

# COMMUNITY VISION for the CITY of MOUNTAIN PARK GEORGIA 2011

Mountain Park is a small community of over 500 persons living in an eclectic variety of more than 245 houses dotted along narrow roads in a half square mile of forest in the Appalachian foothills of North Georgia. It is surrounded on three sides by the much larger City of Roswell, with unincorporated Cherokee County to the west. Much of the town is wrapped around two small lakes with a City Hall, Fire Department, Community Building and Green, swimming pool, lakeside pavilion, fishing bridge, and a protected shore along one of the lakes. Other small plots of city-owned property are scattered throughout the town. Established in 1927 as a seasonal resort, it is entirely residential, with no zoning for commercial activity. The citizens of the City frame their vision for the future of the community grounded on the foundation of its past, and the experiences of its present.

Based on the results of a city-wide survey distributed in January of 2011, and two community meetings in February, the citizens have identified the following issues and opportunities for the future. These subjects fall into two main categories: Shared Property and Governance. These are intertwined realities to be approached together.

The **issues** for Shared Property center around questions of how to maintain and improve city assets, and how to expand their benefits for citizens of the town, but still maintain the unique atmosphere that drew the people of Mountain Park to call this place home.

The **issues** for Governance are centered on the development of capable leadership from within the citizenry, adept financial management, and communication within the citizenry and with surrounding jurisdictions.

The **opportunities** that these issues make possible are as follows:

- Create structures to assure the maintenance of community property and lakes, and improve the general aspect of the town.
- Explore the use of these assets to help support the community financially through their occasional use for art shows, festivals, and the like. Some openness is expressed for the possibility of limited commercial use.
- Improve the intrinsic value of city property through physical changes to the pool, the green, and the possible use of city property such as a community garden or walking trails.
- Improve communications throughout the community, and between the city government and citizens.
- Explore opportunities to strengthen citizen involvement in the government and other civic institutions. This is expressed in the determination to maintain the essential character of the community and to strengthen the volunteerism that has allowed Mountain Park to prosper.

The citizens of Mountain Park are united in their determination to preserve the unique, intimate, physical qualities of their heavily forested town, to maintain and improve social interactions, and to create a strong foundation for the future. This general vision for the future of the City of Mountain Park will be expressed more specifically in the individual items of the Short Term Work Program.

**CITY OF MOUNTAIN PARK, FULTON COUNTY GEORGIA  
SUMMARY OF SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM – 2011**

<b>Work Program</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Responsible Committee or Group</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
<b>ELEMENT 1: POPULATION</b>								
Address Police service coverage for Cherokee County residents	Start and complete					Admin, staff	Staff time	Budget
Undergraduate / Graduate Students internship / Co-op Program	Projected to start	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Admin	\$6,000	General Fund
Ordinance Notification & Distribution System	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Admin	\$250	Budget
Online bill paying and retrieval for water bills and other financial transactions	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Staff	Staff time	Budget
Evaluate and recommend software that better serves current and future needs				To be re-evaluated		Staff	Staff time	Budget
Evaluate water and sewer rate tiers and adjust to encourage conservation			To be re-evaluated			Utility Mayor & Council	Committee time	budget
ISO research and projects implementation for a better rating	Target early completion	Target final completion				Public Safety	Staff time	budget
ICE (In case of emergency) program	Ongoing	Ongoing		Ongoing	Ongoing	Public Safety	Staff time	budget
Establish Town Watch Program	Ongoing					Public Safety	Staff time	budget
Create a rate sheet for civic violations in lieu of court appearance	Target start	Target completion				Staff	Staff time	Budget
Evaluate committee structure	Target Start	Target completion				Mayor & City Council	Mayor , City Council time	Budget
Create Public Works Director position	Target completion					Mayor & City Council		Budget
Create Volunteer Management system	Target start & completion					Admin / Staff Volunteers	Staff/Volunteer time	Budget
Create citizen email distribution with protected identities	Target start & completion					Admin / Staff Volunteers	Staff time	Budget
Create 24-hour phone contact	Target start & completion					Staff	Staff time	Budget
<b>ELEMENT 2: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>								
Update personnel manual for more efficient and consistent city hall processes	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Staff	Staff time	Budget
Review Tax Digests to assure all properties are taxed and taxes collected	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Admin Staff	Staff time	Budget

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Collect delinquent taxes	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Admin Staff	Staff time	Budget
City Administration / Council Organization / Charter revisions	Started 2010 Target completion					Mayor & City Council	Mayor, City Council time	Budget
Create City Administrator position	Target start & completion					Admin	TBD	General Fund
Review of Revenue Sources	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Mayor & City Council Staff	Staff, Mayor, City Council time	Budget
Retain qualified City Hall accounting personnel and development of accounting department	Target start & completion					Admin	Mayor time	Budget
Train maintenance personnel for minor water line and meters repairs to save on contractor bills	To be evaluated					Staff Mayor & City Council	Staff time	Budget
Tie into Cherokee County water main	To be evaluated					Staff Mayor & City Council	TBD	
Building of Power sources from water in Dams	To be evaluated					Volunteers Lakes & Parks Property	TBD	Grant
<b>ELEMENT 3: NATURAL &amp; HISTORIC RESOURCES</b>								
GANOI maintain and maintenance	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	City Council Staff	City Council, Staff time	Budget
Classify, inventory, protect & monitor existing wetland areas	Ongoing	Ongoing	o	o	o	Volunteers Lake & Parks	Volunteer, Staff time,	Grants, Budget
Identify & survey conservation areas, in particular areas surrounding lakes	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Volunteers Lakes & Parks	Volunteer time	Grants
Lake Restoration Fund	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Staff, Mayor & City Council	Staff, Mayor, City Council time	Budget
Seek civil and injunctive relief for damages to lakes from upstream development	completed					Mayor and City council	\$185,000.00	General Fund

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Begin dredging and restoration of both lakes and wetlands	To be evaluated	To be evaluated				Mayor and City Council	TBD	
Continue outreach and education regarding ecosystem and wildlife issues	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Lakes & Parks Volunteers	Lakes and Parks time, Volunteer time	Donations & Grants
Research codes restricting herbicides, pesticides and certain fertilizers	To be evaluated					Volunteers	none	
Complete study of watershed dams #38, 39 and 40	To be re-evaluated					Lakes & Parks	Staff and Volunteer time	2005 Grant
Gas engines on both lakes are scheduled to be phased out.		Target completion				Staff	Staff time	Budget
Work with Roswell, Citizen watershed groups and regulatory agencies to monitor and protect streams, wetlands, and lakes	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Mayor, City Council, Staff, Volunteers	TBD	Budget, Grants
Promote canoe / kayak races on the lakes	To be evaluated					Lakes & Parks Volunteers	Staff, Volunteer time	Budget
<b>ELEMENT 4: HOUSING</b>								
Sign ordinance review and revision if needed	To be evaluated					Mayor and Council	Mayor, City Council time	Budget
Continue efforts to lower solid waste (i.e. include HHW, bulbs, batteries and electronics)	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Staff, City Council, Volunteers	Staff time, Council time	Budget
Maintain and as budget allows, accelerate meter replacement program	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Staff, Utility	\$25,000	Enterprise Fund
2006 STWP irrigation meter program	To be re-evaluated					Utility	\$200	User fees
Update current building permit package and procedure manual	Target completion					City Council, Building, Zoning & Planning	Committee time	Budget

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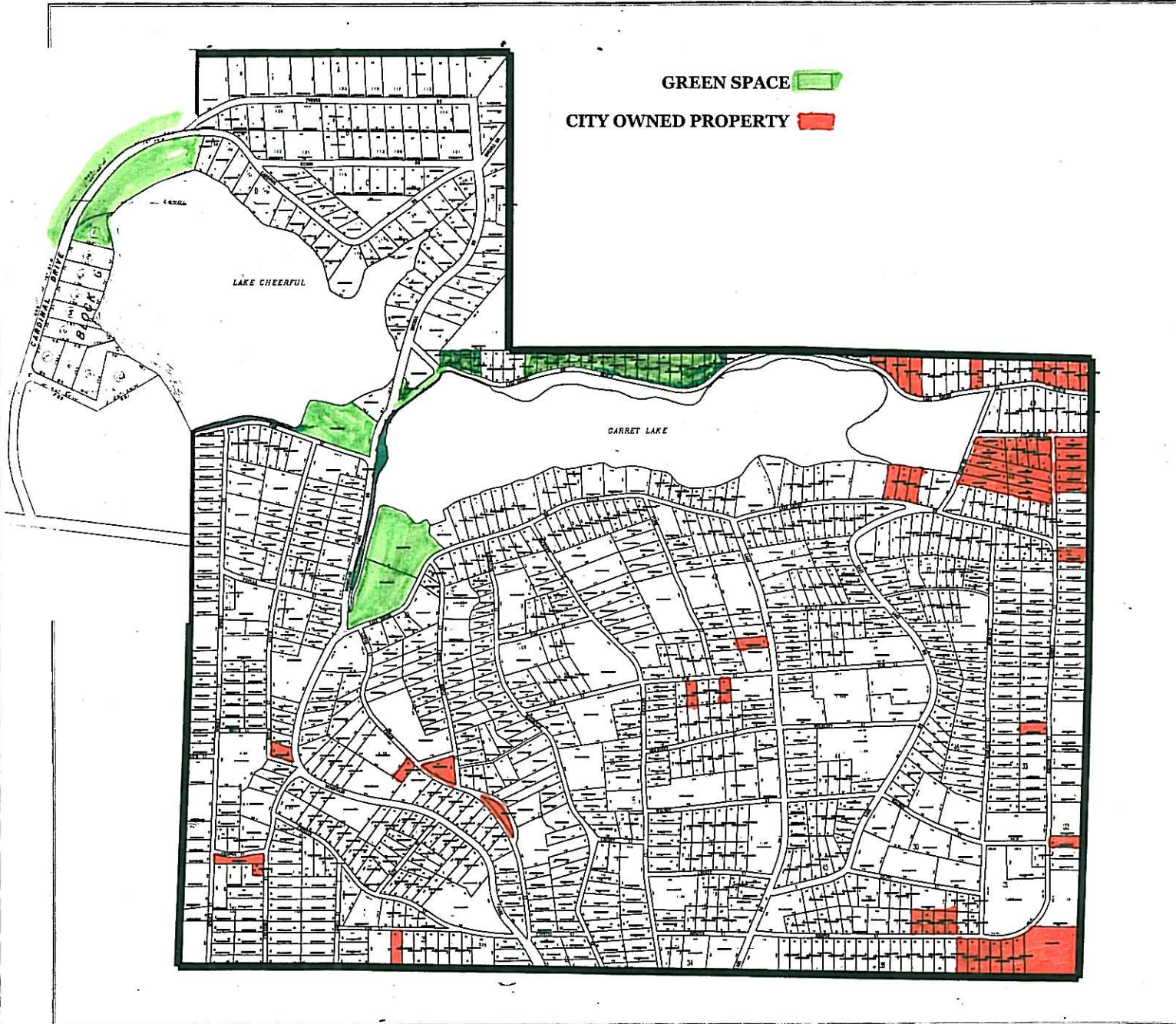
<b>Work Program</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Responsible Committee or Group</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
Restructure sections of code to better align all the sections related to building, zoning and planning, plus clarify existing regulations and include issues that may currently be omitted.	To be evaluated					Building, Zoning & Planning, staff	Staff time, committee time	Budget
Evaluate code sections related to junk, multi-tenant housing and unfit dwellings.	To be evaluated					Building, Zoning & Planning, staff	Staff time, committee time	Budget
Enforce junk, multi-tenant housing and unfit dwelling Codes	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Code Enforcement	\$200	Budget
<b>ELEMENT 5: COMMUNITY FACILITIES</b>								
Enhancements and improvements for City parks	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Staff, Lakes & Parks Civic Club	Staff time, Volunteer time	Budget and donations
Walking Paths	To be evaluated	Partial completion (Lake Trail)	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Lakes and Parks	\$32,000	Grants and donations
Pool renovations, including ADA requirements	Target start & completion					Admin	\$156,000	CDBG grant
Reconfigure City Green (level, fill dirt, reseed)	To be evaluated		Target completion			Property	\$3,000	TBD
Repair playground		To be evaluated				Property, Volunteers	\$50,000	CDBG grant
Computerize City Hall – Comprehensive Filing Systems	Ongoing	Ongoing				Staff, Mayor,	Staff time, Mayor time	Budget
Reconfigure City Hall to better utilize space	Ongoing	Ongoing				Staff, Mayor	Staff Time	Budget
Speed Bumps repair	Target completion					Roads & Streets	Staff	Budget
Sidewalk on Russell Road and Mt. Park Road			To be evaluated			Roads & Streets	TBD	Possible grant
Bridge piling – cleaning and repair	To be evaluated	Target completion				Roads & Streets	TBD	General Fund, Grant
Bridge Repaving	To be evaluated		Target completion			Roads & Streets	TBD	General Fund
Establish a weight limit on streets and bridge	To be evaluated	Target completion				Public Safety	Staff time	

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Enforcement of street weight limits and road liabilities	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Roads & Streets	TBD	None needed, City staff enforces
Submit for Grants for storm water and drainage plan	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Roads & Streets, City Council, Staff Volunteers	City Council time, Staff time, Volunteer time	Budget
Upgrade of pipe infrastructure	To be evaluated	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Utility	\$100,000	CDBG Grants
Take thorough Inventory of water line valves and meters, remapping if necessary & eventually automate retrieval via GIS system	Target completion	Target final completion				Utility , Staff	\$21,000	Enterprise Fund
Continue to work with Roads & Streets, Property and Public Safety Committees to ensure coordinated Public Works Policy	Target completion	Target final completion				Utility, Roads & Streets, Public Safety, Staff	Staff time	Budget
Implement Communications with City Maintenance Personnel (radio or Nextel)	To be evaluated					Utility	\$30/mo	Budget
Fire Inspection to determine maximum occupancy in Community Bldg	Target completion					Public Safety Volunteers	none	
Review Community Bldg rules and procedures for Public and Fire Dept. Safety	Target completion					Public Safety & Parks and Recreation Volunteers	none	
CEDAP applications for upgraded fire fighting equipment	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Public Safety	none	
Apply for FIRE Act grants and other grants	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Public Safety	none	

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Investigate incorporation of pedestrian greenways with programs in surrounding communities	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Mayor Council Volunteers	\$4,500/yr	State
Upgrade City Hall with energy efficiency improvements	Started 2010 Ongoing	Target final completion				Property	\$60,000	Grant
<b>ELEMENT 6: LAND USE</b>								
Review the role and impact of commercial activities within the City from a zoning perspective	To be evaluated					Staff, Building, Zoning & Planning, Volunteers	Staff time, Committee time, Volunteer time	Budget.



GREEN SPACE 

CITY OWNED PROPERTY 

36 Block Number  
 12 Parcel (Lot) Number  
 176 Street Number  
 1.22 Assessed Acreage  
 1.31 Parcel Dimension A  
 Road Right-Of-Way Dimension  
 Parcel Identification Number

# Mountain Park

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Prepared by Falmes County Department  
 of Planning and Economic Development  
 Information Services Division  
 Geographic Information System



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# CITY OF MOUNTAIN PARK

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JIM STILL, Jr., Mayor

KAREN SEGARS, City Clerk



Georgia Municipal Association  
Certified City of Ethics

Fulton County Georgia, USA  
Incorporated 1927



Designated Wildlife Refuge 1979

DON CARLSON, City Council  
ROBERT R. DOUDS, City Council  
JOHN G. MCLAUGHLIN, City Council  
SCOTT HEGG, City Council  
MARVIN PENICK, City Council

## Motion to Adopt the 2011 Comprehensive Plan

Whereas, the city Council of Mountain Park has engaged in the process of updating the City's Comprehensive Plan; and

Whereas, The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has determined that the submitted Comprehensive Plan Update, which includes the Community Vision Statement and the Short Term Work Program, meet the Local Planning compliance requirements; and

Therefore, the Mayor and City Council of Mountain Park hereby adopt the 2011/2015 Comprehensive Plan Update and appropriates up to \$200.00 to provide notice of the availability of the Plan in a local newspaper.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Still, Jr." with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jim Still, Jr., Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Segars" in a cursive style.

Karen Segars, Clerk