INVESTING in the River Valley

2022 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITIES
Fiscal Year 2022 River Valley Regional Commission

Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Chair

Jimmy Babb
Timothy Biddle
Danny Blackmon
Kevin Brown
Eugene Cason
Charles Coffey
Melvin Crimes
James Davenport
Joshua Deriso
Greg Dominy
J. R. Dowdy
Ransom Farley
Rob Grant
Matt Gunnels
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B. H. "Skip" Henderson
Bruce Hill
Darrell Holbrook
Bobby Jenkins
Albert King
Lee Kinnamon

Tony Lamar
Carvel Lewis
Bill McClellan
Carl Oliver
Kenneth Sumpter
Mark Waddell
Sher'Londa Walker
Barry Whitley
Joe Lee Williams
Wesley Williams

State Appointees

Richard McCorkle
Maggie McGruther
A. J. Rivers

Private Sector Appointees

Doug Ethridge
Jayson Griffin
Byron Hickey
Randy Howard
Terrell Hudson
Chip Jones
Pam Jordan
Dr. Edward Lee
Tom Queen
James R. "Bump" Welch
Rebecca White
Dear Community,

As always, the RVRC team has been busy this year.

With several new sources of funding, including American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and Transportation Infrastructure Act (TIA), initiated this year, the Planning staff at the RVRC has been working diligently for the communities in the River Valley Region.

The RVRC’s Area Agency on Aging, Workforce Development, Environmental Protection, and Historic Preservation teams have also made great strides to provide crucial services to some of the most deserving members of our community.

Additionally, the RVRC’s Financial team received national recognition from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada this year for excellence in financial reporting with the support of a dedicated group of administrators with Executive Director, Jim Livingston, at the helm.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to extend my deepest thanks to this dedicated group of individuals for all of the hard work that they put into ensuring that our small section of the state is able to provide the highest quality services to its citizens.

In my first year as the Chairman of the RVRC Council, the RVRC has helped to secure roughly $33,554,880 in funding to benefit the 16 counties in our region. For every dollar that the RVRC received from local governments in the past year, their return on investment was $90.90 in funding, programs, and services. Funding received during the year was 93.5% federal and 6.5% state.

During the past year, the RVRC was also instrumental in the expansion of the Lower Chattahoochee Regional Transit Authority (LCRTA) into Chattahoochee and Harris Counties. With this expansion, the LCRTA will serve six counties in Western Georgia.

River Valley Region voters also approved the continuation of TIA-II funded projects in May of 2022, which will provide funding for 45 new infrastructure projects in the region, totaling over 800 million dollars over the next ten years.

Finally, the RVRC would not be able to accomplish so much without the support of the local governments and citizens in the River Valley Region.

The future is looking bright for our region. I am looking forward to continuing to work alongside the RVRC to help build a better and stronger community for our friends and neighbors; our fellow Georgians.

Sincerely,

Pops Barnes
River Valley Regional Commission Council Chairman
Mission
The mission of the RVRC is to create, promote and foster the orderly growth and economic prosperity for our region.

Vision
Foster a region where current and future generations succeed at home, at work, and in their communities.

Core Values
• Accountability
• Collaboration
• Community
• Innovation
• Diversity
• Integrity
• Good Stewardship

River Valley Communities
16 Counties • 35 Cities

UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF CUSSETA—CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY
CLAY COUNTY
Bluffton
Fort Gaines
CRISP COUNTY
Arabi
Cordele
DOOLY COUNTY
Byromville
Dooling
Lilly
Pinehurst
Unadilla
Vienna
HARRIS COUNTY
Hamilton
Pine Mountain
Shiloh
Waverly Hall
MACON COUNTY
Ideal
Marshallville
Montezuma
Oglethorpe
MARION COUNTY
Buena Vista

MUSCOGEE COUNTY—COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF GEORGETOWN—QUITMAN
RANDOLPH COUNTY
Cuthbert
Shellman
SCHLEY COUNTY
Ellaville
STEWART COUNTY
Lumpkin
Richland
SUMTER COUNTY
Americus
Andersonville
DeSoto
Leslie
Plains
TALBOT COUNTY
Geneva
Junction City
Talbotton
Woodland
TAYLOR COUNTY
Butler
Reynolds
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF WEBSTER COUNTY
River Valley Regional

Commission Staff

Executive Director
Jim Livingston

Assistant Executive Director
Sarah Walls

Administrative Department
Emily Chambers, Finance Officer
Tammy Collins, Finance Officer
Annie Thompson, Financial Assistant
Debbie Zwaga, Executive Secretary
Merri Spence, Executive Secretary

Planning Department
Rick Morris, Planning Director
Gerald Mixon, Planning Director
Allison Slocum, Senior Planner/Historic Preservation Planner
Laura Schneider, Environmental/GIS Planner
John Morgan, Regional Bicycle-Pedestrian Planner
Brittany Harris, Regional Planner
Scott DeClue, Regional Planner
Mariyana Kostov, GIS Specialist

Community & Economic Development
Grant Richardson, Senior Community Developer
Will Griggs, Community Developer

Area Agency on Aging
Katie Howard, AAA Director
Kia Barrow, ADRC Program Manager
Sheree Stewart, HCBS Program Manager
LaCarole Lloyd, MDS-Q Options Counselor
LaTanya Albright, HCBS Case Manager
Marie Peterson-Barnes, AAA Monitor
Annie Poles, Lead ADRC Counselor
Eboni Goff, ADRC Counselor
Jen Prescott, ADRC Counselor
Joretta Cuba, ADRC Counselor
Kemberly Daniel, ADRC Counselor
Kim Williams, ADRC Counselor/Caregiver Specialist
Sarah Standridge, Administrative Assistant/Data Resource Specialist
Franetetta Miles, Wellness Coordinator and Special Projects Coordinator

Workforce Innovation Department
Janice West, WIOA Director
Tenisha Tookes, Program Specialist

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Regional Impact

It is the responsibility of the RVRC to be good stewards of the funds entrusted to us. We do this by being efficient and effective administrators of the local, state, and federal funds we receive or secure. For Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22), more than $33.5 million in funding was secured for projects and development across the region.

Every community in the River Valley region gains access to the services provided by the RVRC through annual dues, which amount to one dollar per capita. For FY22, there were an estimated 369,115 people in the region, resulting in $369,115 in annual dues paid by the communities.

RVRC calculates return on the investment for the region by dividing the number of funds received in federal, state, and other dollars by the amount of annual dues. For FY22, the ROI is $90.90 for every one dollar of dues. This means that for every one dollar paid by each community, the RVRC was able to generate $90.90 in programs and services.

BREAKDOWN OF FY22 REGIONAL IMPACT

| STATE & FEDERAL DOLLARS BROUGHT TO THE REGION |
| $33,554,880 |
| In total federal and state funding secured during FY22 |
| 6.5% |
| State Funding |
| 93.5% |
| Federal Funding |

FUNDING ALLOCATIONS BY PROGRAM

| $26,852,019 |
| Community & Economic Development Allocations |
| $1,036,144 |
| Workforce Development Allocations |
| $399,978 |
| Planning Initiatives Allocations |
| $5,266,739 |
| Aging Services Allocations |

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: ANNUAL DUES

| $90.90/ per $1.00 |
| For every $1 in annual dues, RVRC returned $90.90 in programs and services to our communities |
| 369,115 |
| Population of River Valley Region |
Sarah Walls:
A Career of Dedication

The River Valley Regional Commission has said goodbye to Mrs. Sarah Walls after her nearly 51 years of dedicated service. Mrs. Walls, who served the RVRC as Assistant Executive Director, retired on June 30, 2022.

RVRC Staff Years of Service

Six staff members were recognized for a combined 120 years of service to the River Valley Regional Commission.

Gerald Mixon, Planning Director – 45 Years
Janice West, WIOA Director – 35 Years
Grant Richardson, Senior Community Developer – 15 Years
Annie Thompson, Financial Assistant – 15 Years
Marie Peterson-Barnes, AAA Monitor – 5 Years
Tenisha Tookes, Program Specialist – 5 Years
Transportation Investment Act (TIA)

In May 2022, River Valley Region voters opted to extend the Transportation Investment Act (TIA) referendum to renew the one-percent sales tax over a 10-year period, beginning in 2023 to fund transportation improvements.

**TIA Funding Distribution**

- 25% of Total Funds Collected in River Valley Region are targeted to Local Jurisdictions.
- 75% of Total Funds Collected in River Valley Region are targeted to Voter Approved Projects.

**River Valley Region TIA-1 Impact**

- **23 Total Projects**
- Total TIA-1 Impact for River Valley Region from 2013-August 31, 2022: $489,587,273

**Projected River Valley Region TIA-2 Impact**

- **45 Approved Projects**
- Projected Total TIA-2 Impact for River Valley Region from 2023-2032: $824,611,842

**Total Local Infrastructure Impact of TIA Funding from 2013-2032 in the River Valley Region**

$1.3 Billion
Through Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, the RVRC was able to secure $26,852,019 in funding in FY22 to benefit residents across the River Valley Region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>PROJECT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown-Quitman</td>
<td>$656,659</td>
<td>Economic Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Gaines</td>
<td>$237,747</td>
<td>Community Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus Consolidated Government</td>
<td>$2,767,500</td>
<td>Food Bank Expansion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unadilla</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
<td>Sewer Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshallville</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
<td>Water Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unadilla</td>
<td>$426,631</td>
<td>Water Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shellman</td>
<td>$138,700</td>
<td>Water Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshallville</td>
<td>$75,825</td>
<td>Sewer Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cordele</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
<td>Sewer Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland</td>
<td>$1,850,000</td>
<td>Sewer Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabi</td>
<td>$4,510,685</td>
<td>Sewer Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oglethorpe</td>
<td>$3,406,222</td>
<td>Sewer Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluffton</td>
<td>$1,282,050</td>
<td>Water Improvements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In FY22, the RVRC secured $999,027 in CDBG funding for the City of Buena Vista to drill a new well and upgrade equipment at the city's water treatment facility. The project will consist of drilling a new 325 gallon-per-minute well at the water treatment plant site. The deteriorating treatment equipment at the water plant will be replaced with modern equipment, a modernized control system, and an emergency generator.

In 2021, the City of Buena Vista determined that water from the existing well exceeded the maximum allowable amount of radium allowed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As a result, the City of Buena Vista was required to find another means to ensure that the city’s population of 1,585 residents have access to safe drinking water.

Thanks to this grant securement, 953 Buena Vista residents will have access to safe, potable water. 79 percent of the population targeted to benefit from this project are from lower-to-moderate income households. 80.1% of the Buena Vista residents that will benefit from this project are minorities.

Broadband

Provide short-term and long-term economic development planning and coordination to implement the disaster recovery and resiliency economic development plan goals and objectives.

- Used EDA grant funding to improve broadband infrastructure across the River Valley Region with state’s first Broadband plan
- Provided technical assistance for municipalities and providers seeking broadband expansion investment. This netted $82 million in investment in the region in ARPA funding
- Used the Digital Economy Plan to address telecommunication deficiencies
- Tracked projected broadband service availability and potential funding streams for unserved Census Blocks
Area Agency on Aging

The River Valley Area Agency on Aging provides services to seniors and persons with disabilities in the 16-county region. The goal of these services is to help seniors remain in their homes for as long as possible. Because Caregiving is critical to safely keeping seniors at home, support is given to Caregivers to prevent burnout. Classes are also provided to help seniors and their caregivers improve and maintain their health. The Aging and Disability Resource Connection provides information on resources available to callers as well as screening to determine eligibility for programs.

The staff of the River Valley Agency on Aging are committed to providing the information and services needed by seniors and persons with disabilities in the region.

What We Do

- Nursing Home Transitions
- Medicaid Waiver Services for persons with limited financial resources
- Options Counseling and Money-Follows-the-Person Program
- Home and Community Based Services
- Senior Center Programs
- Case Management
- Wellness and Evidence Based Services
- Caregiver Support
- Elderly Legal Services

FEEDING THE REGION

233,493
Home Delivered Meals provided to 1,068 clients

83,579
Meals delivered to 655 clients who normally ate at Senior Centers

2,316
Clients received two $30 vouchers for locally grown produce at Senior Farmers’ Markets – a new record for the region

27
Senior Farmers’ Markets Conducted
Senior Hunger Coalition

AAA awarded four (4) mini grants to local groups addressing Senior Hunger. Three churches and a non-profit organization received $1000 each to distribute food to seniors. Two churches received $500 each to purchase freezers to expand their food pantry and distribution services.

Beth Salem Presbyterian Church provided senior food boxes for 72 seniors in Muscogee County. Cathedral of Prayer, Inc. distributed food to 139 seniors in Muscogee County. Fellowship of Christians United in Service (FOCUS) provided frozen meals prepared by Feeding the Valley to 110 seniors in Harris County. St. Paul CME Church distributed food to 100 seniors in Stewart County. Geneva Baptist Church purchased a freezer with the grant money in April and reported serving 192 seniors in Talbot County since its purchase. The Church International in Schley County purchased a freezer at the end of the fiscal year and will be serving seniors in the new fiscal year.

Seniors Farmers’ Markets

The 2022 Senior Farmers’ Markets took place during the months June, July, August, and September 2022. AAA Staff were able to work closely with Senior Center Managers, Senior Housing Managers, coordinators, and community volunteers to conduct 27 markets ranging from in person to drive thru in a post pandemic environment. With these markets, AAA was able to provide 2,316 people with $30 produce vouchers.
Wellness Classes

Diabetes Self-Management classes were hosted in Stewart County. Classes met once a week for six weeks. Instructors gave certificates to 15 completers of the course. The Thanks Mom and Dad Grant provided a total of $4,000 which enabled 2 virtual Tai-Chi Classes that had participants from all over the service region, seeing 12 completers in total.

New Initiatives

Pilot projects with these funds include improving access to homes by installing ramps – 5 ramps were installed. Assistive Technology was given out to 41 clients to increase their independent living at home, and 542 clients received Material Aid, which allows providers to meet “non-traditional needs” such as groceries, prescriptions, purchase of eye glasses, and help with past due rent.
### AAA STATISTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Units/clients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respite Care</td>
<td>12,502 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homemaker Aid</td>
<td>14,885 242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Care Aid</td>
<td>7,939 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Management</td>
<td>1,965 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistive Technology</td>
<td>13,714 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material Aid</td>
<td>542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Home Ramps”</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ADRC Provides Vital Resources

The Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) has provided vital information and resources to the community during the Pandemic. Referrals have more than doubled between May of 2020 and May of 2022. These referrals have been handled in a timely and professional manner with no increase in staff.
The River Valley Regional Commission serves as the grant recipient and administrative entity for the local area Workforce Innovations Opportunities Act (WIOA) services. These services are governed by the Middle Flint Workforce Development Board (MFWDB), which is composed of local area private and public sector members. The local WIOA area serves an eight (8) county area consisting of Crisp, Dooly, Macon, Marion, Schley, Sumter, Taylor, and Webster counties. WIOA services offer educational and training opportunities to eligible individuals ages 17 and up within the area to assist and enhance employment opportunities which will lead to employment, retention in employment and individual self-sufficiency.

**Work Source Georgia**

**What We Do**

- Administer the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act services on behalf of the Middle Flint Workforce Development Board.
- Provide assistance to Trade Act impacted customers with training applications, assessments, career advisement, case management, and referral to training activities.
- Provide Rapid Response services for companies and individuals affected by layoffs and closures.
WIOA WORKSOURCE SUCCESS STORY
MIDDLE FLINT YOUTH PROGRAM

KASSIDY TOMBERLIN

Kassidy Tomberlin’s goals were to earn a high school equivalence – GED credential and obtain adequate employment to support her family. Tomberlin had several barriers in her way of achieving her educational and employment goals, including:

1. High school drop-out
2. Basic skills deficiency
3. Low-income
4. Inadequate job history and skills
5. Single parent
6. Limited support system at home

With these pressing barriers, Tomberlin’s dreams of a career in early childhood education seemed impossible.

With the help of the RVRC’s WIOA program, Tomberlin was able to attend classes at the River Valley Eckerd Connects | Paxen location. Tomberlin received assistance with transportation needs, GED instruction, work readiness training, leadership development, and financial literacy training. After one month, Tomberlin earned her GED credential.

Tomberlin was placed on a paid job site to develop her skills in administrative services. After 240 hours of work experience training, she was hired as a daycare provider in Crisp County. Tomberlin plans to return to school to study Early Childhood Education. Tomberlin’s training was made possible through WIOA funding made available through the River Valley Regional Commission and Middle Flint Work Source Georgia.

WIOA has twelve (12) Performance Measures reporting standards. Local areas negotiate performance measures annually with the State Workforce Division for their area performance goals. WIOA exceeded every applicable performance measure.

PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>Level Achieved</th>
<th>Goal / Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Entered Employment Rate Q2</td>
<td>87.9%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Entered Employment Rate Q4</td>
<td>84.4%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Credential Rate</td>
<td>79.0%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Skills Gains</td>
<td>69.6%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dislocated Worker</td>
<td>Entered Employment Rate Q2</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dislocated Worker</td>
<td>Entered Employment Rate Q4</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dislocated Worker</td>
<td>Credential Rate</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dislocated Worker</td>
<td>Skills Gains</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>Entered Employment Rate Q2</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>Entered Employment Rate Q4</td>
<td>81.8%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>Credential Rate</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>Skills Gains</td>
<td>73.9%</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* N/A (Dislocated Workers) no participants enrolled in Dislocated Worker cohort.
Regional Planning

Our sixteen-county region is a diverse and remarkable place home to approximately 369,115 people during FY22.

To help our communities and the region continue to grow, develop, and thrive, we provide professional planning assistance across several programs. These efforts work toward attaining our regional goals outlined in our comprehensive and strategic plans.

Revolving Loans

RVRC provides low-interest loans up to $250,000 for regional businesses looking to grow and expand.

5 Loans Closed in FY22

$819,267 Loan Closing

34 Total Jobs Were Created or Retained

Zoning

RVRC provides zoning services for communities located within the region. Zoning services have been available to our communities for 30 years. Currently, staff provide zoning and subdivision review services to five communities.

3 COMPREHENSIVE PLANS
Were Completed For Regional Governments In FY 2022.
Our Staff Also Assisted In 2 Others.

3 PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLANS
Were Completed For Regional Governments In FY 2022.
Our Staff Also Assisted In 2 Others.
What We Do

Regional Planning
• Assist local governments with comprehensive plans
• Provide technical assistance to planning commissions and local governments, including preparing zoning ordinances, zoning maps, subdivision regulations, and ordinance amendments
• Coordinate planning and implementation of Service Delivery Strategies
• Prepare and update the RVRC Regional Plan
• Review and solicit comments from affected parties on Developments of Regional Impact
• Prepare Pre-Disaster plans
• Urban Redevelopment

Economic Development
• Develop Comprehensive Plan
• Develop Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
• Provide staffing assistance to regional economic development groups
• Assist small businesses and entrepreneurs with applications for Revolving Loan Funds
• Provide staff assistance to cities, counties, and regional organizations for the Revolving Loan Funds
• Assist local governments and others with downtown redevelopment efforts
• Work with EPA and GA partners to help address the redevelopment of Brownfields

Community Development
• Write and administer CDBG Grants
• Prepare applications for project funding to implement local plans
• Provide public administration technical assistance
**Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning**

The Bicycle and Pedestrian program enhances quality of life for community residents by encouraging active transportation, promoting bicycle/pedestrian safety, and developing bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure. RVRC helps to support active cycling advocacy organizations in four communities, achieving the results below. One of these organizations, Bicycle Columbus, created two new signature events showcasing local African American heritage. RVRC planners assisted in the development of regional trails and partnered with the University of Georgia to develop plans for bicycle pedestrian improvements benefitting communities in the CDC’s high-obesity program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What We Do</th>
<th>Bike-to-Work Participants</th>
<th>Business Partners to Encourage Casual Riders</th>
<th>People Engaged In Safety Education With 70 Helmets Distributed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assist with development of pedestrian and bikeway facilities planning</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinate with GDOT in the development of Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian plan and website</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan, develop, and execute bicycle events and programs that focus on bike education and connectivity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

53 Bike-to-Work Participants

192 Cyclists In 15 Casual Group Rides

11 Business Partners to Encourage Casual Riders

331 Cyclists In Registered Events

128 People Engaged In Safety Education With 70 Helmets Distributed

47 Free Bicycle Maintenance Checks

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**Transit**

The River Valley Regional Commission, through its contract with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), works in planning, developing, and executing transportation initiatives throughout the 16 county region. Transportation plays a key role in developing our communities’ connectivity, economic development, tourism, and active lifestyle.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What We Do</th>
<th>DHS Trips Performed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serve as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee for the Columbus Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization</td>
<td>55,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide electronic data adhering to all format quality measures specified by GDOT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assist with the development and administration of Transportation Enhancement Projects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide staffing assistance to the Citizens Review Panel for implementation of the Transportation Investment Act</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The term “River Valley Region” refers to a geographic area between the Flint and Chattahoochee Rivers. This 16-county territory is abundant with natural resources that must be cared for and maintained to ensure a healthy regional ecosystem. These two river systems are used to meet many needs including power generation, agriculture, aquaculture, drinking water, navigation, and recreation. Through several programs, RVRC’s environmental planning staff works to ensure that these resources remain healthy and safeguarded.

**Environmental Planning**

**What We Do**

- Prepare Total Maximum Load (TMDL) implementation plans for impaired streams
- Prepare and implement watershed management plans to improve water quality in impaired stream segments and maintain water quality in healthy stream segments
- Assist with development of ordinances for the protection of environmental resources

**Historic Preservation**

The RVRC’s Historic Preservation staff works with local governments as well as federal and state entities to help preserve the region’s historical resources and assets. Currently, the region is home to 34 historic districts and hundreds of significant historic locations. Some of these organizations include the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the National Park Service’s State Historic Preservation Office. Our efforts include grant writing, technical assistance, surveying, and consultation.

**What We Do**

- Prepare applications for and administer preservation grants
- Provide technical assistance to private businesses and individuals with nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and historic preservation tax credits
- Coordinate with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and perform historic resource surveys
- Perform Section 106 Reviews
- Provide technical assistance to Historic Preservation Commissions
- Develop design guidelines

**Began work on a 319(h) grant for Pataula Creek watershed**

**14 Phase I Environmental Site Assessments completed for Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant (Crisp, Dooly, Macon, and Sumter Counties)**

**52 Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Reviews for Columbus HPC**

**4 COA Reviews for Pine Mountain Design Review Committee**
RVRC PROGRAMS

Planning & Government Services
- Grant Writing and Administration
- Comprehensive Economic Dev. Strategy
- Revolving Loan Funds
- Comprehensive Plans
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plans
- Zoning Assistance
- Environmental Planning
- Historic Preservation
- CDBG Administration
- Transit Development
- Mobility Management
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning
- Transportation Investment Act
- Geographic Information Systems

Aging Services
- Elderly Legal Services
- Home Delivered Meals
- Congregate Meals
- Homemaker
- Personal Care
- Senior Centers
- Transportation
- Caregiver Respite
- Case Management
- Nursing Home Transitions

Workforce Development
- Individual Training Accounts
- Work Experience Services
- General Education Diploma Plus
- On-the-Job Training
- WIOA Grant Awards

710 Front Avenue
Columbus, GA 31901
228 West Lamar Street
Americus, GA 31709

TOLL FREE NUMBER:
1-877-819-6348
706.256.2910

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