



CITY OF MILNER

2009-2029 Comprehensive Plan

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

Prepared by

McIntosh Trail Regional Development Center



DRAFT

August 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT – MAIN

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. PURPOSE	1
1.2. SCOPE	1
1.3. STUDY AREA OVERVIEW	2
1.4. METHODOLOGY OF SCHEDULE	3
SECTION 2: ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES	4
SECTION 3: ANALYSIS OF EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS	7
3.1. Existing Land Use	7
3.2. Areas Requiring Special Attention	9
3.3. Recommended Character Areas	11
SECTION 4: QUALITY COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES	13

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Project Schedule	3
Table 2: Existing Land uses	7
Table 3: Character Areas	11

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Location Map	2
Figure 2: Existing Land Use Map	8
Figure 3: Areas of Special Attention Map	10
Figure 4: Character Area Map	12

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Community Assessment is to provide a factual and conceptual foundation for preparing and adopting the City of Milner Comprehensive Plan. This component of the Comprehensive Plan includes the collection and analysis of community data and information. This analysis is based on an analysis and inventory of existing conditions, land use patterns, public policies, and planned improvements. The report outlines a set of issues and opportunities related to each of the Comprehensive Plan's elements that are based on an analysis of the existing conditions and historical trends. The primary function of this report is to guide the decision-making process of the final plan during the development of the Community Agenda.

The update to the Comprehensive Plan will serve the City of Milner for the next twenty years. This planning effort will play a critical role in directing the future growth of the community in a manner that is consistent with the community vision for the future.

The Community Assessment must comply with the intent of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs' (DCA) "Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning," as established on May 1, 2005. Preparation in accordance with these standards is essential in maintaining Milner's status as Qualified Local Government.

1.2. SCOPE

The Community Assessment provides an overview of the major findings, which highlight detailed information on existing conditions, historical trends, and future forecasts that are included in the Technical Addendum. The report contains four key components that address the findings in the Technical Addendum.

The Community Assessment includes the following information, as required by DCA Standards:

- Listing of issues and opportunities that may potentially impact the community;
- Analysis of existing development patterns;
- Analysis of consistency with the Quality Community Objectives; and
- Analysis of supporting data and information.

In its coverage of these four components, this report is written in an executive summary-like fashion so that citizens and decision makers can quickly review the essential elements and major findings of this planning effort.

1.3. STUDY AREA OVERVIEW

Milner is located in the north central portion of Georgia approximately 52 miles south of Atlanta. The City is near the northern edge of Lamar County. The City of Milner's current land area is 1.4 square miles. Relative location in Georgia can be identified on the Location Map provided in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1



1.4. METHODOLOGY OF SCHEDULE

This Community Assessment document is the first major step in preparation of Milner's Comprehensive Plan. The following schedule outlines the comprehensive planning process. This document and the Community Participation Program will be submitted to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for approval. This will include a 30-day comment and review period by the McIntosh Trail Regional Development Center (RDC) and the Department of Community Affairs.

Upon approval of the Community Assessment and Community Public Participation Plan, work on the Community Agenda will commence. The Community Agenda is the most important part of the plan; it includes the community's vision for the future, key issues and opportunities, and its implementation program for achieving this vision and addressing the identified issues and opportunities. To kick off the effort, a Community Visioning Meeting will be held in late September. This will be followed a month later by the Community Design Workshop. These two community involvement events will provide public support and input critical to a successful Comprehensive Plan. An Open House is scheduled for December 2008 to present the preliminary recommendations to the public.

Upon completion of the Community Agenda, it will begin its 3-month long adoption process. This is scheduled to take place between September and December of 2008. Table 1 outlines the project schedule for the Milner Comprehensive Plan.

Table 1: Project Schedule

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task										
Kick-Off Meeting										
Community Assessment										
Public Participation Plan										
Community Agenda										
Public Meetings										
Visioning Workshops										
Open House										
Public Hearing Presentation										

SECTION 2: ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The following issues and opportunities were identified using the Quality Community Objectives Local Assessment Tool and typical issues and opportunities, as stated under state planning recommendations.

Population Issues

- **Rapid Population Growth** - Milner's future population is expected to reach 1,936 persons by 2030. Various factors will determine the extent of this future growth including the area's public education system, infrastructure capabilities, housing opportunities and economic development trends.
- **Rapidly Growth in the Family Forming Age Group** - Younger couples are attracted to Milner due to its proximity to Metropolitan Atlanta and its small hometown character. The City offers an excellent location to raise a family.
- **Age Population** - The share of residents over 65 is expected to increase. This presents a myriad of issues to provide local healthcare, senior services and quality transportation.

Economic Development Issues

- **Limited Local Economy** – Milner has a limited economy and depends heavily on Lamar County and region for employment and services. However, as the demand for development increases in the Milner area, the local economy will experience profound changes. As the population increases, demand for services will increase and the local economy will respond with new businesses and employment opportunities
- **Lack of City Healthcare** – Most health care services are only found outside of Milner.



Economic Development Opportunities

- **Downtown Revitalization and Infill** – The City of Milner should seek opportunities to leverage its delightful historic downtown to bring infill and new commercial, office and possibly residential developments.
- **Promote Downtown with Marketing** - Festivals and Events – A thoughtful marketing campaign consisting of advertising and events will raise the profile of the community and its interest to future entrepreneurs and developers.
- **Enhance Overall Quality of Life** – Quality of life is now a key to creating a sustainable economy. This includes preserving the rural and small town character, open space, improving healthcare and educational opportunities, keeping the community safe and expanding its parks and conservation areas.

Local Downtown Merchant

Housing Issues

- **Traditional Neighborhood Zoning District** - A TND district is needed that would allow a developer to develop in the tradition of historic Milner. This includes creating residential developments that have variable lot sizes on a street grid with religious, civic and commercial uses mixed in.



Traditional Residential Home

Housing Opportunities

- **Incorporate Traditional Neighborhood Developments** - The City of Milner should required traditional neighborhood development in large undeveloped areas surrounding the historic area.

Natural Resources Issues

- **Loss of Trees and Canopy Cover** - Strengthen tree ordinance to protect existing trees and require street trees in new developments.
- **Preservation of Open Space** - Develop a plan to preserve land within developments through conservation programs.

Natural Resources Issues

- **Preservation Policies** - Craft a policy framework and minor ordinance revisions to encourage preservation of open space.

Cultural Resources Issues

- **Historic District Designation for Downtown** - The City of Milner has a downtown that is rich in heritage and culture. Designation of Downtown Milner as a historic district would preserve the community's most treasured assets.

Cultural Opportunities

- **Establishing Downtown Milner Historic District** - This policy will encourage future preservation and promote historic character and culture within the City of Milner

Community Facilities and Services Issues

- **Future Services** – The City has nearly doubled its population size since 1990. Careful planning is required to ensure adequate services are available over the next 20 years as demands for public services increase.
- **Park and Recreation Facilities** – There is not enough park and recreation space in Milner. The City is currently addressing this issue by setting aside property for future recreational use. The City must also seek opportunities to update its facilities at the existing park.
- **Administrative Space** - The administration of City affairs will require additional administrative space within the next twenty years.

Community Facilities Opportunities

- **Library** - The City of Milner has plans for a new library complete with meeting rooms and computer internet accessibility.
- **Water Tank** -A new water tank is expected to expand water capacity within the City of Milner and encourage future economic development growth.

Intergovernmental Coordination Issues

- **Coordination Between City and County** - Better coordination between Milner and Lamar County on a number of issues is necessary to further the implementation of each local government's long-range goals. In particular, the City of Milner needs to address the following issues:
 - Annexation
 - Public Educational System

Land Use Issues

- **Strip Development** – The location of commercial uses along Highway 41 is of particular concern because pressure from developers and landowners along this roadway may facilitate strip development.
- **Rural Residential** – Rural residential development continues to increase within the City of Milner. Development standards should be strengthen to ensure quality developments are created.
- **Declining Downtown--** The downtown has declined over the past several years. Reinvestment within this area is important in terms of future development.

Land Use Opportunities

- **Revitalization of Downtown** – The City of Milner should encourage the revitalization of its Downtown through various programs that seek to preserve small and rural downtown areas.

Transportation Issues

- **Pedestrian Network.** - There are no sidewalks in the City of Milner. The City needs a sidewalk installation program and more funding sources.
- **Railroad Intersections** - Railroad intersections improvements are needed at local roads that intersect with the Norfolk Southern rail line.

Transportation Opportunities

- **Street Patterns** - The existing street patterns offers opportunities to improve street connectivity within and between developments

SECTION 3: ANALYSIS OF EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS

The purpose of this analysis is to gain a clear understanding of the geographic setting within which Milner is growing and to further explore those issues and opportunities that relate directly to the physical environment. The following analysis looks at three aspects of the existing development patterns within the City of Milner: Existing Land Use, Areas Requiring Special Attention, and Character Areas.

3.1. Existing Land Use

An existing land use map is a representation of what is on the ground at a given point in time. For purposes of this analysis, the Milner Existing Land Use Map (Figure 2) identifies what specific land uses were on the ground as of August 2008. The map illustrates uses found within the incorporated City of Milner. Table 2 shows the amount of land categorized under each use.

Table 2: Existing Land Uses

EXISTING LAND USES		
STANDARD CATEGORGY	SQUARE ACRES	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
Residential	105	6.2%
• Estate Residential	423	24.99%
• Single-Family Residential	11	0.65%
• Mobile Home Park	12	0.71%
• Under Construction Residential	402	23.74%
Agricultural/Forestry	47	2.78%
Commercial	46	2.72%
Parks and Recreation	5	0.30%
Public/Institutional	57	3.37%
Undeveloped/Vacant	585	34.55%
TOTAL	1,693	100.00%

City Of Milner Existing Land Use



3.2. Areas Requiring Special Attention

As Milner develops, it will have significant impacts on the existing residents, natural and cultural resources, community services and facilities, and infrastructure. This section summarizes the locations of some of the likely impacts of growth, including areas where growth should be avoided. Also included are areas in need of additional investment because of aesthetics and disinvestments. Figure 3 identifies Areas Requiring Special Attention within the City of Milner.

- **Declining Downtown**

Downtown Milner is currently experiencing a decline in downtown development. This area illustrates disinvestments in the community. A portion of Milner's downtown properties is vacant. Building and façade improvements are needed on existing buildings. This area provides an excellent opportunity to encourage quality infill development.

- **City Center**

The City has established plans to create a City Center, which will offer mixed commercial, office, and residential uses. The City Center will greatly impact the growing needs of the community and create an environment that enhances the quality of life by providing local employment opportunities, special events, and additional public uses.

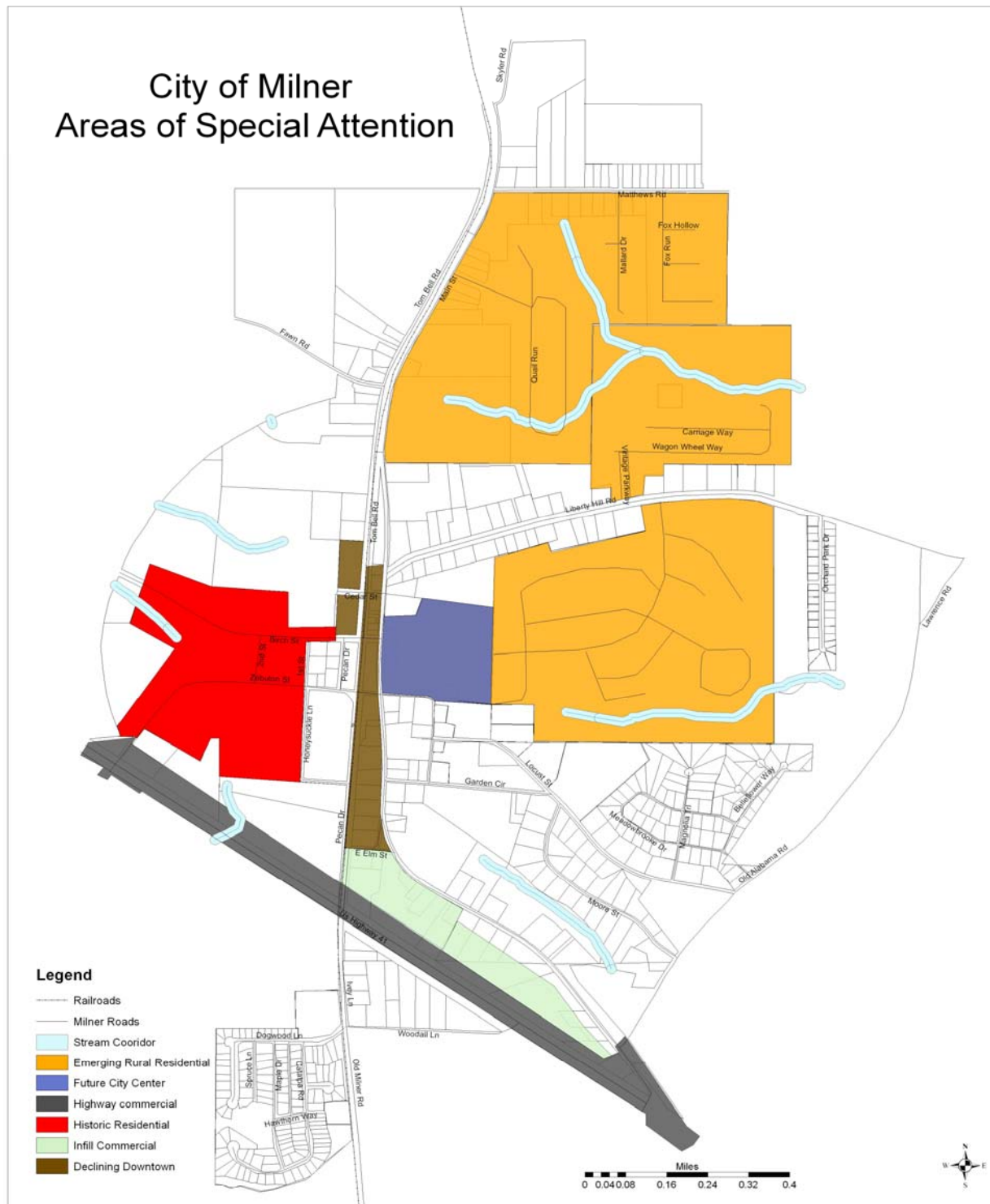
- **Developable Residential Areas**

Rapid population growth and low density of housing developments will mostly likely result in all of Milner's developable land being filled. The City should address subdivision regulations to ensure residential subdivisions offer sustainable development and promote smart growth.

- **Stream Corridors**

There are significant streams and stream corridors that provide a valuable natural resource for the City of Milner. Wells have been identified near the streams to provide an additional source of water for future use. The stream corridors should be protected to maintain its natural character.

Figure 3



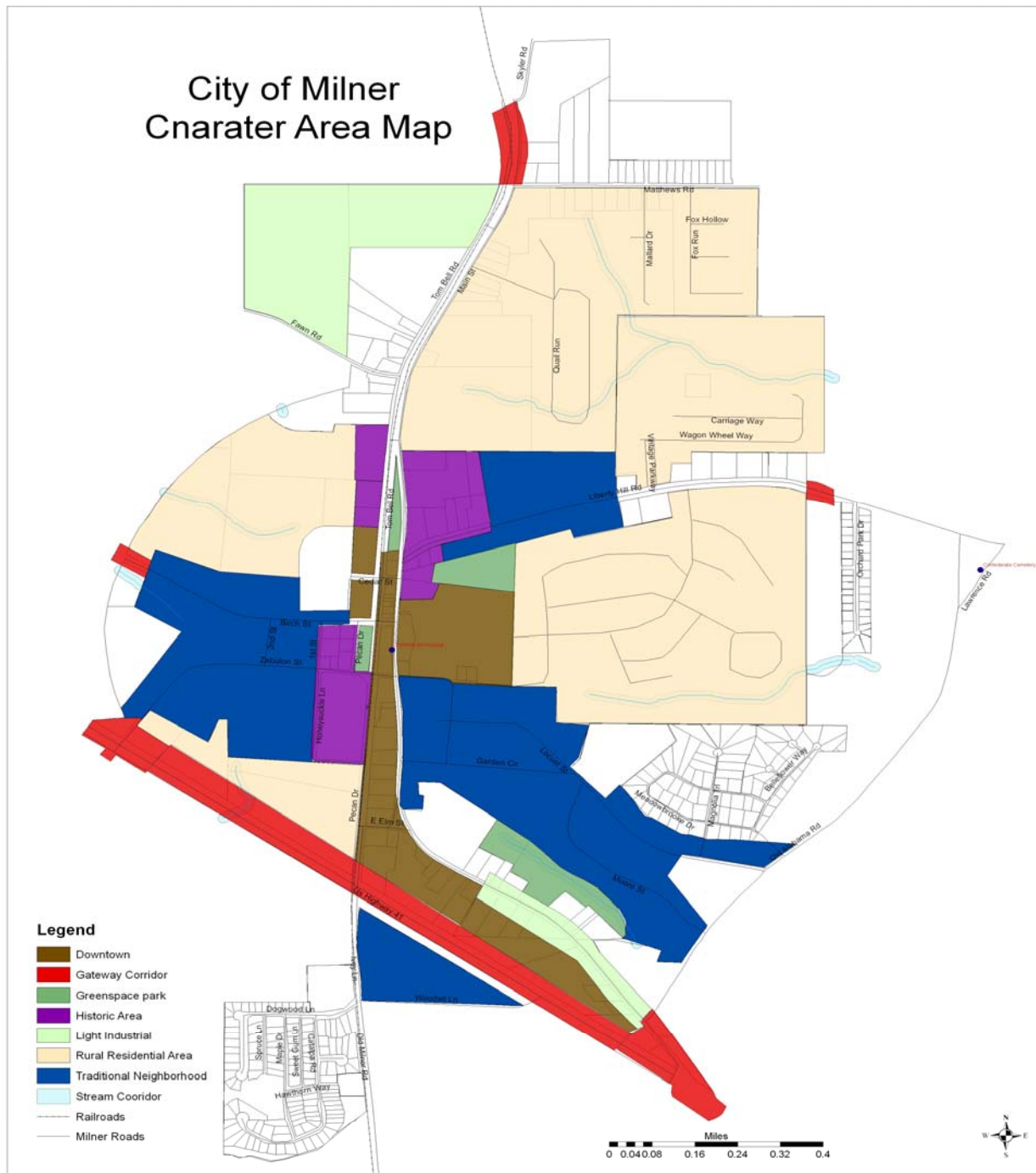
3.3. Recommended Character Areas

The use of character areas in planning acknowledges the visual and functional differences that exist today among the districts and neighborhoods of Milner. They help guide future development through policies and implementation strategies that are tailored to each situation. These recommended character areas can be used to define areas that (1) presently have unique or special characteristics that need to be preserved; (2) have potential to evolve into unique areas; or (3) require special attention because of unique development issues. In some cases, different character areas are defined for existing land and future land uses in order to highlight appropriate transitions as the community evolves. Milner's character areas are defined and described in the Table 3 and mapped on Figure 4.

Table 3: Character Areas

CHARACTER AREA	DESCRIPTION/PREDOMINANT CHARACTERISTICS
Existing Traditional Neighborhood	A neighborhood having relatively well maintained housing, possessing a distinct identity through architectural style, lot and street design, and higher rates of homeownership.
Rural Residential Area	Rural sparsely developed land likely to face development pressures for lower density residential development. Typically will have low pedestrian orientation and access, very large lots, open space, pastoral views and high degree of building and separation.
Greenspace/Park	Area of protected open space that follows natural and man-made linear features for recreation, transportation and conservation purposes and links ecological, cultural and recreational amenities.
Light Industrial	Area used in low or high manufacturing, wholesale trade, and distribution activities that do or do not generate excessive noise, particulate matter, vibration, smoke, dust, gas, fumes, odors, radiation, or other nuisance characteristics.
Downtown	The traditional central business district and immediately surrounding commercial, industrial or mixed-use areas.
Gateway Corridor	Developed or open land paralleling the route of a major thoroughfare that serves as an important entrance or means of access to the community.
Historic Area	Historic district or area containing features, landmarks, civic or cultural uses of historic interest. Characteristics may vary based on size, location and history of the community.

Figure 4



SECTION 4: QUALITY COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES

In 1999 the Board of the Department of Community Affairs adopted the Quality Community Objectives (QCOs) as a statement of the development patterns and options that will help Georgia preserve her unique cultural, natural and historic resources while looking to the future and developing to her fullest potential. The Office of Planning and Quality Growth has created the Quality Community Objectives Assessment to assist local governments in evaluating their progress towards sustainable and livable communities.

This assessment is meant to give a community an idea of how it is progressing toward reaching these objectives set by the Department, but no community will be judged on progress. The assessment is a tool for use at the beginning of the comprehensive planning process, much like a demographic analysis or a land use map, showing a community “you are here.” The questions focus on local ordinances, policies, and organizational strategies intended to create and expand quality growth principles.

A majority of positive responses for an objective may indicate that the community has in place many of the governmental options for managing development patterns. Negative responses may provide guidance as to how to focus planning and implementation efforts for those governments seeking to achieve these Quality Community Objectives. Should a community decide to pursue a particular objective it may consider this assessment as a means of monitoring progress towards achievement.

Development Patterns

<u>Traditional Neighborhoods</u> Traditional neighborhood development patterns should be encouraged, including use of more human scale development, compact development, mixing of uses within easy walking distance of one another, and facilitating pedestrian activity.			
Statement	No	Yes	Comments
1. Our zoning code does not separate commercial, residential and retail uses in every district.	X		
2. Our community has ordinances in place that allow neo-traditional development "By right" so that developers do not have to go through a long variance process.	X		The City is currently researching ordinances that encourage traditional development.
3. We have a street tree ordinance requiring new development to plant shade-bearing trees appropriate to our climate.	X	X	
4. Our community has an organized tree-planting campaign in public areas to make walking more comfortable in summer.	X		
5. We have a program to keep our public areas (commercial, retail districts, parks) clean and safe.	X		
6. Our community maintains its sidewalks and vegetation well so that walking is an option some would choose.	X		
7. In some areas, several errands can be made on foot, if desired.	X		
8. Some children can and do walk to school safely.	X		
9. Some children can and do bike to school safely.		X	Children do not ride bicycles to school
10. Schools are located in or near neighborhoods.	X		Private school nearby; Public School students must be transported by bus to school outside of Milner

Infill Development

Communities should maximize the use of existing infrastructure and minimize the conversion of undeveloped land at the urban periphery by encouraging development or redevelopment of sites closer to the downtown or traditional urban core of the community.

Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. Our community has an inventory of vacant sites and buildings available for redevelopment and/or infill development.	X		The Downtown Development Authority maintains an inventory of potential sites for redevelopment opportunities
2. We are actively working to promote Brownfield redevelopment.		X	
3. Our community is actively working to promote greyfield redevelopment.	X		The City is currently working with developers to
4. We have areas that are planned for nodal development (compacted near intersections rather than spread along a major road.)	X		
5. We allow small lot development (<5000 SF) for some uses.		X	

Sense of Place

Traditional downtown areas should be maintained as the focal point of the community or, for newer areas where this is not possible, the development of activity centers that serve as community focal points should be encouraged. These community focal points should be attractive, mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly places where people choose to gather for shopping, dining, socializing, and entertainment

Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. If someone dropped from the sky into our community, he or she would know immediately where she was, based on our distinct characteristics.		X	
2. We have delineated the areas of our community that are important to our history and heritage and have taken steps to protect those areas.	X		The City of Milner and the Downtown Development Authority and evaluating methods to ensure protection of downtown buildings
3. We have ordinances to regulate the aesthetics of development in our highly visible areas.	X		Façade Ordinance
4. We have ordinances to regulate the size and type of signage.	X		
5. Our community has a plan to protect designated farmland.	X		
6. If applicable, our community has a plan to protect designated farmland		X	Only has 40 acres of designated farmland is available with the City of Milner

<u>Transportation Alternatives</u> Alternatives to transportation by automobile, including mass transit, bicycle routes, and pedestrian facilities, should be made available in each community. Greater use of alternate transportation should be encouraged.			
Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. We have public transportation in our community.	X		Rural transit is available to transport residents to location throughout Lamar County and other surrounding areas.
2. We require that new development connects with existing development through a street network, not a single entry/exit.	X		
3. We have a good network of sidewalks to allow people to walk to a variety of destinations.		X	
4. We have a sidewalk ordinance in our community that requires all new development to provide user-friendly sidewalks.		X	
5. We require that newly built sidewalks connect to existing sidewalks wherever possible	X		
6. We have a plan for bicycle routes through our community.	X		
7. We allow commercial and retail development to share parking areas wherever possible.		X	

<u>Regional Identity</u> Each region should promote and preserve a regional "identity," or regional sense of place, defined in terms of traditional architecture, common economic linkages that bind the region together, or other shared characteristics.			
Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. Our community is characteristic of the region in terms of architectural styles and heritage.	X		
2. Our community is connected to the surrounding region for economic livelihood through businesses that process local agricultural products.	X	X	
3. Our community encourages businesses that create products that draw on our regional heritage (mountain, agricultural, metropolitan, coastal)		X	
4. Our community participates in the Georgia Department of Economic Development's regional tourism partnership.		X	
5. Our community promotes tourism opportunities based on the unique characteristics of our region.		X	
6. Our community contributes to, and draws from, the region, as a source of local culture, commerce, entertainment, education.	X		St. George Episcopal Private School

Resource Conservation

<u>Heritage Preservation</u> The traditional character of the community should be maintained through preserving and revitalizing historic areas of the community, encouraging new development that is compatible with the traditional features of the community, and protecting other scenic or natural feature			
Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. We have designated historic districts in our community.		X	
2. We have an active historic preservation commission.		X	
3. We want new development to complement historic development, and we have ordinances in place to ensure that happening.	X		

<u>Open Space Preservation</u> New development should be designed to minimize the amount of land consumed, and open space should be set aside from development for use as public parks or as greenbelts/wildlife corridors. Compact development ordinances are one way of encouraging this type of open space preservation.			
Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. Our community has a greenspace plan.		X	
2. Our community is actively preserving greenspace – either through direct purchase, or by encouraging set-asides in new development.	X		
3. We have a local land conservation program/ work with state or national land conservation programs to preserve environmentally important areas in our community.		X	
4. We have a conservation subdivision ordinance for residential development that is widely used and protects open space in perpetuity.		X	

<u>Environmental Protection</u>			
Environmentally sensitive areas should be protected from negative impacts of development, particularly when they are important for maintaining traditional character or quality of life of the community or region. Whenever possible, the natural terrain, drainage, and vegetation of an area should be preserved.			
Statement	Yes	No	Comment
1. We have a comprehensive natural resources inventory.		X	
2. We use this resource inventory to steer development away from environmentally sensitive areas.		X	
3. We have identified our defining natural resources and have taken steps to protect them.		X	
4. Our community has passed the necessary Part V Environmental Ordinances, and we enforce them.		X	
5. Our community has and actively enforces a tree preservation ordinance.		X	
6. Our community has a tree-replanting ordinance for new development.		X	
7. We are using stormwater best management practices for all new development.		X	
8. We have land use measures that will protect the natural resources in our community (steep slope regulations, floodplain or marsh protection, etc.)		X	

Growth Preparedness

Each community should identify and put in place the pre-requisites for the type of growth it seeks to achieve. These might include infrastructure (roads, water, sewer) to support new growth, appropriate training of the workforce, ordinances and regulations to manage growth as desired, or leadership capable of responding to growth opportunities and managing new growth when it occurs.

Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. We have population projections for the next 20 years that we refer to when making infrastructure decisions.	X		
2. Our local governments, the local school board, and other decision-making entities use the same population projections.		X	
3. We have a Capital Improvements Program that supports current and future growth.	X		
4. We have designated areas of our community where we would like to see growth. These areas are based on the natural resources inventory of our community.	X		
5. We have a Capital Improvements Program that supports current and future growth.	X		
6. We have designated areas of our community where we would like to see growth, and these areas are based on a natural resources inventory of our community.		X	
7. We have clearly understandable guidelines for new development	X		
8. We have a citizen-education campaign to all interested parties to learn about development processes in our community.		X	
9. We have procedures in place that make it easy for the public to stay informed about land use issues, zoning decisions, and proposed new development.	X		
10. We have a public-awareness element in our comprehensive planning process.	X		

Appropriate Businesses

The businesses and industries encouraged to develop or expand in a community should be suitable for the community in terms of job skills required, long-term sustainability, linkages to other economic activities in the region, impact on the resources of the area, and future prospects for expansion and creation of higher-skill job opportunities.

Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. Our economic development organization has considered our community's strengths, assets, and weaknesses and has created a business development strategy based on them.		X	
2. Our ED organization has considered the types of businesses already in our community, and has a plan to recruit business/industry that will be compatible.		X	
3. We recruit businesses that provide/ create sustainable products.		X	
4. We have a diverse jobs base, so that one employer leaving would not cripple us.		X	

Employment Options

A range of job types should be provided in each community to meet the diverse needs of the local workforce.

Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. Our economic development program has an entrepreneur support program.		X	
2. Our community has jobs for skilled labor.		X	
3. Our community has jobs for unskilled labor.	X		
4. Our community has professional and managerial jobs.		X	

<u>Housing Choices</u> A range of housing size, cost, and density should be provided in each community to make it possible for all who work in the community to also live in the community (reducing commuting distances), to promote a mixture of income and age groups in each community, and to provide a range of housing choice to meet market needs.			
Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. Our community allows accessory units like garage apartments or mother-in-law units.	X		
2. People who work in our community can afford to live here.	X		
3. Our community has enough housing for each income level (low, moderate, and above-average incomes)	X		
4. We encourage new residential development to follow the pattern of our original town, continuing the existing street design and recommending smaller setbacks.		X	
5. We have options available for loft living, downtown living, or “neo-traditional” development.		X	
6. We have vacant and developable land available for multifamily housing.	X		
7. We allow multifamily housing to be developed in our community.	X		
8. We support community development corporations building housing for lower-income households.		X	
9. We have housing programs that focus on households with special needs.		X	
10. We allow small houses built on small lots (less than 5,000 square feet) in appropriate areas.	X		

<u>Educational Opportunities</u> Educational and training opportunities should be readily available in each community – to permit community residents to improve their job skills, adapt to technological advances, or to pursue entrepreneurial ambitions.			
Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. Our community provides work-force training options for our citizens.		X	
2. Our workforce training programs provide citizens with skills for jobs that are available in our community.		X	N/A
3. Our community has higher education opportunities, or is close to a community that does.	X		
4. Our community has job opportunities for college graduates, so that our children may live and work here if they choose.	X		The City of Milner is within close proximity to higher skilled level jobs.

<u>Regional Solutions</u> Regional solutions to needs shared by more than one local jurisdiction are preferable to separate local approaches, particularly where this will result in greater efficiency and less cost to the taxpayer.			
Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. We participate in regional economic development organizations.	X		
2. We participate in regional environmental organizations and initiatives especially regarding water quality and quantity issues.	X		
3. We work with other local governments to provide or share appropriate services, such as public transit, libraries, special education, tourism, parks and recreation, emergency response, E-911, homeland security, etc.	X		
4. Our community thinks regionally, especially in terms of issues like land uses, transportation and housing, understanding that these go beyond local governmental borders.	X		

Regional Cooperation

Regional cooperation should be encouraged in setting priorities, identifying shared needs, and finding collaborative solutions, particularly where it is critical to success of a venture, such as protection of shared natural resources or development of a transportation network.

Statement	Yes	No	Comments
1. We plan jointly with our cities and county for Comprehensive Planning purposes	X	X	
2. We are satisfied with our Service Delivery Strategies	X		
3. We initiate contact with other local governments and institutions in our region in order to find solutions to common problems, or to craft region wide strategies.	X		
4. We meet regularly with neighboring jurisdictions to maintain contract, build connections, and discuss issues of regional concern.	X		