



# Programs

## & ACTIVITIES

A summary & sampler of activities of the Southern Georgia Regional Commission  
*A leader in the development of local and regional programs since 1963.*

• 2018 •

(229) 333-5277

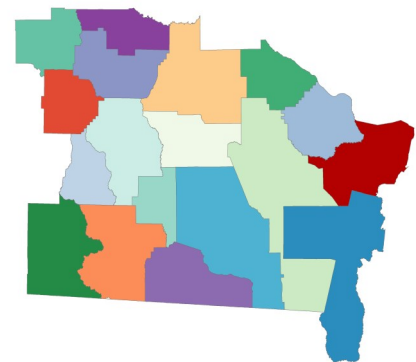
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www.sgrc.us

**The Southern Georgia Regional Commission (SGRC) is a regional planning and intergovernmental coordination agency which serves 45 municipalities and 18 counties in Southern Georgia.**

For more than 50 years, the SGRC has provided a comprehensive array of services and resources in response to the needs of member local governments. SGRC has a dedicated staff of over 60 professionals, including technical experts in a number of specialized fields, who team with local governments to solve problems and to increase the prosperity and quality of life in the region. The following is a sample of the programs and activities that SGRC provides; however, it is not a comprehensive list — we do more.

### SGRC Serves 18 Counties in Southern Georgia



Please do not hesitate to call us to explore ways the SGRC can best work with your city or county to address your community's and our region's issues, challenges, and opportunities.

**Atkinson • Bacon • Ben Hill • Berrien • Brantley • Brooks • Charlton • Clinch • Coffee  
 Cook • Echols • Irwin • Lanier • Lowndes • Pierce • Tift • Turner • Ware**

### Planning Services

Contact: Sherry Davidson

SGRC provides technical assistance to local governments in comprehensive planning, local development regulations, Hazard Mitigation Plans and other specialized planning studies. The Planning program also provides information and public policy options to local governments based on sound research and analysis. Through continuous outreach, we help our member governments maintain Qualified Local Government Status which allows them to receive state and federal funding. Planning activities focus on fulfilling community and regional visions and goals as well as the protection of the region's environmental and cultural resources. Listed below are some of the areas in which we assist local governments.

◆ Regional and Local Comprehensive Plan Updates	◆ Urban Redevelopment Plans
◆ Assistance with and updating of Land Development Codes	◆ Neighborhood Revitalization Strategies
◆ Historic Preservation Grants, Ordinances and Planning	◆ Joint Land Use Studies
◆ Planning and Zoning Administration	◆ Technical Assistance

# SGRC Programs & Activities

## Loan Program—Business Financing for Southern Georgia

Contact: Michelle Frey

SGRC's loan program provides financing for the development of new businesses or the expansion of existing businesses through nine loan programs offered by the Southern Georgia Area Resource Development Agency (ARDA) and the Southern Georgia Area Development Corporation (ADC). The loan department manages over \$6 million in EDA/USDA Rural Development funded revolving loan funds and is a Certified Development Corporation charged with making SBA 504 and 7(a) Guaranteed loans for commercial businesses. The mission of this program is to encourage business development and job creation in the region through a public-private partnership with regional financial institutions.

## Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Contact: Rachel Strom

SGRC's Geographic Information Systems program develops and maintains geographic information system (GIS) data and applications for governments in Southern Georgia and beyond.

GIS technology is all about making better decisions through query and analysis of spatial data and is used extensively in the Southern Georgia region. Local governments utilize GIS technology and data developed by SGRC to handle everything from monitoring growth and parcel assessment to crime analysis and emergency response planning. For a sample of how we do this, visit [www.valorgis.com](http://www.valorgis.com) or follow any of our social media accounts for more information about how GIS impacts the Southern Georgia area. You can find us on Facebook by searching for SGRC GIS, Instagram @sgrc\_gis, and Twitter @sgregis

◆ WEB-BASED MAPPING	◆ EMERGENCY SERVICES
◆ GIS EDUCATION	◆ MARKET ANALYSIS
◆ PARCEL MAPPING	◆ CRIME MAPPING & ANALYSIS
◆ HAZARD MAPPING	◆ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
◆ SITE SELECTION	◆ UTILITIES MANAGEMENT
◆ CEMETERY MAPPING	◆ PLANNING SUPPORT

## Workforce Development

Contact: Roberta Lovett

The vision of the Southern Georgia Workforce Development Division is to empower Southern Georgia employers, individuals, and communities to prosper and grow the region's economy through a workforce development system this is inherently customer-centered, seamless, and effective.

Workforce Development administers the federally funded Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program. WIOA is landmark legislation that is designed to (1) strengthen and improve our nation's public workforce system, (2) help get Americans, including youth and those with significant barriers to employment, into high-quality jobs and careers and (3) help employers hire and retain skilled workers.

The following is a list of the programs available to employers and job seekers:

◆ ADULT EDUCATION/GED	◆ TUITION ASSISTANCE	◆ SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
◆ ON-THE-JOB TRAINING	◆ LAYOFF AVERSION	◆ CUSTOMIZED TRAINING
◆ INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING	◆ RAPID RESPONSE ASSISTANCE	◆ JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE
◆ CAREER PLANNING	◆ JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE	◆ YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE

# SGRC Programs & Activities

## Area Agency on Aging

Contact: Wanda Taft

The SGRC’s Area Agency on Aging develops, provides, coordinates, and advocates for services that assist older individuals, at-risk adults, persons with disabilities, their families, and caregivers. The vision of the AAA is to assist these individuals in Living Longer, Living Safely, and Living Well.

The following programs and services receive federal and state funding through a contract between the SGRC and the Department of Human Services or between the SGRC and the Department of Community Health. While some of the following services are provided by AAA staff, most programs are sub-contracted to cities, counties, and other organizations that contribute local monies to provide services directly in their communities.

◆ INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE	◆ CASE MANAGEMENT	◆ OPTIONS COUNSELING
◆ ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY	◆ PERSONAL CARE SERVICES	◆ HOMEMAKER SERVICES
◆ CAREGIVER EDUCATION	◆ CAREGIVER IN-HOME RESPITE	◆ ELDERLY LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
◆ WELLNESS PROGRAMS	◆ ALZHEIMER’S ADULT DAY CARE	◆ GEORGIA CARES (ASSISTANCE FOR MEDICARE RECIPIENTS)
◆ CARE CONSULTATION	◆ MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON AND NURSING HOME TRANSITIONS	◆ HOME MODIFICATION (WHEELCHAIR RAMP CONSTRUCTION)
◆ NUTRITION SERVICES, INCLUDING SENIOR CENTER SERVICES, HOME DELIVERED MEALS, AND NUTRITION EDUCATION		

For information about these AAA programs and services, contact your Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) at 1-888-73-AGING (1-888-732-4464). Also, find us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/SouthernGeorgiaAreaAgencyonAging](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernGeorgiaAreaAgencyonAging)

## Community and Economic Development

Contact: Kimberly Hobbs

The SGRC’s Community and Economic Development Program provides technical assistance to local governments in identifying projects to improve community programs and facilities (Grant funded projects include street paving and drainage, water and sewer, public buildings, neighborhood revitalization, streetscape and pedestrian facilities, as well as police and fire department facilities, equipment, and vehicles.); developing related grant and loan applications; and administering funded projects. Community and Economic Development activities are designed to promote regional economic development, to assist local communities in increasing their economic development capacity, to identify funding to assist with the location and expansion of new and existing industry, and to facilitate activities which encourage business development and job creation in order to enhance the standard of living for area residents. The SGRC’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) identifies problems and barriers to economic development, and proposes strategies to overcome these barriers.

◆ Community Development Block Grants (CDBG/CDBG-EIP/CDBG-RDF/CDBG-ITAD)	◆ OneGeorgia Authority Equity and Edge Grant/Loan Programs	◆ Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works Grant Program
◆ USDA Public Facilities and Rural Business Development Grant/Loan Programs	◆ DNR Recreational Trails Program and Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCE) Grants	◆ Department of Justice’s Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Grant Program
◆ FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program	◆ Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) Grant/Loan Programs	◆ And a variety of other grants/loans

# SGRC Programs & Activities

## Transportation & Environmental

Contact: Corey Hull

The SGRC's Transportation and Environmental Programs serve local governments in planning activities and delivers vital transportation services to clients. Since 2002, the SGRC has been the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Valdosta Urbanized Area, carrying out various long- and short-range transportation planning activities around metropolitan Valdosta. The SGRC also provides transportation planning services to rural counties in the region through a funding partnership with the Georgia Department of Transportation. These services are primarily focused on rural transit and bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure planning. The SGRC Coordinated Human Service Transportation Program serves, on average, 9,000 clients per month (clients eligible through Georgia Department of Human Services and other state agencies). These individuals receive transportation for a number of purposes including medical appointments, senior center attendance, and mental health program participation.

Partnering with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, local governments and private landowners, the SGRC Environmental Services Program develops and implements water quality best management practices along rivers and streams throughout the region.

## Information Technology Services

Contact: Larry Adams

The Information Technology (IT) Services Program provides valuable services to local governments in our region. SGRC delivers desktop computer, server, and networking support.

The benefits of this service include:

- ◆ State contract pricing
- ◆ Quick response with local staff
- ◆ No minimum service charge

SGRC also keeps software developers on staff who can build **ANY** custom windows and web-based application to meet the specific needs of a local government. Some examples of our breadth of experience include:

◆ LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SOFTWARE	◆ WORK ORDER SYSTEMS	◆ TAX PAYMENT SYSTEMS
◆ BUSINESS LICENSING	◆ SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY	◆ UTILITY BILLING
◆ BUILDING PERMITS	◆ JURY SELECTION	◆ FIXED ASSETS



An Equal Opportunity Employer Program

[www.sgrc.us](http://www.sgrc.us)

**Lisa Cribb**  
Executive Director

**Chris Strom**  
Assistant Executive Director

## Mission Statement

*To effectively and efficiently oversee the implementation and administration of programs and services that assist local governments, resulting in an improved quality of life for Southern Georgians.*

### Valdosta Office

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