

PLANNING ACTIVITY REPORT

JANUARY 2022

Staff: Barbara Reddick, Kay Olubowale, Beka Shiver,
Shane Kelsey (PT), Tolu Mary (Volunteer – 2 days)

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
PLANNING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY22 DCA CONTRACT-See Page 4
GRANT APPLICATIONS/AWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redevelopment Fund Grant (RDF) Colquitt – Developing application • CDBG Covid Relief– Dougherty County and Feeding the Valley Food Bank – Awarded - \$ 4M • City of Sylvester – Broadband Infrastructure Grant – Dept of Commerce 1.15 M Submitted • American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA): Camilla (Infrastructure 1.8M), Leary (Infrastructure 4.4M), Leesburg (Infrastructure 500K), Colquitt GA (WWT 2 M), Attapulcus (Well 1.15M), Sylvester (Broadband 7.15M), Dougherty (Broadband 13.5 M), Baconton (Impacts of COVID –\$1.8 M), Blakely (Infrastructure -\$4.6M), Coolidge (Infrastructure - \$780K) – Lee County (Infrastructure 7.4 M), Terrell County (Broadband - \$9.6M), Arlington (Infrastructure - \$561K, Sale City (Infrastructure 640K)- Submitted – Announcements 1/31/22 • EDA – Moultrie/Colquitt Co. Dev. Authority – Food Processing Plant (Developing - Cost Unknown) • Leesburg Recreational Trails – Awaiting Announcements • CHIP Applications (Boston, Grady/Cairo, Doerun, Seminole) – Due Jan. 31, 2022 • CDBG CV – Colquitt GA & Miller County Hospital Authority – expanding the hospital facilities to include a daycare center. Not submitted Ineligible project. • CDBG DR Infrastructure -City of Albany – Submitted 1/14/21 (\$6.7 M)

ZONING REVIEWS/INQUIRIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Cairo - Rezoning
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) 2022 Deadline June 3, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arlington • Blakely • Attapulcus
ENVIRONMENTAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plans – Miller, Baker Thomas County (<i>Approved</i>) Seminole County (<i>In Progress</i>), Calhoun Under Review & Mitchell County (<i>Approved pending adoption</i>), Decatur County (<i>In Progress</i>), Worth County (<i>Under Review</i>); Grady County (<i>New Contract</i>), Terrell & Thomas (<i>Contracts being developed</i>)

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
TRANSPORTATION	<p>Dept. of Transportation (DOT) FY20-B&P (State Planning & Research – SPR) (9/1/21-8/31/22) (In Progress)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update regional Bike & Pedestrian Corridors • Conduct two safety-focused trainings • Conduct sidewalk inventory (2) communities • Update the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan • Crash Screening Analysis at (3) locations in the Region <p>(5304 – Rural Transit Planning) (7/1/21 – 6/30/22)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transit Plan for Colquitt County • Update Regional Transit Plan • DOT Technical Assistance meetings scheduled the 1st Wednesday of each month @ 10:00 through 12/31/22
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EDA Applications & Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDA FY 21 Closeout - Due <i>1/31/2</i> • EDA Planning Grant 2022 - 2024 • City of Moultrie EDA Grant – Food Processing Plant • Dougherty Co. & Albany – Radium Springs Trail Project (<i>In Progress</i>) • Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)- <i>Submitted</i>
EDA Planning Grant and EDA RLF (CARES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDA Planning Grant - \$400,000 – (<i>Strategic Plan Complete</i>) • EDA Revolving - \$500,000 – Grant Administration & Staffing Plan – <i>Completed – (21) applications reviewed – (13) approved 70% of the funds approved for disbursement (\$305K), 30% of the funds still available for lending(195K).</i>
REGIONAL PARTNERS NETWORK INC. HOUSING TASK FORCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Task Force Nex Meeting – February 8, 2022 • RPN Annual Meeting November 17, 2021- HELD • Virtual Trainings SWGA Housing Task Force– Heir Property (Jan-2022); Financial Literacy (Feb. 2022); Consumer Fraud (March 2022); Tenant Rights (April 2022); 22nd Annual Housing Conference (May 2022)
BROWNFIELDS GRANT For Community-Wide Assessment Grant - \$500,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A regional assessment that does not identify a specific site in the grant. We will spend the funds on any eligible site in the region that qualifies. Dec. 1st – SUBMITTED Under review, Announcements SPRING 2022.
STAFF TRAINING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GA DCA Roundtable – January 24, 2022; Creating Economic Resilience: A Whole Community Approach
INTERN/VOLUNTEER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sansui Tolulope Mary (<i>volunteer</i>) works Mondays & Tuesdays.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
<p>General Contracts:</p>	<p>Current Contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donalsonville Zoning Contract – 6K • Sylvester Housing Projects – 23K (4) projects- Completed • Sylvester – Update of Zoning Ordinances – 7.5K • Blakely (Zoning & Resource Guide)- 3.5K (Complete) • Decatur County – Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan – 15K • Calhoun County – Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan – 15K • Mitchell County – Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan – 15K • Thomas County -Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan – 10K • Seminole County – Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan – 15K • Sylvester – Personnel Policies - 3K (Completed) • City of Sylvester – Pay and Classification Plan – 3.6K • City of Moultrie – Zoning Ordinance Update – 12K • Thomas County- Housing Assessment – 7K • City of Albany – Opportunity Zone – 8.2K • City of Albany - Update of Urban Redev. Plan – 6K • Worth County – Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan – 15K • City of Albany – Grant Writing CDBG CV– 25K • City of Doerun – Housing Plan -2K • City of Boston – Housing Plan Update3K • Grady County -Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan – 15K <p>Contracts Underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Colquitt– Planning Consulting Contract – 8.9K • Thomas County Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan • Terrell County Pre- Hazard Mitigation Plan

FY 22 DCA Activities

Community Work Program (5 Year Comprehensive Plan Update)

Albany/Dougherty County – 10/31/21 – *APPROVED*

Grady County & Cities – 10/31/21- *APPROVED*

Baker County & Newton – 10/31/22 - *In Progress*

Calhoun County & Cities – 06/30/22- *In Progress*

Colquitt County & Cities – 06/30/22- *In Progress*

Decatur County & Cities – 10/31/22- *In Progress*

Early County & Cities – 06/30/22- *In Progress*

Miller County & City of Colquitt – 10/31/22- *In Progress*

Mitchell County & Cities – 10/31/22- *In Progress*

Seminole County & Cities – 10/31/22- *In Progress*

Plan Implementation Assessment Meetings for FY 22:

Counties and Cities –Contacts with Local Governments (50 Contacts for FY 22)

Regional Plan Implementation

Annual Housing Conference

Grant Writing Workshop (*Conducted*)

Regional Work Program: *Due 06/31/22*

Regional Success

Regional Success Stories: *Due 3/31/22*

Regionally Important Resource Plan Update - *In Progress – Due 06/2022*

Regional Plan Update - *In Progress – Due 06/2022*

Reviews

Lee County Capital Improvement Element (CIE) – *Approved*

Thomas County (CIE) – *June 2022*

Economic Recovery + Resilience Strategic Plan

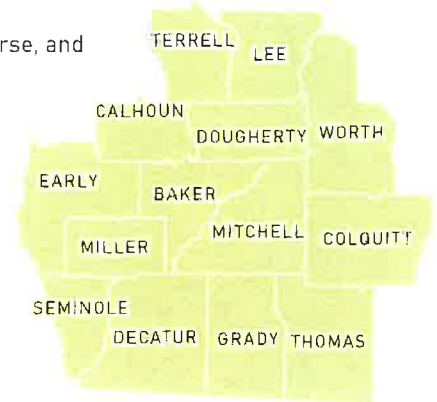
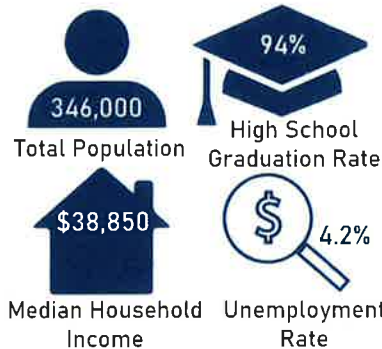
SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

BACKGROUND

Southwest Georgia is a 14-county region with a rich history, a strong sense of community, and a diverse agricultural base. The region has faced various challenges, including being hit by Hurricanes Irma and Michael, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Damages from Hurricane Michael were catastrophic with over \$84 million in infrastructure and housing damages reported to FEMA. Hurricane Michael also had devastating impacts on the region's agriculture industry, a cornerstone of the state's economy. Using CARES Act funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), Georgia Tech's Center for Economic Development Research produced an Economic Recovery + Resilience Strategic Plan to catalyze economic recovery and growth for the Southwest Georgia region.

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

Southwest Georgia is a rural, diverse, and aging region.



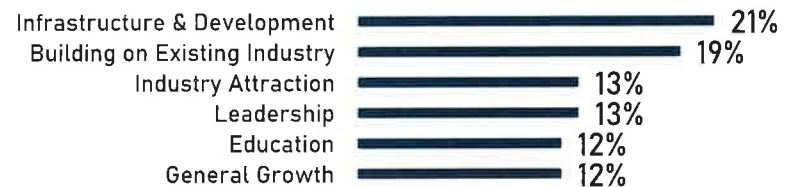
ECONOMIC RESILIENCY PLANNING

Southwest Georgia Economic Recovery + Resilience Strategic Plan components:

1. Community Profile
2. Stakeholder Interviews
3. Target Industry Sector Analysis
4. Historic Impact of Manufacturing
5. Economic Resilience Strategy
6. Downtown Development Tools
7. Natural Disaster Risk and Best Practices

OPPORTUNITIES

60 internal stakeholders ranked the most important opportunities for SWGA in the future.



TOP FIVE EMPLOYERS BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

INDUSTRY SECTOR	2020 JOBS
GOVERNMENT	32,460
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	16,804
RETAIL TRADE	15,969
MANUFACTURING	15,250

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Georgia Tech developed a five-year strategic plan consisting of 75 policy action items organized under six goal areas.



TARGET INDUSTRIES



For any questions or inquiries please contact:

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