Georgia's Regional Commissions
A Technical Assistance Resource for Local Governments

Presented By: Heather Feldman
GMRC Executive Director

12 Regional Commissions covering every county and city in Georgia

Structure – Governance
- Local Governments
- RC Council
- Executive Director
- RC Staff
**Council Structure – O.C.G.A. 50-8-34**

- Elected official from each member county
- Elected official from one municipality in each county
- 5 state appointees
  - Governor – 3
  - Lieutenant Governor – 1
  - Speaker of the House – 1
- Other members

**Funding Structure**

**Federal**
- Highway Administration
- U.S. Department of Labor
- Economic Development Administration
- Health and Human Services

**State**
- GA Department of Community Affairs
- Georgia Department of Transportation
- Community Health
- Human Services

**Local**
- Member Dues
- Contracts for Services
- Grant Administration

**Core Services**

- Aging
- Economic Development
- Planning
- Public Administration
- Technology Services/GIS
- Transportation
- Workforce Development
Services - Aging

- Designated by the Georgia Department of Human Services – Division of Aging Services as the Area Agency on Aging
- Responsible for coordinating the overall planning, administration, and development of a comprehensive service system for the older population and/or their caregivers and the disabled
- Goal: Allow Georgian's to age in place for as long as possible with dignity and autonomy
- Every Georgian covered:
  - 10 Regional Commissions offer services
  - 2 independent non-profits cover other areas

Services - Aging

- Congregate Meals/Senior Centers
- Home Delivered Meals
- Elder Abuse/Fraud Prevention
- Respite Care & Caregiver Support
- Elderly Legal Assistance
- ADRC information and Referral
- Support Options; Hospital Care Transitions
- Assistive Technology
- Nutrition Risk Reduction
- Health Promotion/Wellness
- GeorgiaCares/Medicare Counseling
- Nursing Home Transition Support
- Medicaid Waiver Access and Counseling
- Case Management
- Long-Term Care

Services – Economic Development

- Designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration as Economic Development Districts
- Planning and Strategies
  - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
- Deal Structuring
  - Incentives, site visits, Requests for Proposals
- Grants, Loans, and Administration
- Small Business Lending
  - Revolving Loan Funds (RLF)
  - SBA 504
Services – Public Administration

- Service Delivery Strategy Agreements
- Ordinance Development
- Charter Revisions
- Financial
- Human Resources
- Housing Assessments
- Data and Analysis for Policy Research

Services – Grant Writing/Administration

- Grant Services
  - Project Development
  - Applications
  - Administration
- Types of Grants
  - Community Development
  - Economic Development
  - Transportation
  - Tourism
  - Police/Fire
  - Recreation

Services – Planning

- Local Comprehensive Planning
- Regional Planning
- Specialty Community Planning
  - Downtown Development
  - Redevelopment
  - Recreation
  - Greenspace
  - Historic Preservation
  - Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation
- Specialty Environmental Planning
  - Water Quality
  - Brownfields
  - Solid Waste
- Specialty Transportation Planning
  - Transit Development
  - Bike/Ped Planning
  - Safe Routes to Schools
  - Scenic Byways
Services – Technology/GIS

- Mapping/Spatial Analysis
- District Mapping (Voting, 911, Water/Sewer, Historic, DDA)
- Official Zoning/Ordinance Maps
- Tax Parcel Mapping
- Utility Infrastructure Inventory Mapping (water, sewer, storm water, gas)
- FEMA Floodplain DFIRM Mapping/Collaboration
- US Census Bureau Boundary & Annexation Survey (BAS) Maps
- Online Application Services
- Cemetery Inventory Mapping
- Comprehensive Plan Mapping
- Grant Application Maps
- Regional Plan Map Updates

Services – Transportation

- Human Services
  - Aging
  - DFCS
  - DOL Vocational Rehab
  - Developmentally Disabled
- Rural Transit
- Transportation Planning
  - Bicycle/Pedestrian
  - MPO Functions

Services – Workforce Development

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- Employer Driven Solutions
- Economic Development Tool
- Federal funds administered by the Technical College System of Georgia
- 19 Local Workforce Development Areas
- Regional Commissions – Fiscal Agents
Services – Workforce Development

- Adult and Dislocated Worker
  - Education support and training (tuition, books, equipment, certifications, licensing) that leads to employment
  - Supportive Services
  - On-the-Job Training
  - Incumbent Worker Training
  - Apprenticeships

- Youth Programs (ages 16-24)
  - GED
  - Internships
  - Employability/Life Skills

Closing Thoughts

- Primary role is supporting local governments
- Many programs directly serve citizens: Aging, Transportation, and Workforce Development
- Regional Commissions are a mechanism to pool resources to reach every local government

A partner and resource for all local governments!