

UNIFIED GOVERNMENT
OF
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM UPDATE

2011-2015

RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION

**Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Comprehensive Plan-Implementation Program
Short Term Work Program-Update 2011-2015**

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Community Facilities				
Establish a surface water system including public sewer	2013, 2014, 2015	County	\$10 Million	CDBG, USDA, GEFA, Developers
Establish new well systems	2011-2012	County	\$1-2 Million	USDA, FEFA
Repair existing sidewalks/add new sidewalks	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	\$100,000	County
Construct a new middle school.	2012	County, School Board	\$10 Million	County, Federal Gov't, State of Georgia
Establish local ambulance service	2012	County	\$1 Million	County, FEMA, Homeland Security
Install sidewalk between City Park and school	2011	County	\$10,000	LDF, County
Establish an Emergency Medical Service	2012	County Commission	\$100,000	County, DCA
Extend and pave Industrial Park Road to Broad Street (approximately 1/2 mile)	2011	County Commission	\$100,000	County, DOT
Continue to upgrade fire trucks and purchase new fire truck	2014	County Commission	\$175,000	County, FEMA
Upgrade Public Works' heavy equipment	2015	County Commission	\$50,000	County
Build a new Fire Station on Fire Tower Road	2011	County Commission	\$100,000	County
Continue to implement a clean-up program for the county	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County/ Citizens	\$500 per year	County/ Citizens
Continue to implement the recycling program	2011, 2012, 2103, 2014, 2105	County Commission	\$10,000	County, SPLOST, Grants

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Replace inadequate waterlines throughout the county.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County Commission	\$2 million	CDBG, GEFA, Local Revenues
Continue drainage and street improvements	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County Commission	\$300,000	CDBG, LDF

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Economic Development				
Renovate the Town Center and Broad Street	2015	County, Chamber of Commerce	\$1 Million	GDOT, (TE), County, SPLOST
Increase local job opportunities	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County, Chamber of Commerce, Valley Partnership	\$5,000	County, GDED, Valley Partnership
Develop a Quality Workforce/Get Work Force Ready Designation	2011	Schools, County, Business Employers	\$1,000	County
Remain active in the Valley Partnership	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	\$3,000	County

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Housing				
Increase home ownership.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	1.7 mill	HUD, DCA (CHIP), County
Maintain an affordable and adequate housing stock.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	1.7 mill	HUD, DCA (CHIP, CDBG)
Remove/rehabilitate cleanup dilapidated structures and property.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	1.7 mill	County, State (CDBG), Federal Gov't.
Diversify Housing Mix	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	1.7 mill	County
Retrofit existing subdivisions	2015	County	\$100,000	County, HUD, DCA
Upgrade housing in the city	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	\$300,000	CDBG
Increase Housing in the old city limits	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County Commission	\$300,000	CDBG
Continue the code enforcement program	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County Commission	\$20,000 per year	County

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Land Use				
Diversify land use mix, maximize commercial industrial opportunities.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	N/A	County
Improve properties that need improvement	2013, 2014, 2015	County	\$5,000	County, DCA, HUD
Maintain and expand upon tax base.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	N/A	County
Work with developers to preserve open space, natural and cultural resources in the county.	2013	County	N/A	County
Develop conservation subdivision regulations and traditional neighborhood techniques.	2015	County	\$1,000	County
Develop regulations that control development off US 27, SR 520/280 and SR 26.	2015	County	\$5,000	County
Continue the code enforcement program	2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	Co. Commission	\$20,000 per year	County
Update the Comprehensive Plan	2011	County, Planning Commission County	\$5,000	County

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Natural and Historic Resources				
Work with school system and Garden Club to develop education/programs that promote conservation and the protection of important resources.	2013	County	\$1,000	County, DNR
Strengthen and improve existing regulations regarding development in sensitive areas.	2015	County	\$1,000	County
Develop a management plan for significant community resources.	2014	County	\$2,500	County
Adopt appropriate site design guidelines for developing on sensitive areas	2015	County	\$1,000	County
Develop programs that encourage infill development	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	\$5,000	County, State grants
Establish local walking trails	2012	County	\$300,000	County, State grants, Federal grants
Protect and preserve Historic structures.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County, Historical Society	\$100,000	County Historical Society, DCA. LDF, Heritage 2000
Continue to support efforts to preserve the historic jail	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County, Historical Society	\$50,000	County Historical Society, DCA. LDF, Heritage 2000
Work with the region on implementing the Regional Strategy related to TMDL/Water Quality issues	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	\$500 per year	DNR, RDC

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Transportation				
Continue to implement existing priority list for paving existing dirt roads.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	\$500,000	County
Work with DOT to widen SR26	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	Unknown	GDOT, County
Establish METRA and Four County Rural transit services to Chattahoochee County	2015	County, Muscogee County	Unknown	DOT, County, Muscogee County
Stay informed on the development of I-14	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	Unknown	GDOT

Activity	Years	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source
Intergovernmental				
Maintain relationship with the City of Columbus.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	Unknown	N/A
Maintain relations with Fort Benning. Keep lines of communication open.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	Unknown	N/A
Continue to participate with Columbus MPO and other regional transportation efforts	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	Unknown	N/A
Coordinate with other governments in meeting State and Federal Storm Water Regulations.	2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015	County	Unknown	N/A

**UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY**

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM

REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2007 - 2011

RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION

**Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Comprehensive Plan-Implementation Program
Short Term Work Program Report of Accomplishments 2011**

Activity	Status	Explanation
Community Facilities		
Establish a public sewage system	Currently Underway	Working with engineering firm on the feasibility of providing public sewer service to a portion of County Residents. Feasibility Study Completion Date 2012.
Write and Implement Pre - Disaster Mitigation Plan	Completed	Adopted 2009
Establish new well systems	Currently Underway	Currently improving three wells by increasing pumping and storage capacity and adding one new well. Completion Date 2012
Repair existing sidewalks/add new sidewalks	Currently Underway	All side walks now ADA compliant. Have received funding to add sidewalks to middle school. Completion Date 2011
Encourage privately owned cemetery area	Not Accomplished	Chattahoochee BOC decided this was a private sector initiative.
Construct a new middle school.	Currently Underway	Construction on middle school should be complete in 2013.
The county needs to adopt a Storm Water Ordinance.	Completed	2008
Establish local ambulance service	Currently Underway	Cross training firemen to be EMTs, have two EMT's now and have added a new rescue truck. Should start County ambulance service in 2013. Completion date 2013.
Conduct study for medical facility expansion.	Not Accomplished	Chattahoochee BOC decided this was a private sector initiative.
Establish After School programs	Completed	4 H After School program established 2009

Activity	Status	Explanation
Enhance communications between local leaders and citizens	Completed	Chattahoochee BOC established monthly work sessions, a web site, and an open door policy to staff and elected officials as well as an electronic message board to inform the citizenry of Chattahoochee County about up coming meetings, etc. All work completed in 2010.
Repair sidewalks on Broad Street	Completed	Repair work finished in 2009
Install sidewalk between City Park and school	Currently Underway	Waiting on DOT funds, project should be completed by 2011
Establish an Emergency Medical Service	Currently Underway	Cross training firemen to be EMTs, have two EMT's now and have added a new rescue truck. Should start County ambulance service in 2013.
Extend and pave Industrial Park Road to Broad Street (approximately 1/2 mile)	Currently Underway	GDOT has contract- Project should be complete by 2012
Continue to upgrade firetrucks and purchase new fire truck	Currently Underway	BOC ha purchased a new rescue truck and in the process of buying a ladder truck. Completed by 2011
Upgrade Public Works' heavy equipment	Postponed	Not completed due to budgetary constraints. Heavy Equipment should be upgraded by 2015
Pave Manta Road (3 miles)	Not Accomplished	Is no longer a project of interest by the Chattahoochee BOC.
Rehabilitate Fire Station #2	Currently Underway	Project scope has changed, Chattahoochee BOC will build a new fire station. Project should be finished by 2013.

Activity	Status	Explanation
Develop an incentive program for volunteer fire fighters	Completed	Chattahoochee BOC established a retirement program for fire fighters and pay a travel reimbursement fee. Completed 2009
Continue to implement a clean-up program for the county	Currently Underway	County works with 4 H and the Cusseta Garden Club to host 2 clean up events a year. Annual Process
Continue to implement the recycling program	Currently Underway	Chattahoochee County recycles tires, White goods, etc and will continue to do so. Annual Process
Research the feasibility of installing an above-ground water system/reservoir	Not Completed	Changed Scope of project and decided to Upgrade well system. System Upgrades are underway. Should be completed in 2012.
Replace inadequate waterlines throughout the county.	Currently Underway	Replace lines as budget permits, have applied for two CDBG grants to upgrade water lines, neither were funded. Looking for funds to begin system improvements in 2011. Completion date 2015.
Make drainage and street improvements	Currently Underway	Using SPLOST funds to improve drainage and streets. Will combine water and streets/drainage with housing to apply for CDBG funds in 2011.

Activity	Status	Explanation
Economic Development		
Renovate the Town Center and Broad Street	Currently Underway	Working with GDOT to acquire abandoned railline that runs through Downtown. Will convert to a bike trail and pedestrian path as a first effort to begin the Downtown rehabilitation process. Completed in 2015.
Establish a business recruitment and Retention Program.	Not Accomplished	Chamber of Commerce and IDA have changed focus from a business and retention program to getting Chattahoochee County designated as a Work Ready county. Work Ready status should be completed in 2012.
Develop surveys to assess the current business climate.	Completed	Chattahoochee County has a small business community, the IDA and Chamber of Commerce have a good understanding of the local business climate.
Increase local job opportunities	Currently Underway	County has added employers such as NSA and several small business since 2007. Ongoing.
Develop a Quality Workforce	Currently Underway	Chamber of Commerce and IDA have changed focus from a business and retention program to getting Chattahoochee County designated as a Work Ready county. Completed by 2012
Remain active in the Valley Partnership	Currently Underway	County is still a member of the Valley Partnership; Annual activity

Activity	Status	Explanation
Housing		
Increase home ownership.	Currently Underway	County is in the process of applying for a CDBG/CHIP which if funded will increase home owner ship and improve existing housing conditions. Begins in 2011, Completion 2015
Maintain an affordable and adequate housing stock.	Currently Underway	County is in the process of applying for a CDBG/CHIP which if funded will increase home owner ship and improve existing housing conditions. 2013-2015
Remove/rehabilitate cleanup dilapidated structures and property.	Currently Underway	County is in the process of applying for a CDBG/CHIP which if funded will increase home owner ship and improve existing housing conditions. Begins in 2011, Completion 2015
Diversify Housing Mix	Completed	Housing Mix is a combination of single-family and multi-family units with single-family housing consisting of manufactured, modular and site-built units.
Retrofit existing subdivisions	Postponed	Efforts of BOC have concentrated on providing services to new development in the County. Retrofitting developments will be done as money/opportunities arise.
Upgrade housing in the old city limits of Cusseta	Currently Underway	County is in the process of applying for a CDBG/CHIP which if funded will increase home owner ship and improve existing housing conditions. Begin in 2011, Completion 2015.
Increase Housing in the old city limits	Currently Underway	County is working with developers to place modular and site built homes on infill lots in the old city limits of Cusseta. Ongoing activity.
Continue the code enforcement program	Completed	Annual Process

Activity	Status	Explanation
Land Use		
Conduct a Brownfield Survey.	Postponed	Not completed due to budgetary constraints. Completion Date 2015
Diversify land use mix, maximize commercial industrial opportunities.	Currently Underway	County has approved several new subdivisions and has added several new businesses. Ongoing activity.
Improve properties that need improvement	Currently Underway	County adopted a Unsafe Building ordinance in 2010. County is in the process of applying for a CDBG/CHIP which if funded will increase home ownership and improve existing housing conditions. Begins in 2011, Finishes in 2015.
Maintain and expand upon tax base.	Currently Underway	County has approved several new subdivisions and has added several new businesses, annual activity.
Work with developers to preserve open space, natural and cultural resources in the county.	Currently Underway	County just updated its existing flood ordinance and flood plain map to better address development in and around flood prone areas. Flood map update completed 2010, other efforts continuing.
Develop conservation subdivision regulations and traditional neighborhood techniques.	Postponed	Projected completion date 2015
Adopt a Stream Buffer Ordinance	Not Accomplished	County will continue to use State requirements.
Develop regulations that control development off US 27, SR 520/280 and SR 26.	Currently Underway	In the process of modifying the zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations. New ordinances should be in place by 2015. County adopted a sign ordinance in 2009.
Adopt ordinance to buffer along County Roads and timber tracks	Completed	Project addressed by adopting ingress and egress standards associated with both timber harvesting & new development.
Continue the code enforcement program	Completed	Ongoing process, will maintain code enforcement programs only as budget permits. Completed 2009
Develop a sign ordinance	Completed	Completed 2009

Activity	Status	Explanation
Update the Comprehensive Plan	Currently Underway	Completion Date February 2011

Activity	Status	Explanation
Natural and Historic Resources		
Work with school system and Garden Club to develop education/programs that promote conservation and the protection of important resources.	Completed	Chattahoochee County staff works with ROTC, Chamber of Commerce, and Garden Club to educate local students. Ongoing activity
Strengthen and improve existing regulations regarding development in sensitive areas.	Currently Underway	Modifying existing zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations just completed the read option of FEMA's new floodplain regulations and new map (2010). Ordinance and subdivision regulations completed in 2011.
Make development entities aware of community resources.	Completed.	Part of Zoning and Subdivision Application Process, being updated. Completed in 2011.
Develop a management plan for significant community resources.	Completed	Have Adopted State Wetland and Groundwater Regulations and New Flood Regulations
Adopt appropriate site design guidelines for developing on sensitive areas	Currently Underway	Modifying existing zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations. Completion date 2011.
Develop programs that encourage infill development	Currently Underway	County is working with developers to place modular and site built homes on infill lots in the old city limits of Cusseta. Annual process.
Establish local walking trails	Currently Underway	Working with GDOT to acquire abandoned railline that runs through Downtown. Will convert to a bike trail and pedestrian path as a first effort to begin the Downtown rehabilitation process. Waiting on funds from DOT to make a bike path from Middle School to City Park, estimated completion 2015.
Protect and preserve Historic structures.	Currently Underway	Put out RFPs to rehabilitate the Cusseta Industrial High School. Architect not selected, Historic Preservation Society will continue with fund raising efforts before an Architect is selected. Estimated Completion 2015
Continue to support efforts to preserve the historic jail	Currently Underway	Historic Society is in the process of raising funds to replace the jail windows, estimated completion 2015.
Work with the region on implementing the Regional Strategy related to TMDL/Water Quality issues	Currently Underway	TMDL activities currently taking place in Harris and Dooly Counties, ongoing activity.

Activity	Status	Explanation
Assist with the restoration of the interior of the county jail	Currently Underway	Historic Society is in the process of raising funds to replace the jail windows, estimated completion 2015.

Activity	Status	Explanation
Transportation		
Continue to implement existing priority list for paving existing dirt roads.	Currently Underway	All roads should be [paved by 2020
Work with DOT to widen SR26	Currently Underway	Project postponed by GDOT. Project will be considered for listing on new RVRC Transportation Priority List. Project is considered a strategic highway. Completion 2015.
Look at potential for a by-pass route from US 27 to SR 26.	Not Accomplished	Chattahoochee County is no longer interested in this project.
Establish METRA service to Chattahoochee County and four County Rural transit	Currently Underway	Working with the Columbus MPO and RVRC to get Chattahoochee County residents to the nearest METRA stop in Columbus. Completion date 2015
Stay informed on the development of I-14	Currently Underway	County processes information when it is available, which is seldom. No completion date, annual activity.

Activity	Status	Explanation
Intergovernmental		
Maintain relationship with the City of Columbus.	Currently Underway	Annual activity
Maintain relations with Fort Benning. Keep lines of communication open.	Currently Underway	Contact with Fort Benning has increased due to the expansion of military operations. Annual Activity.
Continue to participate with Columbus MPO and other regional transportation efforts	Currently Underway	Chattahoochee County appointed a member to the MPO in 2008, officially joined in 2009. Annual Activity.
Coordinate with other governments in meeting State and Federal Storm Water Regulations.	Completed	Chattahoochee County has adopted the State storm water regulations. Works with RVRC to coordinate with other governments. Annual activity.