State and Federal Tax Incentives Encourage Growth, Tourism and Jobs

State Opportunity Zone designations are areas identified by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) that are within or adjacent to a census block group with 15 percent or greater poverty where an enterprise zone or urban redevelopment plan exists. The community must file details to support the designation requests with the DCA.

According to the DCA Website Opportunity Zone Tax Credit Incentives include; the maximum Job Tax Credit allowed under law—$3,500 per job created, the lowest job creation threshold of any job tax credit program—2 jobs, use of Job Tax Credits against 100 percent of Georgia income tax liability and withholding tax, provides for businesses of any nature to qualify, not just a defined “business enterprise”. To make further inquiries contact Cherie Bennett at Cherie.bennett@dca.ga.gov or visit the DCA website at https://www.dca.ga.gov/community-economic-development/incentive-programs/state-opportunity-zones.

The Federal Opportunity zone tax incentive program was created by the Tax Cuts and Jobs act to encourage economic growth in low-income communities by allowing investors to defer federal taxes by taking capital gains from other investments and investing in these designated Opportunity zone areas. To find out more about the Federal Opportunity Zones visit https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/opportunity-zones-frequently-asked-questions.

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Proudly Serving Region 10: Baker County, Newton, Calhoun County, Arlington, Edison, Leary, Morgan, Colquitt County, Berlin, Doerun, Ellenton, Funston, Moultrie, Norman Park, Decatur County, Attapulgus, Bainbridge, Brinson, Climax, Dougherty County, Albany, Early County, Blakely, Damascus, Jakin, Grady County, Cairo, Whigham, Lee County, Leesburg, Smithville, Miller County, Colquitt, Mitchell County, Baconton, Camilla, Pelham, Sale City, Seminole County, Donalsonville, Iron City, Terrell County, Bronwood, Dawson, Parrott, Sasser, Thomas County, Boston, Coolidge, Meigs, Ochlocknee, Thomasville, Worth County, Poulan, Sumner, Sylvester, and Warwick.

February 28, 2019  SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL meeting at the Regional Commission’s *Joe B. Adams Conference Center*, located at 181 E. Broad Street, Camilla, Georgia. The Council will convene at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. for Council Members and their guests.

March 6-8, 2019  Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) **Newly Elected Officials Institute** in Tifton, Georgia. Get a printed form and information on the GMA website:  https://www.gmanet.com/Training-Events/Library/Newly-Elected-Officials-Institute.asp

March 28, 2019  SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL meeting at the Regional Commission’s *Joe B. Adams Conference Center*, located at 181 E. Broad Street, Camilla, Georgia. The Council will convene at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. for Council Members and their guests.

April 25, 2019  SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL meeting at the Regional Commission’s *Joe B. Adams Conference Center*, located at 181 E. Broad Street, Camilla, Georgia. The Council will convene at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. for Council Members and their guests.

May 14, 2019  19th Annual Housing Conference. Archbold Memorial Hospital Williams Conference Room at Mimosa & Gordon Drive in Thomasville, Georgia. For more information contact Kimberly Brooks 229-522-3552 or kbrooks@swgrc.org.

May 30, 2019  SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION COUNCIL meeting at the Regional Commission’s *Joe B. Adams Conference Center*, located at 181 E. Broad Street, Camilla, Georgia. The Council will convene at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. for Council Members and their guests.
Later Dates

October 23, 2019      2019 Youth Summit . Southwest Georgia RESA building at 570 Martin Luther King Jr. Rd, Camilla, Georgia from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Sponsors and volunteers still needed for this event. Sponsors, volunteers, or attendees can contact Kimberly Brooks at 229-522-3552.

Schedule of Speakers 2018 - 2019

(2nd Tuesday of each month @ 10:00 AM or 6 PM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Topic &amp; Coordinator</th>
<th>Speaker &amp; Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 16, 2018</td>
<td>Blakely, Georgia</td>
<td>Career Planning</td>
<td>Barbara Reddick</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 13, 2018</td>
<td>Camilla, Georgia</td>
<td>Regional Partners Network/ Housing Task Force Annual Report</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
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<td>December 2018</td>
<td>NO MEETING</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>January 12, 2019</td>
<td>Leesburg, Georgia</td>
<td>Homebuyer Education</td>
<td>Betty Jackson Burton, Sharon Edwards, Patricia Fletcher Edwards</td>
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<td>February 12, 2019</td>
<td>Camilla, Georgia</td>
<td>Grant Writing/ Surviving as a Nonprofit</td>
<td>Barbara Reddick, Kimberly Brooks</td>
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<td>May 14, 2019</td>
<td>Thomasville, Georgia</td>
<td>19th Annual Housing Conference</td>
<td>Sharon Edwards, Everyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 11, 2019</td>
<td>Camilla, Georgia</td>
<td>Planning Session</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
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2019 Southwest Georgia Youth Summit

The Regional Partners Network Inc., a nonprofit of entity of the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission is planning for the 2019 Youth Summit. The Summit provides valuable information to nearly 100 juniors and seniors each year in our 14-county area. This is a fun packed learning experience with topics on credit, financial aid and even an escape room! This event would not be possible without generous sponsors and volunteers. Our sponsors help defray the cost of training materials, t-shirts for youth and foods and snacks for breakfast, lunch and breaks. The Youth Summit will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at Southwest Georgia RE-SA located at 570 Martin Luther King, Jr. Road, Camilla, Georgia 31730 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We hope that your organization will be a sponsor or volunteer for this event. If you are interested in being a volunteer or attending, please contact Kimberly Brooks at (229)522-3552 or at kbrooks@swgrc.org.
19th Annual Housing Conference

Better Jobs! Better Health! Better Housing!

Who should attend?

Government Officials
Non-Profits
Housing Developers
Chambers of Commerce
Economic Developers
Homeowners

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

Contact: Kimberly Brooks
229-522-3552 x1615  kbrooks@swgrc.org

Location: Archbold Memorial Hospital
Williams Conference Room
Mimosa & Gordon Dr. Thomasville, Georgia 31792

http://www.swgrcplanning.org/
Applications are currently available for Contractors who are interested in work from the Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP). You will need a copy of your State Contractor’s License, a copy of insurance coverage including worker’s comp, a copy of EPD-Lead Safety Renovator Certification, and Employment Eligibility Verification—(E-Verify/SAVE Registration) (you can visit [https://e-verify.uscis.gov/enroll/StartPage.aspx?JS=YES](https://e-verify.uscis.gov/enroll/StartPage.aspx?JS=YES).

If you have any questions concerning the application form after picking it up please call Mrs. Brenda Wade, Grants Administrator at the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission at 229-522-3552 x 1606.

To find an accredited trainer for the LEAD-SAFE Certification in your local area or get information, go to [http://www.epa.gov/getleadsafe](http://www.epa.gov/getleadsafe) or call 1-800-242-LEAD.

For an application on-line and other information about requirements mentioned above visit the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission Website at [http://www.swgrc.org/job-training-employment-intern-opportunities/chip-contractors-needed/](http://www.swgrc.org/job-training-employment-intern-opportunities/chip-contractors-needed/)
2019 Southwest Georgia Regional Commission Council

**Baker County**
- Chris Moore
- John Spann
- Eddie Hopkins

**Calhoun County**
- Charlie Williams
- Deidre Evans-Severson
- Bennie Flowers

**Colquitt County**
- Paul Nagy
- Ferrell Ruis
- Virginia Hart

**Decatur County**
- Steve Brock
- Kregg Close
- Revonn Miller
- Billy Poppell

**Dougherty County**
- Anthony Jones
- B.J. Fletcher
- Freddie Grimsley
- Raymond Breaux
- Matt Reed

**Early County**
- Jeffery Haynes
- Al Hutchins
- Freddie Speight

**Grady County**
- June Knight
- Jim Sellers
- Joe Walden

**Lee County**
- John Wheaton
- Dwight Hickman
- Chad Griffin
- Glenda Battle

**Miller County**
- Kregg Freeman
- Carlos Williams
- Jayme Smith

**Mitchell County**
- Ben Hayward
- Danny Palmer
- Nathaniel Keaton

**Seminole County**
- Brenda Peterson
- Mitchell Blanks
- Tracie Beard

**Terrell County**
- Ernest Johnson
- Ed Wade
- Jack Powell

**Thomas County**
- Donnie Baggett
- Terry Scott
- Al Bryan
- Elaine Mays

**Worth County**
- Joe Gaines
- Christopher Wheeler
- Karen Rackley

Gov. Appointments:
- Courtney Brinson
- Norma Gilpatrick

Lt. Gov. Appointments:
- Vacant

Speaker of the House:
- Vacant

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Chamber of Commerce Listings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Albany</th>
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<th>Donalsonville-Seminole</th>
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<th>Thomasville-Thomas</th>
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<tr>
<td>229-336-5255</td>
<td>229-758-2400</td>
<td>229-226-9600</td>
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</table>
Robert McDaniel
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Helen Williams
Receptionist
229-522-3552 x1600
hwilliams@swgrc.org

Your Southwest
Georgia Regional Commission Staff ~over
146 years of
SWGGA Regional Commission Experience!