



Southwest Georgia  
Regional Commission

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## Housing

A mission of RC is to provide access to adequate and affordable housing to the citizens of Southwest Georgia by supporting and providing the following programs and services:

### Housing Needs Assessments

- Survey, classification and description of the houses in a neighborhood or target area along with a photograph of each unit
- The information collected is mapped using GPS technology and aerial photography

### Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- Development of CDBG applications and administration

### Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP)

- Development of CHIP applications and administration

### Southwest Georgia Housing Task Force (SWGHTF)

- **Educational Sessions** Held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month throughout the region
- **Housing Conferences** Conducted annually by the SWGHTF and its partners
- **On-Site Housing Fair** May be held in partnership with various employers and organizations



## Contact Our Planning Staff

### Planning Staff

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# Planning & Development Services



**Giving Local Governments  
Tools to Make  
Informed Decisions**

**T**he Planning Department undertakes a variety of projects that can generally be put in two categories: Long Range Planning and Current Planning.

**Long Range Planning** is a continual process of developing goals and objectives for a better future. It involves the inventory of resources such as land, natural and cultural, economic, human, governmental and others. After an analysis of the current state of these resources, a vision is created for the future.

**Current Planning** is the development of activities that act to implement Long Range Planning. These include zoning and subdivision regulations, grant writing and educational activities among other activities to help the communities better serve their residents.

## General Governmental Services

The SWGRC assists local governments to ensure compliance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 by providing the following assistance and services:

- State Intergovernmental Consultation Services
- Annexation Studies
- Statewide Local Government Survey Assistance
- Impact Fee Consultation
- Tax Assessment and Revenues

## Planning and Zoning

- Community Visioning and Design
- Comprehensive Plans
- Subdivision Ordinances
- Service Delivery Strategies
- Community Work Programs
- Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Ordinances
- Developments of Regional Impact
- Population & Demographic Analyses
- Recreation Plans
- Land Use Management
- Adoption of Building/Condemnation Programs



## Grant Writing & Administration



### Grant Funding Search

- Searching and developing a list of funding resources

### Grant Proposal Development

- Writing and developing grant applications
- Consulting, needs assessments, and brainstorming workable solutions
- Cultivating goals and objectives
- Evaluation plans, proofreading, and submitting to funding source

### Grant Proposal Review

- Proofreading completed proposals making sure it meets Request for Proposal and funding guidelines
- Evaluating proposal, identifying weaknesses and offering suggestions

### Grant Administration

- Assisting local municipalities and staffs in obtaining and managing grant awards that support governmental activities while assuring proper stewardship of those funds.

## Environmental Planning

### Solid Waste Management

- Most solid waste plans in our region are updated by the RC every ten years.

### Water Resources Management

- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Planning

## Economic Development

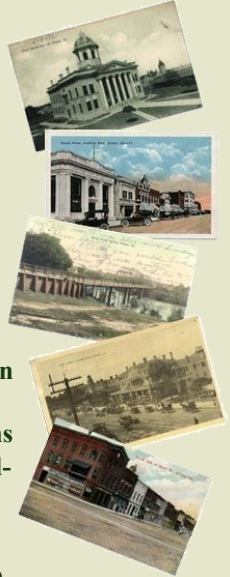
The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission works with member governments to promote strong economic and community development by providing:

- Technical Assistance for Industry Retention and Business Recruitment
- Administration of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
- Assistance in Securing Economic And Community Development Based Grants and Loans.
- Tourism Development
- Employment Incentive Program

## Historic Preservation

The Historic Preservation Planning program at the Southwest Georgia RC started in the mid 1970s. Its purpose is to assist the local governments and interested citizens of the region with anything related to the preservation of buildings, places, sites and neighborhoods. A variety of services are offered. These include:

- National Register Nominations
- Grant Writing
- Downtown Revitalization Strategies
- Design Assistance
- Tax Incentive Assistance
- Historic Preservation Commission Guidance
- Development of Local Regulations
- Mitigation/Documentation Guidance



## Transportation

The SWGRC is currently able to assist with basic transportation studies and is working with local and state governments to ensure the overall provision of a safe and efficient transportation system within the region through the following initiatives:

### GDOT and DHS Regional Transit Service

- Administer the regional transit service on behalf of the 14-county region in coordination with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Department of Human Resources (DHS)

### GDOT Planning Programs

- Assist local governments and the region as a whole in implementing the following GDOT Planning Programs:
  - Transportation Enhancement
  - Safe Routes to School
  - Scenic Byways
  - Bike and Pedestrian Planning
  - Rural Public Transit Planning
- Assist local governments in creating American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plans as required by GDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)