



FORSYTHCOUNTY
Department of Communications
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**KICK-OFF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING FOR
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE TO BE HELD OCTOBER 28**

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – The Forsyth County Planning and Development Department will host a kick-off public information meeting for the Comprehensive Plan update on Thursday, October 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Forsyth County Administration Building. The meeting will provide an overview of the purpose of local comprehensive planning with a presentation of the *Community Assessment* portion of the plan, along with an outline of public participation opportunities that will be available throughout the *Community Agenda* process.

Forsyth County's Comprehensive Plan serves as a policy guide as decisions are made in relation to growth and land use change. The plan addresses critical issues and opportunities through the incorporation of a shared vision for the community's future. The Georgia Planning Act of 1989 requires a local government's comprehensive plan be updated at least once every ten years. The county is currently underway with the update process in order to meet the state-required adoption deadline of June 30, 2012.

A comprehensive plan is a result of public planning processes that involve members of the community who work together to visualize the desired shape and distribution of growth through a collaborative dialogue. This part of the plan update is referred to as the *Community Agenda*, which incorporates the community's vision for the county and how it will be achieved. Since this component of the comprehensive plan provides guidance for future decision-making, it is essential that the public participates as this part of the plan is being created.

“Forsyth County is asking for public participation during the *Community Agenda* through a series of community workshops, beginning with the kick-off meeting October 28, and

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running through 2011,” Senior Long Range Planner Vanessa Bernstein said. “It is imperative we hear from individuals, groups and institutions that are vested in the future of the county. Stakeholders are indispensable to the public planning process since they will be affected by the plan’s recommendations.”

The meeting will be held in Suite 220 of the Forsyth County Administration Building, located at 110 E. Main Street in Cumming. To receive additional information, call 678.513.5866.

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