



Where Quality Is A Lifestyle

Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Message

June 26, 2009

The Honorable Jack R. Smith, Chairman
The Honorable Members of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners
The Citizens of Fayette County, Georgia

INTRODUCTION

It is our pleasure to present the fiscal year 2010 budget for Fayette County Georgia as adopted by the Board of Commissioners on June 25, 2009. The adopted budget covers the period beginning **July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010.**

The budget includes **expenditures** of **\$77,777,259** and **operating transfers** of **\$1,014,056** for **total appropriations** of **\$78,791,315**. This budget is representative of the County's long-standing tradition of providing high levels of service to the citizens of Fayette County while maintaining fiscal and managerial conservatism. The Board of Commissioners and its staff continue to work diligently in identifying and allocating scarce resources during the current difficult economic environment. The Board's prudent leadership and direction allows us to deliver services in a manner that most effectively, efficiently, and economically meets the dynamic needs of a growing Metropolitan Atlanta suburban community with a current estimated population of approximately 106,000.

Major components of the approved expenditures include **\$60,858,544** for **operating Governmental Funds** activities, **\$12,472,640** for **Enterprise Funds** activities, and **\$4,446,075** for **Capital/CIP** projects.

BUDGET IN BRIEF

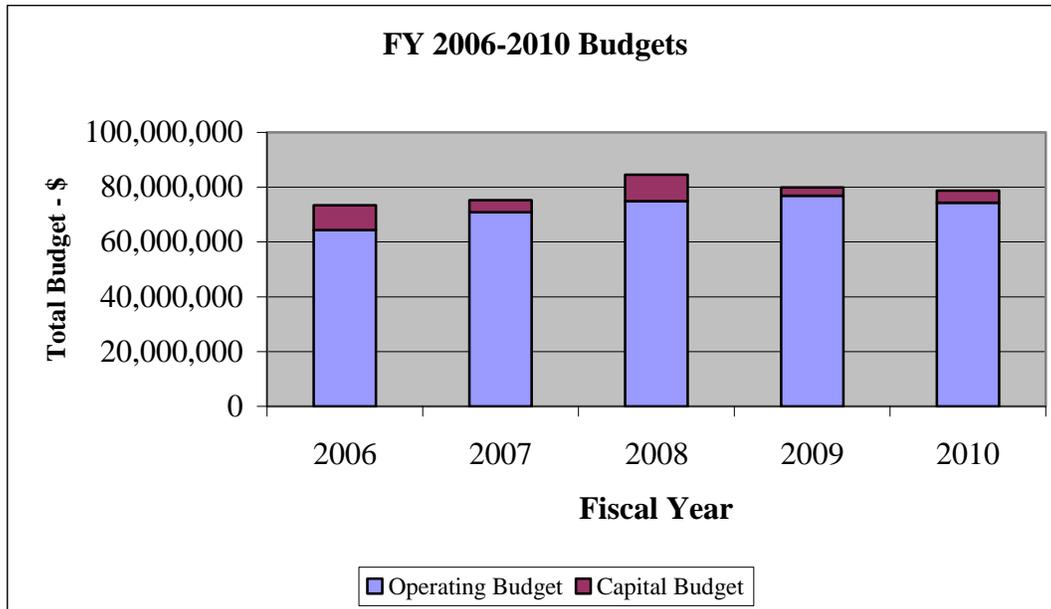
The adopted **operating budget** for FY 2010 totals **\$74,345,240**. This year's operating budget decreased by **\$2.6 million** from the previous year's operating budget and represents a **3.4%** decrease from the FY 2009 budget. The FY 2010 adopted **capital budget** (not including Water System projects) is **\$1.5 million** more than the previous year. This represents an increase of **49.2%**. Notwithstanding the increased capital budget, the total adopted budget for FY 2010 is

\$1.1 million less than the previous year. This represents an overall decrease of **1.4%** from prior year expenditures. The FY 2010 total budget level is consistent with the County’s principle of fiscal conservatism and is in line with current year declining revenue streams.

Fayette County - FY 2006 to 2010 Budgets

Fiscal Year	Operating Budget	% Change	Capital Budget*	% Change	Total Budget	% Change
2006	64,341,631	0.5	9,006,533	87.3	73,348,164	6.5
2007	70,869,280	10.1	4,380,887	(51.4)	75,250,167	2.6
2008	74,913,640	5.7	9,587,782	118.9	84,501,422	12.3
2009	76,932,870	2.7	2,979,755	(68.9)	79,912,625	(5.4)
2010	74,345,240	(3.4)	4,446,075	49.2	78,791,315	(1.4)

* Does not include Water System projects.



SIGNIFICANT ITEMS FOR CURRENT FY 2009 AND BUDGET FY 2010

1. Classification and Compensation Study – the implementation of the study conducted by the Carl Vinson Institute of Management of the University of Georgia in 2007 was completed. The study placed Fayette County employees in the appropriate classification and pay scale for their position. Phase III, the last year of modifications to the compensation plan being implemented at the start of the 2010 fiscal year, has a cost of approximately \$628K.

2. Funding of Capital/CIP Projects – six projects approved for FY 2010 total \$4.4 million. No FY 2010 revenues will be required to fund these projects. The replacement of two fire stations will be funded with the reallocation of funds previously earmarked for a project originally approved in FY 2008 to construct a Fire/EMS Headquarters and Emergency Operations Center.

This project has been moved to a future year. The project for the expansion of the Fayette County Library will be funded with monies currently available in the Library SPLOST fund. The remaining three projects related to the Road Department will be funded with monies currently available in the Capital/CIP funds.

3. **Victims Assistance Fund Overage** – the Victims Assistance fund balance has decreased from \$450K at the start FY 2004 to a negative balance in FY 2008. A transfer of \$87K from the General Fund was needed in FY 2008 to cover the negative balance. Another transfer of approximately \$182K is estimated for a shortage in FY 2009. For FY 2010, the Board of Commissioners approved to transfer three of the four positions paid from the Victims Assistance fund to the General Fund under the State Court Solicitor’s budget. With one position remaining in the Victims Assistance fund and an increase of \$15K in budgeted revenue, the Victims Assistance fund is projected to be self-sustaining.

4. **Defined Benefit Retirement Plan** – changes to the employee retirement plan and to the deferred compensation plan have been included in the FY 2010 budget. These changes represent savings of approximately \$380K to Fayette County.

5. **Vehicles/Equipment** – no vehicles or heavy equipment have been included in the FY 2010 budget. Any requests for replacements will need to be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval. Funding for the purchase of such vehicles would be appropriated from the Vehicle/Equipment Fund.

6. **Elimination of Vacant Positions** – the FY 2010 budget included the elimination of 23.5 full-time equivalent vacant positions which had been frozen for the last two years. Elimination of these positions represents annual savings of approximately \$1.0 million.

7. **Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Plan** – the 5-year CIP plan was updated to reflect the current economic environment with a focus on the identification of critical projects and non-critical projects. This review process resulted in a decision in which a majority of projects were delayed by one year and also eliminated some projects considered non-essential. Changes made to the CIP plan were designed to lessen the fiscal impact of major capital projects ensuring that the county maintains an adequate fund balance.

8. **Funding to Outside Agencies** – due to the current economic downturn, county departments took an aggressive approach in submitting their budget requests for FY 2010. For non-personnel expenditures, this aggressive approach resulted in a 4.8% reduction from the FY 2009 approved budget. Funding for outside agencies was also decreased by 4.0% to be consistent with county departments.

9. **Contingency** – the annual approved budget includes funds that are set aside for discretionary use by the Board of Commissioners during the fiscal year. These funds are set aside to cover unforeseen and/or unbudgeted operating and capital expenditures. With the implementation of significant budget controls over the course of the last two fiscal years, the amount for contingencies has been increased from \$500K to \$1.0 million. Transfers from/to the Contingency account require approval from the Board of Commissioners.

BUDGET SUMMARY

OPERATING BUDGET			
FY 2010 TO FY 2009 COMPARISON - BY FUND			
FUND	FY 2010	FY 2009	% CHANGE
General Fund	\$ 46,502,613	\$ 48,567,898	(4.3)
Special Revenue Funds			
Law Library	\$ 107,077	\$ 107,077	-
Confiscated Property-State	59,700	75,600	(21.0)
Emergency Phone E-911	2,626,386	2,645,716	(0.7)
Jail Construction	480,495	500,000	(3.9)
Juvenile Supervision	28,800	29,000	(0.7)
Victims Assistance	182,851	367,645	(50.3)
Drug Abuse and Treatment	74,002	54,265	36.4
Fire Services Fund	7,555,321	7,467,251	1.2
Street Lights	282,000	225,000	25.3
EMS Fund	3,027,298	3,106,541	(2.6)
S.P.L.O.S.T. (Library)	240,000	265,693	(9.7)
Enterprise Funds			
Solid Waste	161,368	194,934	(17.2)
Water System	13,017,329	13,326,250	(2.3)
Total Operating Budget	\$ 74,345,240	\$ 76,932,870	(3.4)

CAPITAL BUDGET*	
FY 2010 - BY FUND	
FUND	APPROVED FY 2010
Capital Projects Fund	16,200
Capital Improvement Program Fund	4,429,875
Total Capital Budget	\$ 4,446,075
*Not including Water System projects.	

CONCLUSION

With the continued downturn in economic conditions and the resulting reduction of revenue streams, balancing the budget for fiscal year 2010 presented a new type of challenge for Fayette County. The Board of Commissioners held firm to maintaining a superior level of service for the citizens of Fayette County without an increase in the County's property tax rates. The Board's direction and dedication to ensure their commitment to the citizens of Fayette County provided clear policy direction and guidance to staff throughout the budget process.

Developing a balanced budget under these economic conditions would not have been possible without the support and dedication of the Elected Officials and Department Directors. Their budgets requests were carefully structured to produce a reduction in overall expenditures in addition to the prior year's 5.4% reduction. Capital project requests were held to critical needs only with other projects moved out to the future. Elected Officials and County staff are committed to ensuring expenditures are maintained within the adopted budget during this fiscal year.

Once again, Fayette County's Board of Commissioners has proven their fiscal conservatism and commitment to maintain a healthy fund balance. Through their actions this year and in prior years, Fayette County Government is prepared to meet the challenges of the slowed economy. Organizationally, Fayette County continues to be positioned to lead the Metropolitan Atlanta Area in local government innovation, fiscal conservatism, and quality of life for its citizens.

Respectfully,



Jack J. Krakeel
County Administrator



Mary S. Holland
Finance Director/CFO

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY



The County provides a full range of services to its citizens. These services include police and fire protection, emergency medical services, court systems, library services, the construction and maintenance of roadways and infrastructure, tax assessment and collection, planning and zoning, recreational activities and cultural events, and inherent administrative and support activities. The County provides the majority of these services since fiscal responsibility has been affixed at the local level by State statutes. However, in keeping with the terms of their individual charters, the cities and towns within Fayette County have chosen to provide some of the above services to their citizens as part of their municipal government

operations.

The County also operates a potable water distribution system and a solid waste management system. The Fayette County Water System was established in 1966 and serves over 27,000 customers in the unincorporated areas of the County and through the County-owned distribution systems of the City of Peachtree City and the Towns of Tyrone and Woolsey. The Water System also wholesales water to the City of Fayetteville and the Town of Brooks pursuant to wholesale water contracts, which expire in 2034 and 2026, respectively.

PROFILE OF THE COUNTY

History

Fayette County, established in 1821, is a “political subdivision” organized and existing under the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia. Fayette County was the 49th county created in the state and was formed from parts of the Creek Indian Territory. The County and the City of Fayetteville, the county seat, were named for the Marquis De LaFayette, one of General George Washington’s lieutenants in the Revolutionary War.

Demographics

Fayette County is bordered on the north by Fulton County with Atlanta as its county seat, on the east by Clayton County with Jonesboro as its county seat, on the south by Spalding County with Griffin as its county seat, and on the west by Coweta County with Newnan as its county seat. Incorporated communities located within the County include Fayetteville, which is the County seat; Brooks; Peachtree City; Tyrone and Woolsey.

Encompassing about 199 square miles (197 square miles of land area), it is one of the smaller counties in the State in area. It is located in the northwestern part of Georgia, situated about 15 miles south of the Atlanta city limits and is considered an integral part of the Metro Atlanta area.

From a long-range planning and services coordination standpoint, Fayette County is a member of the Atlanta Regional Commission.

In looking at its demographic statistics, Fayette County is considered for the most part to be a suburban community. About 53 percent of its residents live in incorporated cities and towns. Fayette is the Atlanta region's second least densely populated county, with 0.84 people living per acre of land. The average household size is 2.74 and nearly 93.9 percent of housing is defined as occupied.

Fayette County exhibits some excellent physical characteristics, in terms of climate and geography. Average rainfall for the immediate area is 48.61 inches per year, and average temperatures range from a high of 87 degrees in the summer to a low of 34 degrees in the winter, with a year round average temperature of 61.4 degrees. The area is decorated with dogwoods and azaleas blooming in the spring and a colorful change of leaves in the fall. The general terrain of the area is characteristic of the Piedmont region of Georgia, with hills with broad ridges, sloping uplands and relatively narrow valleys. Land elevations within the County range from a low of 720 to a high of 1,005 feet above sea level.

Transportation

Another important attribute of Fayette County is its location in relationship to major transportation modes, with ready access to several different methods of conveyance. The County is strategically located in proximity to three major interstate highway systems, I-75, I-285 and I-85. In addition, several principal arterial roadways, such as State Highways 54, 74, 85, 92, 279 and 314, pass directly through the County. Citizens also have fairly easy access to the public transportation systems, which serve the immediate Atlanta area. From terminals located in the southern part of Fulton County, travelers can take advantage of the trains and buses operated by the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA). For a very reasonable fare, MARTA offers residents the alternative of an easy, quick commute to Downtown Atlanta or to the various sports venues. And from the private sector, the Greyhound Bus Lines operates a local terminal in nearby Hapeville.

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the world's busiest passenger airport, is located only about 15 miles to the north and Falcon Field Airport which is located on the western fringes of the County serves as a local public airport for light aircraft including small jets.

Diverse Lifestyles

In spite of its relatively small size in terms of area, Fayette County offers its residents a diverse menu of lifestyles, amenities and opportunities.

Peachtree City, a planned community situated in the western part of the County, is widely known as a family-oriented locale. This City features three golf courses, two large lakes, 90 miles of golf cart paths, a 2,500 seat amphitheater, a state-of-the-art championship tennis center, an indoor swimming complex and numerous other recreational facilities. The majority of industry in the County is located in a nearby industrial park.

Fayetteville, the County seat, boasts of its Main Street Program aimed at recognizing the rich history of the City's downtown area and ensuring that much of the small town flavor and architectural designs of the past are maintained. With street names like Stonewall, Beauregard, Lee and Jeff Davis and buildings such as the Doc Holliday House, one can't help but feel surrounded by history. The Villages Amphitheater, located on Lafayette Avenue, offers a series of concerts throughout the year.

For those in search of a more pastoral environment, the Towns of Brooks and Woolsey, located in the southern portion of the County, generally require a minimum residential lot size of five-acres. In Fayette County, one can find a high-tech industrial complex and an airport located just a few minutes drive from cattle farms, woodlands full of deer and turkey, and a historic water mill.

GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE



The governing authority of Fayette County is a **Board of Commissioners** consisting of five elected members. The commissioners serve on a part-time basis and are elected to staggered terms of four years. While all five commissioners are elected at large, three must reside in different “districts” within the County. At their first meeting each calendar year, the Commission Chair and Vice-Chair are selected by the Board.

In their policy-making capacity, the Board of Commissioners is authorized to perform the following functions:

- 1) levy taxes;
- 2) direct and control all property of the County;
- 3) establish, alter or abolish roads and bridges;
- 4) fill vacancies in County offices unless others are empowered to do so;
- 5) examine, settle and allow claims against the County;
- 6) examine and audit the accounts of all officers having the care, management, keeping, collection or disbursement of money belonging to the County;
- 7) establish the costs of licenses; and
- 8) make such rules and regulations as necessary for the protection and preservation of health, safety, welfare and morals.

The Board of Commissioners appoints the County Administrator who serves as the County's Chief Administrative Officer. The County Administrator is responsible for the daily operations of all County functions in accordance with the policies of the Board of Commissioners.

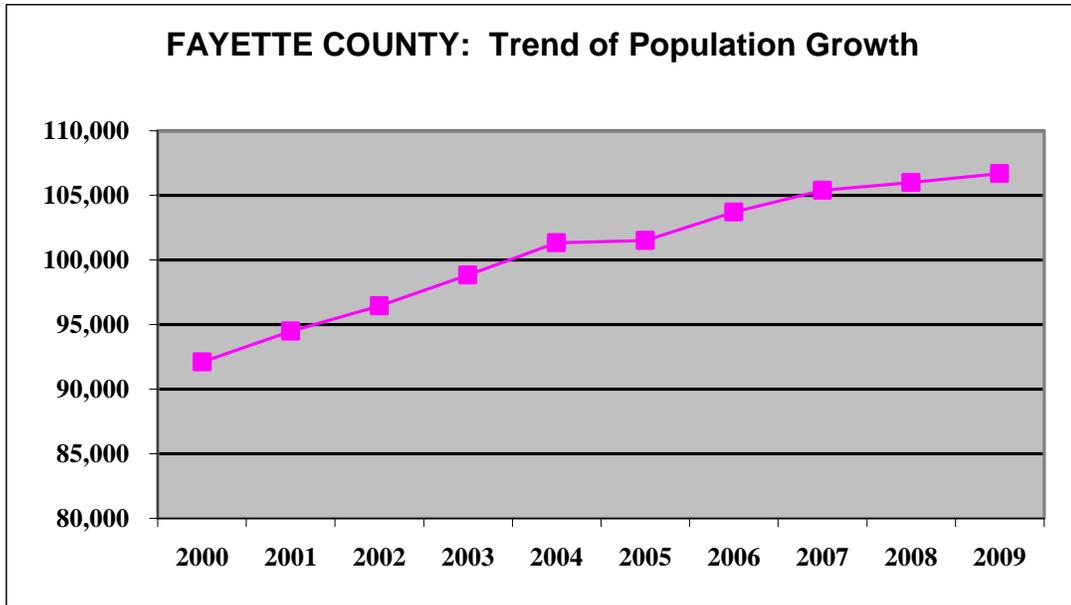
LOCAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND OUTLOOK

Fayette County continues to benefit economically by being an integral part of one of the top growth areas in the United States. The Metropolitan Atlanta region represents one of the nation's primary transportation and distribution centers as well as being a major financial and consumer services leader. For those counties located on the south side of the Metro Area, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is considered to be one of the more important economic engines. The total annual regional economic impact of the airport is more than \$24 billion. Georgia's geographically central location for domestic distribution, excellent surface transportation system, telecommunications infrastructure and proximity to major consumer markets make the state an excellent base for air cargo operations.

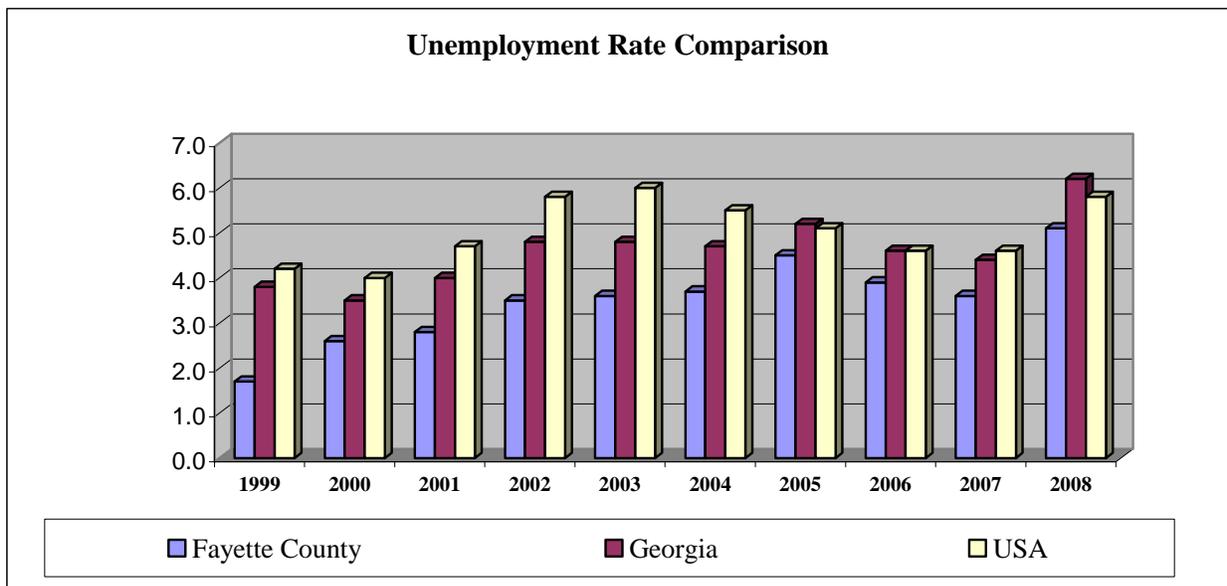
The quality and quantity of services provided by the County to its residents are second to none. The Fayette County Board of Education reported that all 30 schools met Georgia's Adequate Yearly Progress testing criteria and no school will have to offer parents the option of transferring students to other school. The "Adequate Yearly Progress Requirements" is part of the No Child Left Behind law that requires states to set goals based on student achievement data. Also in Fayette County, one will find one of the lowest crime rates in the Metro-Atlanta area, and an efficient County government with one of the lowest millage rates and service costs per capita in the State. Each of these quality-of-life factors combine to make Fayette County an extremely attractive place in which to reside.

More recently, the County has become well known, not only regionally, but nationally, as an ideal place in which to live and to work. Fayette County is considered by many to be the "crown jewel" of metropolitan Atlanta's many fine communities and it indeed offers a quality of life that equals or surpasses any metro area in the United States. The City of Peachtree City is an award winning "master plan" community. It has been named on the list of "10 Best Places to Live" by Money magazine and CNN/MONEY.

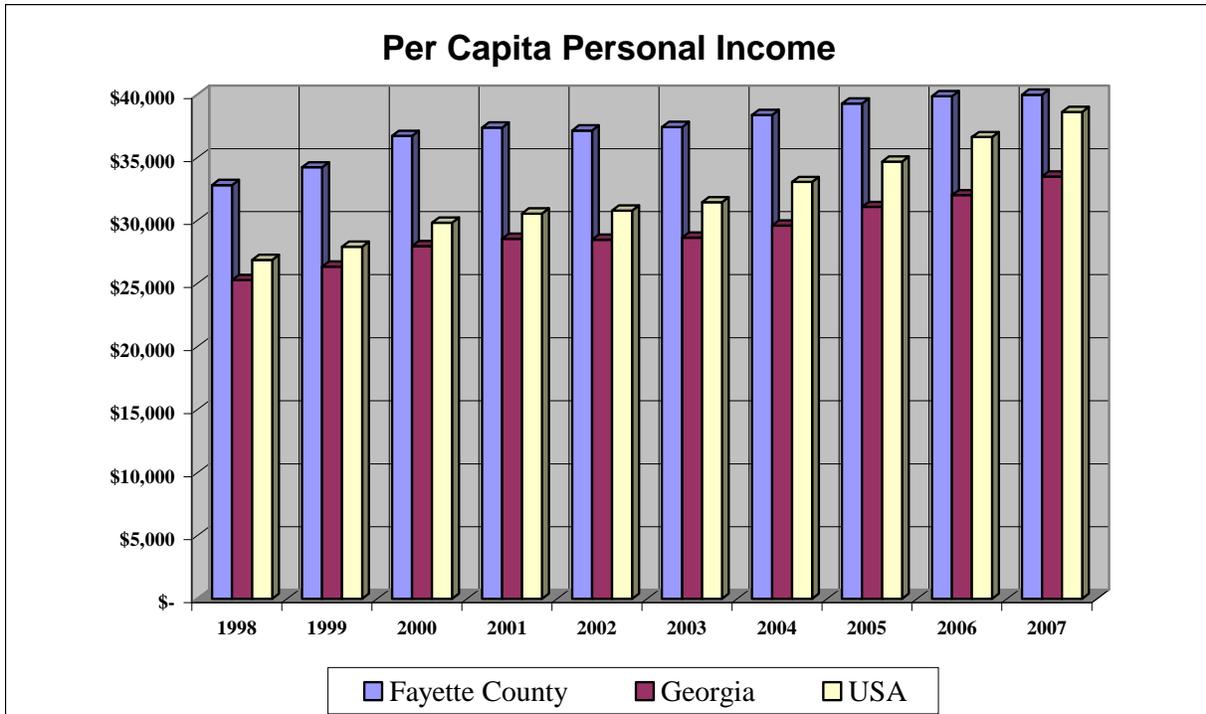
According to the 1980 census figures, Fayette County had 29,043 residents and was the forty-third most populous county in the State of Georgia. For 2008, the estimated population is in excess of 106,000. It is the twenty-first most populous county. Even though the population growth will not continue at the same unprecedented rate of the 1980's and 1990's, the Atlanta region will continue to be one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the Country.



In terms of productivity, Fayette County is extremely blessed to have a labor force that is well trained and has many marketable skills. More than 57 percent of our current residents age 18 to 65+ have attended some college, attained a 4-year college degree, or have post-graduate studies. The average SAT/ACT scores at local high schools are well above the state and national averages. SAT scores in Fayette County ranked seventh in the state and third among the fourteen metro Atlanta school districts. The superior quality of our workforce is reflected in our low unemployment rate. Fayette County's unemployment rate is consistently lower than both the state and national unemployment rates. The chart below shows unemployment trends for the last ten years.



The residents of Fayette County are among the most affluent in the country. More than half of its residents 18 and older have college education. The county has a low unemployment rate. Fayette County's work force is generally employed in the following areas: management, business, and finance; science, engineering, and computer science; sales; administrative support; healthcare; and other professional areas. These are typically high paying fields. Fayette County is among the counties with the highest Per Capita Personal Income at both the state level and the national level. The graph below compares the Per Capita Personal Income of the residents of Fayette County with those of Georgia and the rest of the nation for a period of ten years.



As the population and number of skilled workers have continued to grow over the years, the demographics are now such that businesses are being attracted to the area in increasing numbers. It is also important to note that the business climate in Fayette County is conducive to sustained quality growth. The Fayette County Development Authority has formed a partnership with six other adjacent counties-Metro South- for the specific purpose of promoting regional development.

Another very important attribute to the immediate area is that Atlanta's industrial diversity insulates the region against upheavals in a single market or decisions by a few major employers. Even with the increasing pre-eminence of the services sector of the economy, no single sector accounts for as much as 30 percent of the region's employment. Added benefits of recent growth include the availability of more high-quality products, services and talent. A critical mass of skilled workers in a variety of technical fields encourages innovations and entrepreneurship.

MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 AND THE FUTURE



For the Year: In preparing the 2010 fiscal year budget, the County was faced with the challenges of determining the proper balance between service delivery to the taxpayers and maintaining financial stability during a period of economic downturn. The slowing economy was taken into consideration in determining the future allocation of resources.

The Board of Commissioners approved to delay the start of the budget development process until late March 2009 to allow for the

mid-year budget adjustments to be finalized, end-of-calendar year revenues to be received, and FY 2009 year-end figures to be more accurately projected. The next-year budget level would depend largely on current year revenue streams and current year expenditure levels. County departments were instructed to keep their FY 2010 budget requests at the same level, or lower than, their FY 2009 budgets.

Operating expenditures for FY 2010 decreased by \$2.6 million or 3.4%. Capital/CIP appropriations increased by \$1.5 million, but are to be funded with monies available from previously approved projects or from available fund balance. The total budget decreased by \$1.1 million or 1.4%.

The parameters that guided the development of the FY 2010 budget will enable the achievement of these important goals:

- ☞ Maintaining a stable property tax rate that supports the maintenance and operations of the county,
- ☞ Funding the continued expansion of the Water System,
- ☞ Continuing the replacement of county vehicles and equipment,
- ☞ Improving the County's roadways,
- ☞ Enhancements in the Public Safety area,
- ☞ Projecting the funding needs of the Capital Improvements Program,
- ☞ Maintaining the fiscal ability to provide for service level increases in response to service demand,
- ☞ Optimizing the use of new technologies and training, and
- ☞ Minimizing the "cost of government" to the citizens while continuing to be responsive to their needs.

Unquestionably, the most important asset of Fayette County is its employees. The Human Resources Department periodically compares the employees' compensation and benefits package with those of surrounding markets. The implementation of the findings from these periodic salary comparisons helps guarantee that Fayette County can hire and retain qualified employees. In FY 2007, the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Management completed a Compensation and Classification Study approved by the Board of Commissioners. Phase I of the

study was implemented in March 2008. Phase II was implemented at the start of FY 2009. Phase III, the last phase of the study, is to be implemented with the start of FY 2010. Also, funds were again included in the budget to provide training and education opportunities for employees to keep current certifications, obtain certifications required by their job functions, and keep up with software changes.

As new residents continue to move into Fayette County, they bring with them an immediate impact on traffic flows. With each additional vehicle on the road, the potential for problems to develop increases as traffic counts begin to exceed existing road design capacities and intersections become overcrowded.



Fayette County, in cooperation with its' local communities and with regional and state agencies finalized a Comprehensive Transportation Plan in May 2003. The plan delineated necessary projects, strategies, and actions to be undertaken in the next 5, 10, 15, and 20 years. These projects would maintain Fayette's quality of life by improving safety, reducing congestion, increasing mobility options, and enhancing the county's business and community environments. The voters approved a Special Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST)

during the November 2004 general election which has provided funding for the County's portion of the work. Key to the success of the plan has been the cooperation with the county's local communities and with regional and state agencies. On December 13, 2007, the Board of Commissioners agreed to take advantage of Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding available through the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). This program assists with 80% of the funding of a transportation plan while the county provides the remaining 20%. The process of updating and replacing the 2003 plan has already begun. The new plan has five key tasks: public involvement, inventory of existing conditions, assessment and analysis, recommendations, and final documentation.



The Fayette County Water System generates revenue from water sales, meter charges, and fees. The revenue is used to fund daily operations that ensure safe and adequate drinking water for county customers. The Water System serves more than 27,000 customers. It has a total production capacity of 20.53 million gallons per day (MGD). The system complies with the State of Georgia Watering Restriction Program.

The system currently has three raw water storage reservoirs. Lake Kedron is a 235-acre reservoir which stores approximately 1.0 billion gallons of water and will safely yield 4.0 MGD during drought conditions. Lake Peachtree is a 250-acre reservoir which will yield 0.5 MGD

during drought conditions. Lake Horton, a 783-acre reservoir stores 3.5 billion gallons of water and will yield 18 million gallons per day during drought conditions.

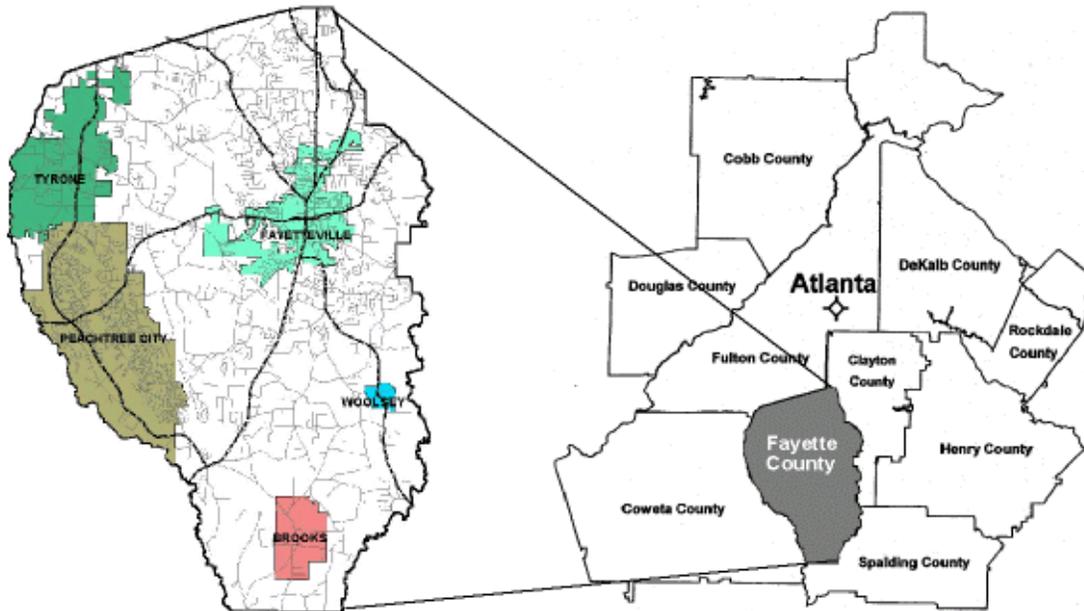
The Water System includes more than 608 miles of water lines. The water treatment plant located in Peachtree City has the capacity to produce 13.5 million gallons per day. A variety of chemical and biological tests are performed daily to insure compliance with State and Federal requirements for safe drinking water. The Water System currently has 16.25 million gallons of potable water storage.

A section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was acquired for Lake McIntosh for the construction of a dam and drinking water supply reservoir. This will be a 650-acre reservoir which will have a reliable yield of 10.4 MGD. The project started with the dam design, timber cutting, and an archeological site project. The FY 2009 budget included \$2.026 million in funding for the Lake McIntosh project. The Capital Improvement Program plan includes \$13 million between FY 2010 and FY 2011 for the completion of the Lake McIntosh project.

The issuance of Water System Revenue Bonds series 2009 was approved in July 2009. These will be used to refund all of the Water System Revenue Bonds series 1998, to prepay all outstanding GEFA loans, and to finance the completion of the Lake McIntosh project. The lower interest rate to be paid on the series 2009 bonds represents savings to Fayette County.

For the Future: It has been said that several of the factors which influence an individual's choice to reside in a particular place include the availability of services in the area, quality of life, and community identity or image. The County is taking a proactive stance in addressing each of these three considerations. Enhancing the existing quality of life, creating a positive image for the County and engendering pride in the Fayette community continue to be a large part of the strategic plan of the Board of Commissioners. The transition of Fayette County from its rural heritage into a dynamic suburbanizing community requires careful planning and implementation of a comprehensive strategy designed to maximize governmental resources. It is not an easy task, but the Fayette County Government is strongly committed to finding the best possible solution to this perplexing challenge.

Fayette County, Georgia: Municipalities and Proximity to Metropolitan Atlanta Area



Fayette County spans 199 acres and has 5 incorporated municipalities within its boundaries. There is an estimated 106,000 people calling Fayette County home today. Atlanta, with its world of shopping, dining, cultural opportunities, and major league sports, is just 30 minutes away.

Municipalities

Fayetteville – Fayetteville is the county seat of Fayette County and was named for Marquis de Lafayette, one of General George Washington’s commanders in the Revolutionary War. The City was incorporated on December 20, 1823. The original size of town was a half mile circle from the courthouse. The Southern Railroad came through in 1888 and was removed in 1928.

Peachtree City – Peachtree City was created in 1959 and includes the communities of Kedron, Aberdeen, Glenloch, Wilksmoor, and Braelinn. The city now features three golf courses, two lakes, an amphitheater, a tennis center, an indoor swimming complex, and 90 miles of pedestrian and golf-cart pathways connecting all parts of the city.

Brooks – The town of Brooks was first known as Haistentown after some of the original settlers. The community became known as Sharon Grove in the 1840’s. When the railroad came through in 1871, Hillery Brooks gave the property for the train station that was known as Brooks Station. In December 1905, the town became known as Brooks.

Woolsey – The Southern Railroad came through the area that became Woolsey in 1888. Woolsey was incorporated in 1893. It was named for Dr. I.G. Woolsey, who was the town’s largest landowner. Dr. Woolsey was a Civil War surgeon and a minister.

Tyrone - Tyrone was settled by Irish farmers and the town first known as Hopewell. The town was incorporated in 1911 by railroad builders who were mainly Scotch and Irish. They named the town Tyrone because they thought the area reminded them of their home area around County Tyrone in Ireland. Tyrone got its first pave street in 1948.