

# **Table of Contents**

INTRODUCTION	2
VISION	7
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	8
HOUSING	10
COMMUNITY SERVICES	
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES	15
TRANSPORTATION	17
BROADBAND	20
LAND USE	23
REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAMS.	27
APPENDICES	

# Introduction

The 2023 Comprehensive Plan for Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville was adopted in February 2023 following the requirements detailed in Chapter 110-12-1: Minimum Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning set by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. This plan will serve as a guide for both governments over the next 20 years and will also serve as a useful tool to promote and maintain future growth and to improve the quality of life for all residents of Baldwin County and Milledgeville. Innovative approaches were employed to address issues with economic development, transportation, housing, natural and cultural resources, community services, and broadband. The steering committee developed a list of goals, needs, and opportunities for each of these categories. A five-year work program listing specific projects to be undertaken derived from the established needs and opportunities, and a list of accomplishments from the previous plan are included. The plan also details the city and county's existing and future land use to guide development throughout the community.

## **PLANNING PROCESS**

To formally kick off the update process, Middle Georgia Regional Commission (MGRC) staff met with each local government at regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Commissioners and City Council. The purpose of these meetings was to inform the elected leaders and members of each community of the comprehensive planning requirements and the updated timeline and to discuss the required and optional planning elements. It also served as an opportunity for members of the public to express any issues that should be focus areas for the updated comprehensive plan.



Picture 1: Baldwin County Government Building

MGRC staff worked closely with local officials to develop a list of stakeholders that would guide the planning process. This group included elected officials, city and county staff, members of the business community, and citizens. A list of steering committee members can be found in the table below.

Name	Organization	Title
Tony Anderson	Citizen	
Annie Bechum	Citizen	
Harvey Behne	Citizen	
Tina Behne	Citizen	
Lisha Bly	New Vision Youth & Community Services,	Director
, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Inc.	
Traci Bowden	Baldwin County Recreation Department	Director
Kendrick Butts	Baldwin County Board of Commissioners	Commissioner
Linc Boyer	City of Milledgeville Police Department	Patrol Commander
Emma Bryan	Citizen	
William Collier	City of Milledgeville	Fire Chief
Cathy Cox	President	Georgia College State University
Henry Craig	Baldwin County Board of Commissioners	Chairman
Bo Danuser	City of Milledgeville	City Clerk
Scott Deason	Baldwin County Sherriff's Department	Commander, Field
		Operations Division
Shelby Demeyers	Citizen	-
Cynthia Edwards	Baldwin County NAACP	Unit President
Jim Fain	Fickling Lake Country, LLC	Broker
James Finney	Citizen	
Mervin Graham	City of Milledgeville	Director of Planning & Zoning
Etta R. Gray	City of Milledgeville Police Department	Commander, Criminal
		Investigation Division
Hank Griffeth	City of Milledgeville	City Manager
Robert Hadden	City of Milledgeville Water and Sewer Dept.	Director
Sammy Hall	Baldwin County Board of Commissioners	Commissioner
Brittany Harrison	Baldwin County UGA Extension Office	County Extension
-		Coordinator
Melba Hilson-Butts	City of Milledgeville	Chief of Staff
Billy W. Hobbs	Union Recorder	Reporter
Sabrina Hosley	Baldwin Senior Center (Overview, Inc.)	Director
Dawn Hudson	Baldwin County	Assistant County Manager
Jonathan Jackson	Development Authority of the City of	Executive Director
, ,	Milledgeville and Baldwin County	
Wayne Johnson	Baldwin County Emergency Management	Director
Zachary Jordon	Citizen	
Jason Kidd	Baldwin County	Water Superintendent
Jennifer	Middle Georgia Regional Library System	Director
Lautzenheiser		
Bill Massee	Baldwin County Sherriff's Department	Sherriff
Bill Massee Deryl Nelson	Baldwin County Sherriff's Department Baldwin County Fire and Rescue	Sherriff Firefighter

Danny K. Register	Citizen	
Walter Reynolds	City of Milledgeville	Councilmember
Matt Roessing	The Roessing Firm, LLC	Attorney
Carlee Schulte	City of Milledgeville	Main Street Director
Melissa Smith	Citizen	
Bruce Solomon	Citizen	
Dray Swicord	City of Milledgeville	Police Chief
Timothy Thomas	City of Milledgeville	Director of Public Works
Carlos Tobar	Baldwin County	County Manager
Kevin E. Veal	City of Milledgeville Water and Sewer Dept.	Maintenance Director
Russ Walden	Citizen	Water Distribution
		Superintendent
Kyle Wall	Baldwin County	Golf Course Shop Manager
Carla Walter, Ph.D.	Allied Arts	Executive Director
John Westmoreland	Baldwin County Board of Commissioners	Commissioner
Brian Wood	Baldwin County	County Engineer
Gladys Wood	Citizen	
Victor Young	Baldwin County Fire and Rescue	Fire Chief

The Middle Georgia Regional Commission met with each local government in July 2022 to discuss the Comprehensive Plan update requirement. These meetings allowed both jurisdictions to determine the best approach for plan development and stakeholder involvement. Based on that input, the Comprehensive Plan update process formally began when the initial kick-off public hearing was held on October 4, 2022, at 5:00 pm at the Baldwin County Government Building. Documentation from this meeting can be found in the Appendix. The purpose of the hearing was to brief the community on the process to be used to develop the Joint Comprehensive Plan, opportunities for public participation, and to obtain input on the planning process. The meeting was attended by representatives from both local governments, community stakeholders, and members of the general public. The planning process schedule is included below.

	Baldwin County Comprehensive Plan Update Schedule		
Phase	Action	Timeframe	
1	Initial Meetings with Local Governments	July 2022	
2	Public Engagement, Including Kick-off Public Hearing	September – October 2022	
3	Steering Committee Meetings	October 2022	
4	Community Work Program Update	November – December 2022	
5	Drafting and Review	December 2022	
6	Revision and Adoption	January – February 2023	



Picture 2: Crowd at the first public hearing to kick off the Comprehensive Plan update.

After meetings with Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville, it was decided that conducting an online survey to elicit public input would be appropriate. This survey saw a good amount of participation from the general public in Putnam County and the City of Eatonton, gaining over 132 responses. The survey was open for public participation after the kick-off public hearing and remained open through all of the steering committee meetings.

For the steering committee meetings phase of the Comprehensive Plan update, Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville jointly coordinated with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission to determine the most efficient

manner of conducting their meetings. The schedule of meetings is included in the table below. The meetings began with an overview of what the Comprehensive Plan was and an update on the planning process. The discussion of each topic included a review of the goals, needs, and opportunities from the 2018 plan, sharing results from the online survey and public engagement, and group engagement exercises including SWOT analyses, mapping activities, and facilitated group discussions. The sign-in sheets from these meetings are included in the Appendix.

	Baldwin County Comprehensive Plan Update Schedule			
Meeting	Topic(s)	Date and Location		
Number				
1	Joint Meeting: Community Services and Broadband – Visioning, Goals, Needs, and Opportunities	October 10, 2022, 5:00 – 7:00 PM @ Baldwin County Government Building		
2	Joint Meeting: Natural & Cultural Resources and Economic Development – Goals, Needs, and Opportunities	October 20, 2022, 5:00 – 7:00 PM @ Baldwin County Government Building		
3	Joint Meeting: Housing and Transportation – Goals, Needs, and Opportunities	October 24, 2022, 5:00 – 7:00 PM @ Baldwin County Government Building		
4	Baldwin County: Community Work Program Update and Future Land Use	November 30, 2022, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Baldwin County Government Building		
5	City of Milledgeville: Community Work Program Update and Future Land Use	December 1, 2022, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Milledgeville City Hall		
6	Revision and Adoption	January – February 2023		

After completing the steering committee meetings, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission took all of the information gathered from the meetings and public engagement activities (including online surveys) and began drafting the goals, needs, and opportunities for each section in the Comprehensive Plan. These

drafts were brought to the next round of meetings, in November and December, with both local governments during the discussion of the Community Work Program. At these Community Work Program meetings, the groups reviewed the 2018 Community Work Program and gave updates on all the previous projects and initiatives before discussing potential new projects for the 2023 – 2028 update to be included in the new Community Work Program.

The draft of the Comprehensive Plan was shared with Baldwin County, the City of Milledgeville, and the steering committee on December 19, 2022. The second required public hearing was held on January 3, 2023, to present the plan to the public. Final comments were received and incorporated into the plan before it was submitted to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for their formal review before being adopted by the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners and the Milledgeville City Council. All of the documentation from these meetings is included in the Appendix.



Picture 3: Downtown Milledgeville

## Vision

The steering committee developed the following vision statement to illustrate the values of the city and county during the 2018 planning sessions and it continues to be relevant for the 2023 Comprehensive Plan update.

Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville, known for their friendly atmosphere and plentiful resources, seeks to create a community where people of all ages desire to call home. We are committed to cultivating a citizenry that promotes a diverse and historic culture while empowering one another to contribute to the community and enhance/advance its capacity to prosper.

# **Economic Development**

## **Goals:**

- 1. Continue to develop Baldwin County's economy around strategic industries.
- 2. By investing in quality-of-life improvements, Baldwin County can enhance economic development efforts.

## **Needs and Opportunities:**

**1.** By expanding the capacity of utilities at industrial parks, Baldwin County can more effectively pursue industrial development.

Sibley-Smith Industrial Park and the Fall Line Industrial Park are both opportunities for large-scale industrial development that would bring millions of dollars of investment and hundreds of jobs to Baldwin County. However, these parks remain underdeveloped, possibly because additional investment is needed for the parks to become attractive for potential industries. The Development Authority of Milledgeville and Baldwin County, which is responsible for marketing the parks, has recently updated a development



Picture 4: Concept Plan for the Fall Line Industrial Park

plan for Sibley-Smith following a phased approach. Studies have also been completed evaluating the costs of developing the Fall Line Industrial Park. While the costs to fully develop either park are very high, by completing these improvements, the Development Authority can more effectively pursue industrial development.

# 2. The continued redevelopment of Central State Hospital is an opportunity for economic development.

The 2,000-acre Central State Hospital Campus is a unique opportunity for economic development in Baldwin County. Since 2016, more than 550 jobs and \$126 million have been invested in the campus. While these improvements should be celebrated, the vast size of the campus gives it the potential for increased redevelopment. The history of the area as a long-term treatment center for thousands of patients lends itself to a unique development opportunity because of all the different structures needed to operate such a large operation. The redevelopment of Parham Kitchen is an example of ideal development, as the former "Central Kitchen" has been repurposed into a frozen food packaging facility that will hopefully hire about 140 workers. The continued redevelopment opportunities.

# 3. Additional workforce development programs are needed to boost employment in Baldwin County.

A consistent theme that was shared by Baldwin County residents was a desire for high-quality jobs or jobs that pay a living wage with the opportunity for career advancement. Economic development officials shared that there are many of these jobs available in the county, but there is a skills gap between potential employees and these employers. While there are some existing workforce and skill development programs available, they could be enhanced by working with industries to ensure the skills taught are pragmatic. The development of new workforce development programs would provide a boost to existing residents, as well as businesses that seek to hire local workers, allowing for enhanced economic development efforts countywide.

# 4. The tourism and recreation industries represent an economic development opportunity for Baldwin County and Milledgeville.

Baldwin County has many historical and natural resources that can be better utilized for tourism development opportunities. Milledgeville was founded in 1803 and is one of only two cities in the county to be designed as a capital city, which has left the City with a unique collection of historic resources. Sites such as Georgia's old Capitol Building, the Brown-Stetson-Sanford House, Andalusia Farm, and Central State Hospital are locations that can attract tourists. Bartram Forest, Lake Sinclair, and the Oconee River are already natural resources that serve as a tourism draw. By taking advantage of these resources, Baldwin County can build a more diverse economy.



Picture 5: Lake Sinclair, a popular tourism destination.

# Housing

**Goals:** 

- 1. Promote quality housing opportunities for all citizens.
- 2. Advance blight remediation efforts throughout Milledgeville and Baldwin County.

## **Needs and Opportunities:**

1. The City of Milledgeville and Baldwin County can utilize their status as GICH communities to further the affordable housing efforts within their jurisdictions.



Picture 6: Baldwin County and Milledgeville are GICH communities

The Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) is a collaborative effort between the Housing and Demographics Research Center at the University of Georgia and the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). The initiative is a three-year program that provides technical assistance with the long-term objective of developing and implementing a locally based housing plan to meet the unique needs of communities. The City of Milledgeville and Baldwin County are both GICH participants. DCA provides programmatic incentives, such as bonus points on housing-related grant applications and the opportunity to circumvent the every-other-year rule

for applying for Community Development Block Grant funding, to communities that actively participate in the initiative. Baldwin County was accepted as a member of the 2021 cohort and is eligible for all the incentives available. The City of Milledgeville, accepted into the 2007 cohort, completed the initial threeyear program in 2009. However, DCA now requires alumni communities to apply for certified alumni status every two years to continue receiving special consideration on DCA program applications. Milledgeville has not yet fulfilled those requirements. The City of Milledgeville should pursue GICHcertified alumni status now and the Baldwin County housing team should fulfill the requirements once the county's team graduates from the program.

# 2. CHIP funding is an opportunity to develop a homeowner rehabilitation program to help low-income Baldwin County residents.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) receives a formula allotment of Federal HOME funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The State awards approximately \$5 million

statewide from that allotment to eligible applicants, averaging 5-10 grant awards each year through the state's Community HOME Investment Partnership (CHIP) grant. The State provides for two eligible uses of CHIP funds, new construction of homes to be sold to low-to-moderate-income buyers and the rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes. Currently, the majority of funds awarded are for homeowner rehabilitation, which serves two purposes – the mitigation of potential blight due to deferred maintenance and the provision of long-term safe, decent, affordable housing for homeowners who otherwise would not afford to maintain their homes. In 2022, Baldwin County successfully applied for CHIP funding for \$400,000 to assist up to eight homeowners. Baldwin County intends to continue to leverage its GICH incentive points to further the Baldwin County Housing Team's goals of assisting homeowners with the rehabilitation of their homes by continuing to apply for CHIP applications, whenever eligible.

## **3.** Baldwin County needs to continue building its relationship with nonprofit organizations to provide homebuyer assistance.

The comprehensive plan steering committee recognizes that providing housing opportunities for all citizens requires the cultivation and development of partnerships, especially with mission-driven nonprofit organizations, such as the Habitat for Humanity of Milledgeville/Baldwin County. Baldwin County possesses over 30 lots suitable for building in the Oconee Heights and Harrisburg neighborhoods. Ideally, these lots should be transferred to nonprofit developers who have access to expertise and funding through CHIP and other sources for the development of single-family homes to sell to eligible low-to-moderate-income homebuyers.



Picture 7: Habitat for Humanity is a potential partner for housing improvements in Baldwin County

# 4. A diverse housing stock is needed to fulfill the housing needs of individuals and families in various life stages.

Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville are unique to Middle Georgia in that it is essentially a rural community that is home to two college campuses, Georgia Military College and Georgia College and State University (Georgia College). Therefore, the student, faculty, and staff housing needs, as well as the housing needs of the permanent residents must be considered and balanced as much as possible. The student population has created a market for rental housing directed toward that demographic leaving a lack of suitable affordable rental housing for young professionals, including the professionals employed on their campus. The community has a variety of housing stock, including historic homes, apartments, single-family homes, and second homes located in the lake area. However, additional housing is needed to meet the demand for market-rate rental units, as well as starter homes for first-time homebuyers, older residents who either desire to age in place or relocate to housing specifically for an older person 55 and up, and to meet the needs of low-to-moderate-income residents through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program administered by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

## **Community Services**

## **Goals:**

- **1.** Complete necessary infrastructure improvements to ensure quality services for all residents.
- 2. Improve overall community safety.

## **Needs and Opportunities:**

**1.** There are areas within Milledgeville and Baldwin County that suffer from reoccurring stormwater drainage issues.

There are areas of Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville that are prone to flooding during periods of heavy rainfall. Areas, such as Holly Road within Milledgeville, experience periodic overflows of the stormwater drainage system. The implementation of the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) monitoring system by the City for continuous monitoring of the stormwater system for breaches and damage for immediate reporting will provide increased security from damages caused by flooding. Additionally, both the city and county will benefit from ensuring adequate infrastructure to support downstream impacts of heavy rain to minimize the impact on residents.

#### 2. There is an opportunity to utilize technology to improve community safety.

Public safety was a topic of concern in the citizen surveys leading up to the comprehensive plan steering committee meetings. Respondents indicated that safety is the greatest challenge to overcome for Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville. The City and County, through a cooperative effort, are working to address that concern through the purchase of 60 Flock Safety cameras. The Flock Safety cameras are being installed strategically throughout the county. The new technology monitors vehicles on public roads and public property, such as the Walter B. Williams Park, to aid in locating suspect vehicles used during the perpetration of criminal activity.

The Flock Safety system is one measure to aid in resident safety; however, the stakeholder committee mentioned other meaningful improvements must be



Picture 8: Flock Safety camera. Photo from 41NBC

instituted to meet the ever-evolving public safety needs. For instance, public safety radios are in danger of obsolescence once their useful life ends; meaning new communications equipment is needed for all

departments for interoperability within the department and with other jurisdictions, as well as the purchase of new vehicles, including rescue boats, to maintain the "rolling stock." The City and County will continue to pursue grants for technology to meet the safety needs of the first responders and the community.

#### 3. Investments need to be made to replace aging water and sewer infrastructure.

The comprehensive plan steering committee discussed several successes in meeting the water and sewer infrastructure needs of the community. For instance, in 2022 Baldwin County successfully applied for \$1,000,000 for sanitary sewer improvements in the Lee Street target area. However, the committee noted that much remained to be done. All sewer lines west of Vinson Highway need replacing and water pressure needs to be increased southeast of the lake to keep up with the increased development in that area of the county. All galvanized lines require replacement in the Coopers area of Baldwin County. The steering committee recommended that Milledgeville modernize the water and sewer plants and replace water meters with an automatic metering system that will recognize, and report leaks in real-time. These recommendations for essential services will improve the water quality for residents and enable both governments to meet the needs of residents as growth continues.

#### 4. Fire protection needs to be expanded throughout Baldwin County.

The Baldwin County Fire and Rescue Department provides excellent coverage to most areas of the county. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluates the capacity of fire prevention and suppression efforts by the fire department to determine the premium to charge residents for homeowners/property insurance. Baldwin County has an ISO rating of 3, which is among the best in the State and is only matched in urban areas of the State. However, there are pockets in Baldwin County that do not receive the same benefits as these areas because they are either too far from a fire station or fire hydrant. Baldwin County should consider building additional fire stations in the southeast and northeast portions of the county to ensure residents have complete protection and to ensure that fire hydrants are available wherever development



occurs. In addition, the county needs to purchase an additional ladder truck to protect northern Baldwin County along Highway 441 because taller buildings are being built there. The ISO Office requires a ladder truck to be available to protect all buildings taller than 35 feet, or about three stories high.

Picture 9: Baldwin County Fire and Rescue Department Headquarters

#### 5. The public health of Baldwin County needs to be improved.

The University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation reported in their 2022 annual report that Baldwin County ranks 91 out of the 159 counties in Georgia. The rankings are derived by reviewing health outcomes (the health of the county now) and health factors (things that can improve the quality of life) for Baldwin County residents. This ranking indicates the County does need to improve its healthcare for all residents. Quality of life factors leading to the lower health outcomes in Baldwin County includes such things as residents reporting poor physical and mental health days and an 11 percent incidence of low birth weight in newborns, a rate both higher than the state and national average. Other health factors, such as a high incidence of adult smoking, adult obesity, and a 17 percent rate of uninsured individuals contributed to the ranking. Additionally, the steering committee lamented the lack of available mental health services within the county. With the closure of the Central State Hospital, once the largest mental health facility in the nation, the incidence of mental health episodes has increased, and the Baldwin County jail is now the primary source of care for individuals requiring

#### Health Outcomes

Health outcomes represent how healthy a county is right now, in terms of length of life but quality of life as well.

Baldwin (BD) is ranked in the lower middle range of counties in Georgia (Lower 25%-50%).



#### **Health Factors**

Health Factors represent those things we can modify to improve the length and quality of life for residents.

Baldwin (BD) is ranked in the lower middle range of counties in Georgia (Lower 25%-50%).



Picture 10: Heath rankings for Baldwin County.

treatment as many commit infractions resulting in incarceration. Therefore, the Baldwin County comprehensive plan steering committee recognized that the improvement of health outcomes, both physical and mental health, is necessary for Baldwin County.

## Natural and Cultural Resources

## **Goals:**

- **1.** Promote natural and cultural resources that contribute to a high quality of life for Baldwin County residents.
- 2. Ensure all citizens have access to quality recreational opportunities and access to parks.

## **Needs and Opportunities:**

1. Installing signage throughout Baldwin County will help promote the character and assets of Milledgeville and Baldwin County.

When asked what the identity of Baldwin County is, many people would respond that it is "Georgia's Lake Country." However, there are many distinct areas and landmarks throughout Baldwin County that travelers and residents may be unaware of because there is a lack of signage throughout the county. Installing signage throughout Baldwin County identifying historic areas and the diverse cultures and ethnicities of the county will help promote a more complete image of all the assets in the county. The signage would also help promote tourism destinations, including the historic district in Milledgeville, the former Central State Hospital grounds, the Coopers Neighborhood, the Oconee River Greenway, and Bartram Forest.

### 2. Investments into parks and public spaces will increase the quality of life of Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville residents.

A theme brought up throughout the steering committee meetings was a need to invest in quality-of-life improvements for Baldwin County residents. The biggest issue that was brought up was a lack of investment in neighborhood or community parks throughout the county. To counteract this, the County and City have completed studies and are planning investments in parks over the coming years that include both investments into existing parks and the development of new parks. The successful completion of these projects will enhance parks countywide and offer new amenities that will enhance the quality of life for all residents in Baldwin County.



Picture 11: Baldwin County officials have been working to secure funding to transform the Collins P. Lee Community Center into a library.

# 3. Adequate space at the Central State Hospital campus needs to be preserved for public use.

Because the City of Milledgeville was designed as the antebellum capital of Georgia, it is home to many historic resources that are a part of the identity of the City and Baldwin County. Perhaps no resources are as synonymous with the area as Central State Hospital, which used to be one of the largest mental health hospitals in the world. When the State Government began closing the facility in 2010 after 171 years of service, they not only closed one of the largest employers in the county, but they also vacated 200 buildings and about 2,000 acres of land outside of Downtown Milledgeville that many people considered synonymous with life in Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville.

A consistent theme when the public was engaged in this plan was a desire to preserve space at the Central State Hospital campus for public use. This is not only because of the natural beauty of the space but also the memories many residents have from working or having family members work on campus. Some ideas for public spaces include a community garden, park spaces around the ponds, an amphitheater, and a cultural center that would include the history of the campus and a workspace for local artists.



Picture 12: Powell Building on the Central State Hospital Campus. Photo via the Union Recorder

## Transportation

## **Goals:**

- 1. Invest in safety improvements on high-traffic streets.
- 2. Ensure existing transportation infrastructure is properly maintained.
- 3. Promote and provide for the utilization of non-automobile forms of transportation.

## **Needs and Opportunities:**

#### 1. Many streets in Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville need to be repaved.

Milledgeville and Baldwin County intend to continue making regular improvements to local transportation infrastructure leveraging local, state, and federal dollars wherever possible to maintain and improve roads, bridges, and highways. Infrastructure maintenance is essential to economic development and community revitalization. The steering committee acknowledged roads throughout the county need repaving to prevent long-term deterioration.

## 2. Investing in traffic calming and safety improvements on high-traffic roads is an opportunity to improve the safety of motorists.

High-traffic roads within the City of Milledgeville, specifically areas surrounding the Milledgeville Mall and the Walmart Supercenter, pose a danger to motorists and pedestrians. The Milledgeville Mall entrance and exit points are on Columbia Street and Robertson Mill Road, both heavy-traffic four-lane highways. According to the Georgia Department of Transportation, those points have been the scene of a combined 803 traffic accidents. Although the accidents primarily resulted in property damage and minor injuries, at least two deaths occurred. Similarly, the entrance and exit points from the Walmart Supercenter and the adjoining shops within its shopping center were the scene of 718 traffic accidents. The steering committee determined that many of these accidents could have been avoided or damages mitigated if traffic calming improvements were developed. For instance, eliminating entrance and exit points onto these heavily traveled roads and requiring right turns only at exit points onto North Columbia Street from both locations and right turn requirements onto Robertson Mill Road from the Milledgeville Mall could reduce the amount of cross lane traffic, possibly resulting in few accidents.

# 3. Expanding sidewalks networks and other pedestrian connectivity measures are an opportunity to encourage multi-modal transportation options.

The expansion of the sidewalks and trails for pedestrian connectivity was considered by the steering committee to be a key method of alleviating traffic congestion and promoting healthier lifestyles for residents. The steering committee agreed that walking can be difficult and potentially unsafe in several areas. For instance, sidewalks are on Irwinton Road but only on one side, which can be potentially dangerous. Downtown Milledgeville is walkable; however, there is not an easy and safe way to travel to downtown without an automobile. Furthermore, the Oconee River Greenway Park and Riverwalk have wonderful trails, but the committee agreed that expanding sidewalk connectivity from it to greater Milledgeville could be an even greater asset to the community. Additionally, trails and sidewalks could be expanded to include multi-modal transportation options, such as electric scooters, electric bikes, and traditional bicycles.

# 4. The promotion of electric vehicle charging stations is needed as part of a modern transportation system.

In addition to Tesla and Rivian, all major vehicle producers now manufacture a line of electric vehicles (EVs). According to the U.S. Department of Energy, plug-in electric vehicles almost doubled in sales between 2020 and 2021 (https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/articles/new-plug-electric-vehicle-sales-united-states-nearly-doubled-2020-2021). Furthermore, Rivian Automotive, an Irvine California based electric pickup truck and SUV manufacturer plans to construct a 20-million-square-foot plant on a 2,000-acre mega-site straddling Morgan and Walton counties, near Rutledge, Georgia. The manufacturing plant will be approximately 48 miles north of downtown Milledgeville; therefore, it is not unreasonable to think that EV ownership will increase in Baldwin County. Unfortunately, according to the mobility infrastructure map below, there are only three charging stations within Baldwin County and none within the population center of downtown Milledgeville or near the campuses of the colleges. The lack of charging stations represents a missed opportunity for luring visitors away from the alternative fuel corridors along interstates and major highways, as well as providing a service to residents and the student population.



Picture 14: United States electric vehicle sales

Picture 13: Electric vehicle charging stations in and around Milledgeville

# 5. Baldwin County needs to increase awareness of the on-demand public transportation services.

The Baldwin County Public Transportation Department operates a Department of Transportation Federal Transportation Administration Section 5311 Program appointment-based (demand response) bus system. Although the transit system has been in place for several years, residents attending the comprehensive plan's initial public hearing complained of a lack of transportation options or knowledge of the bus system. Therefore, the steering committee determined that the County needs to increase the marketing of the program to reach untapped markets.



Picture 15: Baldwin County bus.

## Broadband

## **Goals:**

**1.** Ensure all Baldwin County and City of Milledgeville residents and businesses have access to high-quality and affordable broadband service.

## **Needs and Opportunities:**

**1.** Partner with EMCs and internet providers to enhance broadband service countywide.

Access to quality broadband service is a necessity for all residents. In February 2022, Baldwin County received a grant to help facilitate the expansion of broadband to areas of East Baldwin County that are currently unserved by internet providers through a partnership with Tri-County EMC, Spectrum, and Windstream. This grant is expected to provide a significant improvement in the quality of life for those residents. Supporting continued work to expand and enhance broadband services across the county is critical to ensuring every resident has access to reliable high-speed internet and will provide ongoing economic development opportunities for residents and businesses.



Picture 16: Groundbreaking for broadband service expansion in eastern Baldwin County.

## **Broadband Analysis**

The State of Georgia, as part of the Georgia Broadband Deployment Initiative (GBDI), undertook a largescale survey of broadband access, mapping more than five million locations of homes and businesses across the state, and overlaying that data with information on broadband provider service availability. Map 1, below, shows this data at the Census Block level. An interactive version of this data made by the Middle Georgia Regional Commission can be found at: <u>https://tinyurl.com/BaldwinCoBroadband</u>.

As can be seen from Map 1, below, the majority of the unserved areas in Baldwin County are in the unincorporated area. Across the entire county, 13 percent of Census Block locations are considered 'unserved,' meaning that fewer than 20 percent of locations within each respective block do not meet the FCC's minimum definition of broadband service (at least 25 Mbps download speed and at least 3 Mbps upload speed).



Map 1: Broadband Service in Baldwin County.

In examining the levels of service available in Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville, two focus areas were identified that would significantly benefit from expanded broadband capabilities, both in the unincorporated areas of the county. Map 2 (below) shows the first identified area located east of the City of Milledgeville in unincorporated Baldwin County and includes points indicating the location of residential, commercial, industrial, and public buildings. Expanding service east of Milledgeville, around Kings Road and Highway 24 would bring broadband service to many residential structures. Most of these

homes are just outside the areas that will receive new from service expanded broadband service as a result of the broadband grant received by Baldwin This area County. should be considered for future broadband expansion.



Map 2: Potential broadband expansion area in eastern Baldwin County.

Another area, shown on Map 3 (below), that would benefit from expanded broadband capabilities is areas in Western Baldwin County. Specifically, the areas along Highway 49 west and County Line Church Road, Salem Church Road, Wright Road, Covey Road, and Grace Weaver Road are currently considered unserved by broadband providers. To date, there have not been any grant awards made to expand service to this area; therefore, it should be considered for future broadband expansion projects.



Map 4 (below) shows areas of Baldwin County that will be served by projects funded by broadband grants in the coming years. Baldwin County was awarded a \$1.5 million grant in February 2022 that will bring broadband service to 700 homes east of the City of Milledgeville. There are also portions in the county that will be served by providers who won the FCC RDOF Auction 904. There are no major projects planned for Milledgeville; a majority of the city is already considered served by broadband service.



Map 4: Areas of Baldwin County with planned broadband expansion projects.

# Land Use

The land use maps in this section highlight the projected land use of parcels in Baldwin County in the years ahead. These maps contain very few deviations from the current land use throughout Baldwin County. Baldwin County does not have zoning codes to guide future land use decisions; however, the county is considering the implementation of zoning in the 2023-2028 planning period. The City of Milledgeville has a Land Development Code that is used to guide the physical development of the City. What follows below is a description of the characteristics of the different land uses throughout the County.

#### <u>Agricultural</u>

The majority of land in Baldwin County, mostly in the unincorporated county, has land use for agriculture. These areas have a general rural character and are characterized by low densities of single-family housing, forest reserved for timbering, and small- to medium-sized farms.

#### **Residential**

Nearly all of the residential land use in Baldwin County is made of single-family residences and most of the residential development is in and around the City of Milledgeville. Residential development in the City is relatively close-knit and denser than the housing development in the unincorporated county; however, there are some moderately dense developments in the areas immediately surrounding the city limits. Typically, these development patterns follow the spokes of major highways out from the city center. The shores of Lake Sinclair are primarily residential properties packed densely together with lake frontage at a premium.



Picture 17: Shops that are open at the Milledgeville Mall

#### **Commercial**

Commercial development in Baldwin County is found clustered within Milledgeville's city limits and along Highway 441, primarily north of the city. There is a large cluster of commercial developments near the intersection of Highway 441 and the 441 Bypass, where the Milledgeville Mall and a variety of strip commercial development exist. Most of the future commercial development is anticipated along the Highway 441 corridor between Milledgeville and Lake Sinclair.

#### Parks, Recreation, and Conservation

Baldwin County has a number of natural resources that are designated as conservation. Most notable are Lake Sinclair and the Oconee River, as well as its floodplains to encourage environmental protection while steering development away from flood-prone areas. The Bartram Forest Wildlife Management Area

is included as a conservation land use because of its nature as a wildlife management area, as well as Andalusia Farm (the estate of Flannery O'Connor) to preserve its historical significance. In addition, there are a variety of public parks and recreation facilities scattered throughout Baldwin County but are typically clustered near residential developments.

#### <u>Industrial</u>

There are several sites in Baldwin County with either current or future land use being industrial. The

Milledgeville-Baldwin County Industrial Park on Highway 22 is home to manufacturing, medical, and distribution facilities. Industrial Development is anticipated in the future at Sibley-Smith Industrial Park on Highway 441 and the Fall Line Industrial Park, which is the Fall managed by Line Development Authority. Because of the Fall Line Industrial Park's strategic location at the intersection of Highway 441 and the Fall Line Freeway. commercial some development is likely as well.



Picture 18: Parham Kitchen at Central State Hospital, which has been converted into frozen meal manufacturing facility.

#### <u>Mixed Use</u>

Mixed Use development in Baldwin County will primarily happen in two areas. The largest is the Central State Hospital Campus, which is anticipated to continue its redevelopment. Because of the diversity of existing buildings and a well-developed street network, which lends itself to a small community with housing, commercial, and some industrial development. Mixed-use development is also anticipated around Lake Sinclair and the Highway 441 Corridor. These are among the areas in Baldwin County most likely to see development; a variety of development including housing and commercial is also anticipated in close proximity to these areas.

#### **Public/Institutional**

Milledgeville and Baldwin County have a large number of institutional uses because of the city's history as the former state capital and the location of Georgia College and State University, Georgia Military School, and Central Georgia Technical College. Most of these institutions are clustered in and around



Picture 19: Georgia's Old Capitol Building at Georgia Military College

downtown Milledgeville, but there are other public/institutional uses throughout the unincorporated county.



Residential

Millidgeville Boundary

0 0.5 1

Miles



Map compiled by the Middle Georgia Regional Commission in December, 2022 for general planning and reference purposes. MGRC makes no warranty, representation, or guarantee as to the content, accuracy, timelines, or completeness of the information provided herein and shall assume no liability for errors, omissions or inaccuracies on the map. Primary data sources include Baldwin County, City of Milledgeville, MGRC and ESRI.

\mgrc\misc\Counties\Baldwin\Comprehensive Plan\2022











Map compiled by the Middle Georgia Regional Commission in December, 2022 for general planning and reference purposes. MGRC makes no warranty, representation, or guarantee as to the content, accuracy, timelines, or completeness of the information provided herein and shall assume no liability for errors, omissions or inaccuracies on the map. Primary data sources include Baldwin County, MGRC and ESRI.

marc\misc\Counties\Baldwin\Comprehensive Plan\202

# CITY-HALL OR ACCOMPANY OF ACCOM

Milledgevi

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
	Economic I	Development	
1	Clear and maintain vacant lots in preparation for prospective industries.	Ongoing	Site development planning underway; adjust language in 2023-2028 CWP and combine with 11.
2	Continue to coordinate educational programs with industries.	Completed	
3	Continue recruitment of specialized programs to GMC, GC&SU, and CGTC.	Completed	
4	Enhance communication between industry/businesses and educational institutions.	Completed	
5	Continue to refocus programs at educational institutions to match existing and future industry/ businesses.	Completed	
6	Reestablish mentorship program between educational institutions and industry/business.	Ongoing	School District, for example, started a welding program; need to help students secure internships. Reword for 2023-2028 CWP
7	Designate agency or individual for overseeing and recruitment of businesses in rural Baldwin County.	Completed	
8	Designate Opportunity Zones through application.	Completed	
9	Seek funding for small business incubators.	Cancelled	No longer a top priority for County; Economic Development Center established by City.

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
10	Promote/continue existing programs available to provide downtown merchants with funding for façades and other building improvements.	Cancelled	No longer a top priority for County; this is a city driven activity.
11	Construct additional parallel rail spurs at mega-industrial park.	Ongoing	Working to address environmental (wetland) areas on property; combine with 1 in 2023-2028 CWP.
12	Identify needs of young professional workforce and establish programs for engagement.	Cancelled	No longer a top priority for County; this is a focus of the Board of Education and Development Authority.
13	Collaborate between government and authorities to determine funding guidelines and applications to attract businesses and industry.	Completed	
14	Grow business partnerships in support of the retirement community.	Completed	
15	Continue development of Fall Line Freeway Industrial Park.	Ongoing	Assessment of infrastructure needs complete
16	Research water and sewer capacity/sewer and road infrastructure for Fall Line Freeway Industrial Park site.	Completed	
17	Research transportation projects (highway widening, etc.) that will increase the accessibility and connectivity of the current industrial park and the Fall Line Freeway Industrial Park.	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES		
	Housing				
1	Partner with local realtors and/or Middle Georgia Regional Commission to complete an assessment.	Completed			
2	Create a targeted redevelopment strategy for housing.	Completed			
3	Recruit developers specializing in senior and affordable housing.	Completed			
4	Partner with Businesses to provide incentives.	Cancelled	No longer a top priority for County.		
5	Submit applications for CHIP Grants.	Completed			
6	Research funding sources to assist in the rehabilitation of deteriorating homes of low/moderate- income families.	Completed			
	Natural and Cultural Resources				
1	Maintain protection of historic and cultural resources along the Oconee River as part of the development of the Oconee River Greenway.	Completed			
2	Increase general awareness of historic resources utilized by GMC and GC&SU.	Completed			

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
3	Improve signage and marketing for Bartram Forest.	Completed	
4	Increase and coordinate the marketing of cultural events.	Completed	
5	Continue scrap tire disposal enforcement program.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.
6	Enforce the Soil and Sedimentation Control Ordinances for Milledgeville and Baldwin County.	Completed	
7	Enforce existing regulations related to the protection of farmland/open space, placement of septic tanks, flood-prone areas, plant and animal habitats, and important historic structures.	Completed	
8	Seek funding for additional phases of the Oconee River Greenway.	Completed	
9	Continue to extend Fishing Creek Trail.	Completed	
10	Create educational programs on the importance of river and lake clean-up and utilize slogans or taglines.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.
11	Enhance the effectiveness of animal control by posting signage pertaining to emergency numbers and what to do in an emergency.	Completed	
12	Support re-establishment of historic resource advocacy organizations such as "Friends if Baldwin County Cemeteries" and Baldwin County Historic Society.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
13	Research enforcement of vacation rental tax.	Completed	
	Community Fac	ilities and Services	
1	Become a State-Certified Literate Community.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.
2	Increase community awareness and exposure to programs offered at educational institutions.	Completed	
3	Assist in the implementation of Master Plans for all the educational facilities.	Cancelled	This was not a County project, it was led by the Board of Education.
4	Pursue grants for additional personnel and equipment for Baldwin County Sheriff's Department and City of Milledgeville's Police Department.	Completed	
5	Continue infrastructure development in rural Baldwin County.	Completed	
6	Continue development of high speed internet, cable, and other such utilities in the eastern portion of rural Baldwin County.	Completed	
7	Apply for fire grants for new equipment for both city and county departments.	Completed	
8	Create a directory of community services and link to the city/county website.	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
9	Pursue additional funding to create more staff positions to ensure adequate enforcement of county codes.	Completed	
10	Develop coordination strategy with GC&SU and GMC to become wireless community.	Completed	
11	Continue paving dirt roads in the unincorporated area of Baldwin County.	Completed	
12	Harrisburg and Midway recreation improvements.	Completed	
13	Water System improvements: HWY 212, Hopewell Church Rd, Lake Laurel Rd.	Completed	
14	Build additional passive parks.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.
15	Construct a community swimming pool or splash pad.	Ongoing	The county is seeking funding to construct an aquatic center at Walter B Williams Park.
16	Improve county animal shelter.	Completed	
17	Address areas of failing and deteriorated water and sewer infrastructure within county service delivery area.	Completed	
	Land Use		

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
1	Establish incentives for developers who undertake projects consistent with the development patterns and protect sensitive natural resources.	Completed	
2	Establish a process to coordinate with State agencies and timber companies owning land in Milledgeville and Baldwin County on their development plans.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.
3	Monitor growth along the Oconee River Greenway to discourage incompatible land uses.	Completed	
4	Add landscaping requirements for commercial development to Baldwin County Land Use Codes.	Cancelled	The County is developing a new land use code.
5	Designate districts for community commercial areas in Land Use Regulations for Unincorporated Baldwin County.	Ongoing	County has a draft land use code and map under review.
	Transp	oortation	
1	Improve access to Baldwin County Schools from Blandy Road.	Completed	
2	Pursue signage and landscaping for entrances to Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville along major highways.	Ongoing	Young GameChangers developed way finding plan. Implementation to occur 2023-2028
3	Pursue funding for additional traffic lights or roundabouts along Highway 441 in both Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville.	Completed	
4	Work with rail companies to find solutions to traffic congestion at rail crossings.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
5	Continue support of the Rails-to-Trails portion of the Middle GA Regional Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Plan.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.
6	Develop coordinated parking strategy for downtown Milledgeville.	Completed	
7	Identify additional/ alternate mass parking areas for special events.	Completed	
8	Identify funding sources for sidewalk repair beyond streetscape phases (especially for handicap accessibility).	Completed	
9	Identify funding sources for rural road and bridge repair.	Completed	
10	Create additional bike and pedestrian lanes.	Ongoing	County has a TAP engineering grant to develop multi-use path around airport; reword in 2023-2038 CWP
11	Complete a sidewalk needs assessment and develop a maintenance plan.	Completed	
12	Complete a pedestrian safety audit.	Completed	
13	Assess public transit use, current needs, and future need to determine whether an expansion of services and routes is needed.	Completed	
14	Explore establishment of a water taxi for citizens in the Lake Sinclair area.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.
ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
--------------------	--	-------------	--
15	Secure state, federal, and/or regional funding for infrastructure such as patching and resurfacing roads.	Completed	
16	Attract ride sharing opportunities by reducing regulatory barriers.	Cancelled	During the plan period, this was not a priority project.
17	Enhance airport by exploring development of commercial/passenger modes and drone technologies, constructing a conference center and additional airplane hangar, and pursuing opportunities to attract private jets to the airport.	Completed	
	Broadbar	nd Services	
1	Apply for a Broadband Ready designation	Completed	
2	Directly apply for grant funding or provide local funding to expand broadband services for areas that private sector partners will not be able to serve.	Completed	
3	Maintain internet hotspots and access at city and county public facilities (e.g., library, parks, fire stations)	Completed	
4	Review local ordinances and processes and amend as needed to eliminate barriers to broadband deployment and encourage greater broadband coverage.	Completed	
5	Encourage new developments to include infrastructure for high-speed internet access.	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
	Economic Develo	opment	
1	Central State Hospital Redevelopment	On-Going	Parcels sold for redevelopment resulting in job creation, private investment and housing development. Reword for 2023 2028 CWP
2	Clear and maintain vacant lots in preparation for prospective industries	Cancelled	Not a priority of the city during the period.
3	Continue to coordinate educational programs with industries, particularly through HDCI program	Completed	
4	Build hotel/convention center in downtown Milledgeville area	On-Going	Hotel and convention center are part of the redevelopment plan for Central State Hospital
5	Promote the Oconee River Greenway as a tourist destination	Completed	
6	Continue recruitment of specialized programs to GMC, GC&SU, and CGTC	Completed	
7	Enhance communication between industry/businesses and educational institutions	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
8	Continue to refocus programs at educational institutions to match existing and future industry/ businesses.	Completed	
9	Reestablish mentorship program between educational institutions and industry/business.	On-Going	School District, for example, started a welding program; need to help students secure internships. Reword for 2023-2028 CWP
10	Promote/implement existing programs available to provide downtown merchants with funding for façades and other building improvements.	Completed	
11	Form committee to improve signage in downtown Milledgeville.	Completed	
12	Explore marketing of vacant buildings in downtown Milledgeville.	Completed	
13	Coordinate with Downtown Development Authority to expand and improve incentive packages to recruit new, viable businesses to downtown Milledgeville.	Completed	
14	Promote Highway 441 Corridor as the community's Economic Highway.	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
15	Continue development of Fall Line Freeway Industrial Park.	Cancelled	This is a county led project through the Development Authority.
16	Research water and sewer capacity/sewer and road infrastructure for Fall Line Freeway Industrial Park site.	Cancelled	This is a county led project through the Development Authority.
17	Research transportation projects (highway widening, etc.) that will increase the accessibility and connectivity of the current industrial park and the Fall Line Freeway Industrial Park.	Cancelled	This is a county led project through the Development Authority.
18	Seek funding for small business incubators.	Completed	
19	Attract film industry to Milledgeville, particularly the Central State Hospital area.	Completed	
20	Identify needs of young professional workforce and establish programs for engagement.	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
21	Collaborate between government and authorities to determine funding guidelines and applications to attract businesses and industry.	Completed	
22	Grow business partnerships in support of the retirement community.	Completed	
	Housing		
1	Research affordable housing options.	Completed	
2	Research ways to assist in the rehabilitation of dilapidated and substandard housing.	Completed	
3	Submit applications for CHIP Grants.	Completed	
4	Research funding sources to assist in the rehabilitation of deteriorating homes of low/moderate- income families.	Completed	
5	Explore funding sources for the rehabilitation of public housing.	Completed	
6	Partner with local realtors and/or Middle Georgia Regional Commission to complete an assessment.	Completed	
7	Create a targeted redevelopment strategy for housing.	Completed	
8	Recruit developers specializing in senior and affordable housing.	Completed	
9	Partner with businesses to provide incentives for first-time homebuyers.	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
	Natural and Cultura	l Resources	-
1	In accordance with the Community Green space Program Plan and guidelines, develop a two-mile greenway along the Oconee River from Lake Sinclair to the southern portion of the county in conjunction with the City of Milledgeville.	Completed	
2	Maintain protection of historical and cultural resources along the Oconee River as part of the development of the Oconee River Greenway	Completed	
3	Implement Community Green space Program Plan in the City of Milledgeville.	Cancelled	Not a priority of the city during the period.
4	Coordinate historic tourism opportunities with downtown merchants and educational institutions.	Completed	
5	Increase general awareness of historical resources utilized by GMC and GC&SU.	Completed	
6	Enhance the preservation of historic single-family housing in the downtown Milledgeville area.	Completed	
7	Improve signage and marketing for Bartram Forest.	Completed	
8	Explore funding sources for existing and future green space along Oconee River Greenway.	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES		
9	Increase and coordinate the marketing of cultural events.	Completed			
10	Establish new local historic district designations as requested by the Milledgeville Historic Preservation Commission.	Completed			
11	Seek funding for additional phases of the Oconee River Greenway.	Completed			
12	Support the completion of Phase II of the Oconee River Greenway.	Completed			
13	Continue expansion of Fishing Creek Trail	On-Going	Final phase to be implemented 2023-2028		
14	Implement Central Georgia Rail-Trail initiative from Milledgeville to Macon-Bibb County	Cancelled	Not a priority of the city during the period.		
15	Continue placing historical markers throughout the community	Completed			
16	Research options for regulation of vacation rentals by owner to ensure hotel-motel tax collection	Completed			
	Community Facilities and Services				
1	Seek funding to extend water services across the Oconee River	Completed			
2	Extend water services across Oconee River	Completed			

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
3	Become a State-Certified Literate Community	Completed	
4	Assist in the implementation of Master Plans for all the educational facilities	Completed	
5	Pursue grants for additional personnel and equipment for City of Milledgeville Police Department	Completed	
6	Apply for fire grants for new equipment	Completed	
7	Develop coordination strategy with GC&SU and GMC to become wireless community	Completed	
8	Research landscaping programs/ awards, such as expanding on Make a Difference Day (outside of the DDA Beautification Program) to improve	Completed	
9	Inventory and analyze the city's storm water system to identify areas in need of improvement	On-going	Inventory completed; analysis and implementation to be completed 2023-2028
10	Develop and implement streetscape plan	Completed	
11	Renovations to Police Department, Fire Department, and other government facilities	Completed	
12	Road, street and sidewalk improvements throughout the City of Milledgeville	Completed	

ACTIVITY	ACTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
NUMBER			
	Install/repair storm water management facilities in		
13	low/moderate income areas in the City of	Completed	
	Milledgeville		
14	Create Capital Improvement Program for the City of	Completed	
14	Milledgeville	Completed	
15	Implement Capital Improvement Program	Completed	
16	Build additional passive parks	Completed	
10			
17	Construct a community swimming pool or splash pad	Cancelled	No longer a city project; County
			taking lead
18	Create a directory of community services and link	Completed	
	to the city website Land Use		
	Amend City of Milledgeville's Zoning Ordinance to		
1	include Green space/Frontage Open space/Signage	Completed	
1	requirements	completed	
	Conduct an evaluation of Milledgeville's existing		
	development regulations and propose amendments		
_	to the regulations (other than noted above) that		
2	will make them consistent with the proposed	Completed	
	development patterns in the various character		
	areas and help protect sensitive natural resources		
	Establish incentives for developers who undertake		Not a priority of the city during
3	projects consistent with the development patterns	Cancelled	the period.
	and protect sensitive natural resources		
	Establish a process to coordinate with State agencies		Not a priority of the city during
4	and timber companies owning land in Milledgeville	Cancelled	the period.
	and Baldwin County on their development plans		

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
5	Monitor growth along the Oconee River Greenway to discourage incompatible land uses	Completed	
6	Develop Town Center Overlay District for the Highway 441 Corridor in the City of Milledgeville	Cancelled	Not a priority of the city during the period.
	Transportat	ion	
1	Pursue signage and landscaping for entrances to Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville along major highways	Completed	
2	Pursue funding for additional traffic lights or roundabouts along Highway 441 in both Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville	Completed	
3	Research alternate eastern connection between Highways 22 and 441	Completed	
4	Work with rail companies to find solutions to traffic congestion at rail crossings	Completed	
5	Develop Park & Ride System for Lake Sinclair that coordinates boat trips with public transportation	Cancelled	Not a priority of the city during the period.
6	Continue support of the Rails-to-Trails portion of the Middle GA Regional Bike and Pedestrian Facilities Plan	Completed	
7	Develop coordinated parking strategy for downtown Milledgeville	Completed	
8	Identify remaining streetscape phases	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ACTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
9	Seek funding for remaining phases of streetscape	Completed	
10	Research new locations for loading and unloading zones and coordinate with downtown businesses	Completed	
11	Identify funding sources for public transportation in Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville	Completed	
12	Identify additional/ alternate mass parking areas for special events	Completed	
13	Identify funding sources for sidewalk repair beyond streetscape phases (especially for handicap accessibility)	Completed	
14	Implement recommendations from the Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan related to downtown Milledgeville (Oconee River Greenway, Downtown- West Campus Connector, and Rails-to-Trails facility)	Completed	
15	Create additional bike and pedestrian lanes	Completed	
16	Implement bike-share program downtown	Cancelled	Not a priority of the city during the period.
17	Complete a sidewalk needs assessment and develop a maintenance plan	Completed	
18	Complete a pedestrian safety audit	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	STATUS	NOTES
19	Assess public transit use, current needs, and future need to determine whether an expansion of services and routes is needed	Completed	
20	Secure state, federal, and/or regional funding for infrastructure such as patching and resurfacing roads	Completed	
21	Attract ride sharing opportunities by reducing regulatory barriers	Completed	
22	Explore alternatives for rerouting truck traffic out of downtown Milledgeville	Completed	
	Broadband Ser	rvices	
1	Apply for a Broadband Ready designation	Completed	
2	Directly apply for grant funding or provide local funding to expand broadband services for areas that private sector partners will not be able to	Completed	
3	Maintain internet hotspots and access at city and county public facilities (e.g., library, parks, fire stations)	Completed	
4	Review local ordinances and processes and amend as needed to eliminate barriers to broadband deployment and encourage greater broadband coverage.	Completed	
5	Encourage new developments to include infrastructure for high-speed internet access.	Completed	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion				
	Economic Development								
1	Pursue and complete development of Phase I improvements to Sibley Smith Industrial Park	Development Authority for the City of Milledgeville and Baldwin County	\$10,000,000	SPLOST	2023-2028				
2	Construct initial infrastructure to Fall Line Freeway Industrial Park	Fall Line Regional Development Authority / Georgia DOT/ Georgia DNR/Other State Agencies	\$1,000,000	GDOT/GADHR/ Fall Line Regional Development Authority	2023-2028				
3	Develop programs in the educational system to prepare the workforce to meet the needs of employers	Development Authority for the City of Milledgeville and Baldwin County/ WorkSource Middle Georgia / Baldwin County Board of Education	staff time and resources	Development Authority / WorkSource Middle Georgia / Baldwin County Board of Education	2023-2028				
4	Enhance business opportunities at Baldwin County Airport by preparing for hangar expansions	Baldwin County	staff time and resources	General Fund/ SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028				
		Housing							
1	Revise Property Maintenance Code to address health and safety concerns around interior building conditions	Baldwin County	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2024				
2	Maintain GICH Status	Baldwin County	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028				
3	Apply for grants in qualified census tracts to improve the physical conditions of housing and infrastructure	Baldwin County	staff time and resources	General Fund/ SPLOST/ CDBG/ CHIP/ USDA Rural Housing	2023-2028				
4	Develop and adopt an Urban Redevelopment Plan to identify areas needing special attention	Baldwin County/ MGRC	staff time and resources	General Fund	2024				
5	Establish a Land Bank Authority as a blight elimination strategy	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources	General Fund	2024				

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	Responsible Party		Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion
6	Conduct community housing assessment in the Harrisburg and Hardwick communities	Baldwin County/ MGRC	staff time and resources	General Fund	2024-2025
7	Apply for single-family home construction CHIP funding with responsible party being the Habitat for Humanity affiliate	Habitat for Humanity	staff time and resources	CHIP / USDA Rural Housing	2023-2028
		Natural and Cultural Resources			
1	Seek funding for final phase of Oconee River Greenway	Oconee River Greenway Authority/ Baldwin County	\$500,000	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
2	Evaluate and Implement Wayfinding Plan as appropriate	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources; \$30,000	General Fund/ Grants	2024-2025
3	Construct aquatic center	Baldwin County	\$5,000,000	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
4	Enhance Coopers Park	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
5	Complete improvements to Walter B Williams Park	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
6	Establish Governmental Building Park	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
/	Evaluate the need for additional community parks through out the county	Baldwin County/ MGRC	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion
		Community Facilities and Services			
1	Establish Collins P. Lee Memorial Library	Baldwin County/ Middle Georgia Regional Library System	TBD	SPLOST / Grants/ General Fund	2024
2	Construct pump station on Carr Station Road to enhance fire protection	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST / Grants/ General Fund	2023-2028
3	Replace all galvanized water lines throughout the County	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST / Grants/ General Fund	2023-2028
4	De-commission four lift stations on southern end of the County and replace wit gravity fed lines	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST / Grants/ General Fund	2023-2028
5	Rehabilitate sewer lines west of Vinson Highway	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST / Grants/ General Fund	2023-2028
6	Extend sewer service to Sibley Smith Industrial Park	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST	2023-2028
7	Install back up generators at Sinclair Water Authority	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST / Grants/ General Fund	2023-2024
8	Upgrade public safety equipment from AN to BN capabilities	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST / Grants/ General Fund	2023-2024
9	Explore multi-jurisdictional emergency radio system to improve interoperability	Baldwin County	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2024
10	Integrate public works, fire rescue, water and sewer infrastructure into County GIS to improve planning and coordination capabilities	Baldwin County	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2024
11	Construct new fire department on Vinson Highway	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2024
12	Construct new fire department on Lake Laurel Road	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion
13	Construct new fire department in south east Baldwin County	Baldwin County	TBD	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
14	Acquire ladder truck to support taller structure fires	Baldwin County	\$1,700,000	SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
15	Replace outdated SCBA masks and turnout gear	Baldwin County	\$350,000	General Fund/ Grants	2023-2028
16	Replace obsolete radios for fire communication system	Baldwin County	TBD	General Fund/ Grants	2023-2028
		Land Use			
1	Adopt Land Use Regulations for unincorporated Baldwin County	Baldwin County/ MGRC	staff time and resources	General Fund/DCA	2023-2024
2	Apply for Plan First Designation, if appropriate	Baldwin County/ MGRC	staff time and resources	General Fund/DCA	2023-2028
		Transportation			
1	Upgrade signage and landscaping for entrances to Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville along major highways	Baldwin County and City of Milledgeville Public Works Departments/GDOT	staff time and resources	GDOT/General Fund	2023-2028
2	Create additional bike and pedestrian lanes	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	\$75,000	Grants/General Fund	2023-2028
3	Pursue Transportation Special Purpose Sale Tax to fund transportation improvements	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028
		Broadband Services			
1	Complete ARPA Broadband Infrastructure Expansion	Windstream	\$1,500,000	Grant	2023-2024

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion
2	Maintain Broadband Ready certification, if appropriate	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ACTIVITY	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion			
	Economic Development							
1	Central State Hospital Redevelopment	City of Milledgeville, Central State Hospital Redevelopment Authority (CSHRA)	TBD	Grants, Private Funds	2023-2028			
2	Build hotel/convention center in downtown Milledgeville area	City of Milledgeville, CSHRA, Visit Milledgeville	\$5,000,000	Private Funding	2023-2028			
3	Reestablish mentorship program between educational institutions and industry/business.	Milledgeville-Baldwin County Chamber of Commerce, Private Businesses, Civic Organizations, Baldwin County Schools	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028			
4	Complete CREATE Program	City of Milledgeville/ CSHRA/ GMC/ GCSU	staff time and resources; \$5,000	General Fund/ Grants	2023-2024			
		Housing						
1	Establish a Land Bank Authority as a blight elimination strategy	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources	General Fund	2024			
2	Facilitate housing redevelopment on Central State Hospital Property	City of Milledgeville, CSHRA	TBD	Grants/Private Funds	2023-2028			
3	Obtain and maintain Certified GICH Alumni Status	City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028			

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion			
	Natural and Cultural Resources							
1	Continue expansion of Fishing Creek Trail	Oconee River Greenway Authority	TBD	DNR, Grants, Private Funds	2018-2022			
2	Implement art in public spaces throughout downtown	Allied Arts/ Visit Milledgeville / Main Street	TBD	Grants/Private Funds	2023-2028			
	Community Facilities and Services							
1	Inventory and analyze the city's storm water system to identify areas in need of improvement	City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028			
2	Inventory and replace lead water lines in compliance with EPA mandates	City of Milledgeville	\$1,000,000	General Fund; Special Revenue Funds	2023-2028			
3	Complete infrastructure improvements in Milledgeville Estates (water, sewer, road)	City of Milledgeville	\$1,000,000	General Fund/ SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028			
4	Replace fire and rescue boats	City of Milledgeville	\$10,000	General Fund/ SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028			
5	Establish Pavilion Park	City of Milledgeville	\$15,000	General Fund	2024			
6	Construct new Public Safety Building	City of Milledgeville	\$20,000,000	General Fund/ SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028			
7	Replace ladder truck to support taller structure fires	City of Milledgeville	\$1,700,000	General Fund/ SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028			

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion
8	Implement SCADA Improvements at waste water treatment plant			General Fund/ SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
9	Upgrade water and waste water treatment facilities	City of Milledgeville	\$40,000,000	General Fund/ SPLOST/ Grants	2023-2028
10	Complete renovations of Mary Vinson Library	Middle Georgia Regional Library System	\$1,000,000	General Funds	2024
11	Implement stormwater management program	City of Milledgeville	staff time	General Fund/ SPLOST/ Grants/ Special Revenue Fund	2023-2028
		Land Use			
1	Central State Hospital Redevelopment	City of Milledgeville, Central State Hospital Redevelopment Authority (CSHRA)	TBD	Grants, Private Funds	2023-2028
		Transportation			
1	Create additional bike and pedestrian lanes south Jefferson towards GCSU campus	City of Milledgeville	\$350,000	Grants/General Fund	2023-2028
2	Pursue Transportation Special Purpose Sale Tax to fund transportation improvements	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028
3	Upgrade signage and landscaping for entrances to Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville along major highways			2023-2028	

ACTIVITY NUMBER	ΑCTIVITY	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)	Estimated Completion
4	Evaluate and Implement Wayfinding Plan as appropriate	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources; \$30,000	General Fund/ Grants	2024-2025
5	Complete traffic calming measures on Lakeside Drive	City of Milledgeville	TBD	General Fund / SPLOST	2023-2028
		Broadband Services			
1	Maintain Broadband Ready certification, if appropriate	Baldwin County / City of Milledgeville	staff time and resources	General Fund	2023-2028



**Appendix A: Adoption Resolutions** 

**Appendix B: Public Hearing Documentation** 

**Appendix C: Steering Committee Documentation** 

**Appendix D: Community Survey Results** 



# RESOLUTION BY BALDWIN COUNTY ADOPTING THE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE FOR

#### **BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE**

WHEREAS, the 1989 Georgia Planning Act requires that all local governments submit a comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. 50-8-1 et seq. gives the Department of Community Affairs authority to establish standards and procedures for appropriate and timely comprehensive planning by all local governments in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, all portions of the Joint Comprehensive Plan Update for Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville were completed by Baldwin County with the assistance of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Comprehensive Plan Update was reviewed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and was found in compliance with the Local Planning Requirements.

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that Baldwin County does hereby adopt the Joint Comprehensive Plan Update for Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville.

Signed and sealed this 21st day of February 2023.

Emily G Day & Chair Baldwin County Board of Commissioners SEAL OF BALDWIN Z GEORGIA OT & SUB COUNTY Z GEORGIA

uniengham

#### RESOLUTION R-2302-04 A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE ADOPTING THE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE FOR BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE

WHEREAS, the 1989 Georgia Planning Act requires that all local governments submit a comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. 50-8-1 et seq. gives the Department of Community Affairs authority to establish standards and procedures for appropriate and timely comprehensive planning by all local governments in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, all portions of the Joint Comprehensive Plan Update for Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville were completed by the City of Milledgeville with the assistance of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission; and

WHEREAS, this document was reviewed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and was found in compliance with the Local Planning Requirements.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Milledgeville does hereby adopt the Joint Comprehensive Plan Update for Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.

Mary Parham-Copelan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, Clerk





BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 1601 North Columbia Street, Suite 220 Milledgeville, GA 31061 478-445-4791 www.baldwincountyga.com

# SIGN-IN SHEET FOR <u>SPEAKING</u> DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING

DATE:

Comprehensene Plan

**Decorum**. Members of the public shall not make inappropriate or offensive comments during the public hearing, work session and regular board meeting. Everyone is expected to comply with rules of decorum that are established for commissioners. Individuals who violate any rules of the board may be ruled out of order by the chairman or on a point of order made by a commissioner. A majority vote of the board will rule on the point of order. An individual who violates the rules of decorum may be removed from the meeting at the direction of the chairman.

SIGN-IN BELOW: (PLEASE PRINT)

10/4/22

1	3.7 T	ст <b>а</b> т					
1.	Jonathan		PAMBO		DDRESS		
2.	JinFain						
3.	Kendrick &	Butts					
4. <b>X</b> 5.	Mebssa	Suith	614	GAH	my 22	WBIO	161
5. <b>1</b> 6.	Linha #	Shr	New	VISION	U		
	Eduna B	rin					
7.	Sabrine for	Ada Hoste	y P.O.	By 170	4 Han	huli de	4. 31-21/
8.	Dawn Kra	lon -		om Co.			
9.	Hank Grif	RHL					
10.	John Westr	nore land		5			

BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 1601 North Columbia Street, Suite 220 Milledgeville, GA 31061 478-445-4791 www.baldwincountyga.com

# SIGN-IN SHEET FOR <u>SPEAKING</u> DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING

Comprehensive Slan DATE: 10/4/22 5:00 pm Decorum. Members of the public shall not make inappropriate or offensive comments during

**Decorum**. Members of the public shall not make inappropriate or offensive comments during the public hearing, work session and regular board meeting. Everyone is expected to comply with rules of decorum that are established for commissioners. Individuals who violate any rules of the board may be ruled out of order by the chairman or on a point of order made by a commissioner. A majority vote of the board will rule on the point of order. An individual who violates the rules of decorum may be removed from the meeting at the direction of the chairman.

SIGN-IN BELOW: (PLEASE PRINT)

		NAME			· · · · · · · ·	ADDRES	S		
1.	Samoup								
2.					1. 1.11 1.111 1.111 1.111 1.111 1.111 1.111 1.111 1.111 1.111				
3.		: 							
4.								1.111	
5									
6.									
7.			2 * * * * *						
8.					×	1.1.1.11 			
9.				1					
10.					π				
	1								

## BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE KICKOFF PUBLIC HEARING

## Public Hearing Sign-In Sheet

#### October 4, 2022, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

Name	Phone	Email
Carla Walter	478452395	o dr. carla. walter @
JIMFAIN	478-363-2145	o dr. carla. wither @ mittedservite allied arts. cm jfain efikli.
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

#### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

#### PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

October 4, 2022, 5:00 p.m. | BALDWIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING

1) Welcome & Introductions	MGRC
2) About Comprehensive Planning	MGRC
3) Status to-date	MGRC
4) Timeline	MGRC
5) Discussion	MGRC
6) Questions/Comments	MGRC
7) Future Meeting Discussion	MGRC

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the plan, please contact us by phone at 478-751-6160 or email (below).

Dean Nelson	dnelson@mg-rc.org
Joe Black	jblack@mg-rc.org
Laura Mathis	Imathis@mg-rc.org

CRIMEDIGEST CRIMELDIGEST The fallowing is Information compiled from public records taken from reports of the Milledgeville Police Department and the Balidwin County Sheriff's Office. It is our policy to not disclose the names of victims. These reports do not reflect guilt or innacence. An "arrest' does not always indicate incarceration. The charges filed are noted in the narrative.

#### MILLEDGEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Forgery An officer was dispatched to Food Depot on the 1800 block of North Columbia Street on Dec. 3. The officer spoke with an employee who stated that a man tried to stated that a man tried to use a counterfeit \$100 bill to pay for some items. The bill was taken into evidence. Personnel was unable to provide video footage.

Portion video reactions: I Possible Drug Activity An officer spoke by phone with a resident who wished to remain annymous on Dec. 3. The complainant stated that he had knowledge of drugs and stolen weapons in an apartment on Pickens Street. An officer was dispatched to the location. The officer had no probable cause to enter the product of the street of the street of the location. The officer had no probable cause to enter location. The officer had no probable cause to enter the apartment. The officer spoke with a resident inside the apartment who wished to report a fight between him and the caller. The incident was documented, however, no charges were issued.

Theft
 officer was disp

Their Anotics dispected Anotics and a set of the set of the set Pennington Road on Dec. 3. The compliant stated that he last saw his brown Winchester. 22 ciffe about two weeks before the repor-tion of the guin is black and that there was a magazine missing as well. He stated that he has had two people at the guine black and that there was a magazine staying with him but he sould on provide a serial number for the weapon.

Hamber Iof the weapon.
Forgery
An officer was investigating a forgery when a business employee spoke with the officer. The employee most running a register when a man asked for change for a \$100 bill. The employee noticed that the bill was man and they began arguing. The bill was collected and placed into evidence.

placed net evaluate.
I Fraud
An officer spoke with a woman on Dec. 4 who state that her grandson had been arrested on Nov. 20. She stated that the grandson's credit card without his permission without his permission.
The officer spoke to the grandson's mother who provided billing statements with the charges, which with the charges totaled \$216.84 which

#### AreaNews **Baldwin BOE passes resolution** supporting Foothills High School By MATTHEW BROWN

Based on concerns over possible legislative ac-tion that would impact the funding of Milled-geville's Poothills Educa-tion Charter High School, the Baldwin County Board of Education unconcrossly thorized charter school and local education agency (LEA), its ability to serve any student from the state of Georgia with a state-wide attendance zone, and the creation of a new model for schoord data la the Baldwin County Board of Education unanimously passed a resolution sup-porting the school at Tues-day's board neeting, The resolution con-cludes as such: "Whereas a mendments to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-15,41 in 2021 would present nu-merous barriers to Foot-hills' continued operation after their current charter contract expires on June

after their current charter contract expires on June 30, 2024, ultimately re-sulting in reduced service to students; and Whereas the Board wishes to continue its suc-cessfu partnership with Foothills that has had profound impacts on our students and community since the partnership be-gan in 2015. Be it, therefore, resolved Be it, therefore, resolved

that the Board recom-mends the General As-sembly to consider new

legislation in the 2023 session which provides for Foothills to maintain its autonomy as a state-au-thorized charter school Monday through Thurs-day from 4:30-9 p.m., and according to Curtis stu-dents go at their own pace. There are no extra-currie-ular activities involved, but there's a focus on in-dividualized instruction with the fact instruction such as finding 12 students

mainly eight counties, but 139 were from Baldwin. Sixty-three – 13 in 2022 – have graduated from Bald-win Foothills since open-ing in 2015. The school employs 50, and most are also in the Baldwin School Dietriet Cutte coid District, Curtis said.

 (L2-X), its alling to server any student from the state of Georgia with a stude-wide attendance zone, and the creation of a new much of abanced state-lo-classence mathematics, an Oak Sussen Curtis, an Oak Hill Middle School tasacher who also works are situation to school strict.
 interest of the school such as finding 12 students in one classence.
 interest state-loop classttstate-loop classence.
 intere

only to the board, but to only to the board, but to Superintendent Dr. Noris Price, Baldwin High prin-cipal Jason Flanders and the community. "You give us the flexibility to meet the needs of these kids." Price returned thanks to Curtis and the Foothills staff. She said the goal is that all students get an

has done to impact lives in seven years. "You have a document that indicates the suggest-del signative session and where the session and school districts that have a Foothills," said Price to the board memisters. This that we will be able to get legislation presented and passed that would change the previous legislation that would eliminate Foot-hills as it exists. I think that would eliminate 'cont-hills as it exists. I think (the resolution) sends a message to our elected of-ficials. I have already con-tacted (newly elected State Sen. Rick) Williams asking for his support that we want to continue with the

Country Club neighborhood to be lit Dec. 18



Contributed photo The Milledgeville Country Club subdivision will continue its tradition of helping the community get into the holiday spirit by lin-ing the two-mile circle, including all outer streets, with luminaries. The neighborhood of more than 160 households will put out thousands of luminaries Stunday. Dec. 18, as they have done since 1983. The luminaries were started as a remembrance to those not with us during the holidays. The candles will be lit at dark and will last all night. None of this would be possible without the generous donations of sand from Fowler Flemister Concrete, bags from Wes and Laura Cummings and all the residents who purchase the candles. In the event of rain, the date will be moved to Christmas Eve. The neighborhood wishes the community to ion them during this annual event. join them during this annual event.



#### **Public Hearing Notice** For Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville Joint Comprehensive Plan Update

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Baldwin County Government Building, located at 1601 North Columbia Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061. The purposes of this hearing are to brief the community on the contents of the Joint Comprehensive Plan; provide an opportunity for residents to make final suggestions, additions, or revisions. Comments will be received at the above public hearing or may be submitted in writing to the Middle Georgia Regional Commission at 175 Emery Highway, Suite C, Macon, GA 31217.

All community members are invited to attend the Public Hearing For additional information, please contact Dean Nelson, Government Services Specialist with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, at (478) 751-6160 or dnelson@mg-rc.org.

Persons with special needs relating to disability access or foreign language should contact the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners at (478) 445-4791 prior to the meeting for necessary accommodations. Persons with hearing disabilities may contact the Georgia Relay Service at (TDD) 1-800-255-0056 or (Voice) 1-800-255-0135.

Mobile Homes For Rent Two & three bedroom mobile homes for rent starting at \$500 a month, plus deposit prices vary depending on home, plus utilities, application required

Call for more details: 478-739-1191 or 478-295-2442

—Compiled by Natalie Davis Linder

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T ADVERTISE YOUR **BUSINESS?** NOTHING.



#### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

#### Public Hearing Sign-In Sheet

#### January 3, 2023, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

Name	Phone	Email
Walter Reynolds, Jr.	478-363-36R4	WAReynolds @ Live. com
Emily C. Davis	478-451-710	5 Emilyclavis Ogmail. com.
JOHN WESTMORELAND	418-381-5315	JWESTMARELAND @ BALDWINCUNTYGA. COM
J. David MeRee	478-414-6013	jameree @windstream.net
HEARY CANEG		
Matt Rocssing,	\$ 478-227-0060	matterocecing law can
Joyce Denson.	478-233-3843	Mayordenson grail, com
SAMMY HALL	478-456-2838	Shall & baldow courtyga.com
Carlos Tobar		
HANK GRIFFETH	478-414-4008	hgriffith ( millely le iga -s
Andrew + Marion Simmons	478 452 4934	
Harvey Behne	478-456-7398	Mi Behne @ aol. Com

#### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing Sign-In Sheet

January 3, 2023, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

Name	Phone	Email
Kendrick Butto	418-288- 6835	K bu Hsagaldwin Countyga.com
	478-456 7397	tmbehne@gmail.com
Tina Behne Jessica McQuain	770 880 2169	jessicancquain94@gnail.com
Stephonic Jett	9251-490-3433	Stephonic. e. jett @ omeilcom
Carla Writer	4784323950	Stephenie <u>ejette</u> goneilcom dv. Carla whete e milledgeville allichats.com
Acdrey Crumbley	478-454-7906	
Mary Parhan Copular	4784560149	mayorgelanomilledgeillega. US
Shong Mapp	478-456-0501	mapped istrict 5 @ gmail. Cons
Wayne Johnson	418-456-0367	ujohnson@babuinco firerescur. Com
Cynthia Edwards	478-456-2478	baldwincountynaacpegmal. 10x
Suse Marshall	478-457-5574	Suste marshall 1960 @mail. Com
Mandy Ptak	478-447-9306	mptakebaldwinsherizz.com
	1478) 456-0050	dkaketa Cyahor. com
Vonathan Vackson	478)456-1054	jackson @ developpini Medge. Vk. com

### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

#### Public Hearing Sign-In Sheet

## January 3, 2023, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

Name	Phone	Email
Danny Blair	478-288-2257	dtblaire windstramt
	j.	

#### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

#### PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

January 3, 2023, 5:00 p.m. BALDWIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING

1) Welcome & Introductions	MGRC
2) Review of Process To-Date	MGRC
3) Plan Review	MGRC
4) Next Steps	MGRC
5) Questions/Comments	MGRC

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the plan, please contact us by phone at 478-751-6160 or email (below).

Dean Nelson	dnelson@mg-rc.org
Laura Mathis	Imathis@mg-rc.org


Stakeholder Session One – Community Services and Broadband October 10, 2022, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

Name Phone Email Harvey Behne 478-456-7398 Mrbehre Q aol. Com Tina Behne 478-456-7397 +mbehne@gmail.com Kenduck B. Bitts 418-288-6835 Kbuttse baldwin Countyga. com 4284454893 brassed whisto Bue Marine Wayne Johnson 478-456-0361 wohnson@batewinco Fireresour.com HANK GRIFFETH 478-414-4008 hgrifloth Q ml ledger Hoga. US \_\_\_\_\_ BJUCE Solomon 478-445-4791 bsolomon a baldwin countyger an

### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

#### **STAKEHOLDER SESSION AGENDA**

October 10, 2022, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

1) Welcome & Introductions	MGRC
2) About Comprehensive Planning	MGRC
3) Community Services	MGRC
4) Broadband	MGRC
5) Wrap-up	MGRC

Dean Nelson	dnelson@mg-rc.org
Joe Black	jblack@mg-rc.org
Laura Mathis	Imathis@mg-rc.org

### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

### Stakeholder Session Two – Natural and Cultural Resources and Economic Development October 20, 2022, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

Name	Phone	Email
		dKrKrtreyahoo.com
DANNY K, Register	(478) 456-0056	dkrKrtreyahoo.com
Harvey Behne	418 456-7398	Mr Behre @ gol, Com
Tina Behne	478 456 7397	tmbehne@gmail.com
Matt Roessing	478 227 -0060	matter rocssing law. com
JOHN WESTMORELISHD	478-387-5315	JOHNHWGSTMORELAND @ GMAIL.
Jonathan Jackson	478-461-03601	jackson@ deretop milledges! 10. com
<u>^</u>	478-437-256	126 Laverne Cir SW
Annie Beckman	×78 295-2617	174 hoverase cirs, a Milledgezille
Zachan Jordan	4786 96 0125	Zijocdan@gmail.com
Carla Walter	4784523950	dr. carla waitere milledsevillealliedarts.com
JAMES FINNEY	478-452-8203	LEXSO WINDSTREAM
TONY ANDERSON	478-491-0348	atory 58270 gman crown

### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

#### **STAKEHOLDER SESSION AGENDA**

October 20, 2022, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

1) Welcome & Introductions	MGRC
2) About Comprehensive Planning	MGRC
3) Natural and Cultural Resources	MGRC
4) Economic Development	MGRC
5) Wrap-up	MGRC

Dean Nelson	dnelson@mg-rc.org
Joe Black	jblack@mg-rc.org
Laura Mathis	Imathis@mg-rc.org

Stakeholder Session Three – Housing, Transportation, and Land Use October 24, 2022, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

Name	Phone	Email
Shelby DeMéyers	706-267-6420	SWd33733Cuga.cdu
Zachar Jowan	473-696-0125	Zijerdun De mail.com
Rica Waldom	478-251-0454	RUSSW 33 C CEMPILEROM
Tina Behne	478-456-7391	Imbehne@gmail.com
Hanvey Behne	478-456-7398	mr behne @aol.com
Matt Roessing	478 - 227 -0060	matterocesing law. com
Walter Reynold.5	478.363.3684	WAReynolds@ Live. Can
HANK GREEFEM	478-414-4008	
Carla Wintler	478 452 3950	hgrittetn C milledgevillega. as dr. carla. waltere milledjevilletonshaansaelistats.com
TONY ANDERSON	478-491-0348	GEDNY SZZTAGMAL COM
Johnny Westmoreland		
Henry Craig		
Cathy Ex	478-445-4444	clefley, cox(a) gcsu, eden
Lisha BRI	404-884-1907	blylisha@yaho.com

### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

#### **STAKEHOLDER SESSION AGENDA**

October 24, 2022, 5:00 p.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

1) Welcome & Introductions	MGRC
2) About Comprehensive Planning	MGRC
3) Housing	MGRC
4) Transportation	MGRC
5) Land Use	MGRC
6) Wrap-up	MGRC

Dean Nelson	dnelson@mg-rc.org
Joe Black	jblack@mg-rc.org
Laura Mathis	Imathis@mg-rc.org

### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

**Community Work Program Session** November 12, 2022, 10:00 a.m. | Baldwin County Government Building 30+ Email Name Phone 478-288-Kendurk B. Butto Kbutse baldwin Countyge Com 6835 478-447-9306 mptake baldwinsher; ff. com Imanda Ptak JULESTMORELAND @ BACDWAN GOUNTO GA. JOHN WESTMURELAND 478-387-5315 HENRY CRAEG 4723631849 Brittany Harrison 478-445-4394 brittany, Hanison@UGA.Edu Kyle hall 478-443-1133 Kwall a baldwin County gar. Com 478-251-5112 JASON Kidd DERY/ Nelson Brian Wood 478-456-0512 dNelson@BAldwin County ga. com 479-456-1916 bwood@baldvincountyga.com IRACI BOWDEN 478 251-5343 Frollins @baldwincountyga com 478-449-1929 sdeasone baldwinsheriff.com cat Deason 478-445-4791 dhudsm@baldwincountyga.com Dawn Hudson CARLOS TOBAR 478-363-1976 ctobar@baldwincourtyga.com Vyoung @ baldwin Co Fire rescue . Con Vyoung @ baldwin County ga . Con VICTOR YOUNG 478456-0379

### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

#### Community Work Program and Future Land Use Session November 30, 2022, 10:00 a.m. | Baldwin County Government Building

1) Welcome & Introductions	MGRC
2) Goals, Needs, and Opportunities	MGRC
3) Community Work Program	MGRC
4) Land Use	MGRC
5) Adjourn	

Dean Nelson	<u>dnelson@mg-rc.org</u>
Joe Black	jblack@mg-rc.org
Laura Mathis	Imathis@mg-rc.org



# Community Work Program Session December 1, 2022, 10:00 a.m. | Milledgeville City Hall

Name	Phone	Email
	12015200	Email miledgenetenthedarts.
CARLA WALTER	4784523950	dr. Carla. Wrettre com
Keurn E. Veri	4nz-414-4042	Kven@milladgevillegu.
Robert Hooden	478-414-4052	rhadden @ milledgeville gq. us
Melba Hilson - Butts	478-414-4423	mhilson@milledgevillega.us
Mervin Graham	418-414-4019	Mgrahamønilledseillega.us
Carlee Schulte	478,414.4014	Cschulte @ milledgevillega.us
HANK GRIFFEM	478-414-4008	hgritteth Q milledgevilegu.us
Walter Reynalds	478-363-3684	WAReynolds @ Live. Com
DABY SWICORD	478-2114-405	Sourceno Omilledgesillept.com
Line Boyer	478.414.4004	Lboyer@milledgevillepd.com
Etta R. Gray	478-414-4075	egrayemilledgevillept.com
BoDanuser	478-414-4094	bdanusere milledgerillega. us
Billy W. Hobbs	706-466-2512	bhobbs@unionreconder.com
Enniferlautenheiser	478-310-2156	Lautenneiser @bibblib.000 Homas & Milledgeville GA. 43
TINO 144 THORAS	478-456-5144	tthomas & Milledgeville GA. 43

## BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

# Community Work Program Session December 1, 2022, 10:00 a.m. | Milledgeville City Hall

	Name	Phone	Email
	William Collice	478. 456.5130	WCollier @ Milledsesillegous
)			

### BALDWIN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

#### Community Work Program and Future Land Use Session December 1, 2022, 10:00 a.m. | Milledgeville City Hall

1) Welcome & Introductions	MGRC
2) Goals, Needs, and Opportunities	MGRC
3) Community Work Program	MGRC
4) Land Use	MGRC
5) Adjourn	

Dean Nelson	<u>dnelson@mg-rc.org</u>
Joe Black	jblack@mg-rc.org
Laura Mathis	Imathis@mg-rc.org



# Baldwin County Comprehensive Plan

132	12:53	Active
Responses	Average time to complete	Status

1. What are the most important items for quality of life in Baldwin County? (Select your top three)





2. What should be the focus as communities plan for the future? (Select your top three)





3. In your opinion, what are Baldwin County's greatest strengths? (Select your top three)





4. If you would like to explain your responses to question (3), please do so here.



5. In your opinion, what are Baldwin County's greatest challenges to overcome? (Select your top three)





6. If you would like to explain your responses to question (5), please do so here.

32	Latest Responses "Government governs best when it governs the least. " "Perhaps public transportation isn't the answer, but safe ways t	
Responses	"There seems to be a lot of criminal activity going on."	
心 Update		
6 respondents (19%) answered people for this question. college students public run job opportunities ga affordable housing wages are too low families people housing New real job Baldwin County young development job income housing places to take my		

7. Please rate your level of satisfaction with each of the following public services or facilities.



8. If you would like to explain your responses to question (7), please do so here.



9. What characteristics of development should be emphasized in future residential developments? (Check all that apply)





10. Which of the following, if any, are housing issues within Baldwin County?



11. When planning for future commercial and retail developments, what type of development should there be an emphasis on? (Check all that apply)





12. Which of the following transportation improvements are most needed within Milledgeville and Baldwin County?



13. What types of recreational amenities do you most enjoy? Is anything new needed in Baldwin County?

00	Latest Responses
80	"The free market will take care of this unless excessive regulatio
Responses	"Walter B. Williams Park needs a top to bottom overhaul. See S

#### O Update

23 respondents (29%) answered Parks for this question. additional parks City Park parks and re golf course Fishing and parks center activities golf Parks Walking **Better** park across the river trails dog park New playgrounds County **Public pool** water park access to our lake DESP 14. Please provide any additional thoughts on the future of Baldwin County and any initiatives you think should be undertaken in the next 10 years.



15. Which of the following internet activities do you frequently engage in? (Check all that apply)





16. Is the internet service available at your residence sufficient for your daily needs?



17. Which of the following best describes where you live?





18. If you would like to receive updates about the planning process and invitations for future involvement, please share your email below, so we can add you to our mailing list.

	Latest Responses
132 Responses	"not @ this time"
	"jenniferpollard@lockerly.org"
	"Ljenkins22@gmail.com"

36 respondents (27%) answered No for this question.

