITY	SCHEDULE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	COST ESTIMATE	FUNDING SOURCE
Old Cleveland/Hoyt water line replacement	2013 - 2018	CoPUD	\$400,000	Water Revenue
Reservoir overflow improvements	2013 - 2018	CoPUD	\$150,000	Water Revenue
Chenocetah Booster Pump Station	2014	CoPUD	\$30,000	Water Revenue
Ellis Street Booster Station - Urban Redevelopment Phase III/CDBG	2014	CoPUD	\$820,000	Water Revenue
<i>Sewer</i>				
Plant expansion/improvements	2013 - 2015	CoPUD	\$7.8 Million	Sewer Revenue
Pump Station Replacement/Maintenance	2013	CoPUD	\$80,000	Sewer Revenue
Gravity Line from Habersham Hills to Wally World Drive	2016	CoPUD	\$60,000	Sewer Revenue
Level Grove lift station upgrade	2015	CoPUD	\$50,000	Sewer Revenue
Tower Mountain sewer upgrade	2015 - 2017	CoPUD	\$100,000	Sewer Revenue
Alpine lift station update	2014	CoPUD	\$200,000	Sewer Revenue
<i>Stormwater</i>				
Wayside	2013	CoPUD	\$10,000	General Revenue
Berry & Summit	2015	CoPUD	\$10,000	General Revenue
Hodges Street Culvert	2013	CoPUD	\$80,000	General Revenue
Galloway between Hodges & Ivie	2015	CoPUD	\$25,000	General Revenue
Clarkesville St & Stovall Alley	2014	CoPUD	\$35,000	General Revenue
<i>Streets</i>				
Cleveland Road Sidewalk/Resurfacing	2017	CoPUD	\$400,000	LMIG, General Fund
Clarkesville Street Milling & Resurfacing	2016	CoPUD	\$100,000	LMIG, General Fund
Apple Tree Alley Resurfacing	2015	CoPUD	\$20,000	LMIG, General Fund

Appendix

1. Transmittal Resolution
2. Meeting Presentation

Transmittal Resolution: Community Work Program Update
City of Cornelia

RESOLUTION TO TRANSMIT

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Cornelia have adopted a Comprehensive Plan that includes a Short Term Work Program as part of the Implementation Plan.

WHEREAS, the Short Term Work Program, now referred to as the Community Work Program, must be updated every five years in accordance with the Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning effective January 1, 2013, and established by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989;

WHEREAS, a Report of Accomplishments and an updated Community Work Program were prepared in accordance with these requirements, and the required public hearings were held on January 24, 2013 and May 7, 2013.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the City of Cornelia does hereby transmit the Community Work Program Update for the Comprehensive Plan to the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for official review.

BY: _____

James C. Irby, Jr.
James C. Irby, Jr., Mayor

Date: _____

5-8-13

ATTEST: _____

Janie D. Henderson
Janie Henderson, City Clerk

Date: _____

5-8-13



CITY OF CORNELIA



COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM AND MASTERPLAN UPDATE

Presented by:
Courtney Reich, AICP
Ecological Planning Group, LLC

January 24, 2013



Overview



- New requirements for Local Comprehensive Planning (adopted November 2012) effective January 1, 2013.
- Local governments must prepare, adopt, and implement a comprehensive plan based on these new standards in order to maintain Qualified Local Government Status
- Cornelia also wished to update its Masterplan (2001) in conjunction with this effort.
- Consistency with the City's Capital Improvement Plan must be maintained.



Overview of New Requirements



Required

- Community Goals
- Needs and Opportunities
- Community Work Program
- Community Involvement

Optional

- Capital Improvement Element
- Economic Development Element
- Land Use Element
- Transportation Element
- Housing Element

Maintaining the Plan



- **Annual Update Option**

- Updated and submitted to Regional Commission (RC) annually
- Regional Commission maintains file of updates and notifies DCA prior to due date

- **Five Year Update Option**

- Updated work program for the subsequent 5-year period
- Report of accomplishments



Maintaining the Plan



5 Year Update Option

Community Work Program

- Brief description of the activity
- Timeframe for undertaking the activity
- Responsible party for implementing the activity
- Estimated cost (if any) of implementing the activity
- Funding sources

Maintaining the Plan



5 Year Update Option

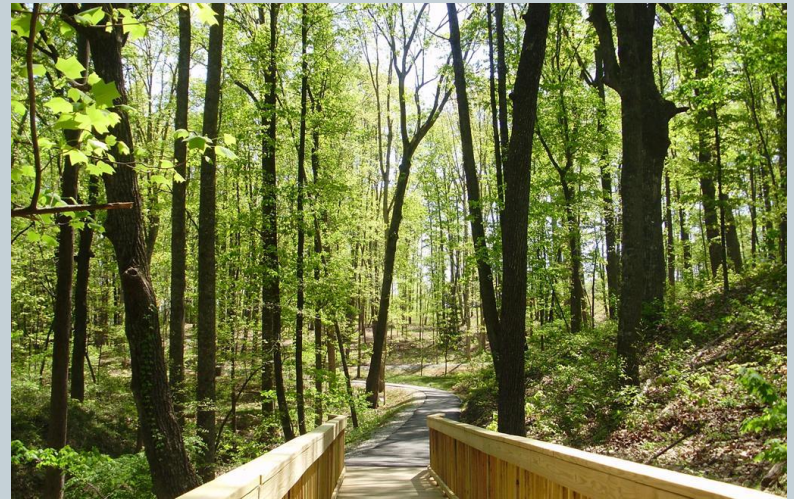
Report of Accomplishment

- Whether or not the activity was completed
- Are currently underway (projected completion date)
- Activity was postponed (justification and projected date)
- Have not been accomplished and the county no longer intends to undertake (justification)

Existing Work Program (2009 - 2013)

Completed:

- New Gateway Signage
- Street Resurfacing Priority Plan
- Redevelopment Plan (CDBG) Phase I
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
- City Park Trail Project



Existing Work Program (2009 - 2013)

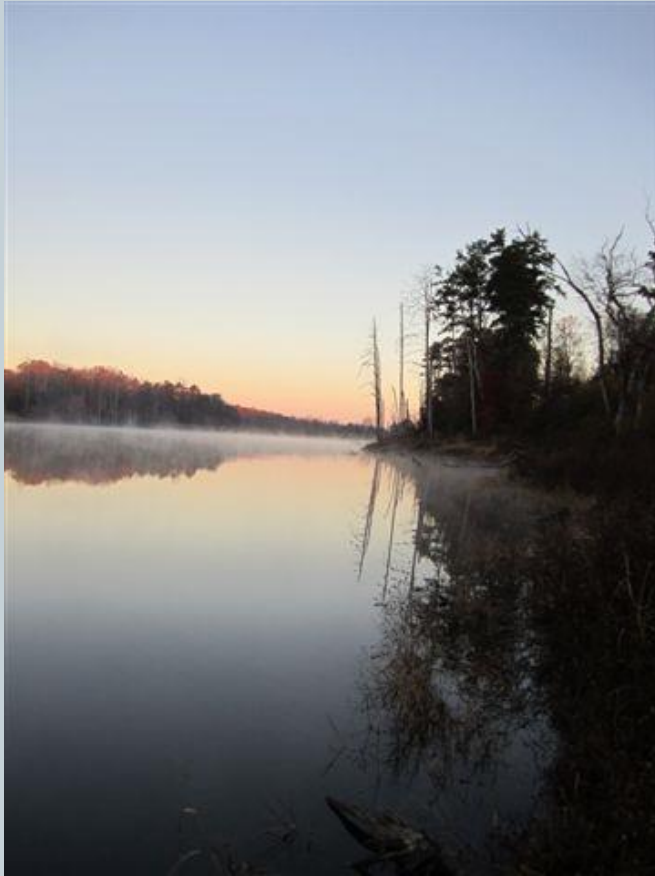


Completed:

- Water Tank Rehabilitation
- Meter Replacement
- Second Fire Station purchase
- New Public Safety vehicles and equipment
- Sewer improvements for Yates St./Camp Creek area

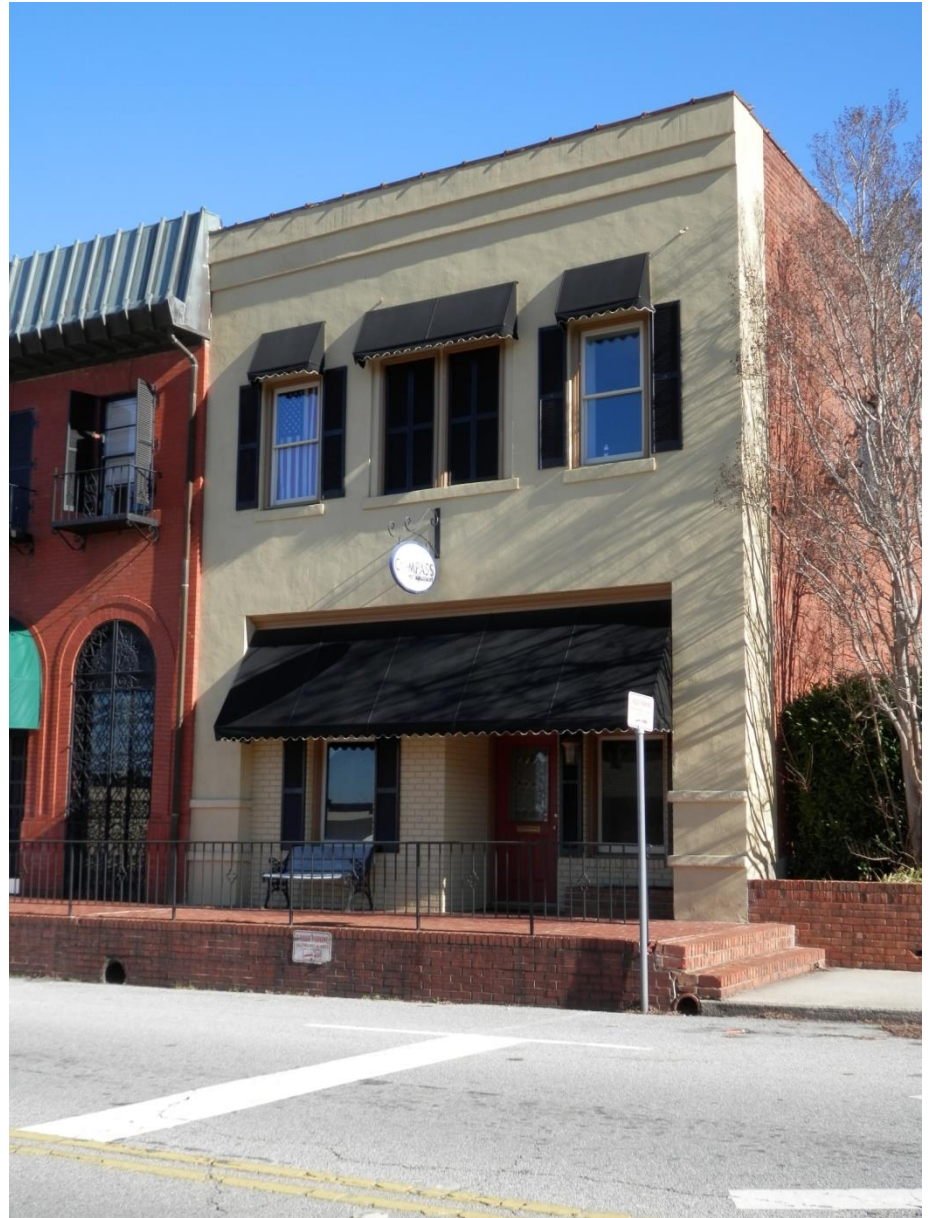


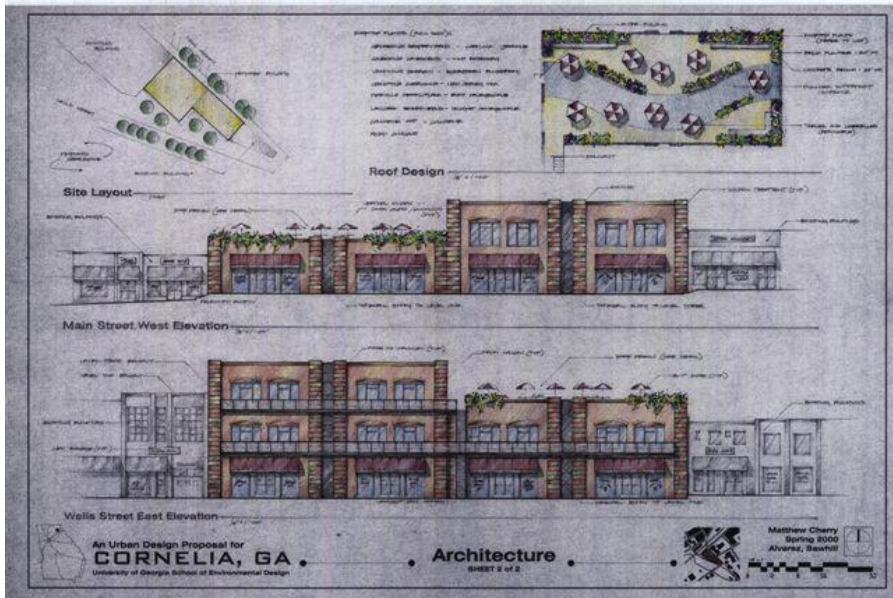
Existing Work Program (2009 - 2013)



Underway:

- Bikeway/Pedestrian Project on Level Ground Road
- Cleveland Rd. Sidewalk - Safe Routes To School
- Redevelopment Plan (CDBG) Phase II - III
- Rails to Trails – Bus 441 to 365. Walmart Phase complete.
- New reservoir
- Façade grants
- Infill development





Future Work Program (2013 - 2018)

Postponed/Future:

- Mainstreet South Streetscape
- Sewage Treatment Plan expansion
- Redevelopment Plan (CDBG) Phase IV-V
- Clarkesville St. Rehabilitation
- Chipper/mulching program
- Design standards for Gateway areas
- Downtown parking
- Aerial Fire Truck
- Hodges/Level Ground Rd Stream Bank Restoration



Main Street/Clarkesville Street Streetscape
concept sketch - view to south at Chattanooga Street



Downtown Cornelia
streetscape concept plan

Schedule / Milestones



- First Public Meeting – January 24, 2013
- Community Work Program Update – Accepting Public Comments
- Second Public Meeting – TBD
- Update City’s Masterplan (2001)
- Submittal of Work Program to Regional Commission / DCA for review – Prior to August 31, 2013
- Report of findings (within 40 days of submittal)
- Revisions (if needed)
- Adoption (at least 60 days after submittal) of Work Program and Masterplan – Prior to October 31, 2013

Comments? Suggestions?



PLEASE SUBMIT ANY WRITTEN COMMENTS TO:

CITY OF CORNELIA
ATTN: MONA PAINTER
181 LARKIN STREET
PO BOX 785
CORNELIA, GA 30531
RE: COMP PLAN COMMENTS

MPAINTER@CORNELIAGEORGIA.ORG

Adoption Resolution: Community Work Program 2013 - 2018

City of Cornelia
RESOLUTION NO. 10-13-01

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of Cornelia have completed a Community Work Program for the period 2013 – 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Community Work Program 2013 – 2018 was prepared in accordance with the Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning effective January 1, 2013, and established by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989; and

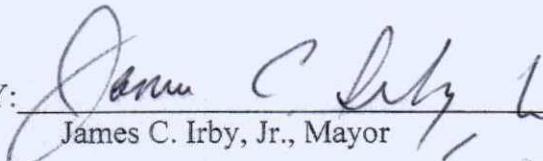
WHEREAS, and the required public hearings were held on January 24, 2013 and May 7, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Community Work Program 2013 – 2018 was transmitted to the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission for Regional Review; and

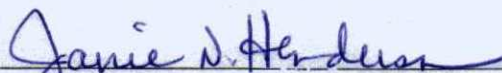
WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs has found that the Community Work Program 2013 – 2018 adequately addresses the Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the City of Cornelia does hereby adopt the Community Work Program 2013 -2018 on this 29th day of October, 2013, and pledges to faithfully implement this program in accordance with the Vision of the Comprehensive Plan.

BY:


James C. Irby, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Janie Henderson, City Clerk

(SEAL)

