

2009-2013

Report of Accomplishments

2014-2018

Priority Actions

Rockdale County

Short Term Work Program Update

Department of Planning and Development

March 2013

Short Term Work Program

Updated 01/11/2013

While the Comprehensive Plan of 2003 focused on growth, the theme of its update in 2008 was the optimal use of existing resources. Frugality continues to prevail as the economy struggles to regain momentum, and is reflected in the 2014-2018 Short Term Work Program.

The Comp Plan of 2003 identified 72 goals, distributed among six different categories. Given the limited resources available at this time and the progress already accomplished, staff felt the need to narrow the scope of the STWP, and few new projects were added to the list. For this update, two main goals were chosen to inform the selection of those projects:

- ✘ Promote infill and redevelopment (III-6)
- ✘ Create land development regulations that reorient development towards a pattern of sustainability while protecting developer interests (IV-2)

These goals will help prepare the ground for quality development. The current, sluggish rate of construction is an opportunity to reshape our regulations and advance administrative projects that cannot be easily achieved in busier times.

The County gross tax revenue diminished by 19% between 2008 and 2012 according to our Tax Commissioner's data but, despite the economic duress, the residents of Rockdale agreed to another SPLOST in 2011 (the previous one was adopted in 2005). Several public projects expected to be funded by this means will help materialize the vision of the Comp Plan.

This brief report highlights accomplishments made since 2008 and priorities for the near future. It is complementary to the complete list of projects of the Short Term Work Program, presented in a table placed in annex.

Methodology

The Department of Planning and Development reviewed the Comprehensive Plan of 2003 and its update of 2008 and determined it still suits the needs of the community. A deferral of the major update, initially due October 31, 2013, was granted by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs upon request from the County on December 7, 2012.

Staff from Planning and Development met with other departments and agencies between June and October 2012 to verify the adequacy of the Comp Plan and to update the Short Term Work Program. Several other departments have their own master plan detailing specific priority actions. These

departmental work programs are not repeated in this STWP; only the projects of major consequence for the County and furthering the goals of the Comp Plan are included in this STWP.

Projects depending heavily on entities separate from the County for their completion were removed from the Short Term Work Program. As an example, railroad crossing upgrades that are planned, designed and built by CSX are no longer included in the STWP. The result is a more concise and compact document.

As with any major planning effort, the citizens of Rockdale County were invited to participate in the process on two occasions:

February 14, 2012: Presentation and discussion at the Planning Commission

February 26, 2012: Presentation and discussion at the Public Hearing on Zoning

The draft documents were also available on the County website and at the customer service front desk from February 5, 2012 through March 12, 2013 for consultation and comment.

Highlights

Natural and Historic Resources

According to the EPA 303(d) list of impaired waterways for reporting year 2012, the surface water quality in Rockdale County has not improved since the last Comp Plan update. Therefore, additional efforts must be taken to restore environmental quality. RWR will attempt to delist Boar Tusk Creek - currently considered an impaired stream for its pH - with the support of sampling data showing the pH values are in fact consistently within a safe range.

Community Facilities

Water and Sewer

The Water and Sewer Master Plan was updated by staff and is ready for a final public hearing before adoption. The Honey Creek Lift Station, planned to be in operation in 2014, will use the expanded capacity of the Quigg Branch plant instead of building a new wastewater reclamation facility. The cost of such a treatment plant on the south side of the County was prohibitive, and nearby residents opposed the project on other concerns.

One could argue the most constraining factor to the expansion of the urbanized area in Rockdale County is the limited availability of sewer. Rockdale Water Resources (RWR) will prioritize infill within the existing service area instead of expanding the line coverage into undeveloped areas of the County. This will likely encourage redevelopment in already disturbed areas, perhaps at higher densities.

Solid Waste and Stormwater

The Stormwater Utility hired a maintenance crew and purchased construction equipment in 2012, which will enable them to conduct regular and reactive maintenance minor repairs to the infrastructure without having to outsource all the work.

Two initiatives will help with the prevention of polluted stormwater runoff and surface water contamination. A public education program on the proper use and disposal of commonly used household hazardous products including fertilizers and pesticides has been ongoing since 2006 and will continue as part of regular operations. The goal is to educate the general public on their role in causing stormwater pollution.

The exploration of green infrastructure will identify the best strategies and relating regulations the County could adopt to promote low-impact development. Considering the high volume and poor quality of urban runoff the County experiences in some areas, and the low-tech nature and relative low cost of green infrastructure, this project promises to positively impact the quality of our environment. The installation of a demonstration rain garden in September 2012 at the Parker Road Annex is a first effort in this direction.

Parks and Recreation

The Department of Recreation and Maintenance foresees only regular maintenance and minor upgrades to existing facilities and equipment for 2014-2018. Unless funding is provided by an external source, no new parks or facilities will be developed due to a lack of initial capital.

One of the major accomplishments in the realm of parks and recreation opportunities is the Rockdale River Trail System. Its construction was initiated in 2009 and is expected to be completed by 2015. The 11 mile long trail will connect County parks with community resources such as the Monastery of the Holy Spirit and Panola Mountain State Park.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan and the Greenway Master Plan, funded through SPLOST, will be prepared by consultants and ready for the next major update of the Comprehensive Plan.

Public Safety

After the expansion of the jail and construction of two new fire stations, no other building projects of this amplitude are planned for the near future. The Sheriff's Department acquired and renovated a precinct station on Highway 20 near Honey Creek Road in 2012. Two fire stations will be renovated shortly.

The 911 system will be upgraded from analog to digital and this project will include the location of a transmission tower in the northern part of the County.

Urban Design

The County tree ordinance was revised in 2008, but it still covers only the protection and replacement of trees in certain conditions, and the use of shrubs and trees as visual screens and buffers. It does not address the use of plant material in planting strips and the list of selected species is short. A comprehensive landscape ordinance would be beneficial not only for the aesthetics, but also for the natural environment of Rockdale.

Redevelopment and infill are the current priorities for economic revitalization and both will be addressed by an ordinance that will set design guidelines and standards to ensure quality of new construction and renovation and the compatibility of adaptive reuses with the existing fabric.

Economic Development and Redevelopment

The Urban Redevelopment Plan for the area on either side of I-20 adjacent to DeKalb County, including the Stonecrest Overlay study area and the industrial park, was adopted in late 2011. The implementation of the vision set forth by the URP will happen only if tools are set in place to guide reinvestment. The first step in this direction was the creation of the Rockbridge Opportunity Zone, effective January 1, 2012. Staff from Planning and Zoning will propose the adoption of an overlay district or other appropriate framework to promote redevelopment in the western part of the County.

Housing and Community Development

Census tracts 602.01 and 603.09 were identified in the 2008 Comp Plan update as an Area Requiring Special Attention for their high level of poverty. Tract 602.01 is located near the DeKalb County line, north of I-20 and south of the Yellow River, and includes Lake Capri and Lakeview Estates. Most of tract 603.09 is within City limits. The 2006-2010 American Community Survey estimates the poverty rate remains the highest in those same tracts: 31.4% in 602.01 and 23.8% in 603.09, compared to an average of 12.3% for the overall county. The mobile homes stock in general is aging and several owners in those tracts have modified the structures turning them into permanent houses. Staff from the Planning and Zoning Division (P&Z) in collaboration with the building inspectors will explore new development standards to accommodate this unique situation.

Rockdale County takes part in the nationwide Neighborhood Stabilization Program. It has been a successful initiative, helping so far over 30 families with the transition into ownership.

Land Use

The Commissioners called a Town Hall meeting in the spring of 2012 to discuss the sign ordinance and the Salem Road Overlay District with the County citizens and business owners. Most comments concerned the enforcement of existing regulations. Staff will revisit the overlay to clarify certain regulations, such as the minimum of required fenestration. Newton County is developing an overlay on Salem Road in their jurisdiction and P&Z will continue to collaborate with our neighbors to increase the overall quality of the built environment.

With goals of sustainability in mind, small pockets of commercial use in vast residential areas will be examined in detail. The intent of these nodes is to provide neighboring residents with retail and services that accommodate their daily needs and ultimately reduce the number and length of vehicular trips. New design standards may emerge from this study.

Transportation

The Rockdale Department of Transportation (RDOT) was separated from the Department of Planning and Development in 2011. The City and County has a joint comprehensive master plan, and therefore the complete list of capital projects, such as street resurfacing, is not repeated in this STWP.

Walking and biking trails have gained in popularity in recent years, and not only for recreational purposes. The South River Trail developed in partnership with Path Foundation is coming to completion and will connect Rockdale to the regional system. Recreation and Maintenance (R&M) will collaborate with RDOT in making compatible and complementary the Transportation Plan and the Greenway Master Plan.

Intergovernmental Coordination

The Atlanta Regional Commission adopted Plan 2040, the regional comprehensive plan with which every jurisdiction in the metropolitan area must comply. From a preliminary assessment, Rockdale appears to meet most criteria and will be able to comply with little change to the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).

Full Comp Plan update

The Comprehensive Plan will be completely updated by the end of October 2018, per DCA rules. However P&Z recommends beginning the process early to address the many changes Rockdale County has encountered since 2003. Although the existing Comp Plan as amended still serves our needs, the population, the economy and the built environment have changed substantially since the last major update. It will be beneficial for all to take a fresh look at our assets and elaborate strategies for a thriving community.

Goals defined in the 2003 Comprehensive Plan

Economic Development

- III-1. Attract desirable businesses and industries to Rockdale County.
- III-2. Continue to attract the Baby Boomer generation.
- III-3. Continue to attract middle and upper income families with children.
- III-4. Make Rockdale County even more attractive to prospective residents.
- III-5. Improve higher education within Rockdale County.
- III-6. Promote infill and redevelopment.
- III-7. Improve the aesthetics of Rockdale County.

Natural and Historic Resources

- IV-1. Implement watershed management strategies that restore Rockdale County's impaired waterways.
- IV-2. Create land development regulations that reorient development towards a pattern of sustainability while protecting developer interests.
- IV-3. Design the necessary programs and regulations to protect and preserve open space and sensitive lands throughout the County in a coordinated way.
- IV-4. Implement the necessary ordinances and policies that lead to cleaner air for Rockdale County citizens and workers.
- IV-5. Preserve Rockdale County's historic and cultural sites and structures.

Community Facilities

- V-1. Closely monitor growing areas of the County, in order to provide needed public safety facilities and personnel.
- V-2. Create a facility plan for each community facilities' element.
- V-3. Cluster community facilities into nodes, which would serve as activity centers in the County.
- V-4. Maintain a high level of health care services offered in the County.
- V-5. Continue adding park land and facilities as the County continues to grow.
- V-6. Continue expanding and updating educational facilities, technology and curriculum.
- V-7. Provide adequate support for the County's library and cultural facilities so the quality of these resources stays high, especially with the growing population.

Transportation

- VI-1. Provide a safe, efficient and effective transportation infrastructure to support existing and planned development.
- VI-2. Increase the safety of streets and intersections through the use of medians, sidewalks, signalized crosswalks, limited curb cuts or other appropriate measures.
- VI-3. Utilize context sensitive design principles in the planning, design and construction of transportation infrastructure within applicable zoning districts.
- VI-4. Implement corridor guidelines for project development, implementation and construction of the road infrastructure.

- VI-5. Support the creation of a more balanced multimodal transportation system that offers alternatives to the automobile.
- VI-6. Improve transportation planning by describing existing conditions, identifying future needs, including the community in long-range planning, prioritizing immediate improvements and actively acquire appropriate right-of-way in developing areas.
- VI-7. Coordinate Transportation Plan with County's land use plan, development standards, zoning standards, codes and regulations.
- VI-8. Provide close coordination with the adjoining counties of Newton, Walton, Henry, Gwinnett, and DeKalb land use and transportation plans.

Housing

- VII-1. Provide a variety of housing choices throughout the region to ensure housing for individuals and families of diverse incomes and age groups, including the provision of life cycle housing at the neighborhood level.
- VII-2. Preserve and enhance existing residential neighborhoods.
- VII-3. Improve the aesthetics of medium to high density housing within the County.
- VII-4. Improve the sustainability of existing and new residential neighborhoods.

Land Use

- VIII-1. Strive for compact development patterns to conserve vacant land and identify ways to preserve open space.
- VIII-2. Make zoning decisions consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
- VIII-3. Direct development into the areas of the County that have in place, or have agreements to provide, adequate community infrastructure and services to accommodate future growth.
- VIII-4. Promote more compact development patterns, focusing on principles related to walkable communities.
- VIII-5. Restrict land disturbance in the most environmentally sensitive areas to protect them from the negative impacts of development.
- VIII-6. Reduce impervious surfaces and other land disturbance activities that may degrade the environment.
- VIII-7. Promote open space conservation in the development process as a value-added amenity in development.
- VIII-8. Establish adequate land use transitions.
- VIII-9. Preserve and protect the character and viability of existing communities and developing new communities.
- VIII-10. Maintain the distinction between conservation areas and developed areas.
- VIII-11. Reduce visual clutter by limiting the amount and size of billboards and on-site signs.
- VIII-12. Direct transportation system improvements away from environmentally sensitive areas and towards locations where community services can be provided more economically.
- VIII-13. Require careful coordination of transportation facility planning and design with land use planning, growth management, and design standards.
- VIII-14. Promote regional cooperation regarding comprehensive planning.

Goals/objectives defined in the 2008 Partial Comp Plan Update

Housing and Community Development

H-CD-1. Expanding the Range of Housing Options

H-CD-2. Pursuing Community Development

Economic Development

ED-1. Pursuing Economic Development

Historic Resources

HP-1. Preserving Historic Resources

Natural Resources

NR-1. Protecting the “303(d)” List of Impaired Waters

NR-2. Protecting and Capitalizing on Rock Outcroppings

NR-3. Protecting Scenic Views

Land Use

LU-1. Monitoring Implementation of Salem Road (SR162) Corridor Overlay

LU-2. Completing Regulations and Guidelines for the Stonecrest Area

LU-3. Promoting More Neighborhood Commercial Land Use and Zoning

LU-4. Identifying and Protecting Agricultural Areas

LU-5. Simplifying Land Use and Zoning Categories

Community Facilities and Services

CF-1. Completing and Adopting the Water and Sewer Master Plan

CF-2. Constructing a 9th Fire Station

CF-3. Planning for Open Space and Greenways

Design and Sense of Place

D-1. Ensuring a sense of place

Intergovernmental Coordination

IC-1. Coordinating Land Use Planning

IC-2. Coordinating Parks and Recreation Master Planning

IC-3. Continuing Functional Consolidation of Services

Transportation

T-1. Battling the Over-reliance on the Automobile

T-2. Improving Conditions on Congested Arterials

***DRAFT* Rockdale County
2009-2013 Report of Accomplishments**

Updated 01/15/2013

See legend at bottom

Project ID	Description	Planned Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Possible Source of Funding	Current Status	Explanation/Comment
NATURAL RESOURCES							
1	Revise regulations as necessary to protect the integrity of waterways on "303(d)" List of Impaired Waters.	2009-2013	Stormwater, RWR (Originally assigned to P&D)	N/A	Staff Function	Continuing	Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control ordinance (Ch. 306) updated 07/2010; Watershed Management Plan is under bid for consultant - awaiting recommendations from WMP.
2	Conduct an inventory and study of rural scenic views in Rockdale County.	2010	P&Z, consultant	\$50,000	Operating Budget	No longer considered	Incorporate into next Comp Plan major update instead of stand-alone study.
HISTORIC RESOURCES							
3	Consider the adoption of ordinances protecting historic resources, including Milstead Village.	2009-2011	P&Z, consultant	\$15,000	Operating Budget	Deferred to long-term program	Lack of funding and community support; New studies needed (Milstead Village study outdated - 1992?).
4	Add eligible properties on the National Register of Historic Places.	2009-2013	Historical Society, consultant	\$2,500 per nomination	Operating Budget	Deferred to long-term program	Aaron and Margaret Parker House (4835 Flat Bridge Rd) added in 2009; Encouraged but not financially supported or pursued by the County at this time.
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES							
WATER AND SEWER							
5	Comply with Consent Order to take Community Wastewater Systems offline.	2009-2011	RWR	Unknown	Local Water and Sewer Fund	No longer considered	This was not part of consent order EPD WQ-5209. No intentions to pursue this project.
6	Prepare and adopt a new Water and Sewer Master Plan (including water conservation).	2008-2009	RWR	\$325,000 (Consultant)	Local Water and Sewer Fund	Undersway, to be completed in 2013	Revised in-house by staff in 2009-2012, awaiting public presentation for final adoption.
7	Expand water and sewer line coverage in service areas per master plan.	2010-2013	RWR	Per RWR master plan	Local Water and Sewer Fund	Underway	Instead of expanding the service areas, RWR will fill in existing areas to maximize use of existing infrastructure.
8	Implement a septic tank inspections program.	Ongoing	State Environmental Health (Originally assigned to RWR)	N/A	Operating Budget	Removed from STWP	Systems are inspected at installation and when failures are reported. EH does not foresee a systematic inspection program for existing systems.
9	Construct new Wastewater Treatment Plant in southern Rockdale County.	2008-2020	RWR, Finance	\$60,000,000	Local Water and Sewer Fund	Deferred to long-term program (2025)	Leverage existing facilities instead of building a new plant.
10	Investigate feasibility/potential of implementing a water reuse (gray water system).	2009-2012	RWR, Finance	Unknown	Local Water and Sewer Fund	Completed	See RWR master plan for details. By 2020, reclaimed water will be processed through wetlands near Quigg Branch facility.
New	Install wastewater valve actuators (emergency cutoff system).	2012	RWR	\$58K	Local Water and Sewer Fund	Nearly completed	

Project ID	Description	Planned Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Possible Source of Funding	Current Status	Explanation/Comment
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES							
SOLID WASTE AND STORMWATER							
11	Implement and update as required the county's solid waste management plan.	2009-2013	R&M	N/A	Staff Function or Consultant	Continuing	Plan 2008-2018 is current (adopted 2010), next update due in 2019.
12	Construct new South Rockdale Recycling Center facility.	2010	R&M	\$76,000	\$46,000 GEFA; \$30,000 Local	Deferred to long-term program	Citizens opposed when proposed a few years ago.
13	Regional Retention Pond. (Lakefield Dam Facility)	2002-2010	EPA, Stormwater	\$4,900,000	Congressional Appropriations; Local Stormwater Utility Fund	Underway, to be completed in 2015	Under re-design and re-permitting to reduce cost. Construction to begin 2014.
New	Lake Rockaway Dam Repair and Rehabilitation.	2012-2015	Stormwater	\$1,500,000	Local Stormwater Utility Fund	Underway	Providing dam rehabilitation to provide proper access to a lower income community. Construction to begin in 2014.
14	Stormwater infrastructure throughout Rockdale County.	2002-2020	Stormwater	\$1,500,000 annually	Local Stormwater Utility Fund	Inventory completed, inspections continuing	Inventory of infrastructure completed and continually updated; 20% of system inspected annually; Maintenance as resources become available, by crew hired in 2012.
New	Milstead II Drainage Improvements.	2012-2013	Stormwater	\$600,000	CDBG, Local Stormwater Utility Fund	Underway, to be completed in 2014	Providing infrastructure and water quality treatment in an older community. Construction to be completed in 2014.
New	Continue educational program and public outreach on stormwater pollution prevention.	2005-2020	Stormwater	\$25,000	Local Stormwater Utility Fund	Continuing	Ongoing utility bill inserts, County cleanup events and storm drain stenciling program.
15	Prepare and implement guidelines or regulations for low impact development.	2009-2010	Stormwater, P&Z	N/A	Staff Function	Continuing	Conservation subdivision ordinance adopted in 2007; Feasibility of green infrastructure to be studied.
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES							
PARKS AND RECREATION							
16	Georgia Veterans Memorial Park at Black Shoals Park (Official name: Walk of Heroes Veterans War Memorial).	2002-2010	BOC, VA HUD	\$10,000,000	VA HUD, Local Funds	Underway (2 phases completed); Removed from STWP	Referred to Foundation for funding, design and programming (County involved with maintenance only).
17	Black Shoals Park Phase II improvements.	2002-2010	R&M (Originally assigned to BOC)	\$500,000	Local Funds; DNR grant	Underway, to be completed in 2014	Funded by SPLOST; Received a grant from DNR for Nature Trail.

Project ID	Description	Planned Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Possible Source of Funding	Current Status	Explanation/Comment
18	JP Carr Community Center renovation and expansion.	2002-2009	R&M (Originally assigned to BOC)	\$5,000,000	County Capital Fund	Completed	Funded through SPLOST2005; Gymnasium was also renovated.
19	Parker Road recreation facility.	2004-2012	R&M (Originally assigned to BOC)	\$10,000,000	County Capital Fund	Completed	SPLOST2005 funded tennis center, trail created in collaboration with City; No more projects for parks and recreation at this location.
20	Prepare and adopt a Greenway Master Plan as component to Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan.	2009-2011	R&M (Originally assigned to BOC)	\$150,000	County Operating Budget; City of Conyers	Postponed to 2017	Will be funded by SPLOST2012 and prepared by consultant.
21	Pursue additional federal and state funding for open space acquisition and park and greenway improvements.	2009-2013	R&M, Grantwriter (Originally assigned to BOC)	N/A	Staff Function	Continuing	Land acquisition grants usually require matching funds, so no acquisition in recent past or near future anticipated.
New	Rockdale River Trail System	2009-2015	R&M	\$8.5M	SPLOST, GDOT, DNR	Underway, to be completed in 2015	
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES							
PUBLIC SAFETY							
22	Construct 200-400 bed addition to the Rockdale County Jail.	2004-2009	Sheriff	\$16,000,000	County Capital Fund	Completed	
23	Construct new Fire Station #6 near Klondike Road and McDaniel Mill Road in southern Rockdale County.	2008-2009	F&R	\$2,000,000	County Capital Fund	Completed in 2009	Actual cost: \$1.29M
24	Construct new fire station #9 in southern Rockdale County.	2010-2013	F&R	\$2,500,000	County Capital Fund	Completed in 2010	Actual cost: \$1.5M
25	Construct new 200-space parking deck for Rockdale County Courthouse Complex.	Long range	BOC, City of Conyers	\$3,200,000	County and City Capital Funds	Remain in long-term program	Cost prohibitive
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES							
OTHER							
26	Annually update the Capital Improvements Element (CIE) for impact fees.	2009-2013	P&Z; Consultant	\$0-10,000	Operating Budget or Impact Fees	Continuing	Per State law.
27	Plan, design and construct library improvements per CIE.	2009-2013	R&M	Per CIE	County Capital Fund	Completed in 2010	Library re-dedicated in 2010; Actual cost \$7.88M
URBAN DESIGN AND AESTHETIC IMPROVEMENT							
28	SR 138 Beautification and Economic Initiative.	2004-2010	RDOT	\$1,000,000	Congressional Appropriations; County Capital Fund	South of I-20 completed; North of I-20 underway	
29	Countywide Beautification Initiative.	2009-2013	BOC	\$3,000,000	HOST	Removed from STWP	Reassigned to Keep Conyers-Rockdale Beautiful.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT							
30	Attract desirable businesses and industries to Rockdale County through active recruitment efforts and business assistance programs.	2009-2013	CREDC (Originally assigned to BOC and Chamber of Commerce)	N/A	Operating Budget (Staff Function)	Continuing; Removed from STWP	Work Ready program since 2007, Camera Ready since 2011; Created Opportunity Zone in 2012.
31	Maintain an inventory of vacant industrial and commercial building spaces and market vacant spaces to new users.	2009-2013	CREDC	N/A	Operating Budget	Continuing; Removed from STWP	Maintained by CREDC on its website, continuously updated.

Project ID	Description	Planned Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Possible Source of Funding	Current Status	Explanation/Comment
32	Formalize detailed strategies for the redevelopment of aging and obsolete commercial strip centers.	2009-2013	BOC, Chamber of Commerce	N/A	Operating Budget (Staff Function)	Postponed to 2014	Will be addressed through comprehensive redevelopment and infill ordinance by P&Z.
33	Continue the pursuit of a new technology park area emphasizing on office / distribution / technology.	2009-2013	BOC, Chamber of Commerce, CREDC	N/A	Operating Budget (Staff Function)	No longer considered	Pursuing manufacturing instead, per current demand
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT							
34	Monitor housing and neighborhood conditions in Census Tracts 602.01 and 603.09; map areas where blighting conditions or disinvestment within neighborhoods is occurring.	2011, 2013	P&Z	N/A	Staff Function	Underway	CHIP grant invested in Milstead (603.09); 1 abandoned home in Milstead to be demolished in 2013.
35	Apply for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for improvement of low- and moderate-income areas.	2009-2013	Grantwriter (Originally assigned to P&D)	N/A	Staff Function	Underway	Will apply in April 2013; Received CHIP grant in 2011.
36	Evaluate the need and if necessary implement housing code enforcement programs targeted in Census Tracts 602.01 and 603.09.	2009-2013	P&Z, Code Enforcement	N/A	Staff Function	Postponed to 2018	Will be addressed under new development standards.
LAND USE							
37	Annually update the Future Land Use Map.	2009-2013	P&Z	N/A	Staff Function	Continuing	Required by Unified Development Ordinance.
38	Implement the Stonecrest Mall Area Study.	2009-2010	P&Z	N/A	Operating Budget (Staff Function)	Postponed to 2014	Will be addressed under an overlay district for the Urban Redevelopment Area.
39	Evaluate the workings of the Salem Road (SR 162) Corridor Overlay District; amend regulations as necessary.	2009-2010	P&Z	N/A	Staff Function	Underway, to be completed	Townhall meeting to address issues with community in May 2012, will consider revision of ordinance.
40	Prepare a prototype design and use plan for neighborhood commercial development in rural Rockdale County; revise neighborhood commercial zoning district as necessary.	2009-2011	P&Z	\$35,000 (Consultant)	Operating Budget	Postponed to 2015	Will prepare in-house.
41	Prepare the new Comprehensive Plan.	Oct. 31, 2013	P&Z	\$300,000	Operating Budget	Postponed to Oct. 31, 2018	STWP update instead
42	Prepare amendments to land use regulations after five-year comprehensive review.	2013 or long range	P&Z	Unknown	Staff Function or Consultant	Continuing	Table of Permitted Uses to be reviewed in 2013.
New	Prepare amendments to land use regulations: Revise the Table of Permitted Uses, Sec. 218-1.	End of 2013	P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	Underway, to be completed	To better reflect business owners' requests, emerging business trends and facilitate administration of licenses and zoning.
TRANSPORTATION							
43	Prepare the five-year update of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.	2009	RDOT, Consultant (Originally assigned to P&D)	\$300,000	Operating Budget	Completed	Update due in 2014.
44	Complete the regional and local road and intersection improvements per the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and Regional Plans.	2009-2013	RDOT (Originally assigned to BOC)	Per adopted plans	Federal, State and local funding sources per adopted plans	Continuing	
45	Continue to monitor studies of the Georgia Department of Transportation with regard to implementing commuter rail.	2009-2013	RDOT	N/A	Staff Function	Continuing	All projects deferred to long-term program; but connection Atlanta-Madison still considered in mid-range.

Project ID	Description	Planned Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Possible Source of Funding	Current Status	Explanation/Comment
46	Continue to monitor achievement of multi-modal transportation improvements on the ground.	2009-2013	RDOT	N/A	Staff Function	Continuing	
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION							
47	Continue to participate in the Intergovernmental Planning Committee.	2009-2013	P&Z	N/A	Staff Function	Continuing	Staff attends monthly LUCC meetings at ARC.
48	Cooperate with Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) to improve or expand bus service.	2009-2013	BOC, RDOT	N/A	Staff Function	Continuing	Chairman Oden involved in transportation through ARC.
49	Monitor plan amendment efforts and continue to comply with all mandates of the Metro North GA Water Planning District.	2009-20013	Stormwater, RWR (Originally assigned to BOC)	Unknown	Staff Function	Continuing	
50	Work with the City of Conyers to agree upon a future annexation plan or sphere of influence for the City of Conyers.	2009-2010	BOC, City of Conyers	N/A	Staff Function	No longer considered	Political climate not conducive to such agreement.
51	Update Rockdale County Service Delivery Strategy.	2009-2013	BOC, Adjacent jurisdictions	Unknown	Staff Function	Postponed to 2018	Will be updated concurrently with Comp Plan.
New	Comply with ARC Plan 2040.	Summer 2013	P&Z	Staff function	Operating Budget	Underway	

Abbreviations:

ARC: Atlanta Regional Commission
BOC: Board of Commissioners
CREDC: Conyers-Rockdale Economic Development Council
F&R: Fire and Rescue

NSP: Neighborhood Stabilization Program
P&Z: Planning and Zoning Division
RDOT: Dept. of Transportation
R&M: Dept. of Recreation and Maintenance
RWR: Dept. of Water Resources

Projects labeled "new" without an assigned ID number are projects that were not originally planned when the STWP was created in 2008, but worthy of mention

Rockdale County
2014-2018 Short-Term Work Program
Updated 01/11/2013

See legend at bottom

Project ID	Origin	Description	Goal pursued	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Possible Source of Funding	Explanation/Comment
NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES								
1	STWP 2009	Revise regulations as necessary to protect the integrity of waterways on "303(d)" List of Impaired Waters	2003 IV-1: Restore impaired waterways	Continuing	RWR, Stormwater	Staff function	Operating budget	To be updated upon completion of Watershed Management Plan.
2	New	Establish relationships with preservation stakeholders for planning purposes.	2003 IV-3: Protect and preserve open space and sensitive lands; 2003 IV-5: Preserve historic and cultural sites and structures	2014	P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	Some stakeholders to consider: Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area, South River Watershed Alliance, etc.
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES								
WATER AND SEWER								
3	STWP 2009 / New	Expand water and sewer line coverage in service areas per master plan.	2003 V-2: Provide adequate water supply and expand public sewer	2011-2016; underway	RWR, Finance Dept	\$7.5M	Local water and sewer fund, SPLOST	Instead of expanding the service areas, RWR to fill-in existing service areas to maximize use of existing infrastructure.
4	New	Purchase water leak detection equipment.		2011-2016, as funding becomes available	RWR, Finance Dept	\$500K	Local water and sewer fund, SPLOST	Need identified in RWR Master Plan 2008
5	New	Implement the Honey Creek Lift Station.	2003 V-2. Provide adequate water supply and expand public sewer	2012-2014	RWR	\$3.3M	GEFA loan, local water and sewer fund	In lieu of new reclamation facility.
6	New	New 10MG water storage tank at the water treatment plant.	2003 V-2. Provide adequate water supply and expand public sewer	2011-2016	RWR, Finance Dept	\$4.5M	SPLOST	Need identified in RWR Master Plan 2008
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES								
SOLID WASTE AND STORMWATER								
7	STWP 2009	Regional detention/water quality treatment pond (Lakefield Dam Facility)	2003 IV-1. Restore impaired waterways	2015; underway	Stormwater	\$4,900,000	Congressional Appropriations, local stormwater utility fund	May require coordination with RDOT and RWR
8	New	Lake Rockaway Dam Repair and Rehabilitation	2003 IV-1. Restore impaired waterways 2008 H-CD-2. Pursuing community development	2014-2016	Stormwater	\$1,500,000	Local Stormwater Utility Fund	Providing dam rehabilitation to provide proper access to a lower income community
9	New	Milstead II Drainage Improvements	2003 IV-1. Restore impaired waterways 2008 H-CD-2. Pursuing community development	2014	Stormwater	\$600,000	CDBG, Local Stormwater Utility Fund	Providing infrastructure and water quality treatment in an older community
10	Comp Plan 2003 / New	Continue educational program and public outreach on stormwater pollution prevention	2003 IV-1: Restore impaired waterways	2014	Stormwater	\$25,000	Local Stormwater Utility Fund	Focus on about proper use and disposal of common household hazardous waste
11	STWP 2009 / New	Prepare and implement guidelines or regulations for low impact development: Green infrastructure feasibility study.	2003 IV-1. Restore impaired waterways 2003 IV-2. Create sustainable land development regulations	2015	Stormwater, P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	

Project ID	Origin	Description	Goal pursued	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Possible Source of Funding	Explanation/Comment
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES								
PARKS AND RECREATION								
12	STWP 2009	Black Shoals Park improvements.	2003 V-5. Add parkland and facilities	2014; underway	R&M	\$319,000	SPLOST, DNR grant	
13	STWP 2009	Review and adopt the Greenway Master Plan as component to Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan.	2003 V-5. Add parkland and facilities	2012-2017	R&M, Consultant	Part of Master Plan	SPLOST	
14	New	Update the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan.	2003 V-5. Add parkland and facilities	2012-2017	R&M, Consultant	\$300,000	SPLOST	
15	New	Rockdale River Trail System	2003 V-5. Add parkland and facilities	2009-2015	R&M	\$8.5M	SPLOST, GDOT TE, DNR	
16	STWP 2009	Pursue additional federal and state funding for open space acquisition and park and greenway improvements.	2003 V-5. Add parkland and facilities	Continuing	R&M, Grantwriter	Staff function	Operating budget	
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES								
PUBLIC SAFETY								
17	New	Replacement of 911 system from analog to digital, including a new tower in north part of the County.	2003 V-1. Provide needed public safety facilities and personnel	2014; in progress	Sheriff, F&R	\$4.5M	SPLOST	
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES								
OTHER								
18	STWP 2009	Annually update the Capital Improvements Element (CIE) for impact fees.	per State law	Continuing	P&D, consultant	\$10,000	Operating budget or impact fees	
URBAN DESIGN								
19	STWP 2009	SR 138 Beautification and Economic Initiative.	2003 III-6. Promote infill and redevelopment	2015; underway	RDOT	N/A	Congressional Appropriations (TIP), County Capital Fund	
20	New	Prepare and adopt a comprehensive landscape ordinance	2003 IV-2. Create sustainable land development regulations	2016	P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	
21	New	Prepare and adopt a redevelopment and infill ordinance	2003 III-6. Promote infill and redevelopment	2014	P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	To address commercial strip centers
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT								
22	New	Implement the Urban Redevelopment Plan through an overlay district.	2003 III-6. Promote infill and redevelopment 2003 III-1. Attract businesses and industries	2015	P&Z, consultant	\$50,000	Operating budget, ARC (LCI program), County capital fund	To include the Stonecrest Mall Area Study
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT								
23	STWP 2009 / New	Propose new development standards for mobile home parks	2008 H-CD-2. Pursuing community development	2017	P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	
24	New	Continue participation in the Neighborhood Stabilization Program	2008 H-CD-2. Pursuing community development	Continuing	NSP Coordinator	Staff function	Operating budget	
LAND USE								
25	STWP 2009	Annually update the Future Land Use Map	per Unified Development Ordinance	Continuing	P&Z, GIS	Staff function	Operating budget	
26	STWP 2009	Evaluate the workings of the Salem Road (SR 162) Corridor Overlay District; amend regulations as necessary.	2003 III-6. Promote infill and redevelopment 2008 VIII. Implement small area studies	2014; underway	P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	
27	STWP 2009	Analyze neighborhood commercial development in rural Rockdale County; revise development regulations if appropriate.	2003 III-6. Promote infill and redevelopment	2014	P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	

Project ID	Origin	Description	Goal pursued	Timeframe	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Possible Source of Funding	Explanation/Comment
28	STWP 2009	Prepare the new Comprehensive Plan.	per State law	2018	P&D, consultant	\$300,000	Operating budget	
TRANSPORTATION								
29	STWP 2009 / New	Implement and update the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.	2003 VI-7. Coordinate with land use plan, development standards, zoning, codes and regulations.	Continuing	RDOT	N/A	Operating budget	To be updated in 2014
30	Comp Plan 2003 / New	Continue efforts to improve bicycle and pedestrian networks throughout the County.	2003 IV-4: Cleaner air 2003 VI-5: Create a multimodal transportation system 2003 VII-4 Improve sustainability	Continuing	P&Z, RDOT, R&M	N/A	TIP, PATH Foundation	To be coordinated with Transportation Plan and Greenway Master Plan.
31	New	Widening of Sigman Road to 4 lanes with a full median from Irwin Br. to SR 138 (Walnut Grove Rd).	2003 III-1. Attract businesses and industries	2014-2017	RDOT	\$16M	TIP (4 earmarked projects)	
** see Comprehensive Transportation Plan, as amended, for the complete list of capital projects **								
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION								
32	STWP 2009/ new	Continue to participate in Land Use Coordination Committee.	2003 VI-8. Coordinate land use and transportation plans with adjoining counties 2003 VIII-14 Promote regional cooperation regarding comprehensive planning	Continuing	P&Z	Staff function	Operating budget	
33	STWP 2009	Cooperate with Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) to improve or expand bus service.	2003 VI-5. Support the creation of a multimodal transportation system that offers alternative to the automobile	Continuing	BOC, RDOT	Staff function	Operating budget	
34	STWP 2009	Monitor plan amendment efforts and continue to comply with all mandates of the Metro North GA Water Planning District.	2003 IV-1: Restore impaired waterways	Continuing	Stormwater, RWR	Staff function	Operating budget	
35	STWP 2009	Update Rockdale County Service Delivery Strategy.	2003 VI-8. Coordinate land use and transportation plans with adjoining counties 2003 VIII-14 Promote regional cooperation regarding comprehensive planning	2018	BOC	Staff function	Operating budget	

Abbreviations:

ARC: Atlanta Regional Commission
BOC: Board of Commissioners
CREDC: Conyers-Rockdale Economic Development Council
DNR: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
F&R: Fire and Rescue

NSP: Neighborhood Stabilization Program
P&Z: Planning and Zoning Division
RDOT: Dept. of Transportation
R&M: Dept. of Recreation and Maintenance
RWR: Dept. of Water Resources

Projects labeled "new" under the Source column were not addressed in the Comp Plan of 2003 or the update of 2008 and are included for the first time in this STWP update.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF ROCKDALE COUNTY, GEORGIA, TO ADOPT THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FIVE YEAR SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE

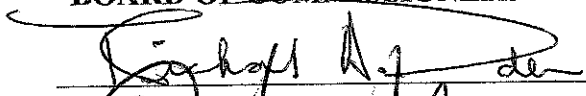
WHEREAS, Rockdale County has completed a Five Year Short Term Work Program *Report of Accomplishments* for the period 2009 to 2013, and a new Five Year Short Term Work Program for the period 2014 to 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs determined on April 26, 2013 that the Five Year Short Term Work Program Update is in compliance with the Minimum Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning and is ready for adoption by Rockdale County;

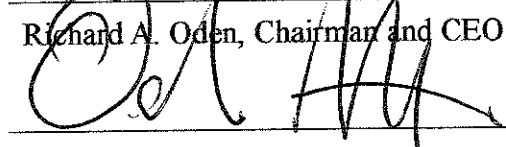
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockdale County Board of Commissioners does hereby adopt the Five Year Short Term Work Program Update, as per the requirements of the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, as amended.

Approved this 25th day of June, 2013.

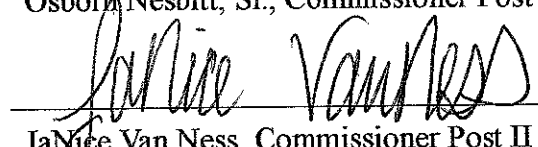
**ROCKDALE COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



Richard A. Oden, Chairman and CEO

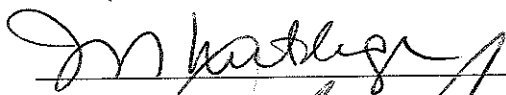


Osborn Nesbitt, Sr., Commissioner Post I



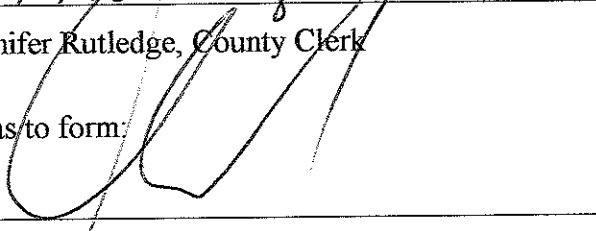
Janice Van Ness, Commissioner Post II

Attest:

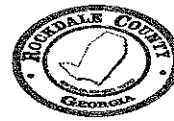
By: 

Jennifer Rutledge, County Clerk

Approved as to form:

By: 

M. Qader A. Baig, County Attorney



**Board of Commissioners
Agenda Item Transmittal Form
Ordinance/Policy/Resolution Transmittal Form**

<p>Type of Request: A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF ROCKDALE COUNTY, GEORGIA, TO ADOPT THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FIVE YEAR SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE</p>	<p>County Clerk Use Only Resolution/Policy/Ordinance #:</p>
---	---

<p><input type="checkbox"/> Submission Information</p> <p>Contact Name: Marshall W. Walker, Director, P&D</p> <p>Department: Planning & Development</p> <p>PRIORITY 1</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Information</p> <p>February 14, 2013 - 1st Public Hearing - Planning Commission - Recommended Approval</p> <p>February 26, 2013 - 2nd Public Hearing - Board of Commissioners</p> <p>March 12, 2013 - Transmitted to ARC for review and approval</p> <p>May 14, 2013 - Received notification from ARC that the Short Term Work Program Update is in compliance with requirements and can be adopted as of June 14, 2013</p> <p>June 18, 2013 - Work Session June 25, 2013 - Adoption Resolution</p>
---	--

<p><input type="checkbox"/> Department Director /Elected Official Signature</p> <p>I have reviewed the attached, and it is approved as to substance.</p> <p>Signature: <i>Marshall W. Walker</i> Date: 06/10/2013</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Chief of Staff Signature</p> <p>I have reviewed the attached, and it is approved for processing.</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>
--	---

<p><input type="checkbox"/> County Attorney Signature</p> <p>I have reviewed the attached, and it is approved as to form.</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> County Clerk Signature</p> <p>I have reviewed the contract, and it is approved for processing.</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>
--	---

Notes and Comments: