

PUBLIC HEARING
Lamar County
Comprehensive Plan Update 2023-2043
February 21st, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing #1
By Three Rivers Regional Commission

Paul Jarrell, Project Lead for Three Rivers, gave a presentation on a Comprehensive Plan.

Why a Comprehensive Plan?

- Establish a community-based, short and long-term vision for the future.
- Assess existing needs, conditions, and opportunities.
- Establish goals and strategies to guide future actions based upon a shared vision.
- Build upon previous planning efforts and initiatives.
- Formalize implementation plan.
- Qualify for permits, grants, and other funding programs.
- Comply with state planning requirements and maintain Qualified Local Government (QLG) status.
- State Law - Georgia Planning Act 1989.

Planning Horizon

- 20-year outlook
- 5-year community work program
- Intended to be updated as needed to account for economic, development, and/or environmental changes which impact the local community

Comprehensive Plan Team

- County and City Staff
- Consultant Team-TRRC Staff
- Steering Committee
- The Public
- Elected Officials

Plan Steering Committee

- To oversee, guide and participate in the development of the plan
- Must Include:
- At least one elected official
 - A member representing the economic development sector

The committee should include other local community stakeholders and citizens which represent and wide spectrum of interests.

Public Participation

- Steering Committee – Community Stakeholders
 - Elected official
 - Economic development representative(s)
 - Other community appointees
- Open House and Community Visioning Event(s)
 - Citizen and stakeholder input
 - Community vision for the future
- Draft Plan Review
 - Local and regional stakeholder review

Plan Framework

Topics within the plan include; Intergovernmental cooperation, economic development, housing, transportation, natural and cultural resources, community facilities and services, land use, and broadband expansion.

- Community Goals
 - Vision Statement
 - Goals
 - Policies
- Needs & Opportunities
 - SWOT Analysis
 - -List of Community
 - Needs and Opportunities
- Land Use
 - Character Areas
 - And Land Use
 - Narrative
- Community Work Program
 - Five-year action plan
 - Short-term activities

Planning Process Proposed Timeline of 2023.

- First Public Hearing-February
- Form Steering Committee-March
- Public Events-March and April
- Steering Committee Meeting-March-July
- Plan Preparation-May-September
- Committee Work Program-August-October
- Second Public Hearing-October-November
- Submittal to TRRC and DCA for Regional-November
- Notification of Interested Parties-November
- DCA Approval and Report of Findings and Recommendations-November
- Plan Adoption-December

Public Comments

Ricky Stephenson of 184 Jones Road, Milner, Georgia, addressed the board. Mr. Stephenson requested that the Board of Commissioners add the water back to the County from the City of Barnesville. He also asked that they paint the fire hydrants with a better color scheme because they do not show up at night.

Elaine Hallada of 131 Steeple Chase Barnesville, Georgia, addressed the board. Mrs. Hallada thanked Commissioner Gilles and Commissioner Lovett for meeting with her. She stated that she had hired a lawyer who knows all about land use in Georgia. Mrs. Hallada stated that President Biden had passed a bill where every community has to have equal opportunity housing in all counties, cities, and towns. She said that there is nothing in the Comprehensive plan for low-income housing, and they must provide space in these areas for low-income housing.

Adjournment

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing at approximately 7:19 p.m. Commissioner Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ryran Traylor, Chairman

Nancy Thrash, Vice-Chair

Jarrod Fletcher, Commissioner

Jason Lovett, Commissioner

Ashley Gilles, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson