

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE IN TROUP COUNTY, GEORGIA

Index of Reports

In June 2007, leaders in Troup County and the cities of LaGrange, West Point, and Hogansville kicked off a two-year strategic planning initiative to create a framework for sustainable development. The goal of the effort is to develop innovative strategies for promoting quality growth, fostering healthy economic development, enhancing the quality of life of residents, and protecting Troup County's natural environment, sense of place, and community. Troup County leadership wants to preserve and enhance places for area residents and businesses by proactively, progressively and creatively directing the community's growth and development to shape its future.

Georgia Tech - through its Enterprise Innovation Institute (EI²) and Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development (CQGRD) - conducted research, assessments, and strategy development in support of this initiative. The following documents and series of reports were produced in 2008 in concert with these efforts.

- **Troup County Executive Summary:** Highlights, key observations and recommendations for a Strategic Plan, based on interviews with stakeholders and external partners, and a series of independent assessments by EI² and CQGRD.
- **Troup County Strategic Plan:** Strategic goals and related strategies and action items adopted by the Troup County Leadership Team steering the strategic planning process for implementation over a three-to-five year time period.
- **Troup County Recommendations Report:** Georgia Tech's concluding observations and recommendations for the Troup County Leadership Team, based on the team's research, assessments, and strategy development, as detailed in the following companion reports.

Research Reports

- **Stakeholders View:** Summary results of Georgia Tech's interviews with 154 Troup County stakeholders on their vision for Troup County and desirable community development.
- **Partners View:** Summary results of Georgia Tech's interviews with 30 statewide and regional partners concerning the development potential and future growth of Troup County.
- **Sustainable Development Report Card:** EI²'s benchmarking evaluation of more than 120 performance indicators related to community growth and change, fiscal capacity, self sufficiency, economic base, workforce, youth development, education, civic and social capital, community health, and environmental preservation.
- **Auto Plant Communities in the South:** A collection of case studies prepared by EI² to learn about the economic development-related experiences of other rural communities selected to house a major auto plant facility.
- **Youth Survey:** EI²'s survey of 1,352 Troup County high school students to gain a better understanding of the perceptions of youth in the community and how they view the future of Troup County.
- **Quality Growth Audit:** CQGRD's evaluation of existing plans, policies, regulations, and practices against the community's vision of quality growth and accepted principles. The evaluation also identifies and prioritizes recommended changes and actions based on the findings of the audit.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE IN TROUP COUNTY, GEORGIA

Index of Reports

Assessment Reports

- **Business Development Assessment:** Results of EI²'s assessment of key opportunities based on the anticipated economic impacts of Kia and an analysis of the region's existing and emerging industry cluster potential. This assessment identifies the most strategic business growth opportunities that fit community criteria relating to wages, resource consumption, operation type, and other preferences.
- **Human Services Assessment:** Results of EI²'s assessment of key human service needs and opportunities for Troup County to address in the areas of health care, public safety, family and children, housing, transportation, and community culture and diversity. This assessment identifies strategic pursuits for expanding human services to meet current and future needs.
- **Redevelopment Assessment:** CQGRD's assessment of potential redevelopment and revitalization areas, and a review of places of similar size and character that have successfully revitalized underutilized areas in their communities. The assessment also includes information about possible partners and funding sources for redevelopment efforts.
- **Spatial Strategy for Sustainability:** CQGRD's exploration of potential development pattern scenarios based on current and future population and job growth. The Spatial Strategy links the attributes of Troup County and Its Cities to the opportunities and impacts from the broader region, and merges quality growth and economic development issues within the spatial context of the County.
- **Transportation Assessment:** CQGRD's assessment of existing transportation plans, future transportation demand, and best practices for alternative transportation strategies.
- **Workforce Development Assessment:** Results of EI²'s assessment of local workforce development strengths as well as challenges, and the capacity within Troup County to address those challenges. This assessment identifies strategic pursuits for broadening this capacity to develop the current and future workforce.