

River Valley Regional Commission Regional Plan
Work Program Element
Annual Report FY 2020

November 2020

Resolution of Adoption
Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report
Regional Work Program 2018-2022

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 and the Standards and Procedures for Regional Planning promulgated pursuant thereto by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, said Standards and Procedures revised most recently effective October 1, 2017, the River Valley Regional Commission prepared and, on the twenty-sixth day of September, 2018, adopted the River Valley Regional Plan, and

WHEREAS, further in accordance with said Act the River Valley Regional Commission prepared the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report to the Work Program 2018-2022 element of the Regional Plan, submitting same to the Department of Community Affairs for compliance review, and

WHEREAS, in correspondence dated October 26, 2020, the Department of Community Affairs notified the River Valley Regional Commission that staff review resulted in the determination that the Annual Report 2020 as submitted meets all requirements of the Regional Planning Standards and Procedures and can now be adopted.

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, and it is hereby resolved by the River Valley Regional Commission that the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report to the River Valley Regional Work Program 2018-2022 be adopted.

Resolved on this 18th day of November, 2020.



Randy Howard, Chair
River Valley Regional Commission



Jim Livingston, Executive Director
River Valley Regional Commission

Attest: 

River Valley Regional Commission Regional Plan
Work Program Element
Annual Report FY 2020
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Land Use									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomp- lishments
Priority: Update Ordinances, Land Use Regulations, and Guidelines.									
Develop tools to assist local governments manage development	Update 2 zoning ordinances to comply with current laws and to allow for more compact and mixed-use development.	RVRC Local Govts DCA	\$40,000	\$40,000					Completed for the period
	Provide zoning administration technical assistance and training to 6 local governments.	RVRC DCA CVIOG	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000		Completed for the period
Priority: Protection of Historic Neighborhoods and Buildings.									
Provide technical assistance to local governments in their preservation activities	Provide monthly technical assistance and staff review for Certificate of Appropriateness to the Columbus Board of Historic and Architectural Review.	RVRC Local Govts DNR DCA	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	Completed for the period
	Provide information and present 2 programs educating the general public of the benefits of historic preservation.	RVRC DNR DCA		\$10,000					Completed
	Assist 1 community to pursue Certified Local Government designation	RVRC Local Govts DNR			\$20,000				Postponed no local interest
	Provide staff review of CDBG funded housing rehab and demolition for the City of Columbus annually.	RVRC Local Govts		\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000		Postponed to FY '21 updating agreement
Support Main Street and Downtown Improvements	Administer 3 streetscape/ TE funded programs	RVRC GDOT GTIB Local Govts	\$50,000	\$50,000					Completed for the period

Natural and Cultural Resources									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomplishments
Priority: Preservation of Prime Agricultural/Forestry Lands.									
Educate local elected officials, industries, developers, youth, and the public on the importance of natural resource protection	Write local government comprehensive plans.	RVRC Local Govts DCA DNR EPD	\$175,000 14 plans	\$150,000 10 plans	\$75,000 7 plans	\$75,000 7 plans	\$160,000 12 plans		Completed for the period
Promote production and sales of locally grown foods.	Identify suitable locations and funding sources for value added processing industries, farmer's markets and neighborhood groceries.	RVRC GDAG GDEcD Local Govts USDA GA Organics Food Oasis			\$50,000	\$50,000			Completed
Priority: Grow the Agricultural Resources in the Region.									
Promote the production and sale of locally grown foods.	Identify a local partner to complete a feasibility study for a joint-use commercial kitchen	RVRC GDAG USDA				\$50,000	\$50,000		Completed
Priority: Protection of Groundwater Recharge Area/Aquifer.									
Increase education and outreach programs directed toward improving water quality.	Coordinate 8 training opportunities for the Georgia Adopt-a-Stream program and educational seminars regarding water quality issues.	RVRC Mid-Chatt Water Council EPD GDAG 2 Rivers RC&D		\$50,000	\$30,000				Completed

Natural and Cultural Resources cont.									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomplishments
Priority: Maintain environmental integrity in the region									
Create a balance between protection of natural resources and development.	Apply for a regional brownfield redevelopment grant for 4 local governments.	RVRC GA Brownfield Assn EPA		\$20,000					Completed earlier
	Implement Watershed Management Plans for Pataula Creek, Kinchafoonee Creek, and Mountain Oak Creek.	RVRC EPD GADAg 2 Rivers RC&D GC&SU GA Forestry Com UGA Extension Local Govts Health Dept	\$220,424	\$220,424					Completed Pataula and Kinchafoonee Underway Complete Mountain Oak Cr. early FY '21
	Write Watershed Management Plan for Long Cane Creek.	RVRC EPD Middle Chatahoche Water Council 2 Rivers RC&D Local Govts	\$26,985	\$26,985					Underway Complete Early FY '21

Housing and Neighborhood Development									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomplishments
Priority: Provide safe, standard, and affordable housing options for all residents of the region.									
Develop a regional building inspection/code enforcement program.	Apply for grant funding to hire a regional building inspector and code enforcement officer.	RVRC Local Govts DCA		\$5,000					Completed application was not funded
Support local housing efforts through planning and technical assistance	Assist 2 local governments to identify GICH team community partners.	RVRC DCA	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000				Postponed insufficient interest
	Meet with 2 local governments to identify locally driven housing solutions.	RVRC DCA	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000				Completed for the period
	Write grant applications for 2 local governments to implement locally driven housing solutions.	RVRC DCA USDA GICH Local Govts Local Housing Auth	\$5,000 per app	\$5,000 per app	\$5,000 per app				Completed application for the one government interested

Community Facilities and Services									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomp- lishments
Priority: Improve Broadband/Internet Capacity.									
Identify and address telecommunications deficiencies in the region.	Write Broadband Ready ordinances for local governments.	RVRC DCA Local Govts		\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000			Postponed pending funding incentives
Priority: Improve Old or Inadequate Infrastructure Systems.									
Assist local governments to identify and address deficiencies of infrastructure systems.	Write grant applications for 10 local governments based on grant eligibility and identified community needs.	RVRC Local Govts DCA GEFA		\$5,000 per app	\$5,000 per app	\$5,000 per app	\$5,000 per app		Completed for the period
Priority: Provide a Diverse Offering of Recreation Options for All Ages.									
Develop and expand trail networks to connect the region's green and blue infrastructure.	Coordinate quarterly meetings between Bicycle Columbus, DNR and volunteers regarding the development of mountain bike trails and hiking trails at Standing Boy State Park.	RVRC CVA SORBA IMBA Local Govts	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000				Completed for the period
	Procure construction cost estimates and potential designs for trails at Standing Boy State Park.	RVRC CVA SORBA IMBA Local Govts		\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000			Completed for the period
	Facilitate a public forum for Bicycle Columbus, DNR, and adjoining property owners of Standing Boy State Park.	RVRC CVA SORBA IMBA Local Govts		\$3,000					Completed for the period

Community Facilities and Services cont.									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomp- lishments
Expand the Safe Routes to School program to encourage the development of safe walking environments for children.	Coordinate 2 Bike Rodeo events annually.	RVRC Local Govts Local BOE GDOT	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000		Completed for the period
	Complete walkability audits for 2 schools annually.	RVRC Local BOE GDOT	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000		Completed for the period
	Plan a Bike to School Day event for 1 school annually.	RVRC Local BOE GDOT	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000		Completed for the period
Market the region as a premier outdoor recreation destination.	Update ActiveValley.org website monthly to show new events and partnerships.	RVRC	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		Completed for the period
	Coordinate 2 local Bike-to-Work week events and 3 regional Bike rides	RVRC Local Govts DCA GDOT USDA	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000		Completed for the period

Transportation									
Priority: Road Maintenance and Expansion.									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomplishments
Assist local governments to identify key transportation needs and issues.	Provide 2 Complete Streets training.	RVRC GA Bikes GDOT Local Govts		\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000		Completed for the period
	Provide technical assistance to 2 communities that have adopted Complete Streets policies to implement the program.	RVRC GA Bikes GDOT Local Advocacy grps Local Govts		\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000		Completed for the period
	Write a bicycle and pedestrian plan for the City of Reynolds.	RVRC GA Bikes GDOT Local Govt		\$20,000					Completed
	Verify road data from local sources and provide to GDOT including: roadway ownership, operation, number of lanes, surface type, median type, road names, traffic lights, and stop/yield signs.	RVRC GDOT ITOS		\$60,000	\$60,000	\$50,000	\$50,000		Completed for the period
Priority: Increase Awareness of Rural Transit Options.									
Improve the region's mobility by offering alternative means of transportation.	Host 4 Regional Transit Coordinating Council meetings annually.	RVRCAAA DHS	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000		Completed
	Develop 1 county transit plan per year.	RVRC GDOT		\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000		Underway COVID19 delay to FY21

Transportation cont.									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomp- lishments
Priority: Support Continuation of Regional TSPLOST.									
Work with local elected officials on the development of a successful second TSPLOST initiative.	Work with 51 local communities to market the successes of the current TIA program through printed materials, media articles, and presentations.	RVRC GDOT Local Govts		\$10,000					Postponed to FY '21
	Coordinate meetings with local elected officials to discuss the potential project lists.	RVRC GDOT Local Govts			\$50,000	\$50,000			Postponed to FY '21
	Prepare the amendment to be presented on the 2022 ballot.	RVRC GDOT Local Govts					\$1,000		Postponed to FY '21

Economic Development									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomp- lishments
Priority: Diversify and Strengthen the Region's Economy									
Support the Recruitment, Retention and Expansion of Businesses in the region.	Facilitate at least 1 local loan annually from the revolving loan fund	RVRC Dev Auth	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		Postponed could not secure eligible applicant
Foster Community Leadership	Coordinate 4 lunch and learn opportunities to teach downtown development best practices	RVRC DCA		\$2,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		No Activity This Period
Priority: Provide quality, genuine places and experiences for visitors									
Market special events and the unique aspects of the region.	Provide 1 training opportunity for local Camera Ready contacts annually	RVRC Local Dev Auth Tourism Assn Local Tourism Bd		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000		Postponed indefinitely
Improve infrastructure needed for industrial development.	Get 3 industrial parks listed as GRAD certified sites	RVRC Local Dev Auth			\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		Postponed indefinitely

Workforce Development									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomplishments
Priority: Train the Regional Workforce.									
Provide On the Job Training (OJT) and Incumbent Worker Training (IWT).	Provide OJT services for 40 individuals each year.	RVRC WIOA Bd Local Colleges & Universities	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000		Completed
	Provide IWT services for 2 individuals each year.	RVRC WIOA Bd Local Colleges & Universities	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		Completed
Provide work based learning services (WEX) for individuals with limited work history to enhance existing skills.	Provide hands-on work experience with local area participating businesses/ employers for 30 individuals.	RVRC WIOA Bd Providers	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000		Completed
Individual Training Accounts	Provide ITA's for 60 individuals each year.	RVRC WIOA Bd Local Colleges & Universities	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000		Completed

Education									
Priority: Educate the Region's Workforce.									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomplishments
Provide GED prep and soft skills development services for the region's youth.	Provide basic literacy skills, financial literacy education, and follow-up services to 100 individuals 17-24 yrs. age.	RVRC Fam Conn Local BOE WIOA Bd	\$100K	\$100K	\$100K	\$100K	\$100K		Completed for the period

Health and Human Services									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomplishments
Priority: Create a Statewide Focus on Reaching Underserved Persons									
Develop and implement training for community partners to aid in outreach and service provision to underserved populations.	Host 1 training annually.	Family Connections Hispanic Outreach Coalition Churches	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000		Completed
Priority: Expand Efforts to Support Individuals to Remain in Their Desired Residence as Long as Possible									
Increase home modification/home repair services access statewide.	Provide home modification/home repair services to 5 consumers annually.	RVRCAAA Habitat for Humanity	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000		Postponed to FY '21
Priority: Increase Professional Capacity of Georgia's Aging Network to Better Meet the Needs of Family Caregivers and At-Risk Adults									
Facilitate trainings for Health and Wellness coordinators and caregiver specialists.	Give presentations at 10 churches and/or civic organizations to identify individuals willing to become Master Trainers in the "Powerful Tools for Caregivers" program.	RVRCAAA DAS Rosalynn Carter Institute (RCI) Alzheimer's Assoc. Care-Net	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000		Deleted for the period, lack of staff

Regional Cooperation									
Priority: Create a Balanced Sustainable Region.									
Strategy	Action	Partners	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long Term 6-10 YRS	Accomplishments
Work with local governments, community organizations, and businesses to improve efficiency in delivery of services.	Host 1 regional meeting of city and county clerks and managers annually.	RVRC Local Govts	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500		Completed
	Utilize the SDS update to ensure the efficient delivery of services.	RVRC Local Govts	\$42,000 (14 plans)	\$30,000 (10 plans)	\$21,000 (7 plans)	\$21,000 (7 plans)	\$36,000 (12 plans)		Completed
	Facilitate Plan Assessment meetings for 8 counties a year.	RVRC Local Govts	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000		Completed
	Update the Regional Plan	RVRC Local Govts						+/- \$100K (full plan)	N/A

Local Government Performance Standards Compliance Update

6-30-2020

Local Government	Minimum Performance Standard(s) Not Met	Specific Action Steps taken to Assist Government (Optional: Also, identify resources that may aid LG achievement)
Chattahoochee County	Groundwater Recharge Area Ord Wetlands Protection Ord River Corridor Protection Ord	Anticipating recent turnover in administration will lead to adoption
Byromville (Dooly Co) *	Groundwater Recharge Area Policies Wetlands Protection Policies	Included in new community work program
Dooling (Dooly Co) *	Groundwater Recharge Area Policies Wetlands Protection Policies	Included in new community work program
Lilly (Dooly Co) *	Groundwater Recharge Area Policies Wetlands Protection Policies	Included in new community work program
Unadilla (Dooly Co)	Groundwater Recharge Area Ord Wetlands Protection Ord Subdivision Regulations	Adopted Adopted New community work program calls for wholesale update of zoning ordinance which has an elemental subdivision component
Oglethorpe (Macon Co)	Groundwater Recharge Area Ord Wetlands Protection Ord Flint River Protection Ord River Corridor Protection Ord	Adopted Adopted Not a local priority; "inaccessible" Not a local priority; "inaccessible"
Lumpkin (Stewart Co)	Groundwater Recharge Area Ord Wetlands Protection Ord	Verbal reminders subsequent to providing samples (reportedly adopted but documents not provided)
Richland (Stewart Co)	Groundwater Recharge Area Ord Wetlands Protection Ord	Verbal reminders subsequent to providing samples (reportedly adopted but documents not provided)
De Soto (Sumter Co) *	Groundwater Recharge Area Policies Wetlands Protection Policies	Included in new community work program
Reynolds (Taylor Co)	Groundwater Recharge Area Ord Wetlands Protection Ord Subdivision Regulations Implement State Building Codes	Included in new CWP Included in new CWP To be included in ordinances currently being codified

* Jurisdiction is below the regional plan population threshold (1,000) for Minimum Performance Standards to apply.