The Regional Commission Council is responsible for general oversight, establishing policy and direction of the organization and the component units in accordance with state and federal laws.

**Baldwin County**
Commissioner Johnny Westmoreland
Councilman Richard Mullins*
Mr. Bill Millians
Mr. Derek Williams
Councilperson Denese Shinholster

**Crawford County**
Chairman Paul Chapman
Mayor Becky Smith
Mr. Charles Westberry*
Mr. Brent Lowe
Mr. Robert F. Ray

**Houston County**
Chairman Tommy Stalnaker
Mayor John Harley
Mr. George E. Slappey*
Mayor Randy Toms
Councilman Clifford Holmes

**Jones County**
Chairman Chris Weidner
Mayor Stephen Tingen
Mr. Jimmy Roberts*
Mr. Francis Adams
Mr. Frank Duke

**Macon-Bibb County**
Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert
Commissioner Bert Bivins*
Mr. Isaac Culver
Mr. Lonnie Miley
Mr. Robby Fountain

**Monroe County**
Chairman Gregory Tapley
Mayor Eric Wilson*
Dr. Dick Bazemore
Councilman Melvin Lawrence
Mr. Edd Norris

**Peach County**
Chairman Martin Moseley
Mayor Barbara Williams*
Ms. Carolyn Biggs
Councilman James Richardson
Mr. James Khoury

**Pulaski County**
Sole Commissioner Butch Hall*
City Commissioner Henry E. Cravey III
Mr. Lee Slade*
City Commissioner James Colson
Mr. Tim Young

**Putnam County**
Commissioner Allen Foster
Mayor Walter Rocker*
Mr. Bill Sharp
Mr. Billy Webster
Mr. Gary Sanders

**Twiggs County**
Chairman Ken Fowler
Mayor Charles Williams
Ms. Shannon Hart*
Mayor Jimmy Smith
Ms. Kathryn Epps

**Wilkinson County**
Chairman Mark Dupree*
Councilman Charles Brack
Mr. Marty Dominy
Commissioner C. L. Brooks
Councilperson Emma Bacon

**Governor Appointments**
Mr. James Vaughn*
Mr. Charles Sims
Ms. Nancy Nash

**Lieutenant Governor Appointment**
Vacant

**Speaker of the House Appointment**
Vacant

**Meeting**
Regular Meetings: 6:00 p.m.
second Thursday of each month,
except July and December.

**Annual Meeting**
Second Thursday of October

* Executive Committee
On behalf of the Council and staff of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, I am pleased to present the 2017 Annual Report.

This report highlights the projects, programs, and accomplishments of the Regional Commission for the past fiscal year. This year, we identified new funding sources, implemented new programs and improved existing services. For example, Middle Georgia Regional Commission launched the multi-year MAP-21 program and the WorkSource Macon-Bibb Comprehensive One Stop.

The council leadership of the Regional Commission worked with the leadership of Georgia Small Business Lender (GSBL) to develop and implement a transition plan for the small business loan program which had been operational for more than 30 years. Due to changes in the regulatory environment in May 2017, the strategy included the transfer of the SBA 504 program with another CDC, retention of the EDA Revolving Loan Fund program, creation of a new Middle Georgia Revolving Loan Fund in 2018 and the dissolution of GSBL.

The work of the Regional Commission was recognized by several organizations for its financial excellence and program innovation. For the twenty-second year, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. Three major initiatives of the past year were recognized by the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) as 2017 Innovation Award winners. For the first time, we also received the Pathways to Sustainability Award from the Georgia Division of Aging Services for our efforts in enhancing service delivery by seeking financial sustainability outside of the traditional federal and state allocated resources.

I am certain that the year ahead will present both new opportunities and challenges for the region. I am confident that our Middle Georgia Regional Commission is adaptive and well-positioned to meet the future.
SPONSORS

The Regional Commission’s Annual Meeting provides an excellent platform to connect with partners, agencies, community and business leaders, and elected officials.

ESRI
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Clark Nexsen
Georgia Power
Seyfarth & Shaw, LLP
Southern Equipment, LLC
Advanced Disposal/Wolf Creek Landfill

Cardno
ComSouth
Flint Energies
Carter & Sloope
Ingram & Associates
Cox Communications
The Atlantic Group, LLC
Sellers Contracting Services
Georgia Foreign Trade Zone
State Bank & Trust Company
G. Ben Turnipseed Engineers
Northwestern Mutual Benefits
BTBB, Inc. - Architects / Planners
Richardson, Garretson, & Associates

GIS Inc.
Cogentes
ChargePoint
United Bank
Oconee EMC
Macon Occupational
Century Bank & Trust
American Pride Bank
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Infinity Network Solutions
Pyles Plumbing and Utility
SunMark Community Bank
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THANK YOU

The Annual Meeting would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors.
A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PRESENTING SPONSORS

AT&T

McNair, McLemore and Middlebrooks and Co., LLC
The Regional Commission is funded by federal, state, and local governments. The total budget was $12,457,958, with $6,660,856 being pass-through funding for the Aging and Transportation programs and other agencies. Dues from local government accounted for the smallest percentage of revenue received by the Regional Commission. The operating budget for the Regional Commission was $5,797,102, which covers personnel and operating expenses, including supplies, telecommunications, training, and contracts for professional services.

The Budget, Audit and Personnel Committee provides leadership and oversight for the financial management of the organization as well as development of the annual budget, monitors performance, and reports regularly on the Regional Commission’s financial condition.

Each year, the Regional Commission produces a comprehensive financial report, which is audited for compliance with Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards. The Regional Commission continues to operate in a fiscally responsible manner and received an Unqualified Audit Opinion with no audit exceptions for FY16. For the past 22 years, the Regional Commission has been recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pass-Through Other</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass-Through Transportation</td>
<td>$2,032,980</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Operations</td>
<td>$2,488,364</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>$3,308,738</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass-Through Aging</td>
<td>$4,327,876</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,457,958</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Grants</td>
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<td>29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pass-Through Aging</td>
<td>$4,327,876</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Grants and Appropriations</td>
<td>$635,207</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Dues</td>
<td>$637,098</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Grants and Appropriations</td>
<td>$973,660</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass-Through Other</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,457,958</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The objectives of the Regional Commission are to develop, promote, and assist in establishing coordinated and comprehensive planning in Georgia; to provide local governments, on both an individual and regional basis, with professional technical assistance to improve local government service programs; to provide information technology-based services; to manage nonprofit corporations created by the Regional Commission in accordance with Georgia law for the operation of revolving loan programs and to function as a certified development company; to function as the designated Area Agency on Aging (AAA), responsible for services, advocating on behalf of older persons in need, and contracting with a network of agencies to provide direct services to the elderly in the Middle Georgia region; and to provide workforce development services in Area 10.
COUNTIES
- Baldwin
- Crawford
- Houston
- Jones
- Macon-Bibb
- Monroe
- Peach
- Pulaski
- Putnam
- Twiggs
- Wilkinson

CITIES
- Allentown
- Byron
- Centerville
- Culloden
- Danville
- Eatonton
- Forsyth
- Fort Valley
- Gordon
- Gray
- Hawkinsville
- Irwinton
- Ivey
- Jeffersonville
- McIntyre
- Milledgeville
- Perry
- Roberta
- Toomsboro
- Warner Robins

Middle Georgia Service Region
AGING SERVICES
The Middle Georgia Regional Commission is designated through the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services as the Area Agency on Aging (AAA). In this role, staff are responsible for planning, coordinating, contracting, and monitoring publicly-funded services that meet the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities.

Senior Farmers Markets
In 2017, the Middle Georgia AAA hosted several WIC Senior Farmers Market events for low-income seniors living throughout the 11-county region. The Regional Commission supported 713 seniors who were provided $20.00 in coupons for freshly-picked farm produce. The Senior Farmers Market continues to be the event most requested by seniors and service providers of older adults in the Middle Georgia region.

Assistive Technology
This first-year, assistive technology pilot project allowed the Area Agency on Aging to provide $5,000 in total funding for the purchase of assistive technology. Assistive technology increases, maintains or improves functional capabilities of senior or disabled individuals. Seniors, age 60 and above, living in the Middle Georgia region, were able to request and receive assistive technology devices up to $300 in cost.

Pathways to Sustainability
The Regional Commission received an award from the Georgia Division of Aging Services for a new project, “Pathways to Sustainability”. This project, initiated by three Area Agencies on Aging with the State Unit on Aging, teaches Area Agencies on Aging throughout the nation how to improve and enhance service delivery by seeking financial sustainability outside of the traditional federal and state allocated resources.

SUPPORT OPTIONS
The Support Options program allows seniors to choose their own in-home service provider rather than use the traditional AAA contracted provider. The pilot program provides a monthly budget to individuals, who then select a licensed provider and negotiate the cost of services within the allocated budget. The Regional Commission monitors the expenditures, vendor agreements, and assures payment of services. This program was well-received and preferred by seniors expressing the desire to have control over service delivery.
The Middle Georgia Regional Commission hosted the senior leadership team of the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) as part of DHS Commissioner Robyn Crittenden’s “Listen and Learn Tour”.

### AAA PROGRAM IMPACTS - AT A GLANCE...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2,006 clients were counseled, saving over $703K for consumers</th>
<th>Over 1,064 participants in five wellness programs</th>
<th>41 clients transitioned out of nursing homes into community living</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA CARES PROGRAM</td>
<td>WELLNESS PROGRAM</td>
<td>TRANSITIONS PROGRAMS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

828 individuals received in-home services via medicaid

COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

300,000+ meals served Over 27K at-home services provided

POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS

HOME & COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES
The Public Administration department provides a variety of professional assistance to the local governments of Middle Georgia, such as community and economic development, transportation, planning, and local government administrative services.

This year, the Regional Commission assisted Crawford, Houston, Jones, Peach, and Pulaski counties and their respective cities with completion of updated comprehensive plans under the new state guidelines that were recently adopted. Plan updates remain underway in the remaining communities, with Regional Commission staff preparing those updates for Baldwin, Monroe, Putnam, Twiggs, and Wilkinson counties. The Regional Commission also assisted five different communities with applications for Department of Community Affairs’ PlanFirst designation and worked with Byron on an application to be a Georgia Initiative for Community Housing. The Regional Commission met with eight local governments to have plan implementation meetings and initiated the five-year update to the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

**Middle Georgia Asset Advancement Program**

Building on the success from the first round of funding received from the Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment, Middle Georgia applied for and received $1.7 million in federal grant funding in 2017 to launch the Middle Georgia Asset Advancement Program, which will continue through 2018. Activities undertaken in FY17 include the second cohort of the Middle Georgia Regional Leadership Champions program and assistance to Central Georgia Technical College to provide transfer equivalency credits to veterans to aid in the award of industry-recognized credentials based on previous work experience in the armed forces.

**Middle Georgia Communities Secure State and Federal Funds**

FY17 was a busy year for grant writing, with Regional Commission staff completing dozens of grant applications, both large and small. This past year, the Regional Commission staff helped bring in grant funding to Middle Georgia communities. The City of Jeffersonville received a Community Development Block Grant for critical water and sewer infrastructure improvements; Crawford County received a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for lighting improvements to their recreational fields; and the City of Irwinton received multiple grants from USDA and GDOT for housing improvements, a new police car, and sidewalk repairs.
Energy Resiliency in Middle Georgia

Work by the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority and Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition, with staff support from the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, reached a high point in May 2017 with the announcement by Georgia Power of a 139-megawatt solar project in south Macon-Bibb County. The project will occur within the encroachment area north of the runway at Robins Air Force Base, both preventing incompatible development on that land while also providing energy resilience and energy security to Robins Air Force Base. The solar array is expected to come online in 2019, following an investment of $200 million by Georgia Power.

NADO Innovation Award for Perry Housing Assessment

Throughout FY17, the Regional Commission worked with the City of Perry to complete a digital assessment of housing quality for each house, apartment building, and mobile home within the city. Using the ESRI application, Collector for ArcGIS, Regional Commission staff were able to take photos of every home within the city and use GPS coordinates to create a custom map for the community. NADO recognized this project with an innovation award for its collaborative use of GIS technology for the ease by which this process can be replicated by fellow NADO members. The Regional Commission looks to apply this technology in more communities, starting with Centerville in FY18.
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The Middle Georgia Regional Commission provides a wide variety of technology-based services to member governments, including the use and analysis of geospatial data and services, global positioning system (GPS) data collection, multi-media and web development, graphic design, printing, and general systems administration support.

NADO AWARD

In FY17, the Georgia Association of Regional Commissions (GARC) received an Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) for its role as the single contracting entity and primary service provider for the MAP-21 Program. Through GARC, the state’s 12 Regional Commissions are providing planning and GIS-based technology services for the Georgia Department of Transportation’s Office of Transportation Data (OTD) in compliance with federal mandates imposed by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act of 2012. The MAP-21 Program is a multi-year initiative and Middle Georgia Regional Commission is acting as the GARC-designated Project Manager.

TAX PARCEL MAINTENANCE

For over 18 years, Middle Georgia Regional Commission has been providing tax parcel maintenance services to county tax assessors. In 2017, Crawford and Twiggs counties joined Baldwin, Macon-Bibb, Monroe, Pulaski, and Putnam in receiving tax parcel maintenance support. Some of the tax parcel maintenance activities the Regional Commission provides include assisting in the annual Forest Land Protection Act and Conservation Use Valuation Assessment (CUVA) processes, providing updated data to qPublic, and conducting maintenance on tax parcels such as splitting/deleting/adding/combining parcels, verifying boundaries, and redrawing roads.
NEW APPLICATIONS FOR GIS-BASED WEB MAPS

During 2017, the Regional Commission created a variety of GIS-based web maps and applications to assist member governments in public policy and service delivery decisions. Some examples of web map and web map applications created are for housing assessments, fire hydrants, Knox box/gate codes, cemeteries, utilities, zoning, inlet inspection, character areas, land use, historic districts, commission districts, business locations, and school districts. This provides member governments with up-to-date information on governments’ infrastructure and validated data for grant applications.

A unique project this year streamlined the TSPLOST project submission and validation processes by using GIS web map applications and forms via GeoForms.

MAP 21

In 2017, Middle Georgia Regional Commission launched the MAP-21 Program in partnership with the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Information Technology Outreach Service of the University of Georgia. Under the MAP-21 Program, Regional Commissions provide planning, community engagement, GIS validation, and data capture services of road characteristics to help the state comply with federal mandates for local road systems. In addition to completing the MAP-21 data validation for local governments in Middle Georgia, the Middle Georgia Regional Commission also serves as Project Manager for the statewide initiative. The program of work is expected to take several years. When completed, the program will vastly improve the accuracy of the state’s GIS inventory of road characteristics, further posturing the Georgia Department of Transportation as an innovative and national leader in terms of leveraging Regional Commissions to achieve and maintain MAP-21 compliance.
SUCCESS & IMPACT

WorkSource Macon-Bibb and WorkSource Middle Georgia (Middle Georgia Consortium, Inc.) in collaboration with the Georgia Department of Economic Development, successfully conducted the Middle Georgia Needs Assessment project. The goals of the project were: understanding the workforce development needs of manufacturers in the Middle Georgia region, identifying high-demand occupations and high-demand skills, and laying the foundation for the successful implementation of a sector partnership. Sector partnerships focus on the talent needs of a specific industry sector, engaging partners from employers in that sector, education, economic development, workforce development boards, and other partners. The Middle Georgia Region was awarded a $200,000 grant to continue the sector partnership work beginning in October 2017.

NEW BRAND

In February of 2016, the State Workforce Development Board, in accordance with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Workforce Division (WFD), approved the name WorkSource Georgia as the unified brand. The implementation of the new brand is part of a statewide effort to strengthen Georgia’s workforce infrastructure and foster closer alignment between existing stakeholders. Local Workforce Development Area 10 (Macon-Bibb County) now identifies under the brand as WorkSource Macon-Bibb. With the implementation of the One-Stop system, the brand will assist with providing meaningful access to customers via, but not limited to, a new website, career center signage, and printed informational materials.
## COMPREHENSIVE ONE-STOP

The Macon-Bibb Workforce Development Board, in corporation with 11 partner programs that provide employment and training services to businesses and job seekers, conducted negotiations, and successfully executed a Memorandum of Understanding to implement a comprehensive One-Stop delivery system. On July 1, 2017, WorkSource Macon-Bibb opened the One-Stop Career Center, (formerly the Georgia Department of Labor Career Center). The One-Stop is designed to provide an array of services to connect its customers, businesses, job seekers, and workers so that investments in workforce, education and economic development are aligned with regional in-demand jobs.

### PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed with related training</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entered post-secondary education</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attained certificate/diploma/degree</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attained HSD/GED</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans who enrolled for services</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customers who received services</td>
<td>4,428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ENROLLMENT SNAPSHOT

- **Enrolled in WorkSource Macon-Bibb Services**: 217
- **Participants Average Age Range**: 25-34
- **Average Length of Training**: 2 Years
- **Active Participants Training Ending PY2016**: 328
MGRC SERVICES

The Regional Commission is the regional planning and development agency serving the communities of Middle Georgia. Services are provided in a wide variety of areas including Planning, Economic Development, Public Administration, Information Technology, Workforce Development and Aging Services.

Area Agency on Aging

Preventive Healthcare: Chronic Disease Self-Management, Senior Farmers Market Nutrition, Medication Management, Tai Chi Exercise, Matter of Balance (Fall Protection)

Support Services: Congregate and Home Delivered Meals, In-Home Services, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Elder Abuse and Fraud Prevention, Outreach and Education, Information and Assistance, Elder Advocacy

Program Implementation: GeorgiaCares Counseling, Caregiver Support, Options Counseling, Money Follows The Person

Economic Development

Incentive Development
Deal Structuring
Prospect Inquiries

Prospect Site Visits
Site Certifications
Small Business Financing
Economic Impact Analysis

Demographic Data Analysis
EB-5 Program
Foreign Trade Zone
**Public Administration**

Local Government Support, Community Planning, Charter and Ordinance Research, Environmental Planning, Personnel Administration

Historic Preservation, Downtown Development Plans, Redevelopment Plan, Housing Assessments, Policy Research and Development, Grant Preparation and Administration

Annexation Analysis, Service Delivery Strategy, Meeting Facilitation, Project Management, GA Planning Act Compliance, Land Use Regulations

**Technology Services**

Geospatial Analysis (GIS Mapping)
GPS Data Collection
Tax Parcel Maintenance Services

Multimedia and Graphics Design
Website Development
Printing Services

Data Management
Cloud Services
Census Preparation and Coordination

**Transportation**

Rural Public Transportation
Human Services Transportation
Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning

Regional Mobility Management
Complete Streets Planning
River Corridor Planning
Safe Routes to Schools

WRATS and MATS Assistance
Transit Development Plans
Sidewalk Inventories / Plans

**Workforce Development**

Business and Industry: Workforce Needs Analysis, Labor Market Information, Talent Identification, Customized Training

Youth Programs: Career Pathways, Dual CTAE Enrollment, Graduation and GED Attainment, Employment Preparation Workshops

Adult Programs: Education and Training, Industry Certifications Employment Workshops, Targeted Job Fairs, Re-employment Services