



Northeast Georgia Plan 2035

Regional Work Program 2013 Update

Adopted by Resolution of the Council of the
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission,
August 15, 2013

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Regional Planning

The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission adopted the Northeast Georgia Plan 2035 in 2012, thereby fulfilling the State of Georgia's requirement for a full update to its regional plan once every five years. Annual updates to the plan's Regional Work Program (RWP) component are also required. This document updates the three required sections: *Monitoring Report*, *Report of Accomplishments* and an updated list of projects identified in *Activities 2013-2017*.

Review by Regional Commission Staff

Each project in the RWP for 2012-2016 was classified according to the Regional Commission departments responsible for the projects. In early 2013, staff at the Regional Commission were surveyed to evaluate the status of work items in the RWP based on the following criteria:

- Completed
- Ongoing
- Upcoming
- Postponed and estimated completion date.
- Abandoned and reason for abandonment.

Review by Regional Commission Council

The Regional Commission's Planning and Government Services Advisory Committee, a subcommittee of its Council, reviewed the *Monitoring Report*, *Report of Accomplishments* and the proposed *Activities 2013-2017* for recommendation to the Council.

Results

There were 33 projects identified in 2012-2016 RWP. Of these, two are completed, five are upcoming and 26 are described as ongoing. The new 2013-2017 RWP carries over all ongoing projects and eliminates completed projects.

The only new project added to the RWP is an update to the Regionally Important Resource (RIR) Plan (item #2.8 in the list of 2013-2017 activities). This update will simplify the plan and make it more user-friendly for local governments and developers.

No amendments to the Regional Agenda or its Areas Requiring Special Attention section are warranted at this time. Progress on key features of each of the Issues and Opportunities included in the Regional Agenda is addressed in the *Report of Accomplishments* section of this document.

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION

Regional Work Program Planning and Coordination activities are those which the Regional Commission undertook in 2012 to assist local governments and other regional partners to act in accordance with the Regional Agenda.

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
1. Development Patterns							
1.1	Facilitate local government greenway, bicycle, and pedestrian planning and education	2012-2016	NEGRC, local governments	\$25,000 per plan	GDOT, GDCA	Ongoing	Central Newton County Plan for Bicycling and Walking; Safe Routes to School Plan for the City of Bowman.
1.2	Catalog, assess, and plan for recreation, cultural, agricultural, and tourism resources, including farmland protection	2012-2014	NEGRC	\$22,500 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	Phase I well underway
2. Resource Conservation							
2.1	Review RIR designations annually and assist communities with implementation of RIR management plan as requested	2012-2016	NEGRC	\$2,000+ annually	GDCA	Ongoing	Completed in 2012
2.2	Develop and implement water quality plans and programs	2012-2016	NEGRC, local governments	\$20,000 -30,000 per plan	GEPD, GDCA	Ongoing	Received new contract in 2012
2.3	Continue to develop planning-level datasets of water and wastewater collection systems	2012-2016	NEGRC	\$10,500 per set	GDCA	Ongoing	Collection of water and wastewater GIS datasets were completed for Elbert County and initiated in Walton County.
2.4	Assist local governments with conservation funding opportunities, as requested	2012-2016	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, GDNR, NPS	Ongoing	No requests made in 2012.
2.5	Assist local governments in assessing historic resources and pursuing related funding opportunities, as requested	2012-2016	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, GDNR, GDOT	Ongoing	Approved CLG application completed on behalf of City of Porterdale.
2.6	Engage in collaborative mitigation planning with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to address air pollution issues, if necessary	2012-2016	NEGRC	Minimal	NEGRC, GDNR	Ongoing	No projects necessary at this time.
2.7	Assist with regional solid waste planning efforts	2012-2016	NEGRC	Varies	NEGRSWA, GDCA	Ongoing	RC facilitated Regional Solid Waste Management Authority meetings. Hosted Regional Solid Waste Summit.

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
3. Community Facilities and Infrastructure							
3.1	Encourage local governments to implement Northeast Georgia Plan 2035	2012-2016	NEGRC	\$22,000 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	Plan facilitation meetings held with Elbert, Green, Jasper, Madison, Newton and Oglethorpe County.
3.2	Provide technical and staffing support for local and multi-jurisdictional transportation planning efforts	2012-2016	NEGRC	Varies	GDOT, GDCA	Ongoing	Assisted with TSPLOST in 2012
3.3	Assist local governments with hazard-mitigation planning and implementation, as requested	2012-2014	NEGRC	\$22,000 per plan	GEMA	Ongoing	PDM update completed for Athens-Clarke County. PDM updates underway for Greene, Jackson, Madison, Oconee and Oglethorpe County.
3.4	Support GDOT's work on a connectivity study for the Athens-Atlanta corridor by attending stakeholder meetings and providing other requested assistance	2012-2013	NEGRC	Minimal	GDOT, GDCA	Ongoing	Attended meetings and provided data in 2012

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
4.	Social and Economic Development						
4.1	Assist local governments with economic development planning and funding opportunities	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, EDA, ARC	Ongoing	Assistance is ongoing with multiple local governments.
4.2	Assist local governments with housing programs such as Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) and Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH), as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA	Ongoing	Assistance is ongoing with multiple local governments.
4.3	Quantify regional need for workforce housing and recommend action items for increasing its availability near jobs	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$21,000	GDCA	Upcoming	Project to be initiated in 2014.
4.4	Update Northeast Georgia's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to guide future planning and investment	2013-2017	NEGRC	TBD	EDA, GDCA	Complete	Plan update completed in 2012
4.5	Develop community-level plans, strategies, and inventories to promote and protect local agriculture and local food assets	2014-2016	NEGRC	\$15,000 -25,000 per plan	GDCA, USDA	Ongoing	Hosted Local Food Hub education session.
4.6	Develop regional tourism and branding study and/or plan	2015-2016	NEGRC	\$25,000 -35,000 annually	GDCA, GDED	Upcoming	Project to be initiated in 2014.
4.7	Develop study on homelessness in Northeast Georgia	2013-2014	NEGRC	\$15,000 -25,000	GDCA	Upcoming	Project to be initiated in 2015.
4.8	Develop a regional food systems study of growers, suppliers, buyers, distribution, etc.	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$20,000 -30,000	GDCA	Upcoming	Project to be initiated in 2014.
4.9	Evaluate regional readiness to respond to the demands of a projected rapid increase in Northeast Georgia's aging population	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$20,000 -30,000	GDCA	Upcoming	Project to be initiated in 2014.

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
5. Government Relations							
5.1	Evaluate the potential for regionally coordinated rural public transportation	2012-2013	NEGRC, GDOT, GDHS, consultant	\$50,000	GDOT, GDHS	Complete	Developed RHST plan in 2012, adopted by NEGRC Council
5.2	Market the Planning and Government Services (PGS) Division and educate local government officials through PGS e-newsletter and in-house training programs and workshops	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$10,000 -20,000 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	E-newsletter funding was ended by DCA. PGS services are now marketed through NEGRC's "Update" newsletter and website. Hosted free education sessions on DRI rules, E-Verify, Food Hubs and Strip Design Guidelines.
5.3	Host and coordinate Northeast Georgia Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,500 annually	GDOT	Ongoing	Task Force meetings hosted regularly.
5.4	Disseminate historic preservation information pertaining to Section 106 Reviews to local governments	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$4,000 annually	GDNR	Ongoing	Information disseminated as needed.

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - REVIEWS

Regional Work Program Review activities are those for which the Regional Commission provided advisory review and comment to outside actors in 2012.

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Status	Explanation
R.1	Review and comment on developments that meet the established criteria to be considered Developments of Regional Impact	2012-2016	NEGRC	\$10,000 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	6 DRIs reviewed.
R.2	Review and comment on developments that could impact Regionally Important Resources	2012-2016	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA	Ongoing	Applications reviewed as warranted
R.3	Respond to requests for Intergovernmental Consultation Reviews	2012-2016	NEGRC	\$1,500 annually	GDCA	Ongoing	16 reviews completed.
R.4	Coordinate with MACORTS transportation planning efforts, including review of and comment on long- and short-range plans and other documents.	2012-2016	NEGRC	\$2,000 annually	GDOT	Ongoing	Reviews coordinated when necessary in 2012
R.5	Respond to requests for comment on Historic Resources Support inquiries (GDOT)	2012-2016	NEGRC	\$2,000 annually	GDOT	Ongoing	Commented when requested in 2012
R.6	Review local government applications for EDA funding for consistency with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)	2012-2016	NEGRC	Minimal	EDA	Ongoing	Applications reviewed as warranted

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION

Regional Work Program Planning and Coordination activities are those which the Regional Commission will undertake in 2013-2017 to assist local governments and other regional partners to act in accordance with the Regional Agenda.

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Issue/ Opp.
1. Development Patterns						
1.1	Facilitate local government greenway, bicycle, and pedestrian planning and education	2013-2017	NEGRC, local governments	\$25,000 per plan	GDOT, GDCA	P1, P2, P3, E11, E14, H4, C5
1.2	Catalog, assess, and plan for recreation, cultural, agricultural, and tourism resources, including farmland protection	2013-2014	NEGRC	\$22,500 annually	GDCA	P1, E6, E10, E11, E12
2. Resource Conservation						
2.1	Review RIR designations annually and assist communities with implementation of RIR management plan as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,000+ annually	GDCA	I8
2.2	Develop and implement water quality plans and programs	2013-2017	NEGRC, local governments	\$20,000 -30,000 per plan	GEPD, GDCA	P1, E11
2.3	Continue to develop planning-level datasets of water and wastewater collection systems	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$10,500 per set	GDCA	C2
2.4	Assist local governments with conservation funding opportunities, as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, GDNR, NPS	E10, E11, I8
2.5	Assist local governments in assessing historic resources and pursuing related funding opportunities, as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, GDNR, GDOT	I8, E12
2.6	Engage in collaborative mitigation planning with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to address air pollution issues, if necessary	2013-2017	NEGRC	Minimal	NEGRC, GDNR	P1, P2, I3
2.7	Assist with regional solid waste planning efforts	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	NEGRSWA, GDCA	P1, C3, I5
2.8	Update the RIR plan to improve readability and usefulness of the document for local governments and developers.	2013-2014	NEGRC	\$25,000	GDCA	I8

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Issue/ Opp.
3. Community Facilities and Infrastructure						
3.1	Encourage local governments to implement Northeast Georgia Plan 2035	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$22,000 annually	GDCA	C2, C3, C4, C5
3.2	Provide technical and staffing support for local and multi-jurisdictional transportation planning efforts	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDOT, GDCA	P1, E13, E14, C4, C5, C6
3.3	Assist local governments with hazard-mitigation planning and implementation, as requested	2013-2014	NEGRC	\$22,000 per plan	GEMA	P1
3.4	Support GDOT's work on a connectivity study for the Athens-Atlanta corridor by attending stakeholder meetings and providing other requested assistance	2013	NEGRC	Minimal	GDOT, GDCA	E13
4. Social and Economic Development						
4.1	Assist local governments with economic development planning and funding opportunities	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA, EDA, ARC	P1, P3, E7, E9, E10, H12, I2, I6
4.2	Assist local governments with housing programs such as Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) and Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH), as requested	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA	P1, P2, P3, H1, H2, H3, H4
4.3	Quantify regional need for workforce housing and recommend action items for increasing its availability near jobs	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$21,000	GDCA	P1, P3, H1, H2, H3, H4, H5
4.4	Update Northeast Georgia's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to guide future planning and investment	2016-2017	NEGRC	TBD	EDA, GDCA	P1, P3, E1
4.5	Develop community-level plans, strategies, and inventories to promote and protect local agriculture and local food assets	2014-2016	NEGRC	\$15,000 -25,000 per plan	GDCA, USDA	E10, E11, E12
4.6	Develop regional tourism and branding study and/or plan	2014-2016	NEGRC	\$25,000 -35,000 annually	GDCA, GDED	E6
4.7	Develop study on homelessness in Northeast Georgia	2015-2016	NEGRC	\$15,000 -25,000	GDCA	H5
4.8	Develop a regional food systems study of growers, suppliers, buyers, distribution, etc.	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$20,000 -30,000	GDCA	P1, E6, E10, E13
4.9	Evaluate regional readiness to respond to the demands of a projected rapid increase in Northeast Georgia's aging population	2014-2015	NEGRC	\$20,000 -30,000	GDCA	P1, P2, H1, C1, C4, C5

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - PLANNING AND COORDINATION (continued)

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Issue/ Opp.
5.	Government Relations					
5.2	Market the Planning and Government Services (PGS) Division and educate local government officials through NEGRC's "Update" newsletter and in-house training programs and workshops	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$10,000 -20,000 annually	GDCA	E12, H5, C3
5.3	Host and coordinate Northeast Georgia Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,500 annually	GDOT	E11, E14, C5, I4
5.4	Disseminate historic preservation information pertaining to Section 106 Reviews to local governments	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$4,000 annually	GDNR	E12

REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM - REVIEWS

Regional Work Program Review activities are those for which the Regional Commission will provide advisory review and comment to outside actors for 2013 to 2017.

#	Activity	Time-frame	Responsible Party	Est. Cost	Funding Source	Issue/ Opp.
R.1	Review and comment on developments that meet the established criteria to be considered Developments of Regional Impact	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$10,000 annually	GDCA	P1, E8, E14, I8
R.2	Review and comment on developments that could impact Regionally Important Resources	2013-2017	NEGRC	Varies	GDCA	P1, I8
R.3	Respond to requests for Intergovernmental Consultation Reviews	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$1,500 annually	GDCA	I7
R.4	Coordinate with MACORTS transportation planning efforts, including review of and comment on long- and short-range plans and other documents.	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,000 annually	GDOT	E13, E14, H4
R.5	Respond to requests for comment on Historic Resources Support inquiries (GDOT)	2013-2017	NEGRC	\$2,000 annually	GDOT	E12
R.6	Review local government applications for EDA funding for consistency with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)	2013-2017	NEGRC	Minimal	EDA	E1

Acronyms:

ARC: Appalachian Regional Commission
Authorities: Sewer and Water Authorities
BOE: Local Boards of Education
DOL: US Department of Labor
DRI: Developments of Regional Impact
EDA: US Economic Development Administration
GDCA: Georgia Department of Community Affairs
GDED: Georgia Department of Economic Development
GDHS: Georgia Department of Human Services
GDNR: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
GDOE: Georgia Department of Education
GDOT: Georgia Department of Transportation
GEMA: Georgia Emergency Management Agency
GEPD: Georgia Environmental Protection Division

HUD: US Department of Housing and Urban Development
JDANEG: Joint Development Authority of Northeast Georgia
MACORTS: Madison Athens-Clarke Oconee Regional Transportation Study
NEGRC: Northeast Georgia Regional Commission
NEGRC WDD: Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Workforce Development Division
NEGRSWMA: Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority
NPS: US National Park Service
RIR: Regionally Important Resources
TDR: Transfer of Development Rights
USDA: United States Department of Agriculture

A RESOLUTION

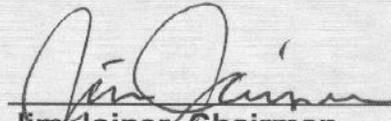
ADOPTION OF THE 2013-2017 REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM UPDATE

WHEREAS, the 1989 Georgia General Assembly enacted House Bill 215, the Georgia Planning Act, requiring preparation of a regional comprehensive plan in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures promulgated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; and

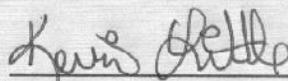
WHEREAS, the 2013-2017 Regional Work Program Update was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission that the Regional Work Program Update for Northeast Georgia dated 2013-2017 and approved by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, is hereby adopted.

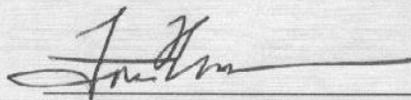
ADOPTED this 15th day of August 2013 at Athens, Georgia.



Jim Joiner, Chairman



Kevin Little, Vice Chairman



Frank Turner, Secretary

ATTEST:



James R. Dove, Executive Director