



Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda

Annual Update 2018-2022

September 18, 2018

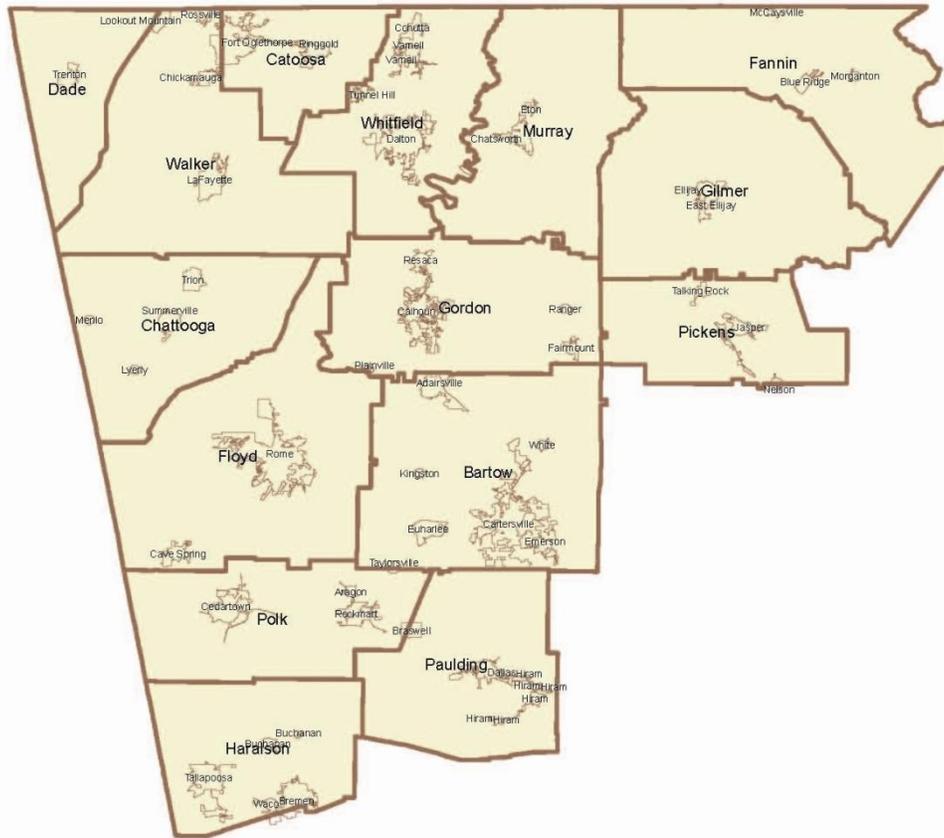
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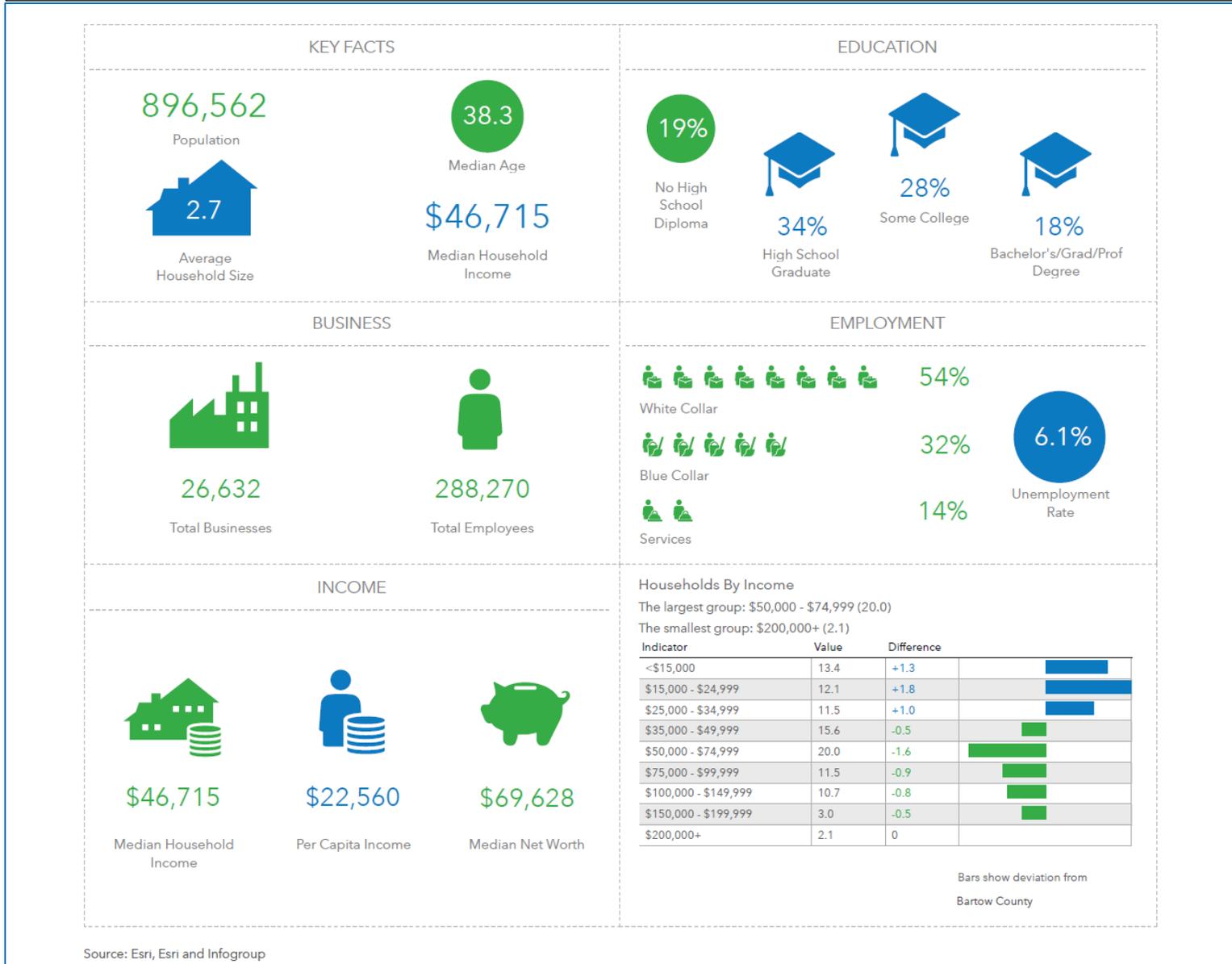
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Northwest Georgia Regional Commission



Summary of Demographic and Economic Indicators, Northwest Georgia Region, 2018.



Annual Update to the Northwest Georgia Regional Plan (2018-2022)

This annual update to the 2014 Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda has been prepared in accordance with the Standards and Procedures for Regional Planning, Chapter 110-12-6. The annual update includes a Report of Accomplishments on projects and strategies completed in 2016-2018, a discussion of minimum planning standards and any local governments not meeting those standards, and a new work program for actions the Regional Commission and partner organizations will undertake in Northwest Georgia for 2018-2022. This is the last annual update of the 2014 Regional Agenda. A full update of the Regional Plan will be prepared by June 30, 2019 in accordance with the 2017 Regional Planning Standards.



Etowah River Water Trail, Bartow County.

This annual update offers an opportunity to review projects that neighboring regions and the state are pursuing in key planning areas such as water, transportation, land use and development, and greenspace, parks and recreation. Accordingly, this annual update has been prepared with review and consideration of the Northwest Georgia Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the Coosa North Georgia Regional Water Plan, Georgia's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Metropolitan Planning Organization transportation plans, and adjacent Regional Commissions' regional plans. This annual update was approved by the Department of Community Affairs in September 2018 for adoption by the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission Council.

Report of Accomplishments (July 1, 2016- June 30, 2018)

Report of Accomplishments (July 1, 2016- June 30, 2018) Northwest Georgia Regional Commission											
Activity	Timeframe					Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source(s)	Issue / Opp Addressed	Report of Accomplishments	
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020						
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT											
Assist business & manufacturing to start up and/or expand by implementing NWGRC's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).	X	X	X	X	X	RC	TBD	State, federal, local, private	ED-O-1	Underway	
Assist business and manufacturing to start up and/or expand in the region by investigating the feasibility of establishing additional business incubators.	X	X	X	X	X	RC	Staff Time	State, federal, local, private	ED-O-1, ED-O-3	Underway	
Assist business and manufacturing to start up and/or expand in the region by alternative financing assistance.	X	X	X	X	X	NGCDC, Inc.; Bus. Dev. Corp; state; fed.	\$130,000/yr	SBA, RLF, state, federal	ED-O-1	Underway	
Update Region's CEDS.	X	X				RC	Staff Time	EDA	ED-O-1	Completed (2017)	
Prepare Urban Redevelopment Plans and Revitalization Area Strategies, Opportunity Zones and Enterprise Zones to promote redevelopment, revitalization, job creation and private investment	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local governments	Staff Time	ARC, EDA	ED-O-1	Underway	
Identify and assist in preparing and	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local	Staff Time	ARC, EDA	ED-O-1	Underway	

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Northwest Georgia Regional Commission

Activity	Timeframe					Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source(s)	Issue / Opp Addressed	Report of Accomplishments
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
administrating grant funds to implement local comprehensive plans, CEDS, Regional Agenda, local strategies and locally identified priority projects						governments, development authorities				
Work with existing post-secondary training institutions to discover gaps in services and fill these by: (a) establishing business symposiums to discuss service gaps and needed programs; (b) working with post-secondary training institutions to expand funding for facilities, programs and scholarships; (c) linking area colleges and vocational schools to provide more joint enrollment opportunities; (d) accredit technical schools so that credit can be transferred; and (e) seek interstate reciprocity for college tuition.	X	X	X	X	X	Legislators, businesses, Board of Regents, Department of Technical and Adult Education	TBD	State, local, private, federal	ED-O-2	Underway
Administer WIOA Program	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DOL	\$3,650,000	State, federal	ED-O-2	Underway
Encourage programs for workplace remediation for persons with substandard skills by: (a) encouraging worksite GED programs; (b) fostering worksite continuing education; and (c) encouraging worksite skills improvement labs.	X	X	X	X	X	Legislators, businesses, Board of Regents, Department of Technical and Adult Education	TBD	State, local, private, federal	ED-O-2	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Develop Digital Region One Advisory Board; Implement Digital Region One Plan.	X	X	X	X	X	GTA, RC	\$60,000	ARC, EDA, DCA	ED-O-2	Completed (2017); Rural Broadband Committee formed
Prepare and Implement Advanced Manufacturing Strategic Plan, IMCP Designation; to include regional infrastructure planning and funding, workforce development initiatives related to advanced manufacturing, partnerships and marketing efforts for advanced manufacturing.	X	X	X	X	X	RC	\$170,000	EDA, Ga. Tech, RC	ED-O-2 ED-O-3	Completed (transitioning to Alliance for Innovation and Sustainability)
Develop an outreach program to aid in the growth and development of existing industries.	X	X	X	X	X	GDEcD, Dev. Auths., COC	TBD	State, federal, local	ED-O-3	Dropped (done in partnership with state agencies and local organizations)
Develop regionally significant industrial and commercial sites with complete infrastructure in place.	X	X	X	X	X	GDEcD, local govts.	TBD	State, federal, local	ED-O-4	Underway
Provide technical assistance and grant- in aid as needed to local governments throughout the region	X	X	X	X	X	RC	Staff Time	State, federal, local	ED-O-1	Underway
Staff the North Georgia CDC including SBA504 and EDA RLF Loan Programs; market and expand loan programs; coordinate training programs for lenders and banks;	X	X	X	X	X	RC, CDC, local governments, business owners	Staff Time	State, Federal, Local	ED-O-3, ED-O-4	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
administer loans; provide technical assistance to banks, companies, local governments, Chambers of Commerce, development authorities										
Administer the US Highway 27 Association in conjunction with Southeast Georgia and Hwy 27 Board	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	TBD	State, federal, local	ED-O-5	Underway
Assist local governments to implement Comprehensive Plans, CEDS and Regional Agenda to extend basic infrastructure along major transportation corridors.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	\$10,000/yr	State, local govts.	ED-O-5	Underway
Seek funding and technical assistance to develop regional and local farmers and growers groups to identify solutions for training, marketing and promotion, processing, distribution and other shared needs.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	TBD	State, federal	ED-O-7	Underway
Partner with growers to address regulations on growing, production, sales and distribution that affect local, small scale growers adversely and disproportionately from large scale commercial growers.	X	X	X	X	X	State, federal	Staff Time	State, federal	ED-O-7	Completed (ongoing assistance as needed)
Develop community-level plans, strategies, and inventories to promote and protect local	X	X	X	X	X	RC	\$5,000/ yr	State, federal	ED-O-7	Underway

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Activity	Timeframe					Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source(s)	Issue / Opp Addressed	Report of Accomplishments
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
agriculture and local food assets.										
Assist local governments and other entities in developing new tourist attractions in the region which capitalize on the region's historic, cultural and natural resources.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DCA, GDEcD	\$5,000/yr	State, federal, local govts.	ED-0-8	Underway
Assist Northwest Georgia Regional Food Hub in identification of funds, best practices, and participating farmers, and other assistance	X	X				RC, local govt	\$5,000. yr	State, federal, local	ED-0-7	Underway
HOUSING										
Utilize State and Federal housing rehabilitation programs to preserve existing low cost housing stock for low income and elderly.	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts.	TBD	State, RC tech. assist.	H-I-1, H-I-2	Underway
Work with Preservation Commissions to develop historic districts and ordinances to preserve historic homes in key areas to maintain community and neighborhood character.	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts., historic pres. commissions	\$5,000/yr	RC & Ga. DNR tech. assist. local govts.	H-I-2	Underway
Establish building and housing codes in communities where they do not exist to assure uniform, minimum standards for construction and maintenance of housing throughout the region.	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts.	\$2,500 per community	Local govts., Ga. DCA & RC tech. assist.	H-I-2	Underway

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Activity	Timeframe					Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source(s)	Issue / Opp Addressed	Report of Accomplishments
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Implement the Neighborhood Stabilization Program	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DCA, Comm. Dev. Corps	\$8,-\$10 million	State, federal agencies	H-I-3	Underway
Amend zoning ordinances and building codes as appropriate	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts., DDAs, Main Street programs	Staff Time	Local	H-O-1	Underway
Conduct an inventory and analysis of local housing needs throughout the region; determine appropriate programs for addressing those needs; and provide technical assistance to implement.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	\$15,000/yr	State, federal, local govts.	H-I-1	Completed (assistance to local governments as requested, participation in Georgia Initiatives for Community Housing)
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES										
Educate citizens and local officials through workshops on water quality issues, current and future planning activities, and Federal and State programs.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DNR, NGWRP	\$5,000/yr	State, federal	NC-O-1	Underway (annual Educational Seminar by N GA Water Resources Partnership)
Assist local governments with implementation of environmental protection standards for ground water recharge areas, water supply watersheds, wetlands, major river corridors, soil erosion and sediment control, and on-site sewage management systems.	X	X	X	X	X	RC	\$5,000/yr	State, local govts.	NC-O-1	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Assist State and local governments with implementation of the Source Water Protection strategies.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. EPD	\$20,000/yr.	Ga. EPD, state, federal, local gov'ts.	NC-O-1	Underway
Assist State and local governments with implementation of Total Maximum Daily Load requirements.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. EPD	\$60,000/yr.	State, federal, local govts.	NC-O-1	Underway
Implement Water Plan, Grid Transmission Study, and Redundancy and Emergency Interconnectivity Study	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. EPD, NGWRP	\$1,000/yr.	Ga. EPD	NC-O-1	Underway
Sponsor and conduct workshops on Water Supply Watershed protection criteria and other methods of preserving these resources; and assist local governments with implementation of approved methods.	X	X	X	X	X	Ga. DCA, RC, local govts.	\$5,000/yr	State, local govts.	NC-O-2	Underway
Sponsor and conduct workshops on River Corridor protection criteria and other methods of preserving these resources and assist local governments, which contain protected rivers within their jurisdiction, with the preparation, adoption, and implementation of River Corridor Protection Plans.	X	X	X	X	X	Ga. DCA, RC, local govts.	\$5,000/yr	State, local govts.	NC-O-3	Dropped (addressed through comprehensive plan updates)
Convene and facilitate public/private partnerships such as the Conasauga River	X	X	X	X	X	RC, RC&D councils, Nature Conservancy,	\$10,000/yr	State, federal,	NC-O-3	Dropped

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Alliance, Coosa River Basin Initiative, Coosawattee River Alliance, New Echota Rivers Alliance, and Upper Etowah River Alliance to coordinate programs for managing river corridor resources.						local govts.		local govts.		
Sponsor and conduct workshops on Mountain Protection Act requirements and other methods of preserving these resources such as “open space preservation” techniques; and assist local governments with implementation of approved methods.	X	X	X	X	X	Ga. DCA, RC, local govts.	\$5,000/yr	State, local govts.	NC-O-4	Dropped (addressed through comprehensive plan updates)
Convene and facilitate public/private partnerships such as land trusts to acquire prominent views through conservation easements and similar methods.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Nature Conservancy, local govts.	\$10,000/yr	State, local govts. private land trusts	NC-O-4	Dropped (assist local governments as needed)
Assist local governments with development of and maintenance of greenspace plans.	X	X	X	X	X	RC	\$10,000/yr	Local govts.	NC-O-5	Underway
Implement the Northwest Georgia Greenspace Conservation and Greenway Plan recommendations.	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts.	TBD	State, federal, local govts.	NC-O-5	Underway
Update the Northwest Georgia Greenspace Conservation and Greenway Plan.			X	X	X	RC	\$50,000	State, federal,	NC-O-5	Dropped

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Activity	Timeframe					Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source(s)	Issue / Opp Addressed	Report of Accomplishments
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
								local govts.		
Promulgate the Regional Resource Plan per Section 110-12-4-, 02(4) of Rules of Georgia Department of Community Affairs.	X	X	X	X	X	RC	TBD	Ga. DCA	NC-O-6	Underway
Update or revise local comprehensive plans as required to address preservation needs of regionally significant historic resources and to call for coordination were appropriate.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	\$10,000/yr	State, local, federal	NC-O-6	Underway
Sponsor and conduct coordinated planning workshops concerning the preservation and protection of the region's large, rural historic districts, such as the Etowah Valley Historic District and McLemore Cove.		X	X	X	X	RC, local govts., Ga. DNR, nonprofits	\$2,000/yr	State, local, federal	NC-O-6	Dropped (addressed through comprehensive plan updates)
Work with local governments to prepare preservation master plans for rural historic districts, battlefields and other regionally significant resources with serious or complex preservation needs including historic county courthouse buildings.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DNR, local govts.	\$2,500/yr	State, local, federal	NC-O-6	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Offer preservation technical assistance to all local governments and nonprofit owners of regionally significant historic resources and provide them with “The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties”.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DNR	\$2,500/yr	State, local, federal	NC-O-6	Underway
Provide technical assistance to local governments desiring to develop and implement local regulatory measures to protect historic resources.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts., Ga. DNR	\$10,000/yr	State, local, federal	NC-O-6	Underway
Plan for the preservation of the region’s historic districts and related properties.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, state, local govts.	TBD	State, local, federal	NC-O-6	Underway
Prepare Historic Resources Survey of historic sites throughout the region in conjunction with other Regional Commissions	X	X	X			RC, other RCs within ARC region	\$50,000	ARC and local	NC- O-6	Underway
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES										
Support and participate in the North Georgia Water Resources Partnership.	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts.	\$1,500/yr. for ea. local govt.	Local	CF-O-1	Underway
Provide administrative support to the Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Planning Council.	X	X	X	X	X	NWGRC, GMRC	\$35,000/yr.	Ga. EPD	CF-O-1	Underway
Implement the Regional Water Plans prepared by the Regional Water Planning	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts., Ga. EPD	TBD	Local govts., Ga.	CF-O-1	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Councils.								EPD		
Coordinate with DNR, Corps of Engineers, adjoining state agencies, and local governments to plan and develop regional (multi-jurisdictional) water supply and storage facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts., Ga. DNR	\$5,000/yr	State, federal, local gov'ts	CF-O-1	Underway
Assist local governments in maintaining and/or updating service delivery strategies that promote multi-jurisdictional water treatment and distribution services.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	\$5,000/yr	RC, local gov'ts	CF-O-1	Underway
Coordinate with GA DNR adjoining state agencies and local governments to plan and develop regional (multi-jurisdictional) wastewater treatment facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	TBD	State, local gov'ts	CF-O-1	Dropped
Assist local governments with defining urban service areas and preparing capital improvements plans and budgets for extending services to these areas.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	\$20,000/yr	Local govts.	CF-O-2	Postponed
Utilize Community Work Program and Service Delivery Strategy updates as a regional coordination mechanism to assure that service providers are coordinating in their efforts to serve the region with basic infrastructure.	X	X	X	X	X	RC	\$5,000/yr	Local govts.	CF-O-2	Underway

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Activity	Timeframe					Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source(s)	Issue / Opp Addressed	Report of Accomplishments
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Provide assistance to local governments in developing and securing financing alternatives for the extension of urban services.	X	X	X	X	X	RC	\$40,000/yr	State, federal, local govts.	CF-O-2	Underway
Create a partnership of telecommunications providers; business and industry, public institutions, and government to sponsor and conduct regional forums on how telecommunications technology can be used to expand economic development.	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts., Ga. DCA Region 1	\$5,000/yr.	State, federal, local gov'ts	CF-O-3	Underway
Coordinate local telecommunications infrastructure such as fiber networks where such systems are lacking.	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts., Ga. DCA Region 1	\$5,000/yr.	State, federal, local gov'ts	CF-O-3	Underway
Implement findings of Aspen Institute Communities that Work Partnership including coordination between College and Career Academies	X	X	X	X	X	BOE, public health organizations, judiciary system, Family and Children Services, Head Start, religious organizations, RC (grant writing), Great Promise Partnerships	TBD	BOE, local gov'ts, private	CF-O-5	Underway
Implement Great Promise Partnerships and at-risk youth programs throughout Region	X	X	X	X	X	BOE, Ga. DOE, COC, RC (information clearinghouse), Great	TBD	BOE, state, private	CF-O-5	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
						Promise Partnerships				
Seek funding for STEM, robotics, other academic and skill development programs in K-12 schools	X	X	X	X	X	RC	STAFF TIME	Local, state, federal	CF-O-5	Underway
Promote stay in school efforts through: (a) increased involvement of business community in dropout prevention programs; (b) developing improved dropout tracking system; and (c) encouraging early instruction in career development.	X	X	X	X	X	RC	STAFF TIME	Local, state, federal	CF-O-5	Dropped
Work with the State and local governments to address the priority needs identified in the Area Agency on Aging Plan including: (a) transportation; (b) legal assistance; (c) adult day care; (d) nutrition services; (e) health care; (f) housing and home maintenance; (g) long-term care and protective services; (h) employment; and (l) recreation/social opportunities among seniors and care givers.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DHR, local govts.	\$5,000/yr	Local, state, federal	CF-O-6	Underway
Provide advocacy role through information sharing for services and tax breaks for the elderly.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DHR	\$2,500/yr.	Local, state, federal	CF-O-6	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Administer the Area Agency on Aging to provide wide spectrum of supportive services for seniors.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, Ga. DHR	\$4,300,000/yr.	Local, state, federal	CF-O-6	Underway
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION										
Implement Thrive 2055 Regional Planning Initiative in Dade, Catoosa, Walker, Whitfield, Murray Counties (economic development, natural resources, Workforce development coordinated strategies	X	X	X	X	X	RC	\$20,000	RC, DCA	IC-1-2	Underway
Increase coordination with Chambers of Commerce and economic development authorities.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, COC, Dev. Auth.	TBD	State, local	IC-O-1	Underway
TRANSPORTATION										
Coordinate with federal and state transportation agencies, the Atlanta Regional Commission (Atlanta MPO), Chattanooga/Hamilton County/North Georgia TPO, Rome-Floyd County MPO, Greater Dalton MPO, Cartersville-Bartow County MPO, and local governments to strengthen regional transportation planning and priority setting.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	\$15,000/yr	State, federal, local gov'ts	T-O-1	Underway
Coordinate with transportation agencies and local governments to plan and determine	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	\$5,000/yr	State, federal,	T-O-1	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
feasibility of expanding alternative transportation modes such as (a) high-speed and commuter rail connecting the region to Atlanta and Chattanooga; (b) Amtrak service through region; (c) expanding services of local bus systems; and (d) linking county bus systems to existing and future mass transit system.								local gov'ts.		
Assist local governments with implementation of regional bike and pedestrian facilities plans; coordinate and facilitate Bike! Walk! Northwest Georgia.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, GDOT	\$15,000/yr	State, federal, local	T-O-1	Underway
Promote improved east-west transportation corridors within the region.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, GDOT	TBD	State, federal, local	T-O-1	Underway
Encourage regional transportation projects through public-private partnerships.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, GDOT	TBD	State, federal, local	T-O-1	Underway
LAND USE										
Prepare and update the <i>Northwest Georgia Regional Plan, 2013-2033</i> .	X	X	X	X	X	RC	\$20,000	RC, Ga. DCA	LU-O-1	Postponed (2018-2019)
Prepare and update local comprehensive	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	TBD	RC, Ga. DCA, local	LU-O-2	Underway

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
plans.								govts.		
Encourage rehabilitation and reuse of property with current infrastructure.	X	X	X	X	X	Local govts.	TBD	Local govts.	LU-I-1	Underway
Devise and promote the use of incentives in local development regulations to encourage developers to utilize open space conservation land development practices, and assist local governments to implement.	X	X	X	X	X	RC, local govts.	\$10,000/yr	State, local govts.	LU-I-2	Underway

Local Government Performance Standards Update

Regional Commission staff meet with each local government at least every two years as part of Plan Implementation Meetings, during which we review the minimum and excellence planning standards for the region, which include having required plans in place, meeting training requirements, and using electronic communications. The City of White and City of Ranger had at the time of their meeting elected new officials and staff whom had not yet completed the required training. As training requirements could still be met in accordance with state standards and deadlines, these local governments were not determined to be out of compliance at this time. The Regional Commission will reassess at the next plan implementation meeting and will encourage each to attend the next available training. Accordingly no local governments were determined to be out of compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards.

Regional Priority Needs and Opportunities

The Regional Issues and Opportunities listed below are the final, agreed upon, issues and opportunities to be addressed in the Implementation Program of the Regional Agenda. The list of Potential Issues and Opportunities identified in the Regional Assessment was modified and refined through stakeholder input to yield this final list. Each of the issues and opportunities on this final list is followed-up with corresponding implementation measures in the Implementation Program. The identification codes are provided to cross reference the implementation measures to the final issues and opportunities. The Regional Issues and Opportunities that follow are categorized by various planning elements.



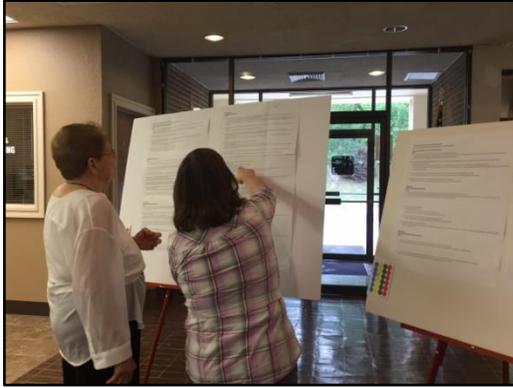
2015 NWGA Bike and Trails Feasibility Study- Terry Reynolds, Ragan-Smith and Charlie Jones, NWGRC

Economic Development Issues

ID	The issue is. . . .
ED-I-1	Inadequate incentives and/or burdensome regulations.

Economic Development Opportunities

ID	The opportunity is to. . . .
ED-O-1	Diversify the region’s economic base.
ED-O-2	Improve the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the region’s workforce.
ED-O-3	Retain the region’s existing jobs.
ED-O-4	Recruit new business and industry.
ED-O-5	Improve regional corridor development to support industries.
ED-O-6	Enhance Northwest Georgia’s import/export capabilities through the Georgia ports and the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.
ED-O-7	Develop a consortium of local food growers to share common issues and seek solutions.
ED-O-8	Increase tourism visitation and visitor expenditures.



2017 Fannin Comprehensive Plan Open House

Housing Issues

ID **The issue is. . . .**

H-I-1 A lack of adequate, safe, affordable, and diverse housing for low income individuals, the elderly, and the average wage earner.

ID **The issue is. . . .**

H-I-2 The quantity of aging housing stock and substandard, dilapidated, and abandoned housing.

H-I-3 Too many foreclosed/vacant properties, including undeveloped and partially developed subdivisions.

Housing Opportunities

ID **The opportunity is to. . . .**

H-O-1 Utilize unique spaces for housing (downtown lofts, mill / warehouse conversions).

Natural and Cultural Resources Opportunities

ID **The opportunity is to. . . .**

NC-O-1 Maintain surface and groundwater quality throughout the region commensurate with federal and state regulations.

NC-O-2 Protect and preserve watersheds that comprise the principle source of public water supply for the region.

NC-O-3 Protect and preserve water quality, water sources, wildlife habitat, and

	recreational resources of major river corridors.
NC-O-4	Protect and preserve the steep sloped mountain ridges that comprise the significant views of the region.
NC-O-5	Plan, develop, identify, and market greenways and trails in the region to promote enjoyment of the outdoors, provide recreational opportunities for area residents and tourists, and encourage trail and greenway use for connectivity between places to live, work, and play.
NC-O-6	Enhance the preservation potential of regionally significant historic resources.

Community Facilities and Services Issues

ID	The issue is. . . .
CF-I-1	A lack of focus on regional recreation.

Community Facilities and Services Opportunities

ID	The opportunity is to. . . .
CF-O-1	Provide sufficient, economical public water supply, treatment, and distribution services and waste water collection and treatment services to accommodate future growth.
CF-O-2	Develop and maintain the urban service center's ability to provide basic infrastructure in support of the Regional Development Map.
CF-O-3	Improve telecommunication services to expand accessibility and speed of service to residential, business, and governmental sectors throughout the region.
CF-O-4	Manage solid waste facilities to emphasize long-term benefits and maximizes waste reduction consistent with the Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan.
CF-O-5	Improve the quality of local schools to bring them closer to state and national measurements in testing and retention.
CF-O-6	Develop a coordinated service delivery system for meeting the priority needs of senior citizens.
CF-O-7	Improve the access to primary care for underserved areas of the region.
CF-O-8	Expand services for low-income / disabled / homeless individuals.
CF-O-9	Expand mental health and substance abuse services.

Intergovernmental Coordination Issues

ID	The issue is. . . .
IC-I-1	A need of cooperation, coordination, and communication across jurisdictional boundaries.
IC-I-2	A need for multi-jurisdictional cooperation on common/key issues such as water, transportation, and economic development as a way of building partnerships across jurisdictional boundaries

Intergovernmental Coordination Opportunities

ID	The opportunity is to. . . .
IC-O-1	Increase coordination/cooperation with private industry.

Transportation Opportunities

ID	The opportunity is to. . . .
T-O-1	Provide for safe and efficient movement of people and goods through the region that will enhance economic growth.

Land Use Issues

ID	The issue is. . . .
LU-I-1	Too much sprawl development.
LU-I-2	Little encouragement for private green space conservation in development / more balance between development and conservation

Land Use Opportunities

ID	The opportunity is to. . . .
LU-O-1	Develop a coordinated long-term land use vision for the region that respects local land use plans and development plans.
LU-O-2	Maintain up-to-date Future Land Use Maps.

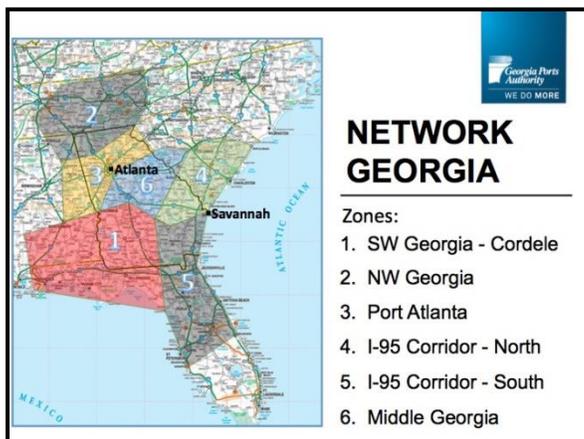
Regional Work Program 2018-2022

The Regional Work Program identifies specific actions that the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission will undertake over the next five years in its effort to successfully implement the Regional Plan and the identified Regional Priorities. The table of actions that follows also includes specific strategies that participants other than the Regional Commission may take to implement the Regional Plan.

These actions are separated into the following categories:

- **Planning and Coordination.** Activities performed by the Regional Commission to assist local governments and other regional participants to act consistently with the Regional Plan.
- **Review.** Activities performed by other participants in the region that require review and comment by the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission. The findings from reviews are advisory in nature.

Planning and Coordination Priorities and Actions are subdivided into seven categories by planning element (Economic Development, Housing, etc.).



Network Georgia coverage areas, Georgia Ports Authority.



May 2018 Appalachian Regional Port in construction.

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT											
ED-O-1 Diversify the region's economic base; ED-O-3 Retain the region's existing jobs.	Assist business and manufacturing to start up and/or expand in the region by investigating the feasibility of establishing additional business incubators.	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/ yr	
ED-I-1 Inadequate incentives and/or burdensome regulations. ED-O-1 Diversify the region's economic base.	Assist business & manufacturing to start up and/or expand by implementing NWGRC's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$20,000/yr	
	Assist business and manufacturing to start up and/or expand in the region by alternative financing assistance.	NGCDC, Inc.; local; state; fed.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$130,000/yr	
	Assist business & manufacturing to start up and/or expand by implementing NWGRC's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$20,000/yr	
	Prepare Urban Redevelopment Plans and Revitalization Area Strategies, Opportunity Zones and Enterprise Zones to promote redevelopment, revitalization, job creation and private investment	NWGRC, local governments	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$20,000/ yr	
	Identify and assist in preparing and administrating grant funds to implement local comprehensive plans, CEDS, Regional Agenda, local strategies and locally identified priority projects	NWGRC, local governments, development authorities	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$20,000/ yr	
ED-O-2, ED-O-3 Improve the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the region's workforce; retain the region's existing jobs.	Prepare and implement regional High Demand Career Initiative strategy for developing true career pathways to link post-secondary training institutions to offer needed certifications and degrees.	Legislators, businesses, Board of Regents, Department of Technical and Adult Education	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$20,000/ yr	
	Work with existing post-secondary training institutions	Legislators, businesses,	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$20,000/ yr	

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
	to discover gaps in services and fill these by: (a) establishing business symposiums to discuss service gaps and needed programs; (b) working with post-secondary training institutions to expand funding for facilities, programs and scholarships; (c) linking area colleges and vocational schools to provide more joint enrollment opportunities; (d) accredit technical schools so that credit can be transferred; and (e) seek interstate reciprocity for college tuition.	Board of Regents, Department of Technical and Adult Education									
	Administer WIOA Program	NWGRC, GA DOL	X	X	X	X	X		X	3,650,000.00	
	Encourage programs for workplace remediation for persons with substandard skills by: (a) encouraging worksite GED programs; (b) fostering worksite continuing education; and (c) encouraging worksite skills improvement labs.	Legislators, businesses, Board of Regents, Department of Technical and Adult Education	X	X	X	X	X			TBD	
	Pursue Georgia Ready for Accelerated Development (GRAD) certification for region's industrial sites	NWGRC, local governments, development authorities	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr	
	Assist the Rural Broadband Committee of the Regional Commission to prepare and implement regional and local strategies and projects to expand broadband provision in underserved areas of northwest Georgia	NWGRC, local governments, development authorities	X	X	X	X	X			\$10,000/ year	
ED-O-4 Recruit new business and industry.	Staff the North Georgia CDC including SBA504 and EDA RLF Loan Programs; market and expand loan programs; coordinate training programs for lenders and banks; administer loans; provide technical assistance to banks, companies, local governments, Chambers of Commerce, development authorities	NWGRC, CDC, local governments, business owners	X	X	X	X	X			Staff Time	
ED-O-5 Improve regional corridor development to	Administer the US Highway 27 Association with Southeast Georgia and Hwy 27 Board	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			TBD	

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
support industries; ED-O-6 Enhance Northwest Georgia's import/export capabilities through the Georgia ports and the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.	Assist local governments to implement Comprehensive Plans, CEDS and Regional Agenda including improvements needed to fully use Appalachian Regional Port and other regional transportation and infrastructure systems	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			X	\$10,000/yr
	Seek funding and technical assistance to develop regional and local farmers/growers groups to identify solutions for training, marketing and promotion, processing, distribution and other shared needs.	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X				TBD
ED-O-7 Develop a consortium of local food growers to share common issues and seek solutions.	Develop community-level plans, strategies, and inventories to promote and protect local agriculture and local food assets.	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X				\$5,000/ yr
	Assist Northwest Georgia Regional Food Hub in identification of funds, best practices, and participating farmers, and other assistance	NWGRC, local govt	X	X							\$5,000/yr
ED-O-8 Increase tourism visitation and visitor expenditures.	Assist local governments and other entities in developing new tourist attractions in the region which capitalize on the region's historic, cultural and natural resources.	NWGRC, GA DCA, GDEcD	X	X	X	X	X				\$5,000/yr
HOUSING											
H-I-1 A lack of adequate, safe, affordable, and diverse housing for low	Utilize State and Federal housing rehabilitation programs to preserve existing low cost housing stock for low income and elderly.	Local govts.	X	X	X	X	X				\$5,000/yr

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
income individuals, the elderly, and the average wage earner											
H-I-2 The quantity of aging housing stock and substandard, dilapidated, and abandoned housing.	Work with Preservation Commissions to develop historic districts and ordinances to preserve historic homes in key areas to maintain community and neighborhood character.	Local govts., historic pres. commissions	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr	
	Establish building and housing codes in communities where they do not exist to assure uniform, minimum standards for construction and maintenance of housing throughout the region.	Local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500 per community	
H-I-3 Too many foreclosed/vacant properties, including undeveloped and partially developed subdivisions.	Implement the Neighborhood Stabilization Program	NWGRC, GA DCA, Comm. Dev. Corps	X	X	X	X	X			\$8,-\$10 million	
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES											
NC-O-1 Maintain surface and groundwater quality throughout the region commensurate with federal and state regulations.	Educate citizens and local officials through workshops on water quality issues, current and future planning activities, and Federal and State programs. (Ref. Goal 6 and WC-1 of the Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Plan)	NWGRC, GA DNR, NGWRP	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr	
	Assist local governments with implementation of environmental protection standards for ground water recharge areas, water supply watersheds, wetlands, major river corridors, soil erosion and sediment control, and on-site sewage management systems. (Ref. Goal 2,	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr	

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
	WS-8 of the Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Plan)										
	Assist State and local governments with implementation of Source Water Protection (WS-8 of Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Plan).	NWGRC, GA EPD	X	X	X	X	X			\$20,000/yr.	
	Assist State and local governments with implementation of Total Maximum Daily Load requirements. (Ref. Goal 7, WQ-6, WQ-11 of the Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Plan)	NWGRC, GA EPD	X	X	X	X	X			\$60,000/yr.	
	Implement Water Plan, Grid Transmission Study, and Redundancy and Emergency Interconnectivity Study (recommendations consistent with Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Plan).	NWGRC, GA EPD, NGWRP	X	X	X	X	X			\$1,000/yr.	
NC-O-2, NC-O-3 Protect and preserve watersheds that comprise the principle source of public water supply for the region; Protect and preserve water quality, water sources, wildlife habitat, and recreational resources of major river corridors.	Sponsor and conduct workshops on Water Supply Watershed protection criteria and other methods of preserving these resources; and assist local governments with implementation of approved methods (WS-8 of Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Plan).	GA DCA, NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr	
NC-O-5 Plan, develop, identify, and market greenways and trails in the region to promote enjoyment of the outdoors, provide recreational opportunities	Assist local governments with development of and maintenance of greenspace plans.	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X			\$10,000/yr	
	Implement the Northwest Georgia Greenspace Conservation and Greenway Plan recommendations.	Local govts., NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr.	
	Assist local governments to implement the Georgia Plan for Outdoor Recreation 2017-2021 including development of additional public openspace and	Local govts, NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X			\$10,000/YR	

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
for area residents and tourists, and encourage trail and greenway use for connectivity between places to live, work, and play. CF-I-1 A lack of focus on regional recreation.	greenspace, preparation and implementation of recreation and greenspace plans, and where possible to connect to regional trails and greenspace corridors. In comprehensive plan updates, assist local communities to use the Georgia Public Park Inventory and other resources to plan for connections from downtowns and residential areas to natural areas and recreation resources where possible. Seek additional collaboration opportunities with DNR, DCA, GDEcD, and local governments.										
NC-O-4 Protect and preserve the steep sloped mountain ridges that comprise the significant views of the region; NC-O-6 Enhance the preservation potential of regionally significant historic resources.	Promulgate the Regional Resource Plan per Section 110-12-4-, 02(4) of Rules of Georgia Department of Community Affairs.	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr	
	Update or revise local comprehensive plans as required to address preservation needs of regionally significant historic resources and to call for coordination were appropriate.	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			\$10,000/yr	
NC-O-6 Enhance the preservation potential of regionally significant historic resources.	Work with local governments to prepare preservation master plans for rural historic districts, battlefields and other regionally significant resources with serious or complex preservation needs including historic county courthouse buildings.	NWGRC, GA DNR, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/yr	
	Offer preservation technical assistance to all local governments and nonprofit owners of regionally significant historic resources and provide them with	NWGRC, GA DNR	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/yr	

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
	“The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties”.										
	Provide technical assistance to local governments desiring to develop and implement local regulatory measures to protect historic resources.	NWGRC, local govts., GA DNR	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$10,000/yr	
	Plan for the preservation of the region’s historic districts and related properties.	NWGRC, state, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/yr.	
	Provide technical assistance with Historic Resource Survey projects including grant writing to local governments	NWGRC, local governments	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/ yr.	
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES											
CF-O-1 Provide sufficient, economical public water supply, treatment, and distribution services and waste water collection and treatment services to accommodate future growth.	Support and participate in the North Georgia Water Resources Partnership.	Local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$1,500/yr. for ea. local govt.	
	Provide administrative support to the Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Planning Council.	NWGRC, GMRC	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$35,000/yr.	
	Implement the Regional Water Plans prepared by the Regional Water Planning Councils.	Local govts., GA EPD	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/yr.	
	Coordinate with DNR, Corps of Engineers, adjoining state agencies, and local governments to plan and develop regional (multi-jurisdictional) water supply and storage facilities.	RC, local govts., GA DNR	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/yr	
	Assist local governments in maintaining and/or updating service delivery strategies that promote multi-jurisdictional water treatment and distribution services.	RC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/yr	
CF-O-2 Develop and maintain the urban service center’s ability to	Assist local governments with defining urban service areas and preparing capital improvements plans and budgets for extending services to these areas.	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$20,000/yr	

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
provide basic infrastructure in support of the Regional Development Map	Utilize Community Work Program and Service Delivery Strategy updates as a regional coordination mechanism to assure that service providers are coordinating in their efforts to serve the region with basic infrastructure.	NWGRC	X							X	\$5,000/yr
	Provide assistance to local governments in developing and securing financing alternatives for the extension of urban services.	NWGRC	X								\$40,000/yr
CF-O-3 Improve telecommunication services to expand accessibility and speed of service to residential, business, and governmental sectors throughout the region	Create a partnership of telecommunications providers; business and industry, public institutions, and government to sponsor and conduct regional forums on how telecommunications technology can be used to expand economic development.	Local govts., GA DCA Region 1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	\$5,000/yr.
	Coordinate local telecommunications infrastructure such as fiber networks where such systems are lacking.	Local govts., GA DCA Region 1	X	X	X	X	X				\$5,000/yr.
CF-O-4 Manage solid waste facilities to emphasize long-term benefits and maximizes waste reduction consistent with the Georgia Solid Waste Management Plan.	Provide resources and assistance to local governments as requested; assist with update of Polk County Solid Waste Mgmt Plan.	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X				\$5,000/yr.
CF-O-5 Improve the quality of local schools to bring them closer to state and national measurements in testing and retention.	Implement findings of Aspen Institute Communities that Work Partnership including coordination between College and Career Academies	BOE, public health organizations, judiciary system, Family and Children Services, Head Start, religious organizations, NWGRC (grant writing), Great	X	X	X	X	X				\$5,000/yr.

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
		Promise Partnerships									
	Implement Great Promise Partnerships and at-risk youth programs throughout Region	BOE, GA DOE, COC, NWGRC (information clearinghouse), Great Promise Partnerships	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr.	
	Seek funding for STEM, robotics, other academic and skill development programs in K-12 schools	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/yr.	
CF-O-6 Develop a coordinated service delivery system for meeting the priority needs of senior citizens	Work with the State and local governments to address the priority needs identified in the Area Agency on Aging Plan including: (a) transportation; (b) legal assistance; (c) adult day care; (d) nutrition services; (e) health care; (f) housing and home maintenance; (g) long-term care and protective services; (h) employment; and (i) recreation/social opportunities among seniors, care givers.	NWGRC, GA DHR, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/yr	
	Provide advocacy role through information sharing on services, tax breaks for elderly.	NWGRC, GA DHR	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/yr.	
	Administer the Area Agency on Aging to provide wide spectrum of supportive services for seniors.	NWGRC, GA DHR	X	X	X	X	X			\$4,300,000/yr.	
CF-O-7 Improve the access to primary care for underserved areas of the region.	Work with health care service providers, local governments, and chambers of commerce to recruit physicians to underserved communities.	District health offices, local govts., COC, local health care providers.	X	X	X	X	X				
	Educate citizens on preventative health care and wellness programs.	Local health care providers	X	X	X	X	X				
	Work with health care providers, local governments and chambers of commerce to recruit additional OB/GYN physicians and general surgeons to area.	Local health care providers	X	X	X	X	X				
	Work with health care service providers, local governments, and chambers of commerce to attract additional dental professional to area and increase	Local health care providers	X	X	X	X	X				

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
	capacity for indigent dental services especially for children.										
	Work with health care service providers, local governments and others to obtain additional geriatric care and control cost of medications for the elderly.	Local health care providers	X	X	X	X	X				
	Work with health care service providers to improve family support and intervention services including: (a) dental services for children; (b) affordable health care insurance; (c) school based nurses; (d) additional mental health services; and (e) marriage/divorce counseling support services.	Local health care providers	X	X	X	X	X				
CF-O-8 Expand services for low-income / disabled / homeless individuals.	Work with health care and social service providers to improve services for low-income, disabled, and homeless individuals.	Federal, state, local	X	X	X	X	X				
CF-O-8 Expand services for low-income / disabled / homeless individuals.	Work with health care and social service providers to improve mental health and substance abuse services.	Federal, state, local	X	X	X	X	X				
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION											
IC-I-1 A need of cooperation, coordination, and communication across jurisdictional boundaries. IC-I-2 A need for multi-jurisdictional cooperation on common/key issues such as water, transportation, and	Implement Thrive 2055 Regional Planning Initiative in Dade, Catoosa, Walker, Whitfield, Murray Counties (economic development, natural resources, Workforce development coordinated strategies	NWGRC	X	X	X	X	X				\$20,000.00
	Prepare Local Update of Census Addresses in preparation for Census 2020	NWGRC	X	X	X						\$117,652.00
	Develop training and outreach materials, media, promotion and branding for Regional Commission services and assistance and for local governments	NWGRC, local govts.				X	X	X			

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
economic development as a way of building partnerships across jurisdictional boundaries											
IC-O-1 Increase coordination/ cooperation with private industry.	Increase coordination with Chambers of Commerce and economic development authorities.	NWGRC, COC, Dev. Auth.	X	X	X	X	X				\$5,000/yr.
TRANSPORTATION											
T-O-1 Provide for safe and efficient movement of people and goods through the region that will enhance economic growth.	Assist local governments with implementation of regional bike and pedestrian facilities plans; coordinate and facilitate Bike! Walk! Northwest Georgia as repository of intermodal transportation best practices.	NWGRC, GDOT	X	X	X	X	X				\$10,000/yr
	Promote improved east-west transportation corridors within the region.	NWGRC, GDOT	X	X	X	X	X				\$2,000/yr
	Encourage regional transportation projects through public-private partnerships.	NWGRC, GDOT	X	X	X	X	X				\$10,000/yr
	Provide planning, coordination and technical assistance to MPOs and local transportation departments to implement transportation and transit plans and provide for regional transportation solutions (Bartow MPO, Dalton MPO, Atlanta MPO, Chattanooga TPO, Rome-Floyd TPO)	NWGRC, GDOT	X	X	X	X	X				\$10,000/yr
	Provide Safe Routes to School planning and coordination, and outreach and technical assistance to schools and local governments in the region	NWGRC, GDOT	X	X	X	X	X				\$10,000/yr

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
	Coordinate with federal and state transportation agencies, the Atlanta Regional Commission (Atlanta MPO), Chattanooga/Hamilton County/North Georgia TPO, Rome-Floyd County MPO, Greater Dalton MPO, Cartersville-Bartow County MPO, and local governments to strengthen regional transportation planning and priority setting.	RC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			\$15,000/yr	
	Coordinate with transportation agencies and local governments to plan and determine feasibility of expanding alternative transportation modes such as (a) high-speed and commuter rail connecting the region to Atlanta and Chattanooga; (b) Amtrak service through region; (c) expanding services of local bus systems; and (d) linking county bus systems to existing and future mass transit system.	RC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X			\$15,000/yr	
LAND USE											
LU-O-1 Develop a coordinated long-term land use vision for the region that respects local land use plans and development plans. LU-O-2 Maintain up-to-date Future Land Use Maps.	Prepare and update the Northwest Georgia Regional Plan, 2013-2033.	NWGRC	X	X						20,000.00	
	Prepare and update local comprehensive plans.	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/YR	
LU-I-1 Too much sprawl	Encourage rehabilitation and reuse of property with	Local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/YR	

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
development.	current infrastructure.										
LU-I-2 Little encouragement for private green space conservation in development / more balance between development and conservation	Devise and promote the use of incentives in local development regulations to encourage developers to utilize open space conservation land development practices, and assist local governments to implement.	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/YR	
	Assist local governments to update zoning and land use ordinances to meet requirements under Georgia law; provide guidance on best practices; provide training and technical assistance	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$10,000/YR	
	Provide coordinated regional reviews for Developments of Regional Impact	NWGRC, local govts.	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$5,000/YR	
H-O-1 Utilize unique spaces for housing (downtown lofts, mill / warehouse conversions).	Amend zoning ordinances and building codes to address housing needs	Local govts., DDAs, Main Street programs	X	X	X	X	X		X	10,000.00	
IC-I-2 A need for multi-jurisdictional cooperation on common/key issues such as water, transportation, and economic development as a way of building partnerships across jurisdictional boundaries		NWGRC, local govts.								\$5,000/YR	
	Develop training and outreach materials, media, promotion and branding for Regional Commission services and assistance and for local governments				X	X	X				

Regional Review and Coordination

These activities are not necessarily associated with a specific Need or Opportunity but are undertaken to ensure that plan review and coordination of local and regional projects occurs in concert with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and other state agencies.

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022										
Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Cost	
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Long term		Ongoing
REGIONAL REVIEW AND COORDINATION	Initiate the local plan review process, coordinate the review, and take action on local government plans (comprehensive plans, capital improvement elements, CIE updates, or plan amendments) pursuant to DCA Rules, Chapter 110-12-1 and additional standards in the DCA contract scope of services.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/YR
	Review all Developments of Regional Impact within the region, adhering to DCA Rules, Chapter 110-12-3.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$7,500/ YR
	Review Developments of Regional Impact located within one mile of any area included on the Regionally Important Resources Map and recommend such developments be designed in accordance with the adopted best practices.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/YR
	Provide Section 106/environmental review advisory comments for GDOT projects, telecommunications structures, CDBG projects, and other projects, as requested, regarding their potential effects on cultural resources.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$7,500/YR
	Review local government applications for EDA funding for consistency with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs).	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/YR
	Review and comment on long-range transportation plans for consistency with the Regional Plan.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/YR
	Review and comment on applications for federal or state grant/loan/permit assistance by local governments and other applicants within the region in accordance with provisions of	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$10,000/YR

NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM 2018-2022

Need/ Opportunity	Activity	Partners							Long term	Ongoing	Cost
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022				
	the Georgia Intergovernmental Consultation Process (Executive Order 12372).										
	Initiate the local plan review process, coordinate the review, and take action on local government plans (comprehensive plans, capital improvement elements, CIE updates, or plan amendments) pursuant to DCA Rules, Chapter 110-12-1 and additional standards in the DCA contract scope of services.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$5,000/YR	
	Review all Developments of Regional Impact within the region, adhering to DCA Rules, Chapter 110-12-3.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$7,500/YR	
	Review Developments of Regional Impact located within one mile of any area included on the Regionally Important Resources Map and recommend such developments be designed in accordance with the adopted best practices.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/YR	
	Provide Section 106/environmental review advisory comments for GDOT projects, telecommunications structures, CDBG projects, and other projects, as requested, regarding their potential effects on cultural resources.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$7,500/YR	
	Review local government applications for EDA funding for consistency with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs).	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/YR	
	Review and comment on long-range transportation plans for consistency with the Regional Plan.	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$2,500/YR	
REGIONAL REVIEW AND COORDINATION	Review and comment on applications for federal or state grant/loan/permit assistance by local governments and other applicants within the region in accordance with provisions of the Georgia Intergovernmental Consultation Process (Executive Order 12372).	RC	X	X	X	X	X			\$10,000/YR	

Public Hearing Documentation Tuesday, May 15, 2018

A public hearing on the Annual Update to the 2014 Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda was advertised and held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 in the Rome office of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission. The hearing notice was sent to all newspapers and radio stations in the Northwest Georgia region. The hearing was advertised in the Tuesday, May 8, 2018 *Rome News-Tribune* and as a Public Service Announcement in the Wednesday, May 9, 2018 *Chatsworth Times*. The hearing was also advertised by posting on the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission message boards at the Dalton and Rome offices, and on the www.nwgrc.org website.

Hearing Notice on the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission website, www.nwgrc.org



The screenshot shows the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (NWGRC) website. The header includes the NWGRC logo and a seal for the Certified Organization of Ethics. The navigation menu contains: Home, About, Services, Our Region, Meetings & Announcements, Publications, and Contact. The breadcrumb trail reads: You are here: Home » Meetings & Announcements » Public Hearing Notice – Draft Annual Update to the Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda – May 15, 2018. The main content area features the title "Public Hearing Notice – Draft Annual Update to the Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda – May 15, 2018" and a sub-header "Published on May 04, 2018 in Meetings & Announcements". Below this, there are two links: "Public Hearing Notice – Draft Annual Update to the Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda" and "DRAFT Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda Annual Update 2018-2019". A sidebar on the right contains two sections: "Meetings & Announcements" with a list of recent meetings (May 17, 2018; May 2, 2018; April 19, 2018; April 19th, 2018; March 15, 2018) and "Recent Publications" with a list of recent documents (Bartow County Joint Comprehensive Plan 2018-2028; DRAFT Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda Annual Update 2018-2019; DRAFT Pickens County Joint Comprehensive Plan 2018-2028).

Hearing Notice in Tuesday, May 8, 2018 *Rome News-Tribune* (Following Page)

HOMETOWN HEADLINES



ARMUOREE GRAD SPEAKS AT UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA COLLEGE OF EDUCATION'S 2018 CONVOCATION Emily Wallace, a 2014 graduate of Armstrong High School, delivers the student address at the University of Georgia College of Education's 2018 Convocation on May 3. Emily is graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. Upon graduation, Emily will immediately return to the University of Georgia where she has been accepted into the Graduate Program to complete a Masters Degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. Emily is the daughter of Mark and Renee Wallace of Armstrong.



COOSA VALLEY FAIR ASSOCIATION MAKES ITS ANNUAL DONATION TO POLK COUNTY SCHOOLS ART DEPARTMENT In last week's Boyd County Board of Education meeting, past President and current Secretary of the Coosa Valley Fair Association Ryan Shaw presented a check for \$1,800 to Polk County Schools. This is just one of the many ways proceeds from the Coosa Valley Fair are put back into our community, says current Coosa Valley Fair Association President Barbara Sena. Past and current Secretary of the Coosa Valley Fair Association Ryan Shaw (from left), attorney for Polk County school system King Akbar and Boyd County Board of Education Superintendent John Jackson.

Photo: News Tribune's Hometown Headlines is looking for some good news, and contributors to Missing Caller John Bailey at hometownheadlines@NWTV.net or call 708-296-2022.

CHASE from A1

Shaney cited it being early on in the investigation in saying he was not sure of the number of shots fired by McCann or police. He also said officials are still looking into the type of gun she used and whether or not she had any outstanding warrants.

According to Polk County police reports McCann had a verbal con-

frontation with Polk County police on Sunday and her mother reports she had detention police were out to get her.

On Sunday at 9:28 a.m. McCann called police to her Harris Circle home then got in a heated verbal confrontation with officers. She went back in her home and police left. She later called 911 saying police had been shooting at her and her dog.

Later that afternoon, around 8:20 p.m., there were calls of shots fired

at her home. Police arrived and she spoke with 311 dispatchers saying everything was OK and she did not call after another spoke with Polk County officials and stated McCann had a history of detentions that police were following her and had possibly been committed several times. McCann's mother also said on Sunday she was likely not taking her medication.

U.S. 411 was opened back up at 8 p.m. after traffic had been halted at the intersection for several

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

The Boys from Tubino/Cejaese will meet for breakfast today at 8:30 a.m. at Landmark Restaurant, 2746 Martha Berry Highway.

Hayman HospiceCare at Boyd will hold a special night memorial service honoring patients and families at 6 p.m. today at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 311 N. Broad St. The event will be a quiet affair with prayer and music. A reception in the parish hall will follow the service. Parking will be available behind the church. For more information call 706-695-6070. Seating is limited. No cash or check donations are required.

The Greater Rome Society for Human Resource Management will meet at Hometown Saloon, 119 Second Ave., today from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dinner and coffee is open during the meeting and will be presenting "The Covid Crisis: Considerations for employers."

WEDNESDAY

The Popperell High School Class of 1968 will have a Luncheon Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at the Landmark Restaurant, 2746 Martha Berry Highway. For more information call Chaeve Harlan at 708-296-2114.

MULTIDAY EVENTS

Rome City Schools will host transitioning to kindergarten parent workshops on Monday at 7 p.m. and Tuesday at West End Elementary on Tuesday at 6 p.m. at West Central Elementary on May 10 at 6 p.m. at East Central Elementary on May 11 at 6 p.m. at North Highland Elementary on May 18 at 6 p.m. at Hill Street Elementary. To RSVP or ask questions call Ginger Rowner at 706-695-6269 ext. 5034 or email groner@rcs.k12.ga.us.

Chatham Museum/Major Ridge Home, 501 Riverside Parkway, will present an exhibit on the history of the organization in Rome and Floyd County titled "A Legacy of Service: The Junior Service League of Rome through May 31." The exhibit includes seven text panels and chronicles the history and achievements of the Junior Service League from its beginning in 1904 through the present. Admission to the exhibit is included with regular museum admission. For more information contact the museum at 706-695-6269 or visit their website at www.chathamuseum.org.

One Community United and the Rome Art College are sponsoring an art exhibit for the 2018 One Table event. Anyone interested in submitting art depicting the message of One Table should contact Heidi Manner in person at Yellow Door Antiques, 219 N. Fifth Ave., or via Facebook. The deadline will be June 1. Winning artwork will become the property of One Community United to use in promotional materials for One Table on Sept. 29.

The Coosa River Basin Initiative is seeking business and school civic and church groups to participate in Rome's Big Boat on June 2. More than 1,000 people are needed to create a floating chain of inner tubes and inner tubes. Regular registration is \$25, with children 12 and younger \$10. Group registration rates are available. Participants receive a water tube rental and shuttle service to and from the river. Afterwards there will be food, music and games at Heritage Park. For more information about group participation and event sponsorship email Shirley Vance at shirley@coosariver.org. For more information contact Steve Damschroder at 706-695-2724 or steve@coosariver.org.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Oak Hill & The Martha Berry Museum will present "Secretary of Berry: WWII's Photography by Sara Berger" through Aug. 19. The exhibition features Berry College's collection, including a variety of prints, negatives, and records. Berry locals and community members will present historical photographs during the Berry College exhibit, which has been sponsored and made possible through the generous support of Oak Hill & The Martha Berry Museum. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for senior citizens and \$2 for students. For more information visit www.oakhill.org.

Howard Finster's Paradise Garden, 223 N. Lewis St., Semmesville, will host Finster Fest at May 20-27 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. The festival will feature more than 50 artists. The event will feature a children's art activity area and tours of Paradise Garden. Admission is \$5, free parking is available at the event, 13427 U.S. 27, Trice, with a charge to the grounds provider. Handicap accessible parking is available on-site. For more information visit www.paradisegarden.com or call 706-695-6269.

Heritage Square will host Herit Through History on May 11 at 10:30 a.m. at Hill Street Elementary, 20 North St., from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event highlights Herit Providence March and is designed in cooperation with the Office of Downtown Development and the Rome City Planning Department. The event will feature live music by the Baroque Tappan and local food trucks. Guest artists led by local artist Heather Ryan Pitts will visit at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. A Herit Circle tent will be set up in the grassy area at the base of Myrtle Hill across from Herit Providence. Tables will be available for setting up items donated for picketing. Outdoor games will be in play including French checkers and cornhole. For more information search for Herit Through History's Facebook event.

Habitat for Humanity Coosa Valley is accepting applications for the "A Treat with Kindness" program. The program assists homeowners in Floyd County by painting and performing minor repairs on the exterior of their homes. The homeowner pays the cost of the materials and supplies through a no interest loan. Applications may be posted up at the Redden, 95 Stone Street Drive. There is a \$10 fee for a background check. Homeowners will be required to make a 10-percent down payment on the estimated cost of the project.

To fill an event email Northwest@NWTV.net or call 708-296-2022.



Darlington senior Stacy Chen plays Alice Benke in the school musical "The Addams Family."

SENIOR from A1

At first, it was hard to break into the school and make new friends, with the majority of the students "Darablers" having grown up together.

Chen said she found friends in the students like her who also came in during eighth-grade.

By her freshman year, she was involved in swimming, golf and rowing, which she did not realize was such a stressful sport until her first practice—in which she ended with a friend and a 5K run and 3K row. However, she stuck with rowing for all four years.

But Chen credits her breakthrough to the moment of her participation

in the winter musical her junior year, was an opportunity for her to be a part of the school. She went with her best friend and she also performed in the school's production of "The Addams Family" her senior year, turning from a shy person to a crony person, she said. A friend is something she plans to continue on the side while at college.

The one experience Chen said she missed up her time at Darlington was rowing. Darlington's commencement ceremony will be held May 18 at 6:30 a.m. at the Morris Chapel Lawn. In the event of rain, it will be held in the A.J. Man Center.

"It is going to be a great," Chen said of her emotions that day.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

The Northwest Georgia Regional Commission has prepared a draft annual update to the 2014 Northwest Georgia Regional Agenda in accordance with the Standards and Procedures for Regional Planning, Chapter 110-12-6. The annual update includes a Report of Accomplishments on projects and strategies completed in 2016-2017, a discussion of minimum planning standards and any local governments not meeting those standards, and a new work program for actions the Regional Commission and partner organizations will undertake in Northwest Georgia for 2018-2022.

This annual draft update has been prepared with review and consideration of the Northwest Georgia Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the Coosa-North Georgia Regional Water Plan, Georgia's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Metropolitan Planning Organization transportation plans, and adjacent Regional Commissions' regional plans.

A public hearing is scheduled for the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission to accept comments on the draft annual update. After the public hearing and receipt of public comment, the draft update will be submitted to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs by June 30, 2018.

The public hearing on the draft annual update will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at 10:00 am at the Rome office of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, 1 Jackson Hill Drive, Rome, GA 30161.

Copies of the draft plan will be available for review at the Rome and Dalton offices of the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission and on the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission website, www.nwgrc.org.

Adoption Resolution