

SGRC COUNCIL

Clarence Billups, Chair
Mike Dinnerman, Vice-Chair

Joyce Evans, Secretary
Travis Harper, Immediate Past Chair

ATKINSON

Tommy Guthrie
Ellie Morris
Felton Morris

BACON

Roger Boatright
Jerry Sweat
Greg Davis

BEN HILL

Philip Jay
Gerald Thompson
Lavonia Stepherson

BERRIEN

Travis Harper
Steve Sumner
Crissy Staley

BRANTLEY

Ronald Ham
Ronnie Jacobs
Marvin Peeples

BROOKS

Howard Lawson
Curtis Pickels
Vacant

CHARLTON

John Meyer
Melad Smith, Jr.
Austin Hickox

CLINCH

Peg Blicht
Kenton McLaine
Willie Hardee

COFFEE

Charles Deen
Jackie Wilson
Adam Smith

COOK

Michael Dinnerman
Buddy Duke
Willie Batchelor

ECHOLS

Derek Herring
Willie Collier
Vacant

IRWIN

Lamar Royal
Joey Whitley
Hazel McCranie

LANIER

Ronnie Bennett
Bill Darsey
Ruth May

LOWNDES

John Fretti
Joyce Evans
Robert Jefferson

PIERCE

Mitch Bowen
Mary Lott Walker
Andy Brannen

TIFT

Jamie Cater
Grady Thompson
Ronald Nixon

TURNER

Daryl Hall
Sandra Lumpkin
Vacant

WARE

Clarence Billups
Carlos Nelson
Richard Henderson

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Terri Lupo
Gary Strickland
Dr. Steve Smith

Lt. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Keith Stone

SPEAKER'S OFFICE

Randy Crenshaw

REGIONAL CALENDAR

July

- => 25 GARC, Macon
- => 26 SGRC Council Mtg., Pearson
- => 30 Bowling 4 Seniors, Tifton

August

- => 4 Transportation, Nashville
- => 5 ED Pros, Nashville
- => 10 WIB, Waycross
- => 18 Area Clerks, Lakeland
- => 23 SGRC Council, Pearson
- => 24 Area Aging, Nashville



A publication of the Southern Georgia Regional Commission

A leader in the development of local and regional programs since 1963.

Valdosta
(229) 333-5277
Waycross
(912) 285-6097

www.sgrc.us
sgrc@sgrc.us

Southern Georgia Regional Transportation Roundtable Executive Committee Holds 1st Meeting

The Southern Georgia Regional Transportation Roundtable Executive Committee which is comprised of: Tommy Guthrie, Atkinson County; Jimmy Kitchens, Coffee County; Joey Whitley, Irwin County; Ashley Paulk, Lowndes County; and Grady Thompson, Tift County, held its first meeting to begin discussion and selection of projects for the constrained list of the Transportation Investment Act.



SGRC and GDOT staff provided maps, project fact sheets and other information to aid the Executive Committee in its evaluation and selection of the projects for the constrained list.

Crissy Staley of Berrien County was unanimously appointed to be liaison to the Georgia Chamber for the Georgia Transportation Alliance. The Alliance will be leading the campaign effort to inform voters about the referendum before the election on July 31, 2012.

Planned steps in the process include the Executive Committee adopting a constrained project list and presenting this to the Regional Roundtable by August 15, 2011; the Regional Roundtable will then hold two public meetings and adopt the final constrained project list at least by October 15, 2011; the final constrained project list will be presented to the voters on July 31, 2012. All meetings include an opportunity for public comments.

For more information visit www.sgrc.us/transportation.



327 W. Savannah Avenue
Valdosta, Georgia 31601

1725 S. Georgia Pkwy, West
Waycross, Georgia 31503

Area Agency On Aging
Contact: Wanda Taft

Farmers' Markets Provide Fresh Produce to Area Seniors

Each year, the Southern Georgia Area Agency on Aging (AAA) coordinates with local farmers across the region to provide fresh produce to older adults through the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP).

The farmers' markets, which are part of the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Aging Services (DAS) nutritional wellness program, educate seniors about the importance of a healthy diet while providing them access to fresh fruits and vegetables. The markets also promote the crops of local farmers.

Grants are awarded through DAS to provide low-income seniors with coupons that can be exchanged for eligible foods at farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community-supported agriculture programs.

Results from a study on the impact of Georgia's nutritional wellness program prove that a focus on a healthy lifestyle

and improved nutrition is better equipping older Georgians to stay in their own homes longer before having to consider nursing home placement as an option. According to the DAS Web site, "Nursing home placements for older adults involved in DAS nutrition programs have been increasingly delayed. In state fiscal year 2008, for example, older adults avoided nursing home placement an average of three years longer than older adults not involved in the program."



Glenda Lang, AAA Program Manager, helps a senior choose fresh produce at the Senior Farmers' Market held on June 22 at the Nelson Greene Senior Center in Waycross. The produce was provided by Darquitta Riley, a farmer from Broxton.

At each farmer's market, clients receive a produce bag, nutrition education information and \$20 worth of Georgia-grown produce. The AAA plans to serve approximately 700 Georgia seniors through this program in 2011.

Loan Services
Contact: Michelle Frey

Loan Program Assists Eric & Michelle Sutherland Sutherland Physical Therapy Pediatrics

Eric and Michelle Sutherland are physical therapists and have been practicing for 10 years and 9 years, respectively, in Valdosta. They have owned their own practice for 4 years, and it has been very successful and continues to grow. They requested funding to expand their practice by purchasing a building adjacent to their current location.

The new building will house Sutherland Physical Therapy Pediatrics. The Sutherlands believe that they have an opportunity to expand their business and see substantial growth through the pediatric physical therapy market due

to their experience, contacts, and the lack of pediatric physical therapists in the Valdosta metro area. They are currently leasing their main office at 3328 Bemiss Road and will be operating their pediatric office at 3332 Bemiss Road.

The new office will allow them to provide an atmosphere that is solely suited for pediatric physical therapy and will be the only office of its kind in the Valdosta metro area. The SGRC RLF loan program and First State Bank of Valdosta financed the purchase and renovations of the building.



Geographical Information System
Contact: Chris Strom

SGRC GIS Earns Award with Boll Weevil Mapping Project



In January of 2011, SGRC GIS rolled out a project formed in partnership with the Georgia Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation (BWEF). This project was focused on improving the efficiency with which cotton crops and boll weevil trap monitoring occurs each growing season. To achieve these goals, SGRC developed two products to support the BWEF.

The first product was an editing-enabled web mapping site in which each BWEF field agent could log on and digitize the boundaries of each cotton crop planted in the 2011 season. This website was built using the latest ArcGIS Server technology. Once crops are planted, these same field agents must visit them, install Boll Weevil traps, and monitor those traps throughout the growing season. So, along with crop locations, aerial photography, road maps, and other layers, there is a map layer on this website that details each and every cotton pest trap across the state. Every 3 weeks as these traps are inspected, or more are added, this layer is updated to show the latest information. Functions on this website include the ability to search by trap number, map grid number (explained below) and other tools.

Since web access is still difficult in very rural parts of Georgia, SGRC produces digital (pdf) map booklets for each cotton producing county every 3 weeks to keep the field agents up-to-date even when web access is not possible. These map books include all of the layers that are present on the web application.

Because of this innovative approach to handling an entire state of cotton crop monitoring, startup time at the beginning of the season has improved and the accuracy of crop field mapping has taken a big step forward. Furthermore, instead of waiting until mid-season to see a database of cotton crops, they have access to that data from day one.

Continued...

...GIS Award continued

In the 2012 growing season, this web application and the use of GIS will drive more strategic placement of boll weevil traps across the state and is expected to save money and more time in the monitoring process.

This July, SGRC was notified this project was to receive an innovation award from the National Association of Development Organization for this project. For more information about the award, visit www.nado.org for details about the project, please contact us.

Community and Development
Contact: Sherry Davidson

Moody AFB Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Update

The SGRC, working in conjunction with the Moody AFB, has initiated work on the Implementation phase of the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) for the base. Earlier this year the SGRC issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for two different portions of the Implementation Phase of the JLUS, a Regional Land Use Survey, as well as a Noise Attenuation Construction Standards Model Ordinance. An Implementation Committee comprised of local governmental officials, stakeholders and Moody AFB representatives was formed to assist SGRC staff in reviewing the responses and selecting a consultant for each RFP.

Upon completion of the review and selection process, the Committee chose LAI Engineering to develop the Regional Land Use Survey and TDM, and an Atlanta based acoustical engineering firm to develop a model Noise Attenuation Construction Standard Ordinance. LAI Engineering has begun development of the Existing Conditions Report and a Traffic Demand Model, while SGRC staff has begun the development of a Needs Assessment and Communication Plan for the JLUS. Contract negotiations with the acoustical engineering consultant are currently being finalized, and work is expected to begin shortly. Draft documents for both products are anticipated to be completed by the Fall of 2011.

