

**Coosa Valley Regional Development Center (RDC)
Planning Services Unit
Northwest Georgia Fact Sheet**

What services are provided by the Planning Services Unit?

The Agency's Planning Services Unit provides assistance to member county and municipal governments in preparing comprehensive plans in compliance with the Georgia Planning Act of 1989. Comprehensive plans address a community's population, economy, community facilities, natural and historic resources, housing and land use needs and opportunities for a 20-year period. The Coosa Valley RDC prepares a joint regional plan with the North Georgia RDC. This program is carried out in partnership with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

The unit assists member governments in preparing federal and state grant-in-aid applications for financial assistance in meeting a variety of local needs including: water and wastewater treatment, economic development, health centers, senior centers, historic preservation, recreational facilities, solid waste management, and other activities.

The unit has a Geographic Information System (GIS) to provide member governments with accessible maps and data linked in a digital format in support of the local comprehensive planning effort. This service is undertaken in partnership with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

The unit carries out a balanced historic preservation program by providing a broad range of preservation technical assistance to local governments, organizations, individuals, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

The unit assists county and municipal governments including local planning commissions with a variety of tools to promote orderly land development including: zoning and subdivision regulations, manufactured housing ordinances, and flood plain ordinances.

The unit maintains a wide selection of demographic data for use by local governments, chambers of commerce, industrial development authorities, and citizens in their planning and development activities. This program is implemented in cooperation with the Georgia Office of Planning and Budget and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The unit assists the Georgia Department of Transportation in obtaining citizen comment and participation on the Georgia Statewide Transportation Improvement Program which identifies a three-year list of federally funded transportation projects for each county in the region. The unit provides transportation planning services to the Georgia Portion of the Chattanooga, Tennessee Urban Area Transportation Study. In addition, the unit assists with transportation in areas such as: Scenic By-Way Planning, Pedestrian and Bikeway Planning, and transportation enhancement support.

The unit works with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in preparing Source Water Assessment Plans (SWAPs) for governments and localities and determining Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for creeks, rivers, and tributaries in its 10-county region.

What Special Designations does Coosa Valley RDC have?

The Coosa Valley RDC is an Economic Development District (EDD) as designated by the U. S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. The RDC carries out a program of planning and technical assistance for member governments in assessing and improving their local economic development efforts.

The Coosa Valley RDC is a Local Development District (LDD) as designated by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). The ARC is a joint federal-state program which serves a 13-state region. The RDC carries out a program of planning and economic development activities with funding from the ARC.

Who are the member governments of the Coosa Valley RDC?

The member governments include the municipal and county governments located in: Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Haralson, Paulding, Polk, and Walker Counties. The agency's Area Agency on Aging Services and Workforce Development Units serve, in addition to the member counties, Fannin, Gilmer, Murray, Pickens, and Whitfield Counties.

Where is the Coosa Valley RDC Planning Services Unit Located?

Coosa Valley RDC, P.O. Box 1793, Rome, GA 30162 - 706.295.6485