



FORSYTHCOUNTY
Department of Communications
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT DURING UPCOMING
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT MAP WORKSHOPS**

Workshops are part of ongoing Comprehensive Plan update process

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – The Forsyth County Planning and Development Department will host two upcoming community workshops as part of the ongoing Comprehensive Plan update process. The workshops will be held on Monday, March 7, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Brookwood Elementary School cafeteria and on Monday, March 14, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Coal Mountain Elementary School cafeteria.

These meetings will provide scenario options for the state-required, future development map and will be held in an open house format. The workshops are scheduled at two different locations to facilitate convenience and will cover the same content.

The future development map is an essential element within the Comprehensive Plan since the map communicates a community vision for preferred future land use during the twenty-year, long range planning period.

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

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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 Senior Long Range Planner Vanessa Bernstein said public participation is an important part of the process.

“Forsyth County is seeking public participation during the *Community Agenda* process through a series of workshops that began with the October 28, 2010 kick-off meeting and will continue in 2011,” she said. “A crucial component of the process is hearing from local individuals and institutions interested in the future direction of Forsyth County. Their input is invaluable to the public planning process as they will ultimately be affected by the plan’s recommendations.”

To receive additional information and learn about further options for public input, access <http://compplan.forsythco.com> or call 678.513.5866.

Brookwood Elementary School is located at 2980 Vaughan Drive, Cumming, Georgia 30041. Coal Mountain Elementary School is located at 3455 Coal Mountain Drive, Cumming, Georgia 30028.

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