

A Well-Planned Community

Carefully determine where growth and development should go and then allocate resources and available infrastructure to support it.

Accomplished or On-Going

- Annual reviews of the Strategic Plan were completed and prioritized and are ongoing
- Report Card is updated with available community data
- All Troup County governmental entities have submitted, or are updating, Comprehensive Plans to submit to the Ga Department of Community Affairs
- Spatial planning has been done through the future land use maps of each entity but coordinated planning is to be done.
- Troup County Government implemented the land planning review done by Georgia Tech and developed a score card that encourages development where infrastructure investment has already been made

A Prosperous Community

Raise the standard and quality of living for citizens through higher performance economic development that provides a diverse mixture of opportunities and strategically preparing the workforce to access those opportunities

Accomplished or On Going:

- The Troup County Works website was created and has been a source for Troup County residents to access local jobs and needed information in the job search process. In addition to being a static location for information, the website is also a means to provide updated information with email blasts.

Used by thousands of residents and hundreds of local employers since its inception, TCW website has been updated and rebranded OneSmartCookie.jobs. Improvements include more user-friendly features for both employers and job seekers in addition to being mobile-friendly. The site is more appealing to a wider and younger audience of job seekers. The next task is to continue promoting OneSmartCookie.jobs to grow employer registration and individual registrations.

- Staff worked with the Workforce Development Committee to create a model fast track training program called Troup Trained to give needed skills to workers facing barriers to getting into the workplace. This program has become a model and is being implemented statewide through the Technical College system with funding through WIA
- The Workforce Development Committee is studying local career awareness programs for the emerging workforce and looking to better ways to connect Troup County youth to careers.
- With the assistance of a Georgia Work Ready Grant, seven Career Development Seminars were held throughout the county from 2010-2011. These were designed to provide hands on assistance to job seekers with interviewing, resume writing and other needed information for reentry into the workplace. These seminars have been adapted and are being carried out by New Community Church in partnership with the Employer Committee of the Department of Labor on a monthly basis.
- The model for the community Career Development Seminars was used to provide a daylong seminar for selected High School Seniors who were ready to move into the workforce directly from high school.
- The Workforce Development Committee is doing research on how to better connect Troup County Youth to careers.
- Troup County State Court, Drug Court and LaGrange Municipal Court are incorporating referrals to GED for terms of probation.

A Caring Community

Meet the individual needs of all citizens and foster a strong, cohesive sense of community.

Accomplished or On Going:

- Strategic Planning provided the support to begin a poverty initiative called Move the Mountain (later renamed nationally to Circles) to address poverty in Troup County. This decision was made after much study and community input. Circles for Troup County has graduated more than four “classes” assisting more than 40 families to date.
- Troup BELL has implemented parents as educators in targeted areas to increase the number of children entering kindergarten ready to learn. This program is now being targeted to residents of the Housing Authority with funding from the Authority.

- United Way provides resources to funded agencies for basic subsistence (food, clothing, and shelter), relief for victims of disasters, emergency shelter for domestic violence victims, and health and well-being of senior citizens.
- Circle of Care is working to reduce the percentage of secondary pregnancies to teen moms.
- The Troup County Health Departments and District IV Health Services coordinated Teen Maze to create an experiential learning environment to assist Troup County ninth graders in making healthy decisions regarding drugs, sex and safety. This is being offered again in the fall.
- The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Task Force continues to meet regularly to develop a comprehensive plan to provide a variety of educational opportunities and resources to prevent teen pregnancy.
- The Sexual Assault Response Team has brought area resources together to develop and implement a coordinated protocol sensitive to victims. There continues to be a challenge to train more as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners.
- The Emmaus House has implemented warming stations during the winter months.
- The Troup County Homeless Coalition was formed and that group is addressing homelessness issues in Troup County

A Quality-Governance Community

Seek ways for local governments to work together and foster greater opportunities for citizen engagement.

Accomplishing or On Going:

- Many government projects are being done jointly. (See Report Card for list)
- Troup County Government and the City of LaGrange have a shared GIS system. (See Report Card for available tools.)
- LaGrange, West Point, Hogansville and Troup County have developed positive working relationships to better meet the needs of the public.
- LaGrange-Troup County Chamber coordinates Leadership Troup and Youth Leadership and maintains an alumni list

A Healthy Community

Emphasize wellness and prevention of disease with access to quality, affordable health care.

Accomplishing or On Going:

- The Mental Health Task Force is currently studying local mental health resources and is promoting a Mental Health Court.
- Troup County Government and LaGrange College have entered into a joint agreement to provide employees and their families with a community clinic to improve health and reduce costs. The clinic start-up was October, 2011
- West Georgia Health has conducted a Community Benefit Needs Assessment
- Strategic Planning partnered with the LaGrange-Troup County Chamber of Commerce, District 4 Public Health, West Georgia Health and the Heart of West Georgia to create HealthyTroup.org. The site is slated to be used as a central repository for health-related topics and activities in the Community
- West Point has begun West Point Stays Fit – Childhood Obesity Program

A Knowledge-Driven Community

Provide the opportunity for an excellent and competitive education for all ages.

Accomplished or On Going:

Early Childhood:

- Success by Six Program provides education support for early childhood programs
- Troup BELL is providing in home support to target families to improve Kindergarten readiness.

K-12 Students:

- The new thINC College and Career Academy will open its doors to approximately 500 students in the Fall of 2015. Set to provide educational excellence in Mechatronics, STEM, Health Science, Energy Systems, Marketing & Communications, thINC will provide students authentic workplace curriculum in a hands-on environment

- TCSS has multiple programs in place to assist students at risk of not succeeding and completing school. (See TCS Tab on Updated Strategic Plan Spreadsheet)
- Monitor grade level mastery. (CRCT stats-See Report Card)
- Monitor High School Graduation rate and dropout rate. (See Report Card)

An Environmental-Steward Community

**Preserve green space and the natural environs; protect natural resources;
promote clean development.**

Accomplishing or On Going

- An 18-mile stretch of Interstate 85, which encompasses the LaGrange and West Point exits, is the new Ray C Anderson Foundation's Mission Zero Corridor. The corridor is a preeminent demonstration of cutting edge, innovative and sustainable approaches to highway design, stewardship and management. Opportunities abound for the community to expand its environmental efforts in concert with this highway project.
- West Point Lake Coalition is acting on behalf of the entire county to protect quality and quantity of water in West Point Lake.
- Troup Alive and Green has been established and supported by the Chamber and Governments to coordinate, inform and support environmental stewardship through a partnership with Keep Troup Beautiful, Troup Tremendous and the Chamber Beautification Committee.
- DASH is promoting infill development and the adaptation of vacant and underutilized sites within urbanized areas.

A Good Habitat Community

**Increasing the availability of quality housing that is affordable and safe;
emphasizing "neighborhood" development.**

Accomplished or On Going

- West Point has completed the 10th Street Redevelopment Plan which includes redevelopment of affordable housing.
- DASH is working in LaGrange to redevelop sustainable and affordable housing.

- DASH is working with Hogansville on an affordable housing project.
- PUD ordinances assist with mixed use concept. Some type has been addressed by all jurisdictions.
- City of LaGrange continues to deal with dilapidated properties through code enforcement.
- Hogansville, through SPLOST funding, will begin to address dilapidated and unsafe structures.

An Attractive Community

Foster appealing gateways into the community; retain the “small town” charm; encourage aesthetically pleasing development; promote ongoing beautification.

Accomplished or On Going:

- Troup Alive and Green is now the umbrella organization for preserving and enhancing the environment.
- Troup County Archives maintains inventory of historically and architecturally significant buildings.

An Entertaining Community

Provide a diverse menu of recreational, cultural, dining, shopping, and other amenities for families and residents of all ages.

Accomplished or On Going

- A new downtown entertainment venue – Sweetland Amphitheater – will feature new parking area, 40,000 sf of lawn space, and a 1,200-seat amphitheater in the historic Boyd Park area. The amphitheater is scheduled to open in the Spring of 2016.
- Troup County Parks and Recreation is providing excellent recreational programming.
- West Point through their 10th Street Redevelopment Plan has laid the groundwork for an enhanced recreation complex that includes an indoor facility. SPLOST funds will be used.

Community Accomplishments

July, 2009 - July, 2015

- The Chamber and Downtown Development Authorities of all three cities are providing multiple entertaining opportunities including festivals.
- LaGrange has purchased a major piece of property in downtown LaGrange in order to ensure development that meets the needs of the citizens and the business community.