

**Gordon County  
2013 – 2017 Community Work Program**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>
<b>Economic Development</b>								
Support the Chamber of Commerce and the Development Authority on economic development issues to retain and recruit new industry into the county.	X	X	X	X	X	\$0	N/A	Board of Commissioners
Prepare a comprehensive Economic Development Plan with the cities, Chamber of Commerce, and the Development Authority to identify desired industries, suitable locations, and develop a marketing strategy.		X				\$20,000	General Funds	Board of Commissioners
Coordinate with the Historic Preservation Commission, Chamber of Commerce, and state associations to promote civil war heritage tourism.	X	X	X	X	X	TBD	Increased Hotel/Motel Tax	Historic Preservation Commission & Chamber of Commerce
Increase the Freeport inventory exemption rates to be competitive with surrounding counties.	X					\$0	N/A	Board of Commissioners
Search for regional, state-wide, and national sports tournaments and bring them to the Sonoraville Recreation Complex as an economic development tool to increase the county's exposure and sales tax revenue.	X	X	X	X	X	\$35,000 (per year for bids)	General Funds	Parks & Recreation Director
Support commercial and industrial development on the east side of the county.	X	X	X	X	X	TBD	TBD	Development Authority
<b>Natural &amp; Cultural Resources</b>								
Complete the Fort Wayne Civil War Historic Site walking trails project and implement the remaining parts of the master plan.	X	X				\$400,000	TE Grant, General Funds	Public Works Director
Support the Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources regarding the completion of the new Resaca Battlefield State Historic Site project including a future visitor's center/museum. Begin county management of the site per contract.	X	X	X	X	X	\$10,000 (per Year)	State Funds & General Funds	Board of Commissioners, Public Works Dept., Sheriff Office
<b>Community Facilities &amp; Services</b>								
Install fire hydrants in the unincorporated areas of the county.	X	X	X	X	X	\$2,000,000 (total)	SPLOST-2012	Fire Chief
Improve the parking deck and renovate the courthouse and courthouse annex.					X	\$14,600,000	SPLOST-2012	County Administrator
Construct a replacement Health Department.					X	\$3,200,000	SPLOST-2012	County Administrator
Construct a replacement Fire Station for Station No. 6 and add fire trucks.		X				\$4,500,000	SPLOST-2012	Fire Chief
Develop the new Brookshire Park on SR 156 West.					X	\$400,000	SPLOST-2012	Parks & Recreation Director
Renovate (re-paint, re-carpet, replace kitchen equipment) and expand the Senior Citizens Center.			X (R)		X (E)	\$500,000 (E) \$100,000 (R)	SPLOST-2012 & General Funds	County Administrator & Senior Citizens Director

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<b>Community Facilities &amp; Services</b>								
Coordinate with Calhoun to expand the Library.	X					\$400,000 (County share)	SPLOST-2012	City of Calhoun
Construct a replacement Animal Shelter.					X	\$1,500,000	SPLOST-2012	Animal Control Director
Develop a written master plan for Salacoa Creek Park to have more revenue producing activities while protecting its existing character by building cabins, dormitories, small visitor's/conference center, wedding chapel, realigning the campground road to accommodate large RVs, adding playgrounds and nature trails, and protecting the scenic vistas from development.	X	X	X	X		\$10,000 for the professional master plan and \$4,000,000 for implementation	Future SPLOST, General Funds, Increased Hotel/Motel Tax	Board of Commissioners & Parks & Recreation Director
Coordinate with Calhoun, Chamber of Commerce, and nearby businesses to improve the I-75 Exit 312 & 318 interchanges by adding landscape material, lighting, and signage.	X	X				\$500,000	General Fund, GDOT Funds, Increased Hotel/Motel Tax	Chamber of Commerce & Parks & Recreation Director
Complete the renovations to the Voluntary Action Center.	X					\$500,000	CDBG Funds	County Administrator
Improve the county's ISO rating from a Class 6/9 to 5/9 by implementing better firefighter training, inspecting fire hydrants twice per year, and making other fire department improvements such as a new aerial fire truck, and 911 Center improvements.	X	X	X	X	X	\$0 \$850,000 for the aerial fire truck.	Fire Fund, SPLOST Fund	Fire Chief
Improve the fire stations with new paint, bathroom fixtures, bay door motors, desks, and chairs.	X	X	X	X	X	\$320,000 (total)	Fire Fund	Fire Chief
Evaluate all county buildings for energy efficiency and implement a program of cost saving measures.	X	X	X			\$0 (energy savings are used to fund this program)	N/A	Purchasing Director
Upgrade the 911 Center's equipment including the recorder, add one additional console station, and new console radios.		X				\$200,000	911 Fund, General Fund	911 Director
Upgrade the 911 Center's Computer Aided Dispatch system and phone system.			X			\$120,000	911 Fund, General Fund	911 Director
Construct a new 911 Center or make major renovations to the existing center and add one new 911 trunk line.					X	\$5M for new center or \$250,000 for renovations	New SPLOST or General Funds	911 Director
Construct a large pavilion with restrooms at the Sonoraville Recreation Complex.					X	\$135,000	New SPLOST, General Funds	Parks & Recreation Director
Prepare a county-wide trails master plan (nature, hiking, biking, greenway, river, and historic trails).		X				\$20,000	General Funds	Parks & Recreation Director

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<b>Community Facilities &amp; Services</b>								
Identify and purchase park land for a future park similar to the Sonoraville Recreation Complex.					X	\$1,000,000	New SPLOST, General Funds	Parks & Recreation Director
Update the County Administration Building with new plumbing, carpet, paint, etc.		X				\$75,000	General Funds	County Administrator
Construct a canoe/kayak launch site at Ft. Wayne to access the Oostanaula River.			X			\$10,000	State Funds, General Funds	New Echota River Alliance
Construct a full-service boat ramp to access the Coosawattee River.			X			\$50,000	State Funds, General Funds	New Echota River Alliance
<b>Transportation</b>								
Support GDOT on the new Union Grove Road/I-75 interchange and the south Calhoun by-pass road projects.	X	X	X			\$0	State Funds	Board of Commissioners
Complete the annual road improvement program including the LMIG program.	X	X	X	X	X	\$9,000,000 (total)	SPLOST-2012 & GDOT Funds	Public Works Director
Coordinate with Calhoun to improve Peters Street.	X	X				\$2,000,000 (County share)	SPLOST-2012	City of Calhoun
Improve the Midway Road railroad crossing.	X					\$50,000	SPLOST-2012	Public Works Director
Update the 2007 Transportation Improvement Plan		X				\$25,000	General Funds	Public Works Director
Complete the GIS locations of existing and needed road signs.	X					\$0	N/A	Public Works Director
Replace regulatory, warning, and ground mounted road signs that do not meet minimum MUTCD standards.	X	X	X			\$50,000 (per year)	SPLOST-2012	Public Works Director
Replace existing street name signs with larger 9" sign blades and 6" lettering.	X	X	X	X	X	\$50,000 (per year)	SPLOST-2012	Public Works Director
Collect GIS location data for bridges, culverts, and cross drains on all county roads.	X	X	X	X	X	\$0	N/A	Public Works Director and GIS Manager
Increase transportation options for low income residents.	X	X	X	X	X	TBD	TBD	Social Service Agencies
<b>Intergovernmental Coordination</b>								
Begin and complete the state required 5 Year Short Term Work Program 2013-2017 (recertification date is 6/30/13).	X					\$0	N/A	County Administrator
Begin the state required full update to the county-wide Comprehensive Plan (recertification date is 6/30/18).					X	\$10,000	General Funds	County Administrator & Zoning Administrator
Begin the state required update of the county-wide Service Delivery Strategy Plan (recertification date is 6/30/18).					X	\$1,000	General Funds	County Administrator
Coordinate with Calhoun to have them annex the "islands" into the city making the city's boundaries more inclusive and streamlining service delivery including emergency services and road maintenance.	X					\$0	N/A	Board of Commissioners

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<b>Intergovernmental Coordination</b>								
Coordinate with Calhoun to increase the hotel/motel tax from 5% to 8% to promote and fund tourism.	X					\$0	N/A	Board of Commissioners
Assist in officially dissolving the city of Ranger so various funds such as LOST and SPLOST do not have to be shared.	X					\$0	N/A	Board of Commissioners
<b>General Planning</b>								
Conduct an annual Board retreat to establish/monitor annual goals.	X	X	X	X	X	\$2,500 (per year)	General Fund	Board of Commissioners
Apply for a CDBG to assist low and moderate income citizens.		X		X		\$0	N/A	County Administrator
Update the Unified Land Development Code (ULDC) for relevancy, clarifications, and workability.	X		X		X	\$1,000	General Funds	Zoning Administrator
Update the Code of Ordinances for completeness, clarity, and modernization.		X				\$30,000	General Funds	County Attorney
Conduct an annual surplus auction of unneeded county vehicles and equipment.	X	X	X	X	X	\$0	N/A	Buildings & Grounds Director
Conduct an annual tire and appliance amnesty day at the county's landfill.	X	X	X	X	X	\$0	N/A	Buildings & Grounds Director
Conduct twice per year employee and public blood drives with employee incentives.	X	X	X	X	X	\$4,500	General Funds	HR Director
Renew the multi-year contract with the county's auditors, Dobbs & Co., that will expire on Dec. 31, 2013.	X					\$0	N/A	Board of Commissioners
Begin the contract renewal process with Gordon Hospital ambulance service that will expire on June 30, 2018.					X	\$0	N/A	Board of Commissioners
Renew the multi-year contracts with the county's two disaster recovery services company, Southern Disaster Recovery and Cahaba Disaster Recovery that will expire in July 2017.					X	\$0	N/A	EMA Director
Update the employee classification & compensation study that was previously done during 2006 to ensure that all county employees are being paid market rates.			X			\$40,000	General Funds	HR Director
Automate the payroll/timekeeping system for efficiency.		X				\$65,000	General Funds	HR Director
Create a database of scanned images of all old property records		X				\$25,000	General Funds	Chief Appraiser
Continue the mapping contract with an outside firm to maintain all parcel data.	X	X	X	X	X	\$15,000 (per year)	General Funds	Chief Appraiser
Continue and expand printing and mailing contracts for efficiency.	X	X	X	X	X	\$22,000 (per year)	General Funds	Chief Appraiser

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<b>General Planning</b>								
Maintain the required continuing education for all Tax Assessor staff members.	X	X	X	X	X	\$18,000 (per year)	General Funds	Chief Appraiser
Develop a program, sufficient staff, and the use of technology that will allow one third of all properties to be physically inspected each year.	X	X	X	X	X	\$2,500 (per year)	General Funds	Chief Appraiser
Contract with an outside firm to audit all personal property accounts on a recurring 3 to 5 year schedule.	X	X	X	X	X	\$20,000 (per year)	General Funds	Chief Appraiser



**GORDON COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM UPDATE**

**Gordon County and the cities of Calhoun, Fairmount, Plainville, Ranger, and Resaca are beginning a Five-Year Update of the Community Work Program within their joint comprehensive plan that was originally adopted in December 2007. The five-year update is required and will be prepared according to new rules promulgated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, which are effective on January 1, 2013. This public hearing will explain the process that will be followed for the update, which has a State established deadline of June 30, 2013. The update will include a Report of Accomplishments regarding the last five-year short-term work program; the creation of a new Community Work Program; review and update of the list of Issues and Opportunities; and review and update of the Land Use Element. Updates of other portions of the plan document are discretionary per the state rules.**

**Following this process will allow the participating local governments to maintain their Qualified Local Governments (QLG) status, and therefore be eligible for state grant funds, state loans, and state permits.**

**This public meeting will be held in the conference room of the Gordon County Administration Building, 201 North Wall Street, Calhoun, Georgia on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend and participate in this public meeting.**

Publish on Wed. Jan. 2 and Wed. Jan. 9, 2013 in a display ad.

### Project Timeline

- Jan. 15 Public Hearing #1 describing the state required planning process (during commission meeting).
- Feb. 9 Board review and discussion of the 2007 – 2011 Report of Accomplishments & 2013-2017 Community Work Program (during retreat).
- Feb. 11-  
March 19 Both documents are posted on the county's web site and facebook page soliciting for public comments on both documents.
- March 5 Public Workshop soliciting for public comments on both documents (during commission meeting).
- March 19 Public Hearing #2 to solicit public comments one more time and authorize submittal of the documents to the Regional Commission and DCA for their review.
- May Adoption of documents prior to the June 30, 2013 deadline.

**GORDON COUNTY  
PUBLIC WORKSHOP NOTICE  
FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM UPDATE**

Gordon County and the cities of Calhoun, Fairmount, Plainville, Ranger, and Resaca are beginning a Five-Year Update of the Community Work Program within their joint comprehensive plan that was originally adopted in December 2007. The five-year update is required and will be prepared according to new rules promulgated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, which are effective on January 1, 2013. A public workshop will be held to discuss the following:

- Gordon County's Report of Accomplishments regarding the last five-year Short Term Work Program 2007-2011
- Review of Gordon County's Character Areas
- Review of Gordon County's Issues and Opportunities
- Review of a Proposed Gordon County Community Work Program 2013-2017.

The above documents are available for public review and comments on the Gordon County website, [www.gordoncounty.org](http://www.gordoncounty.org) or at the Gordon County Administration Building, 201 N. Wall Street, in Calhoun.

Following this process will allow the participating local governments to maintain their Qualified Local Governments (QLG) status, and therefore be eligible for state grant funds, state loans, and state permits.

This public workshop will be held in the conference room of the Gordon County Administration Building, 201 N. Wall Street, Calhoun, Georgia on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend and participate in this public workshop.

Publish on Feb. 23, 27, March 2 as a display ad.



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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM UPDATE**

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- Gordon County's Report of Accomplishments regarding the last five-year Short Term Work Program 2007-2011
- Gordon County's Character Areas
- Gordon County's Issues and Opportunities
- Gordon County's Community Work Program 2013-2017.

The above documents are available for public review and comments on the Gordon County website, [www.gordoncounty.org](http://www.gordoncounty.org) or at the Gordon County Administration Building, 201 N. Wall Street, in Calhoun.

Following this process will allow the participating local governments to maintain their Qualified Local Governments (QLG) status, and therefore be eligible for state grant funds, state loans, and state permits.

This public hearing will be held in the conference room of the Gordon County Administration Building, 201 N. Wall Street, Calhoun, Georgia on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend and participate in this public hearing.

Publish on March 6 & 13 as a display ad.

March 20, 2013

Mr. Barnett Chitwood  
Northwest Georgia Regional Commission  
503 W. Waugh Street  
Dalton, GA 30720

**Re: Gordon County's Comprehensive Plan Update**

Dear Mr. Chitwood:

Gordon County has completed work on its five year comprehensive plan update in accordance with the state's minimum standards for comprehensive planning that were effective January 1, 2013. Gordon County also certifies that the Regional Water Plan and the State Environmental Criteria were considered in this process. Gordon County is now prepared to submit the state required update to the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission for review. Gordon County's submission includes:

- 1) Report of Accomplishments for the previous five years, 2007-2011.
- 2) Community Work Program for the next five years, 2013-2017.
- 3) Update of needs and opportunities (no changes).
- 4) Update of the Character Area Map and defining narrative (no changes).

The first state required public hearing was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 and served as the joint public hearing that included all municipal governments in Gordon County. The Board of County Commissioners also reviewed and discussed these documents during a retreat on February 9, 2013. A public workshop was held on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 to obtain additional public comments. The second and last state required public hearing was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2013. In addition, the documents listed above were posted to the county's web site from February 11 to March 19, 2013 requesting public comments. All public comments have been included in the final documents.

Please review the enclosed material and advise the county of any additional needs you may have regarding this process.

Very truly yours,

Becky Hood, Chairman  
Gordon County Board of Commissioners