

Georgia Planning Association

2015 Chapter Awards

September 10, 2015

Georgia Chapter of the American Planning Association
Annual Awards



American Planning Association
Georgia Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

Chapter Awards

Criteria:

- **Innovation** of concept
- **Transferability** to other areas or projects
- **Quality** of thought, analysis and character
- Effectiveness of, or promise for, **Implementation**
- **Comprehensiveness** of principles observed
- Strong effort to solicit **Public Participation**
- Use of **Technology** in planning processes
- Demonstration of **Equity**
- Integration of **Sustainable** practices

Categories:

1. **Outstanding Planning Process**
2. **Outstanding Planning Document**
3. **Outstanding Plan Implementation**
4. **Outstanding Initiatives**
5. **Outstanding Student Project**
6. **Outstanding Health Planning: (Rotating Practice Award)**

Outstanding Planning Process

Small Community

Downtown Kennesaw Livable Centers Initiative

Included a variety of planning tools that are typically used alone (Community Input Sessions and day-long Charrette) to solicit input from the community on areas which needed improvement

The Plan provided specific recommendations in the area of Main Street infill, greenspace improvements, Cobb Parkway infill (including TOD), economic development strategies (e.g. branding campaign), and transportation improvements



Outstanding Planning Process

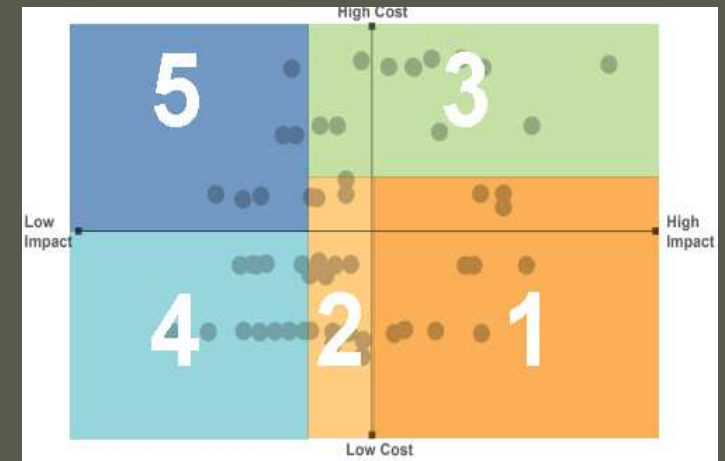
Large Community

South Downtown Transit Station Enhancement Plan-Central Atlanta Progress/ ADID

Implementation-focused design recommendations for Five Points and Garnett MARTA stations, a one block radius and connecting blocks

Focused on public engagement as well as meetings with a steering committee, focus groups, and MARTA. Feedback became an integral part of design and planning guiding principles and recommendations

Recommendations unveiled in a public workshop and then moved to project prioritization



Outstanding Planning Document

Small Community

City of Clarkston Livable Centers Initiative 10-Year Update

The project focused on Clarkston's downtown, transportation infrastructure, and rich and diverse cultural landscape

The Update proposes to:

- Maintain the small character of Clarkston and its socio-economic and ethnic diversity
- Expand existing uses and industries in downtown and on redevelopment sites while promoting a variety of housing choices available at various price points.
- Upgrade transportation to a multi-modal network including multi-use trails, sidewalks, access management and road



Outstanding Plan Implementation

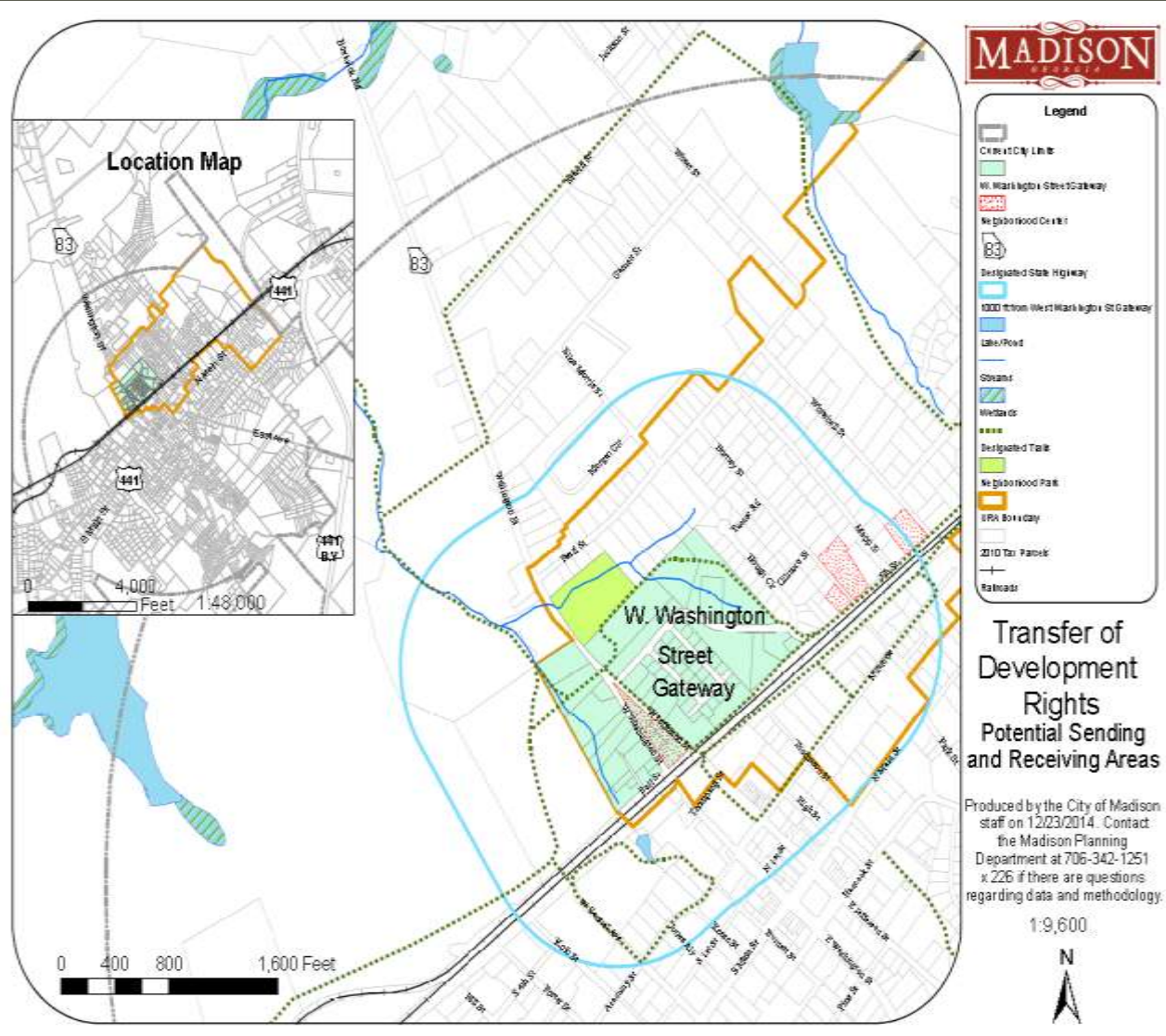
ColumbusMakesIT Digital Economy Plan (DEP)-River Valley Commission (RVC)

- DEPs (1 for each of 12 GA Regional Commissions) assessed workforce, technical infrastructure, and capital, then made recommendations to grow the regional digital economy
- RVC Plan called (in part) for creation of a makerspace in Columbus, Georgia
- Within a year, a space has been secured, equipment purchased, volunteers organized, and facility
- Effort recognized by the White House
- Assisting STEM education and start-up activity



Outstanding Initiative *Small Community*

City of Madison – Transferable Development Rights Program

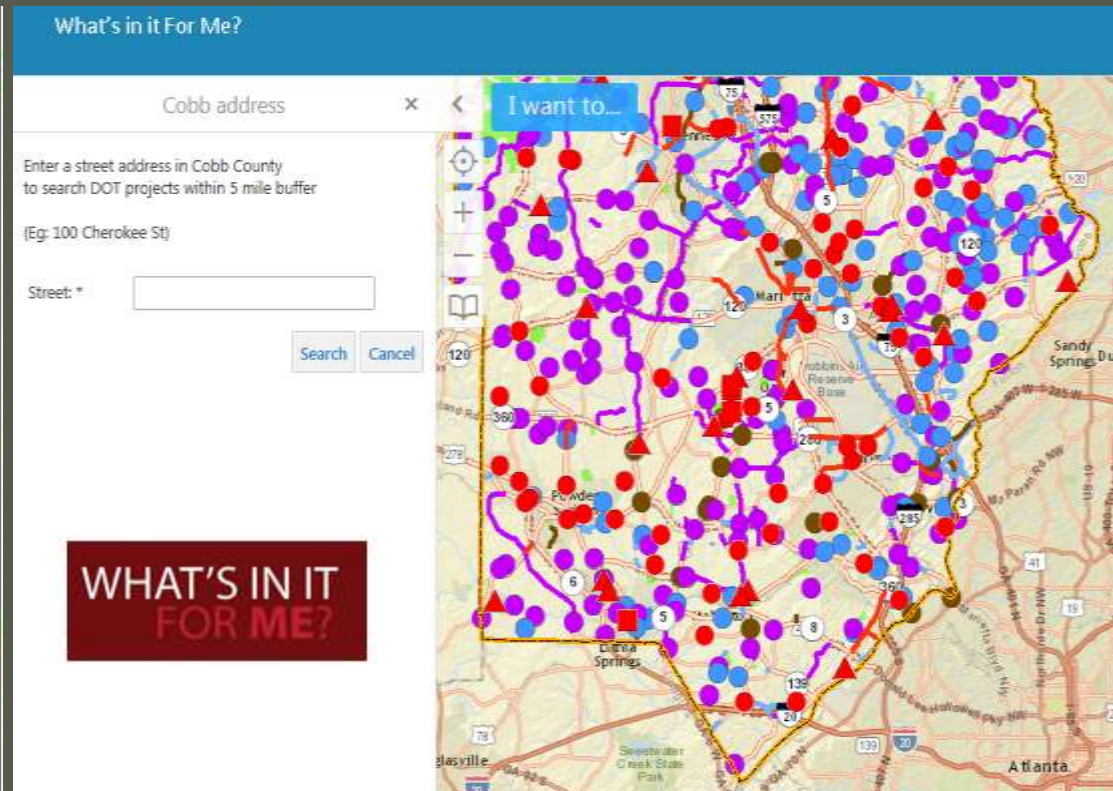


- In 2004, concept introduced in County Comprehensive Plan
- 2009, Greenprint Addendum and Concept Map
- In 2014, TDR Ordinance passed
- Two major transactions in 2015 protecting lands and getting funds for future acquisitions
- One of 3 TDR programs (along with Milton and Chatt Hills) in the state

Outstanding Initiative *Large Community*

Cobb DOT GIS Tools Engaging the Public

- Suite of GIS-based tools to connect with and engage citizens from reporting potholes and requesting new sidewalks to finding alternative routes around large construction
- Tools play a valuable role in expanding citizens/staff interaction



Outstanding Student Project

School Siting and Design: Integrating School and Community Planning

-Georgia Tech School of City and Regional Planning

- The studio examined the current school siting process in the Atlanta Region and state, and how siting decisions influence school districts and their respective communities for years to come.
- Recommendations included: active and diverse modes of access, functional building and campus sizing, sprawl reduction, co-location of facilities, community engagement, and intergovernmental coordination



Outstanding Health Planning

Medline Livable Centers Initiative Plan-DeKalb County

- *Healthy Economy* through implementation of “Medical Mile”
- *Healthy Land Use* per a Wellness District Overlay, Public Art and Culture Master Plan, and an Intergenerational Community Center.
- *Healthy Transportation* via wellness multi-use trail, DeKalb Industrial Way greenway, improved bus shelters
- *Healthy Environment* using complete stream policy, regional water retention plan, and air quality monitoring standards



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