

DRAFT

DEKALB COUNTY
STRATEGIC PLANNING

DEKALB COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION
PROGRAM 2006

*Bringing residents together to address
the needs of tomorrow.*



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**DeKalb County
Strategic Planning**



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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

DeKalb County recognizes that the public involvement program is central to the Comprehensive and Solid Waste Plan development. The County has designed a program that reaches out to DeKalb's residents, visitors, and business owners in their communities. From the very beginning, the public, agency staff, community leaders, and elected officials were invited to participate in the process and their involvement will be maintained throughout the project.

The public involvement program will meet the challenges and build consensus on the Comprehensive Plan and the Solid Waste Plan. One goal of this process is to try to reach those citizens not traditionally involved in the planning process. The following pages summarize the purpose, approach, and key findings from the first phase of the public involvement program—public meetings.

1.2 Scope

The 2006 Comprehensive and Solid Waste Plan is essential in promoting, developing, and sustaining comprehensive planning by DeKalb County Government. Interagency cooperation drives the planning process and includes the Governor's Development Council, the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), as well as DeKalb County, its municipalities, and constituents. ***State law requires that counties maintain and periodically update a 20-year comprehensive plan.*** Through the planning process the community develops a vision and assesses its needs in a range of planning areas including population, economic development, housing, natural and cultural resources, solid waste management, community facilities, land use, and transportation. Solutions are then established to meet those needs. The current DeKalb County Comprehensive Plan (completed in 1996) and the DeKalb County Solid Waste Plan (completed in 1999) outline program goals and objectives through the year 2015. In accordance with the planning standards established by state law, DeKalb County is reviewing those existing plans, determining public expectations for the future, and updating the content of both plans through the year 2026.

1.3 Requirements for Success

DeKalb County is the most culturally diverse county in the metro area with many different nationalities calling it home. Since the last Comprehensive Plan Update, the Asian and Hispanic populations have significantly grown. It is important that during this process of updating the plan, we try to reach all of DeKalb County's citizens.

In the past, the public meetings have generated “repeat” participants. We need to reach those that do not regularly come or have never come to a public meeting to discuss land use or transportation. These issues affect all of us, as we make our way to work or look on as a new shopping center is built.

The County is changing: more people are moving to DeKalb County, more development is occurring, and traffic is more congested. We have a plan at the County and we need to hear from the citizens and work together to modify and create a plan for the future. Without a plan, quality of life will be affected. The approach is to develop a plan that includes citizen input, maintains the quality of life, mitigates identified weaknesses, and creates a plan for the future.

This County is rich in cultural diversity and will be taken into account during this update of the Comprehensive Plan. The goal is to reach more people than ever before and communicate in languages previously neglected. Our outreach goal for more diverse participation includes working with the DeKalb Latin American Association and others.



June 2006 Public Meeting at The Lou Walker Senior Facility

This public meeting was one of four planned for the Community Assessment and Community Participation Program review.



2. Identification of Stakeholders

DeKalb County CEO, Vernon Jones

DeKalb County Board of Commissioners

- Elaine Boyer—District 1
- Gale Walldorff—District 2
- Larry Johnson—District 3
- Burrell Ellis—District 4
- Hank Johnson—District 5
- Kathie Gannon—District 6
- Connie Stokes—District 7

DeKalb County Planning Commission

- Tommy Arnold
- Robert Dallas
- Don Broussard
- Vivian Moore
- Tess Snipes
- Kathy Register
- Larry Danese
- Vickie Elisa
- Robert Godfrey

DeKalb County Municipalities

- Atlanta (in DeKalb)
- Avondale Estates
- Chamblee
- Clarkston
- Decatur
- Doraville
- Lithonia
- Pine Lake
- Stone Mountain

Surrounding Jurisdictions

Gwinnett County Planning Department
Rockdale County Planning Department
Fulton County Planning Department
Henry County Planning Department
Clayton County Government

2. Identification of Stakeholders (continued)

Throughout the process, it is important to include members of the public and stakeholders. Stakeholders are those individuals that have a “stake” in the future of the community. Those with an vested interests. This includes residents, land owners, business owners, ministers, neighborhood association, and non-profits.

Community Council Members

Community Council Members are a great resource for stakeholder purposes. There are five community council areas in the County. These community residents provide input on rezoning and land use amendments. They know the issues that are important to their neighborhoods and act as one voice to keep the community strong and healthy. This plan will be presented to the Council Members at their monthly meetings. The Council Members will spread the word about the public participation plan through their connections.

Civic Associations and Community Groups

Many organizational and individual stakeholders participated in meetings throughout DeKalb County. Meetings were held throughout DeKalb County to solicit input from all citizens. The Stakeholders listed in this section have represented or spoken as associations or organizations.

- Tucker Civic Association
- Northlake Community Alliance
- Pride Rings In Stone Mountain (PRISM)
- Nancy Creek Civic Association
- Sexton Woods Community
- Silver Lake Community
- Perimeter
- Dunwoody Homeowners Association
- Tucker (Main Street)
- Brookhaven
- East Lake Heights
- Gresham Park
- Highland Park
- South DeKalb Community Development
- East Lake Terrace Neighborhood
- South DeKalb Citizens Good Neighbors
- Rainbow Forest/Knollview Estates
- Hidden Lake
- Kings Park
- Pinehurst
- Amherst
- Friends of Arabian Mountain

3. Identification of Participation Techniques

3.1 Public Participation Activities in 2004

Public Meetings

Public meetings are an important component of the Comprehensive Plan process. The meetings are designed to bring the community together to discuss the issues that are important to them now and in the future. It is a dialogue between the community and government officials who help shape the landscape.

Public Meeting Purpose and Objectives

The public meetings were jointly sponsored by the DeKalb County Planning Department and the Public Works Department. The meetings were designed to:

1. Increase public awareness of the DeKalb County comprehensive and solid waste management planning processes;
2. Present the requirements, planning elements, and public outreach process;
3. Listen to public comments and reactions to the current plans; and
4. Discuss community values, needs, and priorities related to each element of both plans.

The public discussions provided an excellent opportunity for interdepartmental coordination as well as a candid, open debate of the issues surrounding the update of these important county-wide plans.

Public Meetings

The first public meetings were held in 2004. One meeting was held in each commission district as an effort to reach all citizens. The meetings were held between 5:30 and 7:30 pm.

District	Date	Meeting Location	Address
District 1	June 22, 2004	Chamblee Library	4115 Clairmont Rd Chamblee, GA 30341
District 2	June 30, 2004	Tucker Library	4316 Church St Tucker, GA 30084
District 3	June 24, 2004	Wesley Chapel Library	2861 Wesley Chapel Rd Decatur, GA 30034
District 4	June 29, 2004	Stone Mountain Library	952 Leon St Stone Mountain, GA 30083
District 5	June 28, 2004	Bruce Street Library	2484 Bruce Street Lithonia , GA 30058

Comprehensive Plan and the Solid Waste Management Plan update. A postcard notice announcing the public meeting dates was mailed to over 450 residents just prior to the June meetings. At the public meetings, a DeKalb County representative requested each participant sign-in, state how they heard about the meeting, and shared an information packet that included public comment forms and fact sheets for each element of the Comprehensive Plan and Solid Waste Management Plan.

Public Notices and Informational Materials

Printed and electronic mailing lists were consolidated from several sources to create a mailing list for public notices. This database consisted of approximately 500 residents and businesses.

Public Meeting Format

The two-hour meeting combined a variety of communications methods to ease information gathering, share community concerns, priorities, and reactions to plan elements.

First, the “walk-around” meeting format allowed the public to review fact sheets and display boards at their leisure, complete the public comment forms, and hold one-on-one discussions with the DeKalb County representatives specializing in various planning elements. Areas were designated for each planning element and display boards were positioned around the meeting room.

Next, DeKalb County representatives delivered a formal presentation that described each element and requirements, tasks, and schedule for the Comprehensive Plan and Solid Waste Management Plan update.

The last part of the meeting was dedicated to a Question and Answer session. These comments were recorded and compiled into a summary of public comments. These comments can be found in Appendix 1.

3.2 Public Participation Activities in 2005

Public Meetings

A more strategic approach was taken after the first year of public participation and comment on the Comprehensive Plan. In addition to two public meetings, two visioning workshops were held as a new way to interest the public and learn what their thoughts and concerns.

Three other meetings were held as a special request for a civic association or on behalf of a commissioner. As a result, additional meetings were held with the Tucker Civic Association and Northlake Community, as did Commissioner Elaine Boyer, District 1.

Meeting Type	Date	Meeting Location	Address
Public Meeting	January 13, 2005	Lakeside High School	3801 Briarcliff Rd, NE Atlanta, GA 30345
Public Meeting	January 20, 2005	Stephenson High School	701 Stephenson Rd Stone Mountain, GA 30087
Visioning Workshop	May 4, 2005	Tucker High School	5036 Lavista Rd Tucker, GA 30084
Visioning Workshop	May 10, 2005	Maloof Auditorium	1300 Commerce Dr Decatur, GA 30030

The visioning workshops are designed to engage citizens in an interactive, hands-on meeting to develop a future land use map and packages of planning strategies for housing, transportation, and urban design. At the meetings, citizens were encouraged to sit at one of five tables with each table representing a different planning area of the County. Land use maps of the County were spread on each table. Citizens discussed a series of planning topics with a staff member from the County Planning Department. The main point of discussion centered around three questions. ***What do you want to see preserved? What do you want to see protected? What do you want to see changed?***

Participants had markers to draw on the maps the changes they wanted to see take place in the future. Planning staff recorded their responses to be included within the Comprehensive Plan.

Meeting	Date	Meeting Location	Address
Tucker Civic Association	March 14, 2005	Tucker High School	5036 Lavista Rd Tucker, GA 30084
Commission District 1	April 14, 2005	Board of Commissioner's Conference Room, 6th Floor	100 Commerce Dr Decatur, GA 30030

3.3 Public Participation Activities in 2006

Project Webpage

The Comprehensive Plan has been available on the County Planning Department website since April 2005. The draft will soon be updated and the final version will also be posted. On the website, we are working to feature an option that would allow citizens to send comments about the plan online. These comments would be reviewed by Planning Staff and citizens would receive a response, if appropriate.

Public Meetings

Because of the new format regulations in the Comprehensive Plan, we felt it was necessary to present the changes to the public. In addition, this would also provide citizens with another chance to give feedback on the plan. Four meetings were held throughout the County to present updated information and gather input. Meetings were spread county-wide to capture maximum input (see table below).

Meeting Type	Date	Meeting Location	Address
Public Meeting	May 17, 2006	Wesley Chapel Library	2861 Wesley Chapel Road Decatur, GA 30034
Public Meeting	May 25, 2006	Brook Run Park / Auditorium	4770 N. Peachtree Road Dunwoody, GA 30338
Public Meeting	June 3, 2006	Lou Walker Senior Center	2538 Panola Road Lithonia, GA 30058
Public Meeting	June 7, 2006	Maloof Auditorium	1330 Commerce Drive Decatur, GA 30030

Outreach

In the past two years since we began our public outreach efforts, the response from the community has been hit and miss. Only a few meetings turned out a significant attendance. Techniques included advertising in local newspapers and mailing post cards to those residents in the Department's Civic Association database. It is clear that we must do more. In 2006, we plan to ramp up our outreach efforts. In addition to advertising in the newspaper, mailing the post cards, and public hearings, we will try the following techniques.

1. Posters—We will design and display posters at public locations including libraries, post offices, grocery stores, and fast food restaurants.
2. Community Council—We will have special, short presentations on the Comprehensive Plan at the Community Council meetings, in an effort, to “tag on”.
3. Schools—We will attempt to also “tag on” at DeKalb County school meetings, such as PTA.
4. Cable TV—We will utilize the County's Cable Television Channel, DC23, to talk about the Comprehensive Plan and advertise upcoming meetings.

5. Website—The Department website is currently under construction and new materials will be added to keep citizens more informed than ever.
6. Press Releases—We will release press releases through the County’s Communications Department to spread the word about the meetings and the plan.
7. Media—If possible due to budget constraints, we will utilize local news channels to do a small piece on the Comprehensive Plan and how citizens can get involved.

3.3 Public Participation Activities in 2006 (continued)

Public Meeting Format

The two-hour meeting combined a variety of communications methods to ease information gathering, share community concerns, priorities, and reactions to plan purpose and format.

First, the “walk-around” meeting format allowed the public to review fact sheets and display boards at their leisure, complete the public comment forms, and hold one-on-one discussions with the DeKalb County representatives to discuss development activities. Development activities consisted of various map displays. Map displays consisted of existing land use, areas of special interest, and character areas. Transportation boards were added to show the link between the Comprehensive Plan, and the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). Display boards were positioned around the meeting room.

Next, DeKalb County representatives delivered a formal presentation that described the changes between the old and new standards of the comprehensive plan, new format for the plan, links to the CTP, outreach efforts, and the project schedule for completion.

A second presentation was added to the agenda to further explain the Existing Development Patterns. Because of the added changes to the planning process, special attention and character areas are new. This presentation attempted to define these new areas, list descriptions, explain recommended strategies, and show links between the existing land use and future land use plans.

The last part of the meeting was dedicated to a Question and Answer session. Surveys of Potential Issues and Opportunities and Quality Community Objectives were available for public comment and input for the Community Assessment.



4. Schedule of Completion for the Community Agenda

TASK	DAYS	2006												Due Dates
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
Pre-Community Agenda Tasks	120													
Adoption of SDS	90			◆										3/27/2006
Completion of Community Assessment and Public Participation Program	120			◆	◆									3/31/2006
Complete Community Agenda	60													
Community Vision	60													6/14/2006
Future Development Map	60													6/14/2006
Defining Narrative	30													6/14/2006
Community Issues and Opportunities - Revised	7													6/21/2006
Implementation Program	7													6/28/2006
Short Term Work Program (STWP)	30													6/28/2006
Policies	30													6/28/2006
Draft Document	7													7/3/2006
Staff Review and Edits	5						◆							7/5/2006
Public Review and Submittal Process of Community Agenda	180													
Public Hearing—Phase I	2													8/15/2006 & 8/17/06
Public Hearing—Phase II	2													9/05/06 & 9/07/06
BOC Review	10													8/21/2006
Staff Review and Edits	5													9/08/2006
Prepare resolution for BOC Hearing	2													9/21/2006
Resolution to transmit Community Agenda to ARC/DCA	1													9/29/2006
Submit Community Assessment and Community Agenda to DCA / ARC	5								◆					8/1/2006
ARC Review Period	7													TBA
Community Agenda Completeness Certification	7													TBA
DCA Review Period	60													TBA
DeKalb Revisions to Community Assessment (if needed)	5													TBA
BOC Hearing to adopt Community Agenda	1									◆	◆			9/26/06 or 11/20/06
DCA Qualified Local Government Certification	30									◆	◆			10/03/06 or 11/27/06
Document Printing/Website/CDs and other Publications	5													12/8/2006

5. Appendix

Public Meeting Comments

The two-way dialogue generated by the public meetings allowed participants to express their concerns, to hear other viewpoints, and to enhance DeKalb County's understanding of community needs and expectations for a variety of planning factors. Furthermore, the project website enabled the County to reach out to citizens unable to attend public meetings, to exchange information with the public at their convenience, and to promote greater participation in the planning process.

The following describes the County residents' view on comprehensive planning issues.

Key Findings from the Public Meetings

Nearly 100 citizens from communities throughout DeKalb County attended the public meetings for the Comprehensive Plan and the Solid Waste Management Plan Update. Throughout the County, individuals and communities benefited from the public discussions because they provided a platform to respond to the data, information, and planning process outlined by DeKalb County. Eight major messages, listed below in order of importance, emerged from these meetings that were voiced by a number of citizens during the public outreach phase.

- **Solid Waste Management**

Regular and timely pickup of household and yard waste are the most important solid waste collection issues to County residents. Most residents believe the solid waste collection is adequate for current and future needs. Residents recommend the County consider weekly disposal collection and requiring mandatory recycling of certain goods. Other recommended improvements include better cleaning and maintenance of streets, roads, and areas surrounding fast food establishments. The majority of the residents would participate in curbside recycling if it was available from the County and some residents utilize the existing Doraville drop-off recycling facility. Many residents voiced concern about litter and illegal dumping—this is viewed as a major problem and residents recommend increased fines to discourage continued litter in the streets and in driveways. Residents strongly emphasized that the location identified for recycling and solid waste disposal (landfills) in DeKalb County were not suitable to the community and environment. Instead, residents restated the need for more recycling programs. Residents would like to see the Keep DeKalb Beautiful program extended to include more staff and resources as well as continued implementation of the litter control programs, such as Adopt-A-Road and school system programs, for effective solid waste management education. Residents indicated the most pressing need for residential solid waste management services is recycling.

Key Findings from the Public Meetings (continued)

- **Land Use**

Citizens believe that DeKalb County policies should promote more of the following land uses: parks and recreation, pedestrian oriented development, and compact/mixed use development. South DeKalb was identified as an area where new developments should be located as well as abandoned industrial sites, Candler Road and Wesley Chapel Road. Established neighborhoods, historic areas, sensitive environmental/wetland areas, and property within one mile of landfills should be avoided or protected from development. Citizens indicated the most pressing needs for land use in DeKalb County are: redevelopment for areas in serous decline, compatibility with transportation; high-end commercial development and to control and manage growth.

- **Housing**

Residents agree that dilapidated buildings and properties are a problem in their DeKalb County communities; however, residents describe the overall quality of housing as good/average. There are concerns about adequate housing for the aging population. Senior residents suggest more quality, single story, maintenance-free developments. Residents would like to see more code enforcement regarding property maintenance, more incentives for redevelopment and restoration. On the whole, residents believe the most pressing needs for housing are: mixed-income/mixed-use development that is accessible to employment centers via transit; housing for seniors;; and controlling infill development such as townhomes, condos, and apartment complexes.

- **Transportation**

Congestion on major roads is the most serious concern and is the most important transportation issue to DeKalb County residents. Other transportation issues and tier relative importance are depicted in the following table:

Key Findings from the Public Meetings (continued)

High Priority A serious concern exists/ very important	Medium Priority A concern exists/somewhat important	Not a Priority Not a concern/not important
• Congestion on major roads • Congestion at entrance/exit on I-285 • Lack of traffic signal synchronization • Congestion at entrance/exit on I-20 • Not enough space/not safe for bikes on roads • Congestion at entrance/exit on I-85 • Need additional entrance/exit ramps on I-20 • Need new roads to re-route traffic due to congestion • Not enough MARTA rail service • Need additional entrance/exit ramps on I-285 • Need wider roads to alleviate congestion • Unreliable MARTA rail service • Not enough alternative modes of transportation • Inadequate road surface conditions • Lack of sidewalks	• No traffic signal where needed • Lack of HOV lanes • Dangerous curves	• A traffic signal where it is not needed • Need additional entrance/exit ramps on I-85

Residents recommended a variety of solutions to address these transportation issues. For congestion, residents suggest synchronization of traffic lights at major intersections; increased investment and availability of alternative modes of transportation including MARTA. Express buses and carpooling; more and wider roadways; and improved safety for pedestrians and bicycles. For road conditions/design, residents would like more right turn in/out only driveway in highly congested areas; reflectors on roads to improve night vision and driving conditions; intersection improvements; more connectivity between communities; more streetscapes, trees, light posts, and traffic calming. For interstate access, residents desire improved access for I-20 entrance and exit ramps in DeKalb County as well as acceleration of GDOT and ARC approved transportation projects.

Key Findings from the Public Meetings (continued)

- **Economic Development**

Some DeKalb citizens believe there are not enough job opportunities that pay sufficient wages to support a decent living in DeKalb County. Others believe the jobs exist; however, the trained workforce does not. Workforce training, research park development, tax incentives for major corporations are some of the initiatives DeKalb County residents would support to attract new jobs and to retain existing jobs in the County. Most residents support the use of tax dollars to improve public infrastructure (sewer, water, roads, and public transit) that may help to attract new developments and businesses to DeKalb County. Residents believe the most important industries for DeKalb County to attract are trade, health/biosciences, engineering, and finance. To preserve quality of life in DeKalb County that may be impacted by economic development initiatives, residents suggest land credit, reuse and seeking economic development opportunities that enhance the environment.

- **Vision**

Some residents believe there needs to be more progress on the vision and goals for DeKalb County. Residents are calling for more follow-through and implementation of action plans as well as updates on DeKalb's progress. Residents believe the most pressing issues requiring the attention of the County are transportation, infrastructure, air, and water quality. In the next decade, residents believe the issues that will become most important to the growth of DeKalb's communities and economy are infrastructure maintenance, transportation and redevelopment as well as protecting the environment. Residents believe the greatest assets of DeKalb County are its location within metropolitan Atlanta, economic base, and County services. Conversely, residents believe the greatest drawbacks are the lack of affordable housing, current County greenspace. Protection of established neighborhoods, walkable communities, less sprawl, and, more dense developments. Land Use followed by Transportation and Housing are the most important planning elements to most DeKalb County residents.

- **Community Facilities**

Residents indicated that the community facilities needed most are: parks/greenspace, recreational centers, arts/cultural facilities, police departments, and public schools. Connecting residential areas to recreation areas by trails or sidewalks is also needed.

- **Intergovernmental Coordination**

Most residents agree that neighboring towns, cities, and counties should identify and work together toward shared goals. These goals should be to maintain and enhance communities; to increase connectivity; to preserve greenspace and reduce air, water, and sewer pollution; to improve public transportation and infrastructure, and to create more commerce and economic development opportunities. Most citizens are not satisfied with the level of communication between DeKalb County government and their communities. One citizen explained that neighbor-

hood goals include maintaining and enhancing quality of life and too often individuals that are not past of the neighborhoods seek changes for financial gain, negatively impacting the look and feel of the community. Citizens would like the county government to do more to enforce the County laws, rule, and guidelines that protect neighborhoods from outside developers and spend more time communication with affected neighborhoods. Residents would also like more notice of planned developments before developers and individuals get too far along in the zoning and variance process; more coordination of land use and transportation plans; and more review of Developments of Regional Impact.

Flyers

Flyers were mailed to all those on the Comprehensive Plan mailing list, DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission, Community Council, and various County staff and Department Heads. They were also used at the CEOs Townhall in May 2006. Example shown below.



Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

This is a new method of outreach that we have not used in the past. Various media sources of PSAs were available for use. These media types consisted of television, radio, websites, newspapers. There were a few university and website groups we did not use this round, but will use them for the Community Assessment. PSA sources are listed on the following pages.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS TO MEDIA (It is best to give at least 30 days notice for programming)			
Media Type	Name	Fax	Website
TV	Channel 46		www.cbs46.com
TV	GPB		www.gpb.org/public
Radio	GPB		www.gpb.org/public
TV	WAGA Fox 5		www.fox5atlanta.com
TV	WXIA TV/Channel 11		www.11alive.com
TV	WSB Channel 2		www.wsbtv.com
County Chamber	DeKalb Chamber of Commerce	404-378-3397	www.dekalbchamber.org
Radio	WREK 91.1 FM (GA Tech Student Radio)	404-894-6872	www.wrek.org
University	Agnes Scott College	471-6000	www.agnesscott.edu
University	Columbia Theological Seminary	378-8821	www.ctsnet.edu
University	DeKalb Technical College	297-9522	www.dekalbtech.org
University	DeVry Atlanta University	292-7900	www.atl.devry.edu
University	Emory University	727-6123	www.emory.edu
University	Georgia Perimeter College	299-4000	www.gpc.edu
University	Mercer University	547-6000	www.mercer.edu
University	Oglethorpe University	261-1441	www.oglethorpe.edu
Radio	V-103	NA	www.v-103.com
Radio	92.9 atlanta davefm	404-303-6593	www.929dave.fm
Radio	790 The Zone/WQXI AM	(404) 231-5923	www.790thezone.com
Radio	WSB 750 AM News-Talk Radio	404-897-7363	www.wsbradio.com
Radio	94.9 Lite FM		www.peach949.com
Radio	Star94FM	(404) 365-9026	www.star94.com
Newspaper	Creative Loafing	404-420-1402	www.creativeloafing.com
Newspaper	The Champion	404-373-7721	www.championnewspaper.com
E newsletter	Tucker Today		www.tuckertoday.com
E newsletter	GoDeKalb		www.godekalb.com
Newspaper	Dunwoody Crier	770-451-4223	www.thecrier.net
Newspaper	Cross Roads News	404-284-5007	www.crossroadsnews.com
Newspaper	The Story/Community Review		www.communityreview.net

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS TO MEDIA (It is best to give at least 30 days notice for programming)			
Media Type	Name	Fax	Website
website	Blair Belton's DeKalb Zoning Site		www.dekalbzoning.com
Transportation Group	I-20 DeKalb HOV Project		www.I-20DeKalbHOV.com
Radio	WCLK 91.9 FM Clark Atlanta University		www.wclk.com
Radio	WRFG 89.3 FM (Radio Free Georgia)		www.wrfg.org
Radio	WABE-FM 90.1[**Public Broadcasting Atlanta/ Atlanta Educational Telecommunications Collaborative, Inc.		www.wabe.org
TV	WPBA-TV 30[**]		www.wabe.org
Radio	WMRE Emory University Student Radio	404-712-8000	www.students.emory.edu
Radio	VIVA 105.7 FM		www.vivaatlanta.com
Newspaper	AJC/Atlanta Journal Constitution		www.ajc.com/services/content/services/open/customer-care/index.html
newspaper online	City of Decatur/Decatur Focus	404-378-2678	www.decaturga.com
newspaper online	Home Town News, Inc	770-934-0989	www.hometownnewsatlanta.com
newspaper	Southern Voice	404-876-2709	www.southernvoice.com
newspaper	DeKalb Neighbor		www.neighbornnewsletters.com/dekalb/
website***	http://www.ontheradio.net/metro/Atlanta_GA.aspx		www.ontheradio.net
website***	http://www.capitolimpact.com/		www.capitolimpact.com

SUMMARY

Over a span of two and a half years, a total of fifteen (15) public meetings, workshops, and community meetings have been held. A total of six (6) public meetings, staff workshops, and Board of Commissioner (BOC) work-sessions have been held to review and comment on the comprehensive plan (new standards).

In approaching the Community Agenda, we are expecting to facilitate at least seven (7) meetings for review and comment. At least four meetings will be public hearings, two BOC work-sessions, and one staff workshop. We are hoping to expand and improve upon previous marketing techniques, in order to reach a broader range of the County. Minority organizations will be added to the list of contacts, to provide a more diverse base for participation. Also, the Board of Commissioners will be a valuable resource to help improve our marketing.