



**Coweta County 2006-2026 Comprehensive Plan:
Community Participation Program**

November 2, 2005



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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

One of the best ways to strengthen communities is to create opportunities for citizens to work collaboratively on the challenges that shape their community. Accomplishing this requires political leadership, citizen education, and active involvement. A successful comprehensive plan begins with a process of thinking about and visualizing the future. It is about carrying on a dialogue with the community concerning its vision for evolving and growing. This Community Participation Program was crafted with these principles in mind and established a two-way communication between local citizens and their government officials, with the overall goal of better decisions supported by the public.

1.2 Scope

Coweta County (County) is required by state law to complete its Comprehensive Plan Update (CP) by October 31, 2006. As prescribed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), the CP will be created following the intent of the Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning effective May 1, 2005. Planning for and work on the CP, however, began over a year before the new standards were adopted. So the public involvement process for this effort was designed originally to meet and exceed the previous planning standards that were in effect as of January 1, 2004.



Visioning Workshop Presentation

Under these earlier standards, the public participation effort was required to start early with a public hearing and encouraged to continue throughout the process. As a result, Coweta County launched a very aggressive public involvement process in January 2005, and to date have already conducted a number of very effective public involvement efforts. Because the public participation program is already in motion as of the writing of this report, this Community Participation Program describes those public involvement efforts that have already been accomplished along with plans for continuing these efforts through the entire planning process.

It should be noted that this Community Participation Program was designed to serve more than one purpose. In addition to the Comprehensive Plan, the County also is undertaking several other planning efforts; including a study of Growth Management Tools, a Sewer Feasibility Study, and a Joint Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). The CTP for Coweta is being completed by URS under a separate contract. However, the CTP is an important portion of the CP and the two consultant teams of JJG and URS have used and will continue to use a collaborative effort, sharing data, analysis, and the public involvement process. In addition, the

Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce also is concurrently working on an update of its Vision 2020 Plan, and this public involvement effort is also serving to support that plan.

1.3 Requirements for Success

Experience in public involvement has shown that lasting solutions are best identified when all segments of a community – individuals, elected officials, educators, the business community, and civic organizations – are brought together in a spirit of cooperation. A collaborative approach to community engagement is not an opportunity, but a necessity. Community engagement and involvement is done for three reasons:

- To educate and increase public awareness
- To capture the knowledge and preferences of the people who live in and support the communities
- To mobilize support and acceptance of the plan

Communities that prosper do so because people work together to improve the quality of life that they want to sustain. The measure of effectiveness of a public involvement program is not that the public has been informed, but that public input has contributed to making a decision that is feasible and is supported by a large segment of the community.

Public comment and sentiment are a rich source of information about peoples' values and philosophies. These values and philosophies must be interpreted into meaningful information to guide the project. It is essential to know the community's values to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts as well as narrow the field of alternative solutions. This process is designed to accomplish the following:

- Improve the quality of decisions
- Increase ease of implementation
- Provide greater public understanding of community goals and objectives
- Provide tangible evidence that the community created its own identity



Visioning Workshop – Break-out session

2 Identification of Stakeholders

Coordination and oversight are very important parts of the overall work effort for this project. This approach, to ensure proper management of the process, includes oversight by the Coweta County Commissioners, a Project Management Team, and stakeholders for the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. In addition, a network of community organizations and local companies was identified early in the process for distribution of meeting notices and posters as part of a broad public outreach effort.

From the outset, the Coweta County Board of Commissioners wanted the Comprehensive Plan update to be rooted in the community's vision of desired development outcomes for 2026 Coweta. With the "community" identified as the "stakeholder group", a somewhat nebulous target, two situations were obvious: outreach with the help of other community-based organizations was essential, and techniques for structuring and collecting public feedback had to be friendly, convenient, systematic, provide options for participation, and result in a return on participant investment: a true reflection of the common community vision translated into growth management policy.

The Board of Commissioners selected the community survey and the community visioning meeting as methods to collect opinions on how the county should develop. An appointed citizen advisory committee was used to transform themes from the visioning and survey process into the overarching vision for the 2026 growth management plan. The Board selected the Open House meeting, as well as the regular commission meeting, as venues for presenting milestones in the evolution of the plan. Community feedback about the milestone presentations was organized by providing email links embedded in electronic notices to the community stakeholders, inviting them to review the presented and posted materials and comment to the planners.

The Board of Commissioners solicited the support of the Coweta County School System, and the Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce to help implement the Public Participation Program. Both of these community-based organizations contributed physical and financial resources as well as staff resources to the development and implementation of the program and both have benefited from the knowledge gained through the process.

In addition to the participating general public, the Board of Commissioners recognized a variety of agencies in Coweta representing constituencies significant to the process. These included the municipal governments of Grantville, Haralson, Moreland, Newnan, Palmetto, Senoia, Sharpsburg, and Turin, the Board of Education, the Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce, and agencies advocating for members of the community unable to take part in the public participation process. Although these agencies are listed as stakeholders in the preparation of the Joint Community Transportation Plan, they have a dual role as community representatives for their jurisdictions, membership, and advocacy groups in the comprehensive planning process. These stakeholders received notice of all community visioning meetings and were each invited to attend with other members of the community to impact the community visioning process. An organization known as the Coweta Intergovernmental Committee provided a forum for elected

county and municipal officials to engage in a facilitated discussion of anticipated growth in Coweta and how to collaborate over best management strategies.

As the Planning Consultants isolated the most universal and deeply felt concerns of the stakeholders, these were translated into possible land use futures for Coweta and conveyed to the “plan implementers” also known as the Project Management Team. Discussions with the PMT were important to help discern staff concerns regarding the effectiveness of current and proposed development regulations and hurdles that would have to be overcome to implement the community vision.

Coweta County Commissioners

Larry DeMoss – District 3

Tim Higgins – District 5

Paul Poole – District 1

Leigh Schlumper – District 4

Greg Tarbutton – District 2

Project Management Team (22 Members)

L. Theron Gay, County Administrator

Eddie Whitlock, Assistant Administrator

Roxie Clark, Assistant Administrator

Mitch Powell, County Attorney

Robert L. Tolleson, Director, Planning and Zoning

Sandra R. Parker, Comprehensive Planner

Tavores Edwards, Transportation Planner

Wayne Kennedy, Director of Development and Engineering

Brad Gresham, Water & Sewer System Manager

Duane Fields, Environmental Health Department Manager

Mickey Rogers, Tax Assessor

Tom Corker, Information Officer

Barbara Osborne-Harris, County Librarian

Carl McKnight, Recreation Department Manager

Matt Lovett, Solid Waste Department Manager

Mike Yeager, County Sheriff

Dennis Hammond, County Fire Chief

Eddie Ball, Emergency 911 Director

Blake Bass, Superintendent Coweta County Schools

Ed Davis, Building Official

Bill Harrison, Coweta County Development Authority

Angela White, Convention and Visitors Bureau

Comprehensive Transportation Plan Stakeholders

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Affiliation</u> |
|------------------|---|
| Larry DeMoss | Chairman, Coweta County Commission |
| Leigh Schlumper | Coweta County Commission |
| Keith Brady | Mayor, City of Newnan |
| Billy Tucker | Mayor, City of Grantville |
| Robert Hannah | Mayor, City of Senoia |
| Ted Bateman | Mayor, City of Haralson |
| Wendell Staley | Mayor, Town of Sharpsburg |
| Harry Van Gorden | Mayor, Town of Turin |
| Jerry Smith | Mayor, Town of Moreland |
| Theron Gay | Coweta County Administrator |
| Eddie Whitlock | Assistant County Administrator |
| Richard Bolin | Newnan City Manager |
| Larry Clark | Grantville City Manager |
| Robin Spradlin | Sharpsburg Town Administrator |
| Richard Ferry | Senoia City Administrator |
| Cleatus Phillips | Newnan Comm. Dev. Director |
| Robert Tolleson | Coweta County Planning Director |
| Wayne Kennedy | Coweta County Engineering Director |
| Tavores Edwards | Coweta County Transportation Planner |
| Sandra Parker | Coweta County Comprehensive Planner |
| Eddie Ball | Coweta County E-911 |
| Candace LaForge | Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce |
| Fritz Thum | Newnan-Coweta Historical Society |
| Angela White | Coweta County Convention & Visitors Bureau |
| Calvin Walker | Newnan-Coweta Airport |
| Bill Harrison | Coweta County Development Authority |
| Blake Bass | Coweta County Board of Education |
| Willie L. Geter | Coweta County NAACP |
| Cynthia Jenkins | G-3 Communities & Newnan City Council |
| Minnie Robinson | Community Action for Improvement |
| Sandra Strozier | Newnan Housing Authority |
| Ruth Cuellar | Rainbow Ministries |
| David Schilling | Atlanta Regional Commission |
| Regan Hammond | Atlanta Regional Commission |
| Michael Adams | Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) |
| Tom Queen | GDOT District 3 |
| Darby Beach | Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) |
| Tom Sills | Chattahoochee-Flint Regional Development Center |
| Ida Johnson | Coweta County Senior Center Director |
| Kari Chapman | Senoia Housing Authority |
| Brenda Sims | Grantville Housing Authority |
| Tracy Dunnivant | Planning Director for the City of Newnan |
| Karen King | Representative of the Mayor from the Town of Moreland |

Comprehensive Planning Process Stakeholders

The Chamber of Commerce also assisted in supplying a network of outlets for distribution of meeting notices and posters. The following list reflects just some of the companies and organizations that are part of the outreach effort and who participated in the Comprehensive Plan Comprehensive Transportation Plan as community stakeholders.

Organizations on Key Community Contact List for Chamber communication network:

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| American Association of Retired Persons | Kiwanis Club |
| American Business Women's Association | Kiwanis-White Oak Golden K |
| American Cancer Society | Kiwanis of Wesley Woods |
| American Heart Association | Lions Club of Senoia |
| Association for Retarded Citizens | Masonic Lodge #60 (Coweta) |
| Bill Gremillion Radio Club | Masonic Lodge #82 (Senoia) |
| Board of Realtors | Masonic Lodge #337 (Turin) |
| Christian Ministerial Fellowship | NAACP |
| Civitan Club | Newnan Coweta Art Association |
| Council on Aging | Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce |
| Coweta Cycling Club | Newnan-Coweta Historical Society |
| Coweta County Farm Bureau | Newnan Junior Service League |
| Coweta County School Board | Newnan Optimist Club |
| Coweta Festivals | Order of the Eastern Star |
| Coweta County Republican Women's Club | Pilot Club |
| Coweta County Republican Party | Republic Women's Club |
| United Daughters of the Confederacy | Rotary Club of Newnan |
| Georgia Conservancy | Salvation Army Services Center |
| Grantville Association | Newnan Shrine Club of YARRAB |
| Heritage School Parent Club | Temple |
| Jaycees | Toastmasters |
| Kiwanis Club of Coweta County | United Way |
| | Western Baptist Association |
| | Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 226 |

3 Identification of Participation Techniques

3.1 Initial Public Hearing

As required under the state minimum standards, an initial public hearing before the Coweta County Board of Commissioners was held to announce to the public that the planning process for updating the comprehensive plan was underway. The initial public hearing was held on January 18, 2005, at 6:00 pm in the Board of Commissioners' meeting room. Both the Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Transportation Plan processes and schedules were presented to the Board and to the public. The public was informed of the two plans' project schedules, community visioning meetings as well as how to access the community survey and how they could get involved. The public also was given an opportunity to comment on the process and their vision for the future of the County.

A second public hearing was held on April 14th just prior to the final adoption of the new standards to inform and update the public and the Board of Commissioners about the new DCA Standards and to adjust the scope of the local planning update process to try to comply with the changes to the planning standards as amended.

3.2 Community Survey

The success of this public participation program approach hinged upon effective public notification and convenient meeting location. Several agencies supported the notification effort. These included the Coweta County Information Office, the Coweta County School System Information Officer, Charter Communications, Newnan Utilities Community Cable Access, and the Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce. The schedule of Community Visioning Workshops and survey access information was posted on the school system and county web pages, and was circulated in both their employee newsletters. Cable access programs (three separate sessions) featured Planning Department personnel and Planning Consultants with JJG and URS who discussed the Public Participation Program as well as the planning update process.

The Chamber of Commerce marketing committee members each contributed their expertise toward developing a campaign slogan and marketing plan to promote the Public Participation Program: Be Something Different; which the Board of Commissioners liked and adopted for use on all banners, the surveys, and materials used during the plan update process. The Chamber of Commerce featured county activities (planning and general government) at two of their Early Bird Breakfasts and purchased full-page newspaper ads (twice) to publicize the importance of community involvement in the program. The Community Visioning meeting schedule, survey distribution locations, and on-line access were announced at public meetings, and were released to the local newspapers. The Newnan Times-Herald provided consistent coverage of the community visioning meetings and published several editorials and letters to the editor on the subject of growth and development in Coweta that were received throughout the Public Participation Program.

Use of school facilities solved the issue of convenient location since facilities were present in all of the commission districts. Nearly all of the meetings were held in school system facilities – two were held in fire stations. Although the Fine Arts Center is not a school building, it is managed by the School System, and was used for the final (11th) Community Visioning meeting. All meetings were held in the evening beginning at 6:30 and ending at 9:00. There were discussions about whether or not to offer childcare or choose earlier times or Saturday meetings. These alternatives were not chosen and may be the reason for the very low turn out of people between the ages of 25 and 45. However, we believe that this age group is represented among those who completed the online survey in lieu of attending a community visioning meeting.

A successful response to the survey was set at 2,000 completed and returned, and a successful turn out for the community meetings was initially set at 50 for each of five meetings. Although these thresholds were used to establish minimums for the program, the Board of Commissioners aspired to doing all that they could to cultivate as much community participation as possible. Therefore, the number of community meetings were increased from 5 to 10 (two in each commission district – an 11th was added later) and surveys were available in paper as well as electronic format from the county web site.

Paper surveys were packaged in postage paid return envelopes and were available at all fire stations (14), at twenty-six banks, at all Senior Centers (4), at all City Halls and/or libraries (7), at County offices for Auto Tag registration, the Tax Commissioner, Business License, Recreation, Water & Sewer, and at the Visitor Center. The paper survey was distributed to all county employees and employees of the county school system as well as one local industry. The Chamber of Commerce informed their committee network, membership, and database of community agencies that the survey was available, where to find paper surveys or how to access the electronic version. In turn, some of their members included the schedule in their own business newsletters. Churches, neighborhood associations, and civic clubs asked for the survey and completed and returned the survey to the Planning Department. Surveys were also distributed from eight day care centers and four retail businesses; all totaling 5,518 paper surveys distributed from community locations. In addition to these, the local newspaper ran the survey in full, in two separate publications! The Planning Department received over 100 of these surveys, folded in envelopes and mailed to the department or hand delivered. The Coweta Cattleman's Association and the Coweta County Board of Realtors invited planners to speak at their monthly meeting where the survey was distributed. The overall return of paper surveys by the cut-off date numbered 742.



Visioning Workshop & Community Survey Logo

The survey, composed of three sections, averaged a 10 to 20 minute completion time; depending upon the deliberative nature of the respondent. The first section contained demographic questions, the second contained questions that pertaining to land use and growth, and the third section contained questions designed to get feedback on the respondent's opinion of public and private service delivery. The Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce was committed to the success of the Pubic Participation Program, especially the survey component, because the quality of life component of the survey is the basis for Vision 20/20 program recommendations to the community's service providers.

A copy of the Community Survey and a summary of the results is included in **Appendix B**.

3.3 Visioning Workshops

A total of 11 Visioning Workshops were held throughout the County from February 17 through May 5, 2005. The meetings were held at schools and community centers around the County. In all, approximately 535* citizens attended the meetings from February through May. *The total 535 citizens count reflects repeat attendees.

| Meeting Date | # Citizens | # CAC | Total |
|--------------|--------------|-------|------------|
| 2/17/2005 | 55 | 7 | 62 |
| 2/22/2005 | 38 | 8 | 46 |
| 3/3/2005 | 54 | 5 | 59 |
| 3/8/2005 | 41 | 4 | 45 |
| 3/17/2005 | 54 | 5 | 59 |
| 3/22/2005 | 23 | 3 | 26 |
| 3/31/2005 | 15 | 3 | 18 |
| 4/12/2005 | 46 | 3 | 49 |
| 4/21/2005 | 48 | 3 | 51 |
| 4/25/2005 | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| 4/28/2005 | 33 | 2 | 35 |
| 5/5/2005 | 73 | 3 | 76 |
| | TOTAL | | 535 |



| Date | Meeting Location | Address |
|-------------------|---|--|
| February 17, 2005 | Arnall Middle School | 700 Lora Smith Road, Newnan |
| February 22, 2005 | Willis Road Elementary School | 430 Willis Road, Sharpsburg |
| March 3, 2005 | East Coweta Middle School | 6291 E. Highway 16, Senoia |
| March 8, 2005 | Jefferson Parkway Elementary School | 154 Farmer Industrial Blvd., Newnan |
| March 17, 2005 | Newnan High School | 190 LaGrange Street, Newnan |
| March 22, 2005 | Northgate High School | 3220 Fisher Road, Newnan |
| March 31, 2005 | Northside Elementary School | 720 Country Club Road, Newnan |
| April 12, 2005 | Arnco-Sargent Elementary School | 2449 West Hwy 16, Sargent |
| April 21, 2005 | FS # 16/Dresden Community Room | 2545 Hwy 34 West, Newnan |
| April 25, 2005 | FS # 16/Dresden Community Room | 2545 Hwy 34 West, Newnan |
| April 28, 2005 | Grantville Elementary School | 5725 Hwy 29, Grantville |
| May 5, 2005 | Center for the Performing and Visual Arts | Lower Fayetteville Road, Newnan |

The various locations and dates gave residents several opportunities to give their input on the future of Coweta County. The number of meetings scheduled was for the convenience of the citizens. The input from the meetings was used in both the Comprehensive Plan and the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. All meetings ran from 6:30-9pm.

The minutes of each of these workshops can be found in **Appendix A** of this report. A map illustrating the residence of workshop participants can be found in the “Technical Addendum”. The map illustrates that the workshops did draw participants from all regions of the County.



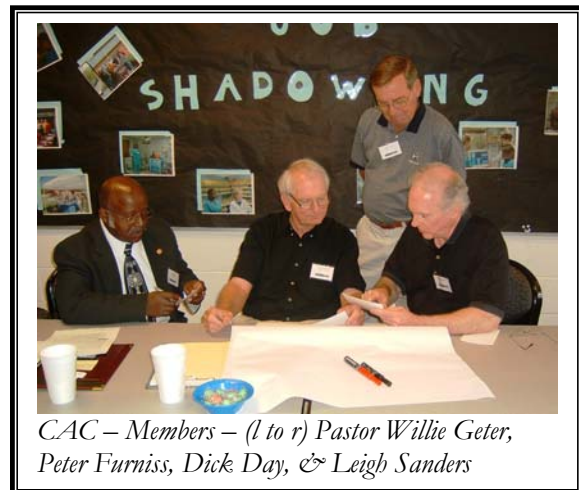
3.4 Citizen Advisory Committee

Before conducting the visioning workshops, a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) was appointed to represent the citizens of the county. Each County Commissioner appointed two individuals from their respective districts and two of the commissioners themselves to serve on the CAC. The Committee’s main task was to listen to issues and concerns at the visioning workshops. They were asked to attend as many meetings as possible, especially in their district, listen to the vision for Coweta produced at each meeting, and synthesize the ideas into the countywide vision described at the meetings and through the survey results.

| Member | Appointing Commissioner | District |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dick Day | Paul Poole | 1 st District |
| Larry Huckaby | Paul Poole | 1 st District |
| Dr. Marc Guy | Leigh Schlumper | 4 th District |
| Dale Pepper | Leigh Schlumper | 4 th District |
| Paris Pressly | Larry DeMoss | 3 rd District |
| Leigh Sanders | Larry DeMoss | 3 rd District |
| Liz Camp | Greg Tarbutton | 2 nd District |
| Pete Furniss | Greg Tarbutton | 2 nd District |
| Willie Geter | Tim Higgins | 5 th District |
| Mike McGraw | Tim Higgins | 5 th District |
| Leigh Schlumper | Board of Commissioners | 4 th District |
| Greg Tarbutton | Board of Commissioners | 2 nd District |

The CAC met prior to the first visioning workshop to review project goals and objectives, project schedule, and participant expectations about the project. In many ways, this provided an opportunity for the panel to meet the consultant team and express their individual interests in the project and for the community.

At the conclusion of the district level visioning workshops, the CAC met to review the similarities and differences among the issues discussed and the visions established for each district. They followed a structured review of the district-level visions to form an integrated Countywide Vision. The CAC developed an encompassing vision statement for the County found in **Appendix C**.



CAC – Members – (l to r) Pastor Willie Geter, Peter Furniss, Dick Day, & Leigh Sanders

3.5 Commissioners' Milestone Meetings

Over the life of the plan, updates will be given to the Board of Commissioners for their review and comment. These are public meetings where attendees will be allowed to provide comments to the staff, consultants and the Commissioners. When necessary, work sessions will be arranged with the Commissioners to further discuss some of these topics. The milestone meetings have been structured to cover the following topics:

1. Review of the State Requirements for Local Comprehensive Planning (April 14, 2005)
2. Countywide Vision (June 7, 2005)
3. Growth Management Strategies and Strategic Framework Working Paper (August 23, 2005)
4. Scenario Development (October 4, 2005)
5. Sewer Master Plan and Preferred Growth Management Strategy (November 15, 2005)
6. Public hearing to adopt the Sewer Master Plan and select a growth management tool to carry forward for adoption (January 5, 2006)

7. Presentation of Draft Future Land Use Plan Map (February 21, 2006)
8. Action Plan (April 5, 2006)

3.6 Public Outreach Presentations (up to 7)

When deemed necessary, educational outreach presentations will be given to civic, business, community, and/or special interest groups to present study information, listen to concerns, answer questions, and seek continued participation and support throughout plan development. These presentations also may include interviews on the local public access television station. The presentations and talking points developed also may be used by community leaders at local meetings and events to provide project updates and findings. By involving local groups on their own terms, the use of speaking engagements will leverage existing meeting opportunities, expand opportunities for community participation, and establish closer relationships with various organizations. Four of these presentations were conducted in the Spring of 2005, the other three will be conducted in 2006.

3.7 Countywide Open House

A Countywide Open House will be held on October 6, 2005 to share the information that has been compiled for the Comprehensive Plan and the results of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan for public review and comment. The Open House will serve to ensure that all development and land use issues have been identified and that the input received during the process has been reflected in the draft plan. It will allow high-level interaction and participation to engage participants in comfortable, two-way dialogue. A key component will be the preparation of easily understood and visually pleasing information. Attendees will be invited to view presentation graphics in detail and hold one-on-one discussions with project team members and Coweta County staff in attendance. The Open House will be publicized through a local media campaign. Displays, comment cards, handouts, and other information materials will be distributed. Formal written comments, collected at the conclusion of the open house, will be summarized and responded to in a timely manner.

3.8 Public Hearing for Plan Transmittal

The consultant will present the 2026 Comprehensive Plan at a public hearing before the Board of Commissioners. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the plan. The tentative date of this transmittal hearing is May 11, 2006.



Public Access Television Interview

3.9 Project Webpage

On a regular basis (10 updates), JIG will produce materials in PDF format suitable for posting on the county website and work with the County Information Officer, Tom Corker, to maintain a webpage that addresses the County's needs and furthers public education regarding the project. For questions regarding the website, please contact Tom Corker at (770) 254-2603. The

webpage address is through the Coweta County website and the Comprehensive Plan's webpage at <http://www.coweta.ga.us>. The webpage also will have contact information for the consultant team.

Webpage update milestones:

1. Prior to Visioning Workshop (early February 2005)
 - a. Press release
 - b. Poster
2. Update on Visioning Workshops progress (mid March 2005)
3. Visioning process (May 2005)
4. Countywide Vision and Project Update (late July 2005)
5. Countywide Open House announcement (mid September 2005)
6. Draft Sewer Master Plan/Growth Management Plan (late November 2005)
7. Sewer Master Plan/Growth Management Plan (January 2006)
8. Draft Future Land Use Plan Map (late February 2006)
9. Transmittal of draft Comprehensive Plan update (May 2006)
10. Final Plan (October 2006)

3.10 Outreach

Varieties of techniques were used to get the information out to participants. Space on the County website was used to display press releases, posters, and other information pertaining to the project. Another source was two local cable channels that featured the Comprehensive Plan as a focus. The Chamber of Commerce invited the project consultants to be the featured guests at one of their Early Bird Breakfasts to present on the project.

3.11 Standard Procedures

3.11.1 Media Relations

If the media approaches a member of the consultant team and requests an interview or has questions, the consultant will take the name of the media representative, publication they represent, when the article or TV spot will run, and what was talked about. The information will then be passed along to Tom Corker, the Coweta County Information Officer.

3.11.2 Special Interest Groups

There are several special interest groups within Coweta County. A major part of the Comprehensive Plan comes from public input and the consultants understand that the special interest groups are an important part of Coweta's future. However, the Comprehensive Plan is a work in progress and the citizen input must come from the public at large. Therefore, it is the policy of the consultant team to refer all inquiries from special interest groups and the public about our planning efforts, outside of scheduled public forums, to the County Planning staff. In particular, we will inform Sandra Parker or Robert Tolleson of any inquiries made and will not volunteer any information about our analysis or recommendations without their expressed written consent.

4 Schedule for Completion of the Community Agenda

On the following page is a graphic that shows the schedule for completion of the Community Agenda. Major upcoming milestones in this schedule include:

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| BOC Milestone Meeting: Growth Management Strategies and Strategic Framework Working Paper | August 23, 2005 |
| BOC Milestone Meeting: Scenario Development | October 4, 2005 |
| Open House | October 6, 2005 |
| BOC Milestone Meeting: Sewer Master Plan and Preferred Growth Management Strategy | November 15, 2005 |
| Public hearing to adopt the Sewer Master Plan and select a growth management tool to carry forward for adoption | January 5, 2006 |
| BOC Milestone Meeting: Presentation of Draft Future Land Use Plan Map | February 21, 2006 |
| Three Public Outreach Presentations (specific dates TBD)..... | Winter and Spring 2006 |
| Action Plan..... | April 5, 2006 |
| Transmittal Hearing for Community Agenda..... | May 11, 2006 |
| Adoption of the Community Agenda..... | October 2006 |

In addition, tentative dates for regular updates to the website are also shown in the graphic.

Coweta Comprehensive Plan Schedule

| | 2005 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2006 | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct |
| 1 Project Initiation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 Initial Client Kick-off Meeting | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 Conduct Initial Public Hearing | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.3 Public Involvement Plan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.4 Setup of Project Webpage | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.5 Updates of website materials | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |
| 1.6 Conduct Initial Advisory Committee Meeting - organization | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.7 Review County Documents | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.8 GIS Data Foundation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.9 Population and demographic inventory and projections | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.10 Visioning Workshops (11 meetings) | | | ★ x 11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.11 Public Outreach Presentations (3 presentations - not scheduled yet) | | ★ x 3 | | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.12 Community Participation Program | | | | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.13 BOC Milestone Meeting | | | | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.14 Advisory Committee Meetings x 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.15 2nd BoC Update Meeting - Countywide Vision | | | | | | | | | | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 Community Assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 Economic development assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.2 Housing assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.3 Natural and cultural resources assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.4 Analysis of Existing Development Patterns | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.5 Community Facilities assessment part 1 - water and sewer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.6 Community Facility assessment part 2 - other services | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.7 Intergovernmental coordination assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.8 Coordination with CTP to receive Transportation assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.9 Draft Community Assessment | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.10 2nd BOC Public Hearing - Transmittal of CA and CCP | | | | | | | | | | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.11 Regional and State Review and Response to CA and CCP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 Special Studies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1 Identification of Growth Management Strategies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.2 3rd BoC Update Meeting - Growth Management Strategies | | | | | | | | | | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.3 Development of Growth Scenarios | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.4 Strategic Framework Working Paper | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.5 3rd BoC Meeting - Scenario Development | | | | | | | | | | | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.6 Open House | | | | | | | | | | | ★ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.7 Selection of Sewer Service Districts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.8 Sewer Master Plan Development | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.9 Draft Adoption Materials - Preferred Growth Management Strategy | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.10 5th BoC Milestone Meeting - Sewer Master Plan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.11 Service Delivery Strategy Update | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.12 Final production of the Sewer Master Plan Update | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 Preparation of the Community Agenda | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.1 Mapping of the Community Vision | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.2 Issues and Opportunities Analysis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.3 Prepare Short Term Work Program | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.4 6th BoC Update Meeting - Action Plan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.5 Draft Community Agenda | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.6 Review of Draft Community Agenda | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 Adoption Process | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.1 County Public Hearing for Transmittal of the Plan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.2 Regional and State Review and Response | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.3 Comprehensive Plan Adoption | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.4 Preparation of Final Deliverables | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ★ |
| ★ Public Meetings | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |