

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

A service or facility that a few years ago was a luxury may now be regarded as a necessity.
- Frank S. So

INTRODUCTION

Community facilities and services are required to support the functions provided by the county government. They include such necessities as utilities, public safety, recreation, and general government services. Such facilities and services are essential to support the community and its development and to enhance the overall quality of life.

The vigorous growth of Fayette County has been paralleled by demands for community facilities and services. The county's present system of community facilities and services demonstrate a high commitment to service provision and the community's expectations. However, as the infrastructure in currently developed portions of the county ages, there will be increased competition between newer and older areas for facility dollars. If the existing level of service is to be maintained in a fiscally sound manner, it will become increasingly important to cause future development to occur concurrently with the provision of adequate community facilities and services which support the increased development of an area.

The Community Facilities and Services Element of the Fayette County Comprehensive Plan recognizes that the level of public services enjoyed by county residents is a significant local attribute and its continuation requires sound and supportable planning guidelines. These must not only ensure that there is a balance between the county's future land use intensity, but that new facilities are located to maximize accessibility while minimizing neighborhood impact. Therefore, it is the purpose of this Plan element to provide specific guidance on the following: locational criteria, service levels, and methods for determining the specific need and appropriate timing of facilities. The primary mechanism for applying this guidance and ensuring a well balanced and adequate community facility system is through the Capital Improvement Program. This mechanism is an important tool for implementing the county's Community Facilities Element.

The Capital Improvement Program provides the financial foundation necessary to implement plans. The county's Capital Improvement Program guides the development of community facilities over a five year period. Projects are listed in a sequential order based on a schedule of priorities and include an estimated cost and anticipated method of funding each project.

The Board of Commissioners has adopted goals, objectives, policies, and guidelines which relate directly to community facilities and services. The following goal establishes the basis for community facilities planning in Fayette County as articulated by the objectives and policies in this element. This goal also emphasizes that community services and facilities, and the county's ability to provide them, are essential to maintaining the quality of life in the county.

Goal for Community Facilities and Services: Development in the county should be held to a level and rate which is consistent with the availability and adequacy of the county's community

facilities. The provision of community facilities must ensure an adequate level of service for existing and future residents. Plans to provide for new community facilities and for the maintenance of existing community facilities should take into account financial limitations associated with increased needs for community facilities.

The following element provides a description of existing community facilities and services in Fayette County. The Community Facilities and Services Element of the county's Comprehensive Plan is organized in the following sections:

Water Supply and Treatment	Recreation Facilities
Sewerage System and Wastewater Treatment	General Government
Solid Waste Management	Educational Facilities
Public Safety	Libraries and Other Cultural Facilities
Hospitals and Other Public Health Facilities	

The effect of projected population increases upon the adequate provision of these services is addressed and recommendations for their improvement and/or expansion are provided.

WATER SUPPLY AND TREATMENT

Inventory

The Fayette County Water System is the major supplier of public water in Fayette County, providing water to areas of the unincorporated county as well as the municipalities of Peachtree City, Tyrone and Woolsey. The Town of Brooks and the City of Fayetteville have their own water systems and purchase water from the county to supplement their supply. Raw water is drawn from the Flint River, Starr's Mill Pond, reservoirs, various wells, and the City of Atlanta.

Supply and Production: The existing water treatment plants (Crosstown Plant and South Fayette Water Plant) currently treat 19.5 millions gallons per day (MGD) of raw water. Map C- 1 shows the location of the treatment plants, raw water intakes, reservoirs, treated water storage facilities and distribution system. There is a total storage capacity of approximately 16.25 MGD using a combination of elevated storage tanks and clear wells (see Table C-1).

TABLE C-1
TREATED WATER STORAGE FACILITIES
FAYETTE COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

Facility	Location	Capacity (gallons)
Ellis Road Tank	Ellis Road	2,000,000
Crabapple Tank	SR 74 and Peachtree Parkway	2,000,000
Twin Tanks	SR 54 and SR 74 (2 tanks)	1,250,000
SR 92 Tank	SR 92 and New Hope	2,000,000
Clear Well	Crosstown Water Plant	6,000,000
Clear Well	South Fayette Water Plant	3,000,000
Total Water Storage Capacity	-	16,250,000

Source: Fayette County Water System, 2003.

The Water System presently has the capacity of providing approximately 20.3 million gallons of water per day (MGD) utilizing many sources which include Lake Horton, Lake Kedron, Lake Peachtree, Line Creek, Whitewater Creek, Flint River, various wells and the City of Atlanta. The Water System has a contract to purchase up to four MGD from the City of Atlanta.

The Fayette County Water System has a total production capacity of 20.3 MGD. This includes thirteen and one half (13.5) MGD from the Crosstown Road Treatment Plant, six MGD from the South Fayette County Treatment Plant and .8 MGD from various wells. The South Fayette Water Plant can be high rated to nine MGD.

The Water System has three existing reservoirs: Lake Kedron (235 acres), Lake Peachtree (250 acres) and Lake Horton (790 acres). Lake Horton utilizes two off-site intakes, the Flint River and Whitewater Creek.

Consumers: According to recent estimated averages, 69 percent of Fayette County households are served by the Fayette County Water System. The remaining 31 percent of the residents receive water from the municipalities of Fayetteville or Brooks, private well systems, or individual wells. The number of residential, commercial, and industrial water accounts in 2002 totaled 23,479, an increase of 10,235 since 1990, when the Water System had 13,244 accounts.

Distribution: The Water System includes more than 526 miles of water lines in various diameters and materials. All water lines are either (1) constructed by the Water System's own crews, (2) contracted for with the construction monitored and approved by the Water System's engineer, or (3) constructed by developers and contributed to the Water System upon inspection and approval of the construction by the Water System.

The Water System wholesales water to the City of Fayetteville under a wholesale water contract which expires in 2034. The Water System is also the backup supplier for the Town of Brooks under a wholesale water contract which expires in 2024.

Assessment

Water demand is projected to increase to 23.2 MGD in 2020 and 31.2 MGD in 2030. As a result, the county is pursuing a 404 permit for a new 650 acre reservoir on Line Creek. During drought conditions, Lake McIntosh, located on the county line with Coweta County, will provide an additional eight MGD.

Two future water tank sites have been identified with plans to construct a 2,000,000 gallon water tank on each site over the next six years. The South Fayette Water Plant is designed to be expanded to 18 MGD.

Objective C-1: Locate sites for adequate and appropriate facilities to store, treat, and distribute a safe and adequate potable water supply.

- Policy a. Locate booster pumping stations, wherever feasible, in well-buffered, attractively designed structures.
- Policy b. Encourage the early acquisition of sites for distribution and storage facilities where development activities are imminent. This must be done prior to proposed development in the area so that neighborhood disruption and costs are minimized.
- Policy c. Locate water lines to minimize impacts on environmental features such as stream valleys, wetlands, and forested areas.

Objective C-2: Plan and provide for facilities to store, treat, and distribute a safe and adequate potable water supply.

- Policy a. Maintain the 110 gallons per person per day guideline for the provision of water, with a peak factor of 1.6 times the estimated average daily demand, to determine maximum daily demand. The 110 gallons is derived from total water sales (including commercial, industrial and institutional uses) and the estimated population served.
- Policy b. Supply fire flows of 1,000 gallons per minute (GPM) with 20 pounds per square inch (psi) of water pressure.
- Policy c. Expand and improve water storage and treatment facilities, including the provision of elevated storage capacity equal to an average day of water use, ground storage capacity equal to maximum daily water use, and future reservoir construction.
- Policy d. Pursue strategies to reduce the per capita consumption of water.

SEWERAGE SYSTEM AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Inventory

Only the cities of Fayetteville and Peachtree City own and operate municipal sewerage systems (see Table C-2). Tyrone provides a limited amount of sewerage service in the SR74 North corridor through a contractual agreement with the City of Fairburn. Unincorporated Fayette County, Brooks and Woolsey have no sewerage and all development is served by septic systems, most being individual septic tank systems.

TABLE C-2 MUNICIPAL SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS							
City	Facility	Permitted Capacity mgd	Design Capacity mgd	2001 mgd	2008 mgd	2008 Capacity Available +/-, mgd	Planned Expansion
Fayetteville	Whitewater Creek	3.75	3.75	2.05	3.3	0.45	A Waste Load Allocation for 5mgd has been requested.
Peachtree City	Flat Creek	0.9	0.9	0.59	0.9	0	Plant to be taken off line in 2004. Flow to be diverted to Rockaway Road Plant with discharge at existing site.
Peachtree City	Line Creek	2	2	1.23	2	0	Upgrades to allow for reuse & seasonal discharge by 2004.
Peachtree City	Rockaway Road	2	2	1.63	2	0	Planned expansion to 4 mgd by 2004.

Source: Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, Short-Term Wastewater Capacity Plan, 2002.

Assessment

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD) prepared the Short-Term Wastewater Capacity Plan to address the immediate capacity needs of local wastewater treatment systems in preparation of a Long-Term Wastewater Management Plan which will take a number of years to implement. The report states that since both Fayetteville and Peachtree City have plans in place to increase wastewater treatment capacity that no short-term capacity issues are identified in Fayette County through the year 2008.

To address septage disposal needs, Fayette County is working with the Peachtree City Water and Sewer Authority (PTCWSA). Fayette County is funding the installation of equipment which separates the septage liquids and solids prior to it going into a municipal sewerage treatment facility. The equipment will be installed in conjunction with upgrades being made by PTCWSA to existing sewerage treatments facilities.

Objective C-3: Provide for septage disposal to meet existing and future demand.

Policy a. Establish and maintain a partnership with a treatment provider for the treatment and disposal of septage.

Policy b. Plan for the provision of additional capacity as necessary.

Objective C-4: Initiate a public education program for the proper operation and maintenance of on-site septic systems.

Policy a. Provide public education on the county's web site.

Policy b. Provide an educational brochure on the care and maintenance of septic systems to existing and new households.

Objective C-5: Ensure the longevity of on-site septic systems.

Policy a. Explore the feasibility of an inspection and maintenance program.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Inventory

The Fayette County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan was adopted in 1999 to fulfill the requirements of the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act (GSWMA). The seven elements addressed in the plan are: Amount of Waste, Collection, Reduction, Disposal, Land Limitations, Education and Public Involvement, and Implementation and Financing. The goal of the GSWMA is for every jurisdiction to reduce the amount of solid waste going into landfills by 25 percent. The plan includes Brooks, Fayetteville, Peachtree City, Tyrone and Woolsey, as well as unincorporated Fayette County. The plan was approved by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in April of 1999.

Refuse collection in the unincorporated county is provided by private contractors. All curb-side pick up of residential solid waste in unincorporated Fayette County is handled by private haulers. County citizens contract directly with these companies. Some of these companies offer recycling services.

Fayette County's transfer station is operated by a private contractor. Solid waste from this facility is taken to Live Oak Landfill in DeKalb County, Georgia.

Recycling services and yard waste drop off disposal are provided to all Fayette County citizens by the county at the transfer station on First Manassas Mile Road. This facility has receptacles for drop off of aluminum, scrap metals, glass, newspaper, white paper and cardboard. Newspaper recycling receptacles are also located in Kiwanis and McCurry Parks.

Assessment

The plan identifies the need for a data collection system to determine the amount of solid waste being diverted from the landfills through waste reduction, reuse and recycling. In addition, the plan identifies the need for a more accessible recycling center.

Objective C-6: Provide a solid waste transfer station, a recycling collection facility, and a yard waste collection facility.

- Policy a. Maintain and expand the transfer station as needed in order to accommodate the collection and transfer of projected solid waste materials.
- Policy b. Maintain and expand the recycling and yard waste facilities as needed in order to accommodate the collection of projected recyclable and yard waste materials.

Objective C-7: Ensure that Fayette County has the capacity to meet the disposal needs for ten years as required by the Georgia Solid Waste Management Act.

- Policy a. Guarantee landfill capacity through contract with private corporation operating the Fayette County Transfer Station.

Objective C-8: Increase waste reduction opportunities to achieve a 25 percent reduction of solid waste.

- Policy a. Continue to encourage citizen and private sector participation in recycling programs through a public education program on the county's web site.
- Policy b. Continue to collect solid waste handling data from private haulers.
- Policy c. Increase recycling opportunities for Fayette County residents.

Objective C-9: Provide appropriate closure/post closure care for the closed Fayette County landfill located on First Manassas Mile Road.

- Policy a. Continue to monitor landfills for presence of methane and quality of groundwater.
- Policy b. Mitigate groundwater contamination by natural attenuation and reduction of methane pressures in the waste units by using an active and passive venting system.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The provision of public safety services is basic to an orderly society and to the protection and safeguarding of the health and safety of county residents. For the most part, these functions in the unincorporated county are the responsibility of law enforcement agencies (the Sheriff's Office and the Marshal's Office), the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (Fire/EMS), Emergency 911 Communications, and the Judicial System. Each of these functions is discussed in this section with specific objectives and policies. However, there are certain general guidelines, objectives and policies that are common to all.

Objective C-10: **Ensure that an adequate level of law enforcement, fire and emergency services, and 911 emergency communications is provided in a cost-effective, efficient, and timely manner.**

Objective C-11: **Maintain the high level of training provided to public safety officials.**

Policy a. Provide access to a multi-faceted, multi-user Public Safety Training Facility consisting of classroom areas, a shooting range, a driver training facility, and training facilities for fire suppression, medical emergencies, disaster-related emergencies, and law enforcement emergency scenarios. Such a facility should provide a safe environment for training and be readily accessible to all users, which would include, but not be limited to, the following county departments: Fire/EMS, Marshal's Office, Sheriff's Office, and Public Works.

Policy b. Ensure that training complies with all applicable state and federal regulations and laws governing the security and processing of criminal justice information.

Objective C-12: **Ensure that public safety officials are supplied with facilities and equipment to properly support their duties.**

Policy a. Provide public safety telecommunications necessary for the rapid dispatch of public safety officials.

Policy b. Locate telecommunications facilities and equipment associated with public safety agencies in accordance with communication utility standards.

Policy c. Locate new public safety facilities in order that adequate space remains on site for future expansions.

Policy d. Investigate the potential for community-based facility sharing among public safety agencies and other community facilities where feasible (i.e. provide office and/or meeting space for county personnel at fire stations, branch libraries, etc.)

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Inventory

The Fayette County Department of Fire and Emergency Services is charged with the responsibility of providing Fire Protection, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management. These functions are provided through the provision of fire protection to the unincorporated areas of the county and the municipalities of Brooks, Tyrone and Woolsey, Emergency Medical Services to the same jurisdictions with the addition of Fayetteville and Emergency Management to all residents of Fayette County. Mutual Aid and Automatic Aid agreements are maintained between the City of Fayetteville and the county. Mutual Aid agreements are in effect with Peachtree City.

Fire Protection: The delivery of fire protection services includes emergency response to all fire calls and alarms, the provision of fire prevention through the Bureau of Fire Prevention and fire safety education. The department maintains a comprehensive prevention effort that includes new construction plan review and enforcement of the State Fire Prevention Code as well as the NFPA Life Safety Code and other NFPA Standards and codes. In addition the department conducts semi-annual fire inspections of all non-residential facilities, issues permits for hazardous operations and administers the outdoor burning program. Fire safety education is accomplished through established educational programs.

Emergency Medical Services: The department provides Advanced Life Support Ambulance Transport and First Responder Emergency Medical Services. The provision of these services is authorized and licensed through the State Department of Human Resources. The Department is the designated 911 Zone provider to all emergency medical calls within Fayette County with the exception of Peachtree City as stipulated through the Region IV EMS Council.

The Department operates nine existing fire stations located throughout the county (see Table C-3). Personnel consists of 125 full-time firefighters/EMT's and 35 volunteer firefighters. The department utilizes cross-trained personnel (to the level of Emergency Medical Technician) to provide fire protection and emergency medical services. In addition to this basic level certification, the department has approximately 60 personnel who are also certified and trained to the Paramedic level.

TABLE C-3 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES FACILITIES FAYETTE COUNTY				
Station	Location	Equipment	Date of Construction	Approximate Square Footage
Station 1	SR 314 and Helmer Road	1 Ambulance 1 Fire Engine	2001	5,700
Station 2	SR 92 North	1 Ambulance 1 Fire Engine 1 Tanker Truck	1980	5,700
Station 3	Senoia Road (Tyrone)	1 Ambulance 1 Brush Truck 1 Fire Engine 1 Tanker Truck	1980	4,500
Station 4	Johnson Avenue (Fayetteville)	1 Ambulance 1 Heavy Rescue 1 Squad Vehicle	1978	5,480
Station 5	SR 85 South/ Bernhard Road	1 Ambulance 1 Fire Engine	2002	5,700
Station 6	SR 85 Connector (Brooks)	1 Fire Engine	2000	5,600
Station 7	Hampton Road (Woolsey)	1 Ambulance 1 Brush Truck 1 Fire Engine 1 Haz-Mat Trailer 1 Tanker Truck	2002	5,700
Station 8	Flat Creek Trail	1 Fire Engine	1989	6,000
Station 10	Seay Road	1 Fire Engine	2002	5,700

Source: Fayette County Fire and Emergency Services, 2003.

Emergency Management: Responsibilities of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in this area include coordinating the functions of preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery in the event of a disaster, whether natural or man made. Inclusive within this responsibility is the maintenance and administration of the county's Disaster Plan. The plan reflects emergency management functions on a countywide basis and includes Fayetteville, Peachtree City, Tyrone, Brooks and Woolsey.

Additionally, the coordination of response to Hazardous Material Incidents and maintenance of a comprehensive hazardous materials plan is administered by this office as required by the Community Right-To-Know Act, otherwise known as SARA Title III. The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the Local Emergency Resource Councils are functions of the department's emergency management responsibilities. Homeland Security has recently been added

as an additional function in light of the potential for Weapons of Mass Destruction events and domestic terrorism.

Assessment

The 2003 institution of a manpower squad should serve to provide the essential operational personnel for emergency response. However, there is a need to provide full-time shift supervisory personnel that would be responsible for assisting the Deputy Chief of Operations in the fulfillment of those duties. There have been no positions added to these functions during the last twenty years as the primary focus on personnel has been on acquiring sufficient apparatus staffing.

The current level of service of Advanced Life Support Ambulances has remained constant during the last twenty years. However, municipal growth within the City of Fayetteville and adjacent areas has indicated a need for an additional ambulance to meet established service standards. At the present time, the ambulance serving the Fayetteville and surrounding area is approaching 2000 calls annually or approximately 38% of EMS total call volume. It is estimated that an additional transport unit will be required within the next 2 years to absorb the increase in call volume and reduce the dependency on outlying units to respond to this coverage zone.

Starting in 2000, the county began assessing impact fees for the provision of fire services. The Capital Improvement Element contained in this plan identifies the fire service needs to the year 2023.

Fire/EMS stations in the county are located to provide maximum coverage based on a five minute average response time. This response goal is critical to providing effective fire suppression as well as emergency medical services. This existing level and quality of service is considered adequate to meet current needs. Fayette County has an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of five in areas served by public water and in ISO rating of nine in areas not served by public water. The department has recently been awarded accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. The department is the first fire agency in the State of Georgia to be awarded accredited status.

The county's adopted Fire and Rescue Station Location Master Plan has determined that stations can be located to enable a five minute average response time to at least 80 per cent of the county's population. The fundamental element in facility planning is determining future demand for emergency services. While providing new facilities to meet the increasing demand is expected to be a primary focus for the fire and emergency services, it is becoming apparent that existing facilities will require additions and rehabilitation to accommodate necessary emergency response equipment. Continued analysis of resource utilization may result in redeployment of equipment to heavier demand areas.

National Fire Prevention Association standards recommend a minimum of four firefighters for each apparatus. The eight engines are presently staffed with two firefighters per apparatus. In terms of this standard, there is a total deficit of 16 firefighters per shift which should be available for the eight engines. National standards used by the Department require one EMS vehicle per 15,000 population and one EMS technician per 2,000 population.

An additional full time staff position is indicated for responsibilities associated with the provision of emergency management functions. Risk management and threat assessment requirements including an all hazards analysis for the community as stipulated by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency has increased the need for staff assistance. Disaster funding eligibility requires that comprehensive threat and risk assessment plans are developed in concert with WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) planning. Record keeping and retention including dissemination of information as required under SARA Title III (Superfund Authorization and Reauthorization Act) will require additional computer capabilities.

Objective C-13: Provide a sufficient number of fire and emergency service personnel to carry out the functions of the department.

Policy a. Fire and Emergency Services personnel should meet national norms as established in the Fire and Emergency Services Master Plan.

Objective C-14: Establish and maintain, at a minimum, a five minute average response time coverage for fire and rescue emergencies to at least 80 percent of the county's population.

Policy a. Plan, locate and construct new fire stations based on the standards and guidelines and when the following conditions are met:

- S The projected service area of new stations has a population density of 4,000 persons per square mile in an area which has a mix of urban and suburban densities;
- S The projected service area is greater than 15 square miles;
- S The projected service area is estimated to experience an activity level of 1,000 calls annually or an average of three per day;
- S The presence of target hazards (nursing homes, hospitals, jails, airports, etc.), including those occupancies that have the potential for a significant loss of life; and
- S Achieve and maintain a uniform, county-wide insurance rating of 4 based on the Insurance Services Office of Georgia, or its successor.

Policy b. Locate new fire and rescue stations at the most strategic point in a service area. Attempt to achieve a seven-minute total response time coverage to all points of the service area and/or provide the most optimum coverage of the service area based on the Fire and Emergency Service's service area void map in the Fire and Rescue Station Location Master Plan and the locational criteria of the Plan to include the following:

- S Locate stations close to intersections with highway access and on paved roads, preferably state-maintained, with shoulders and a minimum of curves in the immediate vicinity of station access;
- S Locate stations on relatively flat topography and on sites of two acres or more as established in the Fire and Rescue Station Location Master Plan. Stations should be designed to be compatible with the character of the surrounding area and should provide buffering from adjacent property;
- S Locate stations to minimize service area overlap and to provide coverage to areas not within five minutes of an existing station. When a new station is required to remove an existing service void and there is unavoidable overlap with other existing service area, the new station should be located so that any service overlap benefits the high risk/high density areas and alleviates the response requirements of other high activity areas; and
- S Stations should consist of a minimum of 6,000 square feet and support a two bay drive-through design.

Policy c. Plan and implement operational policies which enhance the ability of fire and emergency medical personnel to meet a seven-minute total response time from existing stations. These policies may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- S Staffing additional emergency response apparatus during peak system demand periods;
- S Redeploying existing resources to heavier demand areas; and
- S Varying dispatching of resources based on peak demand analysis, the day of the week, and the time of day.

Policy d. Plan and implement administrative and operational policies to assure compliance with maintaining accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

Objective C-15: Ensure an adequate level of Fire and Emergency Service facilities are provided to support the provision of administration, training, and emergency operations.

Policy a. Plan, locate and construct administrative facilities capable of supporting services consistent with department emergency operations and activity levels.

Policy b. Provide for an Emergency Operations Center capable of supporting disaster or multi-agency emergency operations according to the following guidelines:

- S Facility design should be capable of sustaining operations during periods of inclement weather and/or utility service disruption;
- S Facility should be designed to provide appropriate levels of security; and
- S Facility should be capable of supporting emergency communications.

Policy c. Provide training facilities to support service delivery training requirements according to the following guidelines:

- S Facility should be capable of providing real and/or simulated fire conditions;
- S Facility design should be compatible with hazards and risks frequency;
- S Facility should have a dependable life of 15 years or greater; and
- S Facility should meet the requirements of the ISO Grading Schedule.

Objective C-16: Maintain an emergency medical services system which meets the changing needs of the community based on medical surveillance, statistical analysis, technological advances, and service demands.

Policy a. Assure that medical equipment, apparatus, and staff meet industry standards and applicable needs of the community.

Policy b. Expand service delivery in areas of specialization based on need such as critical care services and medical support in biological and/or chemical events.

Objective C-17: Expand emergency management capabilities of the department to meet the changing needs within the public safety and homeland defense and security for the community.

Policy a. Establish an Emergency Operations Center which can serve to coordinate county-wide activities during a state of emergency and can provide an alternative site from which to direct essential governmental services.

Policy b. Expand capabilities in the areas of preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation for risk hazards within the community to include natural

disasters, mass casualty events, biological and/or chemical events and hazardous material situations. This entails specialized equipment, apparatus, and training for special operation activities.

- Policy c. Investigate the feasibility and/or need for the storage of emergency materials (underground emergency fuel storage areas, supplies, etc.).

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Inventory

Law enforcement in unincorporated Fayette County is provided by two agencies, the Sheriff's Department and the Marshal's Office. The **Fayette County Sheriff's Department** provides law enforcement in unincorporated Fayette County, Brooks and Woolsey. The cities of Fayetteville, Peachtree City and Tyrone provide their own law enforcement functions. Services provided by the Fayette County Sheriff's Office include law enforcement and patrol activities, operation of the jail for the incarceration of convicted criminals and those individuals who have been accused of crimes and are awaiting trial, provision of security services for the court system, criminal investigations, and the serving of warrants and civil processes. The Fayette County Sheriff's Department currently employs 215 persons which includes 119 sworn officers.

The unincorporated county, the cities of Brooks, Fayetteville, Peachtree City, Tyrone, and Woolsey all utilize the services of the jail as the facility is available without regard to political jurisdiction. Because the jail facility benefits the entire county as a whole, the service area for the jail facility is considered to be the entire county. The new jail facility consists of two pods housing 192 inmates each for a total capacity of 384 inmates. The facility is designed to be expandable to a total of four pods. The existing jail will be retained giving Fayette County a total capacity of 472 inmates.

The **Fayette County Marshal's Office** provides security for county-owned property, enforces county codes and regulations, develops safety policies and procedures for county employees and investigates Workman's Compensation claims, traffic accidents and property damage involving county personnel and property. The Fayette County Marshal's Office currently has a force of nine sworn officers.

Assessment

The Sheriff has identified the need for a satellite precinct in the SR 92 North Corridor and a training facility with a firing range. The sharing of a training facility with the Fayette County Department of Fire and Emergency Services is also a possibility. The Marshal's Office has identified the need for additional office space to accommodate personnel.

Objective C-18: Establish and maintain a minimum average response time of dispatched (emergency) calls of nine minutes or less.

- Policy a. Provide response zones that are internally accessible and geographically defined.

- Policy b. Add response zones, and corresponding personnel, when call dispatched volumes exceed 260 calls per response zone per month.
- Policy c. Minimize call swapping; reduce the amount of time an officer is responding to calls outside of his/her assigned zone (see Policy b).
- Policy d. Minimize call stacking; reduce the number of calls held and prioritized by communications due to lack of officer availability (see Policy b).
- Objective C-19: Ensure a sufficient number of law enforcement personnel to carry out the functions of the various divisions (patrol, traffic, investigations, jail, and administration). Re-evaluate current staffing levels as crime statistics, call response volumes, and jail inmate population increases.**
- Objective C-20: Maintain or establish equipment and facilities that allow law enforcement personnel to operate at maximum effectiveness.**
- Policy a. Plan, locate and construct facilities capable of supporting services consistent with current department operations and activity levels.
- Policy b. Investigate the potential of providing facilities for law enforcement personnel in conjunction with other community facilities such as fire/EMS stations.
- Policy c. Explore technology advances to enhance officer safety, monitor officer activity and location, improve data collection, reduce response time, and improve field reporting. Such technology includes, but it not limited to, GPS/GIS equipment and personnel data assistants (PDAs: palm pilots, e.g.).
- Objective C-21: Meet the State Department of Corrections rated capacity standards for Average Daily Population at the Fayette County Jail.**
- Policy a. Continue to follow guidelines, standards, and procedures for jail renovations and additions as established by the American Corrections Association for any additions to the Fayette County Jail.

EMERGENCY 911 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Inventory

The Emergency 911 Communications Center was consolidated in 1995 and provides service to the county and its municipalities. The county and each of its municipalities provide funding for this service based on a formula in the Consolidated Communications Agreement. A total staff of 29 (25 full-time and 4 part-time) working three shifts operate the center 24 hours a day.

Assessment

The Emergency 911 Communications Center has identified the need of an addition to the radio room to accommodate equipment and personnel. As with any public safety agency, as the county grows, additional personnel will be needed to maintain an adequate level of service.

Objective C-22: Provide a sufficient number of Emergency 911 personnel to carry out the functions of the department.

Policy a. Maintain the current call volume level of service of one operator per 870 calls per month.

Objective C-23: Provide efficient, effective community safety communication to the agencies it serves and to the public at large.

Policy a. Ensure that E-911 Communications are conducted in accordance with the following Federal Communications Commission procedures and requirements.

S Provide 24-hour, toll-free telephone access for emergency calls for service.

S Utilize a single emergency telephone number.

S Provide 24-hour two-way radio capability ensuring continuous communication between the communications center and officers on duty.

Policy b. Transition from the 806 frequency spectrum to the 821 frequency spectrum provided the following guidelines are met:

S Utilize the 10 reserved public safety 821 MHz frequencies;

S Have all agencies utilize one system;

S Increase coverage from mobile to portable units and inside buildings;

- S Accommodate data communications with increased efficiency; and
 - S Provide the ability to add other county and city departments as necessary.
- Policy c. Create a state-of-the-art digital communications system by ensuring the following guidelines are met:
- S Gradually transition from existing analog subscriber radios to digital radios;
 - S Install T-1 (telephone) lines;
 - S Construct tower buildings (by either the county or through a sub-contractor) and obtain generators and Uninterrupted Power Source systems;
 - S Upgrade the existing communications center analog Centracom consoles to digital consoles;
 - S Upgrade the existing analog 911 Centralink to Centralink 2000;
 - S Provide an uninterrupted electrical power supply with automatic backup capability.

JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Inventory

The court system (State Court, Superior Court, Magistrate Court, Juvenile Court, Probate Court District Attorney & Solicitor) primarily involves the administration and enforcement of justice based on civil and criminal laws of the State of Georgia. Space for retention of court records, as required by code, continues to be an important requirement of the Court system. These offices are housed in the Fayette County Justice Center.

Assessment

The Fayette County Justice Center will meet the immediate and future needs of the judicial system. The 50,000 square foot third floor of this facility which is currently unoccupied will be utilized as the need arises.

Objective C-24: Maintain a central location for the main court system that is convenient to all county residents.

- Policy a. Plan and locate new or expanded facilities at the Judicial Center/Courthouse Complex so that centrality of this service is preserved

and that other related criminal justice agencies existing at the complex remain in close proximity.

Objective C-25: Maintain the efficient and expedient processing and adjudication of court cases in Fayette County by providing the necessary facilities to accomplish such actions.

Policy a. Plan and construct additional court and records storage space in accordance with needs analyses and avoid deferring expansion to a point where unsatisfactory conditions exist.

HOSPITALS AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES

Inventory

Fayette County Community Hospital

Open since September 1997, Fayette Community Hospital is a 100-bed, general community hospital which is governed by a nine-member Board of Trustees, five of whom are physicians. The hospital offers a wide range of services, including medical, surgical, critical care, diagnostics, physical therapy, and emergency room. A medical staff of more than 300 doctors represents more than 30 specialties. Members of the medical staff are board certified or qualified.

Fayette Community Hospital offers a full range of services including medical, surgical, critical care, diagnostics, laboratory, respiratory, outpatient surgery, rehabilitation and comprehensive out-patient services. A 24-hour emergency department with a FAA-approved helipad serves the emergency medical needs of the community. The Hospital has expanded the Diagnostic and Emergency Services to 105 Yorktown Drive in Fayetteville by opening the Minor Emergency Care and Outpatient Diagnostic Center.

Fayette Community Hospital's inpatient and outpatient services include:

- Twenty-four hour emergency care, including a FAA-approved helipad
- Medical/Surgical services
- Critical care
- Full diagnostics, including CT scan and nuclear medicine
- Pediatric services
- Operating rooms for inpatient and outpatient surgery
- Rehabilitation/Physical Therapy/Fitness Center
- Respiratory Therapy
- General lab services
- Comprehensive outpatient services

Public Health Facilities

The Fayette County Public Health Department provides services to local citizens. Services provided by the department include preventive health care, educational services, immunizations, family planning, travel shots, cancer screening and physical assessments. The department also includes Environmental Health which regulates septic placement, restaurant cleanliness, care homes, tourist accommodations, the testing of wells and public swimming pools, and the survey and identification of mosquito species for the presence of the West Nile Virus. The department is supported by fees and state and local funds.

Assessment

The Fayette County Community Hospital will meet the future needs of Fayette County citizens. The hospital was constructed with an unfinished third floor that will be finished when the need arises. When finished, it will include an additional 50 beds.

The Fayette County Health Department has identified a need for more facility space due to an increased patient load. Patient contacts increased from 10,344 to 20,122, an increase of 95 percent, between 1996 to 2002. Patient load is expected to increase as the county continues to grow. A State Block Grant could be utilized to pay for a portion of a new public health facility. The provision of Fayette County Health Department services will be addressed under the Objectives and Policies of the General Government section.

RECREATION FACILITIES

Inventory

Fayette County has seven recreational areas totaling approximately 276 acres (see Table C-4). These recreational areas have an array of facilities such as baseball fields, boat ramps/docks, football fields, picnic areas, soccer fields, softball fields, tennis courts and walking trails (see Table C-5).

The county recently purchased approximately 173 acres in the Kenwood area for a future park. In addition, an eight acre tract in Peachtree City which had been used by the Fayette County Water System will be developed into a future park.

TABLE C-4
EXISTING RECREATIONAL PARKS: 2003
FAYETTE COUNTY

Park	Location	Acreage	Facilities
Brooks Park	SR 85 Connector	15	baseball fields, softball fields, pavilion, picnic areas, and playground
Heritage Park	SR 85	1	fountain, historical markers, and public gathering place for celebrations, concerts, etc.
Kiwanis Park	Redwine Road	45	baseball fields, indoor recreation facility, Kiwanis Activity House, picnic areas, playground, tennis courts, and walking trail
Lake Horton	Antioch Road	48	boat ramps, fishing area, picnic areas, and walking trails
Lake Kedron	Peachtree Pkwy.	9	boat ramps, fishing area, picnic area, and playground
McCurry Park	SR 54 East	130	football fields, multipurpose field, soccer fields, softball fields, pavilion, picnic areas, playground, ropes course, and walking trails
Starr's Mill Park	SR 85 South	19	fishing area and picnic area
Total		276	

Source: Fayette County Recreation Department and Fayette County Water System, 2003.
Compiled: Fayette County Planning Department, 2003.

TABLE C-5
EXISTING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES: 2003
FAYETTE COUNTY

Facility Type	Current Provision
Acreage	276
Baseball Fields	14
Docks and Boat Ramps	3
Football Fields	2
Multipurpose Court	1
Picnic Areas	6
Playgrounds	7
Recreation Center (indoor)	1
Rope Course	1
Soccer Fields	15

TABLE C-5, continued EXISTING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES: 2003 FAYETTE COUNTY	
Facility Type	Current Provision
Softball Fields	9
Tennis Courts	4
Walking Trails	3
Activity House	1

Source: Fayette County Recreation Department and Fayette County Water System, 2003.

Compiled: Fayette County Planning Department, 2003.

Assessment

To address recreation needs in Fayette County, the Fayette County Board of Commissioners contracted with Robert and Company to conduct a recreation needs assessment. The Fayette County Recreation Needs Assessment was completed in 2003. The needs assessment recommends recreation improvements to be undertaken by Fayette County. Timing for the improvements range from 2005 to 2020. In the next year, the staff of the Recreation Department will utilize the needs assessment to update the Fayette County Capital Improvement Plan. The following table from the needs assessment (Table C-6) illustrates these overall needs.

TABLE C-6 RECREATIONAL FACILITY NEEDS: 2005 - 2020 FAYETTE COUNTY		
Type of Improvement	Quantity	Unit Cost
Park Acreage (1, 4)	209	\$20,000
Aquatic Complex (2)	2	\$1,748,000
Baseball Field (lighted) (4)	6	\$120,000
Community Centers (3)	2	\$650,000
Football Field (unlighted) (4)	1	\$145,000
Handball	4	\$25,000
Horseshoe Courts	47	\$1,500
Multi-Purpose Field (unlighted)	3	\$160,000
Outdoor Basketball (unlighted)	8	\$35,000
Outdoor Volleyball	17	\$40,000
Picnic Areas	41	\$8,000
Picnic Pavilions (4)	40	\$15,000

TABLE C-6, continued.
RECREATIONAL FACILITY NEEDS 2005 - 2020
FAYETTE COUNTY

Type of Improvement	Quantity	Unit Cost
Playgrounds (4)	19	\$20,000
Running Tracks (4)	3	\$75,000
Soccer Fields (4)	2	\$160,000
Softball Fields (4) (lighted)	2	\$120,000
Tennis Courts (unlighted)	8	\$35,000
Tot Lots (4)	36	\$20,000
Trails (4)	14 miles	\$105,000

Source: Fayette County Recreation Needs Assessment, 2003

(1) Cost does not include site development items such as accessibility, utilities, amenities and FFE.

Typical programming costs assumes +/- \$10,000/acre for active parks.

(2) Cost based on estimate for a 7 lane lap pool and building.

(3) Cost based on a building with multipurpose space, meeting rooms, restrooms, and kitchen at a cost of \$115 per sq. ft. of building plus costs for site development/landscaping.

(4) Cost estimate submitted by Fayette County Recreation Department.

The Recreation Department identifies the following projects which were initiated before the completion of the Fayette County Recreation Needs Assessment:

Brooks Park: Installation of softball field fencing, installation of field lighting, expansion of parking area.

Kelly Drive Neighborhood Park: Purchase of land from the Water System and converting the area into a park with picnic tables; park benches, a playground area, and a walking trail.

Kiwanis Park: Installation of additional parking and access, Kiwanis Activity House basement renovations, and the upgrade of field lighting.

McCurry Park: Parking lot installation and improvements (resurfacing, patching and fencing), the installation of barrier netting and cross fencing (to subdivide soccer fields), and the addition of a picnic shelter, walking trails, a playground, four tennis courts and two multipurpose courts.

Kenwood Park: Development of the park.

Fayette County Community Greenspace Program

Fayette County and three municipalities (Fayetteville, Peachtree City, and Tyrone) are participating in the Georgia Greenspace Program which was created by Senate Bill 399. The purpose of this program is to encourage rapidly developing counties to preserve a minimum of 20 percent of their entire area as permanently protected green space. This permanently protected greenspace will be used to achieve to the greatest degree possible the goals stated in Senate Bill

399. These goals are water protection, flood protection, wetlands protection, reduction of erosion, protection of riparian buffers, protection of archaeological and historic resources, provision of passive recreation and connection of existing or planned greenspace areas. Ultimately this green space will be connected and utilized for conservation areas and passive recreation. For the purposes of this program, Fayette County's total area (incorporated and unincorporated) is approximately 127,332 acres of which 25,466 acres would be the 20 percent target for green space area. In 2003, approximately 900 acres qualified as permanently protected greenspace as is defined in the Georgia Greenspace Program.

Objective C-26: Provide recreational facilities needed for current and future residents.

Policy a. Acquire additional land to expand existing parks or provide new parks through a combination of purchase in fee simple, easements, dedication, donation, and/or other appropriate means.

Policy b. Provide recreational opportunities as appropriate to the individual park's service area.

Objective C-27: Preserve appropriate land areas in a natural state to conserve ecological resources, protect environmentally and historically significant areas, and maintain open space in developed areas for passive recreation.

Policy a. Identify and protect, through public acquisition or other appropriate means, representative high quality occurrences of significant ecological and historic resources for inclusion in the park system.

Policy b. Encourage developers to include recreational facilities in new subdivisions and Planned Unit Developments (PUDs).

Objective C-28: Ensure the long term protection, maintenance and preservation of park resources.

Policy a. Protect park resources from the adverse impacts of development on nearby properties.

Policy b. Ensure adequate maintenance for existing facilities.

Objective C-29: Provide for meeting current and future park and recreational needs through a combination of the development of new and existing sites and the optimal use of all existing facilities.

Policy a. Maximize the use of existing public facilities for community recreation purposes.

Policy b. Enhance existing recreation and resource protection opportunities through acquisition of adjacent lands.

- Policy c. Coordinate with Fayette County Board of Education on the location, phasing and design of school and park sites to enhance the potential for development of community recreation facilities and to facilitate multiple use of school facilities for community education and recreation activities.
- Policy d. Encourage community participation in the maintenance of parks.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Inventory

Fayette County governmental facilities and the approximate square footage of each are listed in Table C-7. The majority of the county's administrative services are located in the Fayette County Administrative Complex. This facility currently contains the following county offices: Administration, Board of Tax Assessors, Circuit Court Judge, Elections and Registration, Engineering, Environmental Health, Extension Service, Finance, Fire and Emergency Services, Human Resources, Information Systems, Marshals, Permits & Inspections, Physical Health, Planning, Purchasing, Tax Commissioner, and Zoning. Additional county offices are housed at other locations throughout the county (see Table C- 3). Other facilities discussed elsewhere in this element include water treatment plants, treated water storage facilities, Fire/EMS stations, and recreational facilities.

Fayette Senior Services operates the Friendship Center in a reconverted single family structure. The Friendship Center is a gathering place for the socialization and recreation of senior citizens. Facilities include a dining room, fellowship area, card and puzzle room, and warming kitchen for Meals on Wheels. A separate trailer houses the Fayette Senior Citizens administrative office.

In addition to operating the Friendship Center, Fayette Senior Services administers a nutritional program, an information and referral service, an in-home services program, transportation services, a wellness program, and the Just Older Youth Program. Overall, Fayette Senior Services serves approximately 1,700 citizens per year.

TABLE C-7 GOVERNMENTAL FACILITIES FAYETTE COUNTY				
Facility	Location	User(s)	Date of Construction	Approx. Square Footage
Fayette County Admin. Complex	Stonewall Avenue	Administrative Offices	1989	66,000
Fayette County Justice Center	Johnson Avenue	Sheriff & Jail Facilities	1984	204,000
Fayette County Courthouse	Courthouse Square	Chamber of Commerce; Development Authority	1825	16,000
Fayette County Public Library	Heritage Park Way	Library	1997	25,000
Fayette County Judicial Complex	Jimmie Mayfield Blvd.	Courts: State, Superior, Probate, Magistrate & Juvenile; District Attorney & Solicitor	2003	150,000
Friendship Center	Lee Street	Fayette Senior Services	1920	3,700
Fayette County Animal	SR 74	Fayette County Animal Control	1980	5,400

Source: Fayette County Building and Grounds Maintenance, 2003.

Assessment

The Fayette County Judicial Complex opened on time in the spring of 2003. A 150,000 foot building for administrative service departments is also planned on this 65 acres site. The Fayette Senior Services is involved in a capital campaign to raise funds for a new facility. This new facility will be located on approximately three acres within the aforementioned 65 acre site. The new Fayette Senior Services facility will have four functional centers: Active Recreation, Agency Offices, Meeting Space/Food Service, and Structure Programs. The proposed facility will contain a multipurpose room which will seat 150, a small dining room which will seat 60, and the kitchen facilities to serve 200 meals a day through the volunteer Meals on Wheels Program.

Objective C-30: Provide support for the effective and efficient delivery of governmental services.

- Policy a. Ensure that the administrative functions are conducted consistent with the needs, demands and requirements of programs and/or services provided by local government.
- Policy b. Ensure that the administrative functions are properly equipped to adequately support county functions.

- Policy c. Ensure that the administrative functions are adequately staffed to provide county services. Base employee levels on local, state, or federal standards where applicable.

Objective C-31: Provide and maintain adequate community facilities to serve the existing and future needs of Fayette County.

- Policy a. Ensure that facilities are properly sized to meet the existing and future demand for governmental services including storage space for equipment and supplies stored as a result of the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement among Fayette County governments. Future county buildings and facilities should be designed with the ability to be expanded.
- Policy b. Ensure that the administrative functions are conducted consistent with the needs, demands and requirements of programs and/or services provided by local government.
- Policy c. Site facilities in accordance with locational standards that maintain accepted levels of service while reducing duplication or underutilization of services. Plan the development of community facilities in areas where it will serve the greater percentage of population.
- Policy d. Ensure that minimum populations or service thresholds are projected to be met before facility construction is undertaken.
- Policy e. As the county grows, the feasibility of satellite facilities should be explored to decentralize some community services (tag office, library, public safety including Fire/EMS and sheriff, e.g.) Where possible, develop community facilities which will serve dual purposes.

Objective C-32: Construct and maintain facilities in accordance with expected levels of service objectives and fiscal limitations.

- Policy a. Program the establishment of facilities through the county's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Projects programmed for construction in the CIP should either be 1) identified in the plan text in accordance with adopted service levels; 2) demonstrated as particularly urgent to meet public health or safety needs or required service levels; or 3) supported by the County Manager's recommendation.
- Policy b. Follow adopted community facility standards to identify requirements associated with level of need, appropriate quantity and size, and relationship to population.
- Policy c. Ensure adequate maintenance of existing facilities.

Policy d. Ensure that when existing community facility sites are no longer needed for their original use, the land formerly used for that purpose is reserved, to the extent possible and prudent, for other public uses.

Policy e. Acquire, as fiscally possible, sites for community facilities in advance of demand either through purchase or dedication.

Objective C-33: Provide for adequate records security, storage, and retrieval in compliance with applicable State and Federal requirements.

Policy a. Ensure adequate document storage facilities to meet applicable State and Federal requirements as indicated below:

- S Elections: Requires adequate space and security (under seal) for ballots and other documents for a period of 24 months.
- S Emergency 911 Communications: Requires the secure handling and storage of records per the requirements of the Georgia Crime Information Council.
- S Human Resources: Requires adequate space and security for personnel records for periods of three to five years.
- S Historical Society: The Historical Society is the official depository for all county (historic) records. Requires secure, environmentally safe (flood, fire, air) storage.
- S Superior Court: Requires on-site storage for a maximum of 70 years.
- S Solicitor: Requires on-site storage for a period of one year; remaining four years can be off-site.
- S Fire/EMS: Requires adequate space and security for storage of patient medical records (in perpetuity), and for incident reports (minimum seven years).
- S General county Records (building permits, business licenses, violation incident reports, etc.): Requires long term storage facilities.

Objective C-34: Mitigate the impact of community facilities on adjacent planned and existing land uses.

Policy a. Locate community facilities in areas of compatible land use, if service efficiency and cost effectiveness can be achieved. Siting facilities in areas of

different land uses is acceptable and at times required, to provide centrally located community facilities which are critical to the public interest.

- Policy b. Co-locate community facilities whenever appropriate to achieve convenience and economies of scale.
- Policy c. Design facilities to promote and enhance the community identity and existing character of the area.
- Policy d. Ensure that community facilities are properly screened and buffered in order to mitigate visual impact on adjacent planned development of a different use or nature.
- Policy e. Ensure that site size and development conforms to all requirements of the Fayette County Regulations and exceeds site acreage requirements, as possible, to achieve maximum compatibility with surrounding land uses.

Objective C-35: Acquire sites which are appropriate for the facility's specific purpose. Apply acceptable criteria when evaluating community facility sites.

- Policy a. Consider accessibility in siting facilities. In general, community facilities should have access to primary roadways.
- Policy b. Locate facilities on sites which have adequate acreage for short-term needs, but can also accommodate expansion.
- Policy c. Avoid areas of environmental sensitivity except where site acquisition is in support of open space.
- Policy d. Locate facilities on sites preferably having mature vegetation, capable of providing a natural buffer and enhancing building design.

Objective C-36: Provide and maintain the equipment necessary to fulfill the services provided by local government.

- Policy a. Ensure that equipment is adequate to provide maintenance and support of programs and/or services provided by local government.
- Policy b. Provide county staff with sufficient hardware and software to efficiently serve the public including Internet and Geographic Information System (GIS) functions.
- Policy b. Ensure adequate storage facilities for equipment to provide protection, security and easy access to county personnel.

Objective C-37: Ensure that county vehicle maintenance facilities are located on adequate and appropriate sites.

Policy a. Locate any new facility in proximity to the center of its designated service area, which is a determined geographic region based on fleet distribution.

Policy b. Ensure that access to each facility is oriented to an arterial roadway.

Objective C-38: Consider established design and service area standards when planning new county vehicle maintenance facilities.

Policy a. Provide screening and buffering around each facility in order to minimize the impact of this use.

Policy b. Ensure that all facilities protect the water quality of nearby water courses by providing the most efficient stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control run-off from building and parking areas.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Inventory

The Fayette County Board of Education presently administers 26 public schools, 16 elementary schools, five middle schools, and five high schools (see Table C-8). In addition, the Board of Education administers an alternative elementary school, middle school and high school at the Lafayette Educational Center and an evening high school at the Sandy Creek High School. Table C-6 provides information on each of the public schools located in Fayette County. Currently two projects are currently underway: Crabapple Lane Elementary with a student capacity of 800 is scheduled to open fall of 2003 and Whitewater High School with a student capacity of 1,500 will open fall of 2004.

TABLE C-8 EXISTING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES: 2002-2003			
School	Year Built	Student Capacity	Enrollment
Elementary Schools			
Braelinn Elementary	1989	613	613
Brooks Elementary	1962	438	393
Cleveland Elementary	2002	800	350
East Fayette Elementary	1955	513	621
Fayetteville Intermediate (Grades 3-5)	1962	588	462

TABLE C-8, continued.

EXISTING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES: 2002-2003

School	Year Built	Student Capacity	Enrollment
Hood Avenue Primary (Grades Pre-K - 2)	1970	463	437
Huddleston Elementary	1979	563	650
Kedron Elementary	1996	738	832
North Fayette Elementary	1980	713	494
Oak Grove Elementary	1986	638	524
Peachtree City Elementary	1968	488	435
Peeples Elementary	1998	738	770
Robert J. Burch Elementary	1989	613	578
Sara Harp Minter Elementary	2002	800	635
Spring Hill Elementary	1996	738	601
Tyrone Elementary	1980	413	390
Middle Schools			
Fayette Middle	1986	988	933
Flat Rock Middle	1989	938	911
J. C. Booth Middle	1979	1,088	1,111
Rising Star Middle	1996	1,063	1,193
Whitewater Middle	1989	1,038	1,018
High Schools			
Fayette County High	1997	1,738	2,225
McIntosh High	1981	1,575	1,478
Sandy Creek High	1990	1,613	1,238
Starr's Mill High	1997	1,663	1,843

Source: Fayette County School System, 2003.

Total enrollment for Fayette County Schools during the 2002-2003 school year is 20,879 students: 8,785 elementary students, 5,187 middle school students, and 6,907 high school students. The number of students in Fayette County has increased 42 percent from 14,655 students in the 1992-1993 school year.

Education/Training Centers: Two education/training centers are located in Fayette County. These centers are the Fayette County University Center in Peachtree City and the Fayette County Community School in the LaFayette Center in Fayetteville.

The Fayette County University Center offers continuing education classes from Clayton College and State University. These classes include Basic Academic Skills, Computer Training, Career and Professional Development, Healthcare Training, Leisure and Personal Development and Small Business Development.

The Fayette County Community School offers classes from Central Michigan University, Gordon College, and West Georgia State University. A Master of Art in Education with a specialization in Instruction or Adult Learning can be obtained through Central Michigan University. Gordon College offers a variety of classes including Economics, English, History, Math, Communications, Psychology, and Sociology. West Georgia State University offers classes necessary to maintain teacher's certification.

Assessment

Fayette County's rapid growth has put a burden on the Fayette County Schools System. The Fayette County Board of Education plans to construct three elementary schools and one middle school to accommodate additional students contingent on voter approval of a Special Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) and/or bonds.

LIBRARIES and OTHER CULTURAL FACILITIES

Inventory

The mission of the Fayette County Public Library is to assist the public in meeting their informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs by providing free access (where economically feasible) to information affording personal and community benefits. Services to the hearing impaired and to visually and physically disabled residents are provided by Access Services. The Fayette County Public Library is located in the City of Fayetteville. There are three additional city-administered libraries in Fayette County: the Peachtree City Library, the Tyrone Library, and the Brooks Library.

The Fayette County Public Library is a member of the Flint River Regional Library System (FRRL) and is a unit of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The FRRL oversees libraries in a seven-county area. Authorized by the state, the FRRL distributes state funds to each of the seven counties, as well as providing technical assistance in areas such as administration, construction planning, interlibrary loans, computer backup and bulk purchasing. All four libraries in Fayette County are members of the FRRL system and as a result, all of the libraries are open to all residents of the county. Fayette County pays the FRRL membership fees on a per capita basis for all the county and city libraries.

The Fayette County Public Library is approximately 25,000 square feet in size. The library contains approximately 80,641 volumes. A computer lab in the library contains 10 computers which offer classes in academic enrichment and computer applications. The Internet can be accessed from 54 computers in the library. The Georgia Career Information System is available to students for career and education planning. The Fayette County Public Library hosts cultural events such as readings by local authors and concerts. The library also offers computer-based

instruction, a Distant Learning lab for teleconferencing, Spanish and French classes, children's storytelling, sign language and access to PINES and GALILEO. PINES (Public Information Network for Electronic Services) allows a patron at any PINES library to see and borrow the holdings of every participating library, increasing access to materials exponentially. GALILEO (GeorgiA Library LEarning Online) allows users to access over 150 databases indexing thousands of periodicals and scholarly journals.

Sams Auditorium in the old Fayette County High School now known as the LaFayette Center, holds approximately 300 persons. The facility is used for concerts, local theater, and special events. The Fayette County Board of Commissioners helped fund new seating in the auditorium when it was renovated.

Objective C-39: Maintain a working relationship with the Fayette County School System to facilitate the provision and coordination of educational facilities to serve the growing population.

- Policy a. Continue to seek Fayette County School System input on rezoning requests, preliminary plats, final plats, and land use plan amendments.
- Policy b. Assist the Fayette County School System with development data maintained by the County such as building permit figures, subdivision list, and employment figures.

Assessment

The Fayette County Library has identified the need for enlarging the library meeting room where concerts and readings are held. The circulation of materials and patronage should be monitored to determine the adequacy of library facilities.

Objective C-40: Locate library facilities to provide service to the greatest number of persons, provide safe and easy access, and ample size for the building, parking areas, landscaping and future expansion.

- Policy a. Locate library facilities on sites that are centrally located in terms of population distribution and distance.
- Policy b. Locate library facilities with access to collector or arterial roads.
- Policy c. Acquire sites for libraries that will be large enough for future expansion, if additional facilities are needed. In general, a site area of two to three acres is required for a community facility of this type.

Objective C-41: Provide library and other cultural services and access availability that is adequate to meet the needs and demands of a growing population.

- Policy a. Expand the Educational/Learning Computer lab to accommodate the number of interested patrons. Facilities should be adequate for waiting lists

not to exceed six persons at any given time. The lab should also be adequate to accommodate the number and size of training classes requested by the population.

Policy b. Provide an adequate number of Internet-accessible computers so that the waiting time does not exceed one hour at peak use times. Comply with any legislation that restricts Internet site access.

Policy c. The Fayette County Public Library strives to provide 2.75 volumes per household. Adequate shelf space for the required number of books must be provided. Adequate shelf space must also be available to house the increasing number of audio tapes, books on tape, compact discs, and videos required by a growing population.

Policy d. Maintain a public meeting room and/or cultural space that is adequate for the programs it offers and the response generated by those programs.

Objective C-42: Library facilities should be compatible with adjacent land uses and with the character of the surrounding community and should be sized to provide adequate space for the population to be served.

Policy a. Ensure that a library facility is designed compatibly with the character of its surrounding area.

Policy b. Based on the local transportation network and average travel times, the service area for the main library should extend up to six miles, and branch libraries should have a service area of three to four miles.

Objective C-43: Library facilities should adequately support the levels of patronage.

Policy a. Maintain acceptable levels of circulation for the main and branch libraries. In general, library facilities should maintain the following levels of monthly circulation of materials:

- Main Library: at least 50,000
- Branch Libraries: 10,000 to 50,000

Policy b. Continue innovative approaches to library service such as remote access by telephone and computer, document delivery to homes and offices, and community outreach programs in conjunction with the public schools, service groups, and social service facilities.