

**WALKER COUNTY  
JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN  
2012 - 2032**

**Community Participation Program**

**Prepared for:**

**Walker County and Cities of Lafayette, Chickamauga, Lookout  
Mountain, and Rossville**

**Northwest Georgia Regional Commission  
Rome, Georgia**

**April 28, 2011**

## **Acknowledgements**

### **Walker County**

Sole Commissioner Bebe Heiskell

### **City of LaFayette**

Mayor Neal Florence  
Council Member Andy Arnold  
Council Member Norm Hodge  
Council Member William J. (Bill) Craig  
Council Member Eric Tallent  
Council Member Wayne Swanson

### **City of Chickamauga**

Mayor Ray Crowder  
Council Member Randal Dalton  
Council Member Robert Robertson  
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Council Member James Staub  
Council Member Daymon Garrett  
Council Member Juanita Crowder

### **City of Rossville**

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Council Member Rick Buff  
Council Member Teddy Harris  
Council Member Hal Gray, Jr.  
Council Member Joyce Wall

### **Lookout Mountain**

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Council Member Catherine Kelley  
Council Member Alexander "Sandy" Gothard  
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Council Member David Bennett  
Council Member Blair Ramey

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## **1.0 Introduction**

Walker County and the Cities of LaFayette, Rossville, Chickamauga, and Lookout Mountain have a good planning record and have completed a full comprehensive plan in the past. The current leadership of the respective governments acknowledge their desire to maintain their Qualified Local Government status and consent to prepare a new comprehensive plan document in compliance with State requirements. As such, this citizen participation plan is one of the early steps in the planning process and intends to convey the multiple methodologies that will be employed to solicit the participation and comments of as many citizens as possible, as well as the input from various committees, advisory boards, agencies, and groups that might have a viewpoint about the future look and direction of Walker County and its cities.

### **1.1 Purpose**

The development of this new Comprehensive Plan intends to enhance and strengthen all previous planning efforts by creating opportunities for citizens to work collaboratively on the challenges that shape their community. The intent is to ensure that realistic issues and opportunities are identified, so that a functional community agenda and work program can be established. Good elected leadership is the prime starting point followed by the contributions of experienced governmental staff members. Then, the citizenry themselves, a mix of viewpoints and experiences and education, is important to the final plan product. This Community Participation Program is designed to establish communication between local citizens and their government officials, with the overall goal of making better decisions and creating an overall Comprehensive Plan that is supported by the public.

The Community Participation Program provides a specific schedule to guide the development of the Community Agenda, including planned community participation events or meetings at key points during the process. This document includes three required steps described in sections below:

- Identification of Stakeholders
- Identification of Participation Techniques
- Schedule for Completion of the Community Agenda

### **1.2 Scope**

State law requires Walker County and the Cities of LaFayette, Rossville, Chickamauga, and Lookout Mountain to prepare a new Comprehensive Plan by February 28, 2012. As prescribed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), the Comprehensive Plan follows the Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning effective May 1, 2005.

As outlined in the Rules for Comprehensive Planning, Section 110-12-1-.04:

*“The purpose of the Community Participation Program is to ensure that the local comprehensive plan reflects the full range of community values and desires, by involving a diverse spectrum of stakeholders in development of the Community Agenda. This*

*broad-based participation in developing the Community Agenda will also help ensure that it will be implemented, because many in the community are involved in its development and thereby become committed to seeing it through.”*

The DCA also requires that the Community Participation Program be developed and submitted for approval prior to the start of the public involvement process. This document outlines our strategy to develop and implement a functional and effective public participation program for developing a new Joint Comprehensive Plan, 2012-2032.

### **1.3 Review Process**

After holding an initial Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 25, 2011, the Community Assessment, the Supporting Data and Analysis, and the Community Participation Program were submitted to the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (NWGRC) for review. Within seven (7) days of receipt, the NWGRC determined whether the Community Assessment and the Community Participation Program met the standards of completeness as determined by the DCA. Upon determination of completeness, the NWGRC sent the Community Participation Program to the DCA staff, who reviewed the document for its adequacy in identifying specific mechanisms to ensure meaningful involvement of the community in the development of the Community Agenda. The DCA transmitted a complete report of its findings and recommendations for addressing such findings to the NWGRC for inclusion in its Report of Findings. Once reviewed, the Community Assessment and the Community Participation Program must be publicized by the local government for public information. This requirement is met by providing notice in a local newspaper of general circulation identifying where complete copies of the Community Assessment and the Community Participation Program may be reviewed.

## **2.0 Identification and Participation of Stakeholders**

It is important to incorporate checks and balances as well as coordination and oversight into a project of this importance. This approach assures quality throughout the process. These checks and balances and oversight are being provided by the Walker County Commissioner, the Mayors and City Councils of LaFayette, Rossville, Chickamauga, and Lookout Mountain, city and county departments, business and civic organizations, and citizens serving contributing to the planning process. Groups participating in the process are listed below and are led through the process by the Steering Committee. .

### **2.1 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee**

To assist with oversight of the planning process, the County and Cities each appointed two members to serve as the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Sole Commissioner, Bebe Heiskell is also a participant in the planning process, along with NWGRC staff.

Mr. David Ashburn, County Coordinator, Walker County

Ms. Kelia Kimbell, Planning Director and Stormwater Program Manager, Walker County

Mr. Johnnie Arnold, City Manager, LaFayette

Mr. Rod Robertson, Superintendent, Codes & Engineering, LaFayette

Teddy Harris, Rossville  
Bobby McNabb, Rossville Downtown Development Authority, Rossville

Mr. Jim Staub, Council, Planning & Development, Chickamauga  
Mr. John Culpepper, City Manager, Chickamauga

Mr. Bill Glascock, Mayor, Lookout Mountain  
Mr. Brad Haven, City Manager, Lookout Mountain

### NWGRC Staff

David Howerin, Director of Regional Planning  
Barnett Chitwood, Assistant Director of Regional Planning  
Dan Latham, Senior Planner/Historic Preservation

An initial “kick-off” meeting was held with elected officials in September 2010 to explain the planning requirements, the process to be employed and the expected products. A second meeting was held on March 10, 2011 with Walker County officials to explain recent changes to the rules for Comprehensive Planning, resulting from poor economic times and a State desire to streamline some processes. Walker County expressed the desire to continue forward with their new Comprehensive Plan. On March 31, 2011 a meeting was held with the above Steering Committee to solicit input on the Analysis of Consistency with Quality Community Objectives, and to solicit input on the preliminary draft of the Community Assessment, Supporting Data & Documentation, and this Public Participation Plan. The initial staff presentation established April 15 as the date for the steering committee to return comments, concerns, and corrections.

The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, in conjunction with other local citizens, will be used to develop the Community Agenda via a series of sessions, designed to solicit significant input from all stakeholders. The Plan Steering Committee and other citizens, representing a cross-section of demographic and geographic interests of the unincorporated areas and the cities, will be used to identify the community vision and implementation strategies deemed necessary to fulfill the vision. (See proposed schedule.)

## **2.2 Other Individuals and Organizations**

Other individuals and groups serving as stakeholders are listed below. These individuals and organizations are expected to contribute through interviews, or by email or telephone during the development of the Community Assessment and gathering of supporting documentation, and provide insights into the identification of issues and opportunities. They will also contribute to the completion of the community agenda and the Short-Term Work Program.

### **2.2.1 Walker County Commissioner**

Sole Commissioner Bebe Heiskell

### **2.2.2 Walker County Staff, Departments and Representatives**

Walker County EMS, Mr. Randy Camp  
Walker County Planning Commission, Bobby Meroney, Chairman  
Walker County Planning Commission, Rodney Parker, Vice-Chairman  
Walker County Economic Development, Mr. Larry Brooks, Director  
Barwick-LaFayette Airport, Mr. Phil Shelton & Mr. Ron Westbrook, Airport Managers  
Walker County Sheriff, Mr. Steve Wilson  
Walker County Volunteer Fire Departments  
Walker County Environmental Health Services, Mr. Clay Tracy, Manager  
Walker County Development Authority, Al Hutchinson, Chairman

### **2.2.3 City of LaFayette**

Mayor Neal Florence  
City Clerk, Brenda Snyder  
City of LaFayette Public Safety, Tommy Freeman  
LaFayette Housing Authority  
City of LaFayette Parks and Recreation, Patti Scott, Director  
City of LaFayette Water and Sewerage Department, Mr. Jim Speir, Director  
City of LaFayette Public Works, Ms. Vanessa Gossett  
LaFayette Downtown Development Authority  
Economic Development, Catherine Edgemon, Director  
Barwick-LaFayette Airport, Phil Shelton & Ron Westbrook, Managers  
LaFayette Planning Commission  
LaFayette Board of Appeals

### **2.2.4 City of Rossville**

Mayor Johnny Baker  
Rossville Downtown Development Authority, Ron Wade, Chairman  
Rossville Senior Center, April Rankin, Director, 706-861-4615  
Rossville Downtown Development Authority, Bobby McNabb, Ex. Dir.  
Rossville Planning Commission  
Rossville Stormwater, Mark Harris

### **2.2.5 City of Chickamauga**

Mayor Ray Crowder  
City Manager, John Culpepper,  
City Clerk, Jane Ramey  
Office Manager & Zoning Official, Jim Powell  
Chickamauga City Schools, 402 Cove Road, Chickamauga, GA 30707

### **2.2.6 City of Lookout Mountain**

Mayor Bill Glascock  
City Manager, Brad Haven,  
City Clerk, Cindy Roberts  
Recreation Director, Joe B. Wilson  
Lookout Mountain Planning Commission

## 2.2.7 Local Organizations

### Governmental (multi-jurisdictional)

Northwest Georgia Regional Water Resources Partnership  
Georgia Northwestern Technical College  
Walker County Schools, Melissa Mathis, Superintendent  
City of Fort Oglethorpe (overlaps into Walker County from Catoosa County)  
Walker County Historic Preservation Commission  
LaFayette Historic Preservation Commission  
Chickamauga Historic Preservation Commission

### Non-Governmental

McLemore Cove Historic Preservation Society  
Cherokee Regional Library System, Lisa Eubanks  
Teen Advisory Board, Cherokee Regional Library  
Rossville High School Alumni Association  
John Ross House Association  
Rossville Lions Club  
Rossville Exchange Club  
Oakwood Baptist Church  
Second Baptist Church of LaFayette  
Peavine Baptist Church  
Rock Spring United Methodist  
Naomi Baptist Church  
Lookout Mountain Baptist Church  
Ridgeway Baptist  
Shiloh Baptist Church, West Armuchee Valley  
New Hope, Highway 201  
North Georgia Community Action Agency (under-represented, marginalized groups)  
Walker County Chamber of Commerce, Stephanie Snodgrass, President  
Walker County Family Connection, 205 Jenkins Rd., Rossville, GA 30741  
Family Connection, P. O. Box 606, LaFayette, GA 30728  
Northwest Georgia Joint Development Authority, 10052 N. Hwy. 27, Rock Spring, GA 30739  
Canyon Ridge Club and Resort, 14653 Highway 157, Rising Fawn, GA 30738  
Hidden Hollow Resort, 463 Hidden Hollow Lane, Chickamauga, GA 30707  
See Rock City, Inc. 1400 Patten Rd., Lookout Mtn., GA 30750  
Walker County Historical Society, 16626 Hwy. 193, Chickamauga, GA 30707-4609  
Walker County Young Farmer's Association, 100 Rambler Dr., LaFayette, GA 30728  
6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Museum, P. O. Box 2011, Ft. Oglethorpe, GA 30742  
Walker County Civic Center, 10052 North Highway 27, Rock Springs, GA 30739  
Lula Lake Land Trust, P. O. Box 395, Lookout Mountain, TN 37350  
Camp New Dawn (Religious), 226 South Cedar Lane, Chickamauga, GA 30707  
Southeast Cave Conservancy, 737 Glass Road, Lafayette, GA 30728  
LaFayette Rotary Club  
LaFayette Women's Club  
Highland Club  
Georgia Farm Bureau



School for the Deaf & Deaf Community  
North Georgia Animal League  
Chattanooga Valley Athletic Association  
Rock Spring Athletic Association  
Walker County Athletic Association

## **2.2.8 Other Federal and State Organizations**

### Governmental (Federal)

Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis  
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
U.S. Census Bureau  
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cindy Askew, LaFayette/Dalton NCRS Offices  
U.S. Department of Health  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics  
U.S. Department of Labor  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
U.S. National Park Service  
U.S. Forest Service

### Governmental (State)

Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
Georgia Department of Education  
Georgia Department of Human Resources  
Georgia Department of Labor  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Georgia Department of Transportation  
Georgia Emergency Management Agency  
Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
Georgia Forestry Commission  
Georgia General Assembly  
Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs  
University of Georgia – Cooperative Extension Service, Norman Edwards, LaFayette  
Office  
Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Service  
Georgia Soil & Water Conservation District

### Other

Georgia Municipal Association  
Association of County Commissioners of Georgia  
Georgia Association of Zoning Administrators  
Georgia Association of Floodplain Management  
Association of State Floodplain Managers

### 3.0 Identification of Participation Techniques

A variety of techniques will be used to promote the plan updates and provide opportunities for public participation as follows:

#### 3.1 Outreach

It was determined by the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, and the county and city governments that the following outreach techniques were best suited for relaying and receiving information back from the public:

1. **Websites:** All local governments in Walker County have individual websites. Press releases, hearing notices, the draft Community Assessment, Community Participation Program, and the Community Agenda can all be displayed as they are drafted. The websites follow: [www.walkerga.us](http://www.walkerga.us); [www.cityoflafayettega.org](http://www.cityoflafayettega.org); [www.rossvillegagov.us](http://www.rossvillegagov.us); [www.cityofchickamaugageorgia.org](http://www.cityofchickamaugageorgia.org); and [www.lookoutmountainga.com](http://www.lookoutmountainga.com).

2. **Organizational E-Mail Lists:** The various city and county organizations and officials mentioned previously have contact lists that will be used to supply a network of outlets for distribution of meeting notices via e-mail. The same network may be used to coordinate the posting of notifications in public spaces.

3. **Newspapers:** Notices will also be listed in the Walker County Messenger, which is distributed throughout the county. It is expected the paper will also feature articles, periodically, describing the planning process and outline opportunities for the public to participate. [address: 102 Main Street, LaFayette, GA 30728; [walkercountymessenger@walkermessenger.com](mailto:walkercountymessenger@walkermessenger.com); 706-638-1859; 706-638-7045 (fax)]; [www.catwalkchatt.com](http://www.catwalkchatt.com)

4. **Local Radio:** Many Walker County residents listen to a local radio station, WQCH (1590 AM) for local news and information. The station will announce information concerning any Comprehensive Plan meetings scheduled during the development of the Community Agenda. Information regarding WQCH can be found at [www.wqch.net](http://www.wqch.net).

5. **Local Government Posting:** The Walker County administration building and the Planning & Development Office receives a fair amount of foot traffic on a daily basis. Many residents visit public buildings for a variety of county services, so posting of upcoming meetings within these buildings can alert citizens of any upcoming meetings scheduled regarding the Comprehensive Plan. Postings will also be listed in the respective city halls for the cities of LaFayette, Rossville, Chickamauga, and Lookout Mountain, plus Fort Oglethorpe (overlaps into Walker County). Addresses for these locations are as follows:

**Walker County Commissioners Office**

101 South Duke Street  
LaFayette, Georgia 30728

**Walker County Planning & Development Office**

101 Napier Street, Suite A

LaFayette, Georgia 30728

**City of LaFayette**

207 South Duke Street  
LaFayette, Georgia 30728

**City of Rossville**

400 McFarland Avenue  
Rossville, Georgia 30741

**City of Chickamauga**

103 Crittenden Avenue  
Chickamauga, Georgia 30707

**City of Lookout Mountain**

1214 Lula Lake Road  
Lookout Mountain, Georgia 30750

**City of Fort Oglethorpe** (*Overlaps into Walker County from Catoosa County*)

500 City Hall Drive  
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742

**6. Community Vision Survey:** A Community Vision Survey will be developed to solicit citizen input in identifying solutions to the various issues and opportunities facing the county and cities. Copies of the Community Vision Survey will be available on each website listed above and will be available for pick-up at any of the local government posting offices listed above. Once the citizen has filled out the survey, it may be dropped off or faxed or mailed to the Walker County Planning and Development Office, at 101 Napier, Suite A or P. O. Box 445, LaFayette, GA 30728. The FAX number is: 706-638-9406. The questionnaire results will be summarized prior to planning staff visiting with each local government in mid-August.

**3.2 Public Meetings**

Public meetings/work sessions where good citizen participation is expected will be held at the Walker County Civic Center, 10052 N. Highway 27, Rock Springs, GA 30739. Periodic coordination meetings with the Steering Committee will be held either in the Commissioner's Conference Room, 101 South Duke Street, LaFayette, GA 30728 or at the 911 Center, 107 Alex Drive, Chickamauga, GA 30707. All locations:

- are convenient to the population
- are easily accessible by all residents in the county and city areas
- can accommodate large crowds (Civic Center)
- have adequate parking and are handicapped equipped

As mentioned earlier, **legal public hearings** with all local governments participating will be held prior to the transmittal of the Community Assessment and Community Participation Plan, and later, prior to the transmittal of the Community Agenda to the Regional Commission and State for review. After the legal public hearings each local government will adopt their Transmittal Resolutions, as appropriate, officially authorizing

their document submissions. Draft plan documents will be made available to the public in advance of each legal public hearing, and public comments will be welcomed. The first joint, legal public hearing will occur: May 25, 2011; and the second will occur: approximately Wednesday, November 16, 2011.

### **3.3 Visioning Workshops**

Two Visioning Workshops will be held in the early part of August, 2011 (or as soon as the Community Assessment and proposed Community Participation Program are approved). Each workshop will be the same, and will offer two opportunities to participate. These workshops will be open to the public and stakeholders and will be used to prioritize issues and opportunities facing the county and cities, as well as to identify potential solutions; input into the potential character areas is also desired; help in defining a vision for the county and cities; and providing overall input to determine the type, intensity, and location of desired development.

### **4.0 Schedule for Completion of the Community Agenda**

Below is a summary of milestones that follow the schedule for completion of the Comprehensive Plan Update. Upcoming milestones in this schedule include:

- Public Hearing for Transmittal approval of the Community Assessment and Community Participation Program

Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2011; 4:00 p.m to 7:00 p.m.; Walker County Civic Center (Local government actions on Transmittal Resolutions would follow, parallel to the meetings of each govt.)

- Visioning Workshops – County-wide Invitation

Dates: Tuesday, August 9 and Thursday, August 11, 2011; 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Walker County Civic Center

- Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee or Local Government Meetings  
[Meeting with each government will concentrate on mapping and development patterns; and cross-checking all issue and opportunities, policies, past progress on the Short-Term Work Program (STWP), as well as the new STWP.]

Dates: August 16, 2011 (Steering Committee); August 23, 2011 (City of LaFayette, public invited); August 23, 2011 (Walker County, public invited); August 25, 2011 (City of Rossville, public invited); August 25, 2011 (City of Chickamauga); August 25, 2011 (City of Lookout Mountain); September 8, 2011 (Steering Committee).

September 13, 2011 (City of LaFayette, public invited); September 13, 2011 (Walker County, public invited); September 15, 2011 (City of Rossville, public invited); September 15, 2011 (City of Chickamauga); September 20, 2011 (City of Lookout Mountain); September 27, 2011 (Steering Committee).

- Public Hearing for Submittal of Community Agenda to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA)

Date: Mid-November 2011; approximately Wednesday, November 16, 2011; 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Walker County Civic Center.

- Local Adoption of the Community Agenda

Date: After approval from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and prior to February 28, 2012, all local governments take action on Adoption Resolutions.

## APPENDIX

**JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**  
Walker County and Cities of LaFayette,  
Chickamauga, Rossville, & Lookout Mountain  
**2012-2032**  
2011 Community Vision Survey

The Community Assessment that was previously published identified a variety of potential issues and opportunities facing the cities and county that should be addressed in the next phase of the planning process. Your response to this survey will help develop the Community Agenda, which identifies the future vision for the county and the cities, identifies key issues and opportunities, then proposes an implementation program for the future.

The following statements help us with planning issues facing Walker County and the Cities of LaFayette, Chickamauga, Rossville, & Lookout Mountain. Your input is very important. **Please mark the answer that best describes your thoughts on each subject.**

**Deliver or mail to: Walker County Planning and Development Office, 101 Napier, Suite A; LaFayette, GA 30728 or fill out the survey and email it to [planning@walkerga.us](mailto:planning@walkerga.us) .**

**1. In what community do you live?**

- LaFayette
- Chickamauga
- Lookout Mountain
- Rossville
- Fort Oglethorpe
- Unincorporated Walker County

**2. How does your community rate overall?**

(Check one)

- Excellent place to live
- Good
- OK
- Fair
- Poor

**3. Why do you live in your community?**

(Check all that apply)

- Born here or grew up here
- Close to family or spouse's family
- Inherited property
- Job or career located here
- Good schools or college located here
- Rural community character
- Affordable housing
- Reasonable cost of living
- Parks and recreational opportunities
- Get away from city traffic and congestion
- Scenic farmland and forest
- Overall quality of life
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**4. What do you like about your community?**

(Check all that apply)

- Friendly and helpful nearby neighbors
- Convenient local shopping
- Hunting, fishing, and outdoor activities
- Good EMS, fire and police protection
- Easy-to-reach medical facilities
- Well-located schools and libraries
- Accessible public buildings and parks
- Variety of housing choices
- Many neighborhood churches
- Homes far apart allow greater privacy
- Scenic views and natural wildlife assets
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. What don't you like about your community?**

(Check all that apply)

- Not enough good jobs
- Too many people moving here
- Too much traffic
- Loss of scenic views and natural areas
- Rising cost of living
- Not enough local stores and restaurants
- Isolated homes too far apart
- Homes crowded too close together
- Incompatible nearby development
- Inadequate public services
- Not enough theaters and libraries
- Local schools not good enough
- Too many tourists
- Not enough tourists
- No public transportation
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**6. What do you like about northwest Georgia?**

(Check all that apply)

- Good jobs available
- Easy to get around
- Convenient to parks and scenic areas
- Mix of open space and traditional villages
- Major shopping reasonably close
- Major medical services available
- Cultural opportunities convenient

**7. Can your community avoid development?**

(Check one)

- Yes  No
- Don't Know

**8. Is your community already changing?**

(Check one)

- Yes  No
- Don't Know

**9. How do you feel about these changes?**

(Check one)

- The community is growing too fast
- All development should be stopped
- Our rate of growing is just right
- We're not growing fast enough
- Land use should be carefully managed
- Private land use should not be restricted
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. What changes would you like to see made?**

(Check all that apply)

- Protect our rural community character
- Develop traditional mixed-use villages
- More good jobs
- Require more housing choice varieties
- Permanently protect scenic open spaces
- Permanently preserve farms & woodland
- More local shopping and entertainment
- Less traffic congestion
- Pave more roads and add new highways
- Provide safe sidewalks and bicycle trails
- Fewer schools / longer school bus rides
- Neighborhood schools / shorter bus rides
- More public parks and playgrounds
- More public golf courses & ball fields
- Public transportation system
- Reduce services to slow tax increases
- Commercial development only at rural crossroads
- Less signs and billboards
- Landscaping for new businesses and industry
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Do you like how other counties are growing?**

(Check one)

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

**12. What changes would you not like to see?**

(Check all that apply)

- More private land use restrictions
- More conventional subdivisions
- More commercial & industrial growth
- Require more housing choices
- Permanently protect scenic open spaces
- Permanently preserve farms & woodland
- More local shopping and entertainment
- Pave more roads and add new highways
- Public sidewalks and bicycle trails
- More public parks and playgrounds
- More public golf courses & ball fields
- Public transportation system
- Reduce services to slow tax increases
- Commercial development only at rural crossroads
- Less signs and billboards
- Landscaping for new businesses and industry
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Downtown improvements are needed?**

(Check all that apply)

- LaFayette
- Chickamauga
- Lookout Mountain
- Rossville
- Fort Oglethorpe

**14. Is your community now providing adequate services to the citizens? (Check one)**

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know
- If no, identify the service(s)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**15. How should our local governments manage growth?**

(Check one)

- Encourage unrestricted growth
- Limit growth in less developed areas
- Encourage growth in developing areas
- Do nothing; let it happen naturally
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



**16. Rank the importance of the following:** (Use 1 for the most important and 8 for the least):

- Manage development type and location
- Protect natural resources & environment
- Preserve farmland and forests
- Provide efficient community infrastructure
- Improve economic opportunities
- Improve educational opportunities
- Control rising cost of community services
- Maintain rural quality of community life

**17. Does your community adequately manage growth?** (Check one)

- Yes      \_\_\_ No
- Don't Know

**18. Do you like the direction of that growth?**

- Yes      \_\_\_ No
- Explain \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**19. What types of growth management actions would you support?** (Check all that apply)

- Land use regulations
- Higher density in planned village areas
- Lower density in planned rural areas
- Transferring development rights
- Growth limitation boundaries
- Limiting total annual development
- Incentives to encourage smart growth
- Impact fees to offset cost of growth
- Limiting development in watersheds
- Limiting development in floodplains
- Requiring stream buffers
- Limiting mountain slope development
- Agricultural and forest conservation
- Public acquisition of land for public uses
- Land acquisition using eminent domain
- Land acquisition using density incentives
- None
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**20. What do you think will happen to our community character without adequate growth controls?** (Check all that apply)

- It will stay about the same
- The quality of life will go down
- Natural resources will be threatened
- Air quality will get worse
- Won't have enough water to meet needs
- We'll end up covered with subdivisions
- Don't know.

**21. What area of the County do you feel is growing the fastest?** \_\_\_\_\_

**22. Housing for all income groups is available in the County?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

**23. The special housing needs for persons with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, or with mental/physical disorders are adequately available?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

**24. There are homes and neighborhoods that should be revitalized in the county and cities?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

**25. Public transportation services (Walker Transit) should be expanded in the county to provide an alternative way for all citizens to get to work.**

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

**26. How much longer do you expect to live here in northwest Georgia?** (Check one)

- Less than 5 years
- 6 to 10 years
- More than 10 years
- The rest of my life

**27. The county and cities should consider the following financing mechanisms for water, sewer, recreation, roads, education, and other needed improvements?** (Check all that apply)

- All alternative financing mechanisms
- Impact fees
- Special improvement or tax districts
- Special Purpose Sales Tax (TE SPLOST, E SPLOST, or SPLOST)
- Grants
- Low Interest Loans
- Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

