

POLK COUNTY 2012-2016 SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM

Activity Description	Timeframe					Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Economic Development								
Support implementation of the Appalachian Valley Fiber Network.	X	X				Parker FiberNet LLC	\$21,000,000	Federal stimulus grant
Support the Polk County Development Authority with potential industrial sites	X	X	X	X	X	Polk County	\$1,250,000	SPLOST
Polk County Airport safety improvements	X	X	X	X	X	Polk County	\$600,000	General fund; SPLOST; state; federal
Encourage high skill businesses and selectively recruit environmentally friendly industries.	X	X	X	X	X	Development Authority of Polk County; Chamber of Commerce	\$75,000	Tax base
Prepare an economic development strategic plan with meaningful stakeholder input.	X	X	X	X	X	Development Authority of Polk County	\$50,000	General fund; grant
Housing								
Promote the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)	X	X				Polk County; NWGRC	TBD	Federal NSP funds
Removal of blighted structures	X	X	X	X	X	Polk County	\$75,000	General fund
Natural and Cultural Resources								
Develop Hendricks Road property (adjacent to the Silver Comet Trail) as a passive recreation area.	X	X	X	X	X	Polk County	\$350,000	SPLOST
Community Facilities and Services								
Implement 5-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP)	X	X	X	X	X	Polk County	\$19,000,000	SPLOST
Construct county public works facility (CIP)	X	X	X			Polk County	\$1,200,000	SPLOST
Construct county police facility (CIP)	X	X	X			Polk County	\$1,000,000	SPLOST
County administration facility improvements	X	X	X	X	X	Polk County	\$1,000,000	SPLOST

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	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016			
Expansion of Polk Medical Center and recruitment of doctors	X	X	X	X	X	Cedartown-Polk County Hospital Authority; Hospital Authority of Floyd County	TBD	N/A
Construct law enforcement firing range	X	X				Polk County	\$300,000	SPLOST; grant
Intergovernmental Coordination								
Update the Service Delivery Strategy					X	Polk County	Staff time	General fund
LOST renegotiation	X					Polk County; municipalities	Staff time	General fund
Establish good working relationships with neighboring counties.	X	X	X	X	X	Polk County	Staff time	General fund
Transportation System								
Implement the Transportation Investment Act of 2010 projects		X	X	X	X	All local governments of Polk County	\$101.1 M	TIA sales tax
Culvert replacement program	X	X	X	X	X	Polk County	\$2,500,000	SPLOST

**REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Polk County 2007-2011 STWP**

Issue to be Addressed	Activity Description	Current Status of Activity	Explanation for Postponed or Not Accomplished Activity
Population Change			
<p>1. Education: The county's drop-out rate in our schools is unacceptably high and needs to be addressed. Those considering dropping out of school before graduation should be reminded of the importance of education. Without proper education, we simply add to the relief rolls of the county because those without good educations will not be able to secure good jobs in the commercial or industrial sectors.</p>	A. Mentor program for elementary	Underway	
	B. Mentor program for high school	Underway	
	C. Anti drug & alcohol program campaign	Underway	
	D. Family learning center promotes GED	Underway	
<p>2. Quality of life issues always come into play as a community assesses its present situation and begins to plan for its future. Items such as recreation, both active and passive, libraries, the arts, health, and other quality of life issues must receive the same attention as other issues.</p>	A. Promote agriculture	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
	B. Expansion of Polk Medical & recruitment of doctors	Underway	
	C. Expansion of Health Dept	Completed	
	D. Promote passive recreation (Silver Comet Trail, Hendrix Road Property)	Underway	
<p>3. A growing population means greater demand on infrastructure, and more attention to keeping the infrastructure up to date. Water availability is good now, but will need expansion. Public sewerage greatly needs expansion. The County will have to try to piecemeal sewerage expansion as it can financially. This issue may be the most expensive issue we will face in the next twenty years. A start needs to be made now to acquire additional right-of-way for roads where the existing right-of-way is insufficient, and to plan for future roads development and acquisition of necessary right of way.</p>	A. Target first phase of plan for sewer expansion development	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
	B. Install appropriately sized water mains based on plan	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority for county government
	C. County should adopt development regulations	Completed	
	D. All county entities shall follow the Comprehensive Plan	Underway	

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Economic Development			
1. Lack of employment for skilled labor. The community has a high number of low-skill jobs. Skilled jobs are needed to diversify the work force and economy and to provide employment to those moving into the County and its cities in increasingly expensive developments.	A. Addressed by Education activities	Underway	
	B. Certified literate commission	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
	C. Chamber & Economic Dev Authority need to encourage high skill businesses	Underway	
	D. Selective industrial recruitment of environment friendly industries	Underway	
2. Increase the tax base. Industrial and commercial growth must be encouraged and recruited heavily to keep pace with the residential population. Residential development alone cannot sustain taxation necessary to meet the demand for services.	A. Encourage mixed use development	Underway	
3. Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the entire community as a tourist destination. • Promote the downtown • areas with marketing and festivals and events. Promote the Silver Comet Trail. Discussions have already been undertaken relative to a US Highway 27 Corridor that will be promoted from Tennessee to Florida as an alternate to Interstate Highway 75. While promotion as part of this group is important, it is equally important for the County to promote itself and its natural and historic resources.	A. County wide ordinance with strict enforcement on appearance	Underway	
	B. Beautify identified scenic corridors	Underway	
	C. Cinco de Mayo celebration	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority

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4. Pristine land/greenfields are being developed.	A. Agri-business / promote agriculture	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
	B. Develop regulations require green space	Completed	
	C. Promote GA Land Conservation Program	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
	D. Restrict growth in agriculture areas	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
5. The community does not have a vision for economic development activities in the form of an economic development strategic plan. Any such plan will require meaningful stakeholder input.	A. Economic Development needs strategic plan	Underway	
	B. Economic Development update given at county commission meeting not work session	Underway	
	C. Publish Economic Development update in paper	Underway	
Natural Resources			
1. Community resources have not been mapped or compared to areas of future development.	A. Map community resources and compare them to future development.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding
2. Best management practices shall be required as part of the development process. Encouraging best management practices covers numerous other areas.	A. Establish Best Management Practices	Completed	
Cultural Resources			
1. Community resources have not been mapped or compared to areas of future development.	A. Map community resources and compare them to future development.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding
2. Our community's resources must play a significant role in decision-making.	A. Develop a policy whereby the community's resources are a part of decision-making.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding

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3. Our community's policies and regulations must allow for protection of community resources.	A. Develop a policy whereby the community's resources are a part of decision-making.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding
4. Best management practices should be encouraged or required as part of the development process.	A. Establish Best Management Practices	Completed	
Facilities and Services			
1. The relative costs of community services have not been considered or compared to different development types (open space/farmland; industrial/ commercial; residential).	A. Produce a study that would consider the cost costs of community services.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding
2. The future costs of providing services at current growth rates and for the same types of development patterns have not been considered.	A. Study future costs of providing services at current growth rates.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding
3. The costs of providing community services for new development need to be assessed and considered.	A. Study costs of providing community services for new development.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding
4. Our community does not place infrastructure to direct growth and development to identified areas and away from sensitive areas.	A. Produce study	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding
Housing			
1. There is no inventory of public and private land available for the development of future housing.	A. Inventory of public and private land available for the development of future housing.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding

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2. Our community does not have an inventory of vacant properties, properties owned by the county or other government agencies, and tax delinquent properties suitable for infill development.	A. Inventory of vacant properties, properties owned by the county or other government agencies, and tax delinquent properties suitable for infill development.	Underway	
3. Our community does not require or encourage new developments to reserve a percentage of proposed units for affordable housing.	A. Develop policy which encourages new developments to reserve a percentage of proposed units for affordable housing.	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
Land Use			
1. Housing and commercial buildings in rural areas are not concentrated in small, well-planned nodes (i.e. villages with lots of intervening farmland or open space).	A. Adopt regulations	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
2. Our community does not have design guidelines to ensure appropriate new and infill development that complements the character of the community.	A. Adopt regulations	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
3. Community stakeholders are not involved in the community planning and development review process.	A. Encourage community stakeholders to be involved.	Underway	
4. There are obvious inconsistencies in our community's development regulations.	A. Consistent development regulations	Completed	
Transportation			
1. We do not have a comprehensive transportation study that includes parking, traffic and transit, both local and regional.	A. Develop comprehensive transportation study.	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding

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2. The community does not offer a variety of potential parking solutions, including alternate, attended, shared, paid parking locations; such as industrial areas (off hours and weekends), church and school lots, etc., or alternative parking arrangements for commercial development as well as parking programs for in town neighborhoods (i.e., decals for residents, passes for resident guests).	A. Addressed in development regulations	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
3. We do not have enough on-street parking allowed in places where it can be safely provided, such as in downtown areas and pedestrian-retail districts.	A. Addressed in development regulations	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
Intergovernmental Coordination			
1. There is little or no coordination with other local governments in order to protect environmentally sensitive areas, historic and cultural resources.	A. Needs to be coordination with other local governments in order to protect environmentally sensitive areas, historic and cultural resources.	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
2. Our community does not have any border agreements to address detailed questions of land use, access, property value and annexation procedures.	A. Establish good working with neighboring counties	Underway	
3. There are inadequate efforts or programs to ensure that implementation of growth policy, developmental impacts and mitigation are addressed.	A. Ensure that implementation of growth policy, developmental impacts and mitigation are addressed.	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
4. There are inadequate efforts of programs to continue advocating public participation in growth policy formation and revision process.	A. Ensure that continued advocating public participation in growth policy formation and revision process.	Underway	

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Other Issues			
1. Limit to 1 family per residence	A. rental property ordinance	Not Accomplished	No longer a priority
2. Adopt noise ordinance	A. Adopt Noise Ordinance	Completed	
3. Law Enforcement	A. Construct firing range	Underway	
	B. Indoor firing training facility	Not Accomplished	No longer a goal
4. Fire Department	A. Purchase fire truck	Completed	
	B. Begin paid volunteer fire departments	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding
	C. Fire service study location of stations	Completed	
5. Fiber optic cable	A. Construct fiber optic cable for computers, internet	Completed	
	B. Telephone wireless network	Not Accomplished	Lack of funding

A RESOLUTION


Whereas, the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 requires local governments to develop and maintain a comprehensive plan to retain their Qualified Local Government status and eligibility for State permits, grants, and loans; and

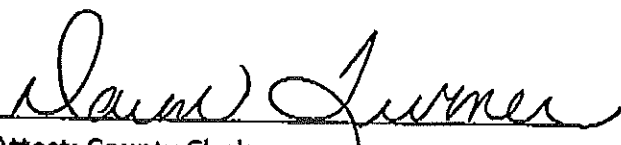
Whereas, Polk County, Georgia has prepared a Five Year Short Term Work Program Update: 2012-2016 to the local comprehensive plan; and

Whereas, Polk County held a public hearing on the Five Year Short Term Work Program Update: 2012-2016;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that Polk County Board of Commissioners officially approves and adopts the Five Year Short Term Work Program Update: 2012-2016 (June 2012).

So Resolved this 3 day of ^{July}~~June~~ 2012.


Cleve Hartley, Chairman
Polk County Board of Commissioners


Attest: County Clerk

