

**City of Blairsville**

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**2011 Short-Term Work Program Update**

**December, 2011**

## **Introduction**

As part of the rules and standards enacted for local comprehensive plans in Georgia, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) requires updates to the work-program elements every 5 years. This document, the City of Blairsville Short-Term Work Program Update 2011, provides this required element until a full update to the Joint Comprehensive Plan in 2017. This includes the provision of the status of all projects previously identified for implementation between 2009 and 2011, as well as the projection of work items for the next 5 years.

## **Identified Issues and Policies**

The following issues have been recognized as critical to the City of Blairsville in moving forward for the next 5 years. These are considered to be complimentary (in addition) to those issues already identified within the full Comprehensive Plan.

- Need to review coordination of development policies and long-term management/expansion plans for utilities and infrastructure.
- Need to review land use management plans
- Need to develop bicycle and sidewalks plan
- Need to develop downtown revitalization plan
- Need to review housing and economic impacts of current economic crisis
- Need to review tourism and marketing efforts; Update as needed
- Need to consider historic preservation policies

In addition, several items have been identified as policies, general objections and directions for the City in regards to different issues. These policies will be used as guidelines for general, long-term practices for the City of Blairsville.

- Continue to support joint economic development with Union County, including improvements to the airport and adjacent industrial park
- Take necessary actions to protect the public water supply
- Improve and expand infrastructure in City
- Expand water and wastewater facilities to serve anticipated growth
- Continue to revitalize downtown

## Report of Accomplishments

Action	Status	Comment
Develop Rural Transit Plan with GMRDC	Complete	
Review Service Delivery Agreement; Update as needed	Postponed	2012
Expand wastewater facilities to serve anticipated growth	Complete	
Revitalize downtown; Create a Downtown Development Authority; establish a downtown redevelopment committee within Chamber.	Complete	
Study and combine public services where duplication may exist	Cancelled	To be done in conjunction with Service Delivery review
Consider a Tourism and Marketing Strategy with County or other parties	In Progress	
Update historic resources inventory	Complete	
Develop a detailed plan and schedule for water treatment and distribution, including a maintenance program. (Master plan)	Complete	
Improve delivery of waste water service by developing and implementing a master plan for collection system maintenance and replacement plan, including treatment plant upgrades.	Complete	
Expand city hall to accommodate current and future needs.	Complete	
Take necessary actions to protect the public water supply.	Complete	
Expand and build out airport per master plan	Postponed	Lack of funding
Develop Bicycle and Pedestrian Accessibility Master Plan	Postponed	2013
Develop Property Redevelopment Guide	Complete	
Conduct Housing Market study	Postponed	2013
Review/ update policies for managing housing stock (density, type)	Postponed	2013
Publish and distribute a list of historic properties and direct scenic routes and tourist excursions to historic property destinations.	Complete	
Begin Comp Plan update: Community Assessment	Postponed	2015

**Short Term Work Program  
2012 - 2016**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
2012	Develop Rural Transit Plan	NA	NA	City, GMRC
2012	Tourism and Marketing Strategy with County or other parties	\$5,000	City, DED	City, CoC
2012	Utilize State, regional and federal programs which provide funding, staff and services to enhance the City's historic preservation program	NA	NA	City, GMRC, HPD
2012	Finish Comp Plan update: Community Agenda	\$3,000	City, DCA	City, GMRC, DCA
2012	Improve and expand infrastructure in City	\$20,000	City, GEFA, DCA	City
2012				
2013	Review and update environmental protection policies	NA	NA	City, GMRDC, DNR
2013	Develop neighborhood sustainability plans	\$1,000	City, DCA	City, GMRDC, DCA
2013	Develop Bicycle and Pedestrian Accessibility Master Plan	\$5,000	DOT	City, GMRC
2012	Review Service Delivery Strategy	\$3,000	DCA	City, GMRC
2012	Prevention Guide for Greasetrap Use			
2012	Downtown Revitalization	\$100,000	TE, CDBG	City, GMRC
2013	Housing & Economic Development Study and Forum – Follow up from recession	\$10,000	DED	City, Chamber, DA
2014	Utility expansion and improvement	TBD	GEFA	City
2015	Review/ update policies for managing housing stock (density, type)	\$10,000	DCA	City, GMRC
2015	Joint Comp Plan update - Community Assessment and Participation Program	\$30,000	DCA	GMRC
2016	Joint Comp Plan update – Community Agenda	\$30,000	DCA	GMRC

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
BLAIRSVILLE, GEORGIA  
ADOPTING THE SHORT-TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE TO THE  
UNION COUNTY JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**


**WHEREAS:** The City Council, as the governing authority of the City of Blairsville, Georgia has participated in developing a Short-Term Work Program update to the Union County Joint Comprehensive Plan; and

**WHEREAS:** The Short-Term Work Program Update was prepared in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; and


**WHEREAS:** The Short-Term Work Program Update has been reviewed and approved by the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs;

Now, therefore, **IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the City Council that the Short-Term Work Program Update is adopted and it becomes part of the Union County Joint Comprehensive Plan.

Adopted by the City Council/County Commission this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk