

Long Range Planning NEWS

December 2020



DeKalb County
Planning and Sustainability Department
Andrew Baker, AICP, Director

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Planning Through COVID19

During the challenges of the COVID 19 pandemic, Long Range Planning has continued to produce at a high level, while keeping everyone safe. Teleworking has allowed us to provide services in a more efficient way, through the use of technology. Some of the new tools and strategies implemented:

- Remote Servicing Page ([Click HERE](#))
- Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Who to Call Matrix ([Click HERE for Planning](#))
- Microsoft Teams for Meetings & Collaboration
- Microsoft Planner for Managing Projects
- ARC Webinars for Industry News
- SharePoint and OneDrive for File Storage
- Zoom for External Customer Meetings
- More Meetings = Improved Communication



NEW PLANNER ON BOARD



Laurel Corrao!

Laurel is the latest addition to the Long Range Planning team, as our new planner. She comes to us as a graduate from Georgia Tech, and has recently passed her exam for planning certification (AICP).

Her experience includes writing grant proposals for research projects, economic valuations, and has worked with conservation stakeholders to develop tree canopy maps for conservation efforts.

As a planner with Long Range, she will be primarily responsible for the Annual Development Report, facilitating community meetings, environmental planning and special planning projects and reports.

2050 Unified Plan

The purpose is to create a unified plan that combines the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) and Comprehensive Plan referred to as the 2050 Unified Plan to ensure a positive impact on strengthening the Atlanta Region's economy and communities at both the local and regional levels.

Currently, we are approaching the final phase of the Request for Proposals, in which we will select the most qualified candidate to complete the project. We anticipate completion of this phase in December, and kick-off for the project in the first quarter of 2021.

For more information about the 2050 Unified Plan, contact:



Sylvia Smith

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Project Manager for 2050 Plan
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Laurel Corrao

Planner
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Memorial Drive Revitalization Needs YOU!

The Memorial Drive Plan has been adopted by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, in September 2020. As one of the first steps to implementing the recommendations in the Memorial Drive Revitalization Plan, is that the community is intimately involved in the progress of projects becoming a reality.

The Community Action Group (CAG) is designed to be the community advocacy needed to move the needle on short and long term projects. Five CAGs have been formed to help promote community involvement to implement the action plan. Meetings have started, and will be held quarterly in 2021. If you would like to be involved using the blueprint of the Memorial Drive Plan to help revitalize the corridor, [CLICK HERE](#) and take the survey. For more



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Pedestrian Friendly Design



Creating Mixed Use

Glenwood Columbia Plan

The purpose is to prepare a plan that provides education and a toolkit for the business community to build a consensus on how to strengthen economic development in the area. This project will provide a vision for the redevelopment of this underutilized commercial node in DeKalb County, and will have an emphasis on community understanding and buy-in for redevelopment through training and education of stakeholders.

Currently, we have kicked off our design workshops in November. A final work session will be held December 16th. We have developed a project webpage with surveys and valuable resources [HERE](#). Participation is critical for all business owners with the Columbia and Glenwood Road area. For more information on this project and how you can become involved, contact:



Brian Brewer

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The DeKalb Neighborhood Registry

The DeKalb County Long Range Planning Department has established the Neighborhood Registry to get residents more involved in decisions affecting their neighborhoods and to improve participation. Neighbors and neighborhood organizations that are not already on the Neighborhood Registry are invited to join. So far, the registry has over 500 people.

Click [HERE](#) to join. Contact Jaeson Bell for more information.



Jaeson Bell

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DeKalb County 2035 Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Long Range Planning is preparing a mandated report, due to the State of GA Department of Community Affairs. This update is not a full update (every 10 years) but a 5-year update to the DeKalb County 2035 Comprehensive Plan. It highlights a Report of Accomplishments and Community Work Program of new projects from all DeKalb County Departments. Updates to other elements such as land use and demographics are also addressed. Failure to update the plan by October 2021, will jeopardize the County's ability to retain our Qualified Local Government status. Stay tuned for updates on how you can get involved upcoming public meetings. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.



Long Range by the Numbers

2020 Planning Accomplishments

- ◇ Memorial Drive Revitalization Plan Adoption
- ◇ 2019 Annual Development Report
- ◇ 2035 Comprehensive Plan Draft
- ◇ Glenwood/Columbia Plan Kickoff
- ◇ Community Action Group for Memorial Drive Plan
- ◇ 2050 Unified Plan RFP

