



## Spalding County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

### DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

**SUBJECT:** Spalding County Comprehensive Transportation Plan  
Public Information Meeting #1 (Kick-Off)

**MEETING DATE: October. 17, 2006 6:30 PM**

**TODAY'S DATE: Friday, October 27, 2006**

**PREPARED BY: Jonathan Gelber (Grice & Associates)**

**PM Team members and elected officials in attendance:**

Name	Organization	Email
Anthony Dukes	MTRDC	<a href="mailto:adukes@cityofgriffin.com">adukes@cityofgriffin.com</a>
William Wilson	Spalding County	<a href="mailto:wwilson@spaldingcounty.com">wwilson@spaldingcounty.com</a>
Paul Van Haute	Spalding County	<a href="mailto:pvanhaute@spaldingcounty.com">pvanhaute@spaldingcounty.com</a>
Kenny Smith	City of Griffin	<a href="mailto:ksmith@cityofgriffin.com">ksmith@cityofgriffin.com</a>
Eddie Freeman	Spalding County	
Eddie Goss	Spalding County	
Doug Hollberg	City of Griffin	<a href="mailto:griffindsh@aol.com">griffindsh@aol.com</a>
John Funny	Grice & Associates	<a href="mailto:jfunny@griceinc.com">jfunny@griceinc.com</a>
Steve Noble	Grice & Associates	<a href="mailto:snoble@griceinc.com">snoble@griceinc.com</a>
Jonathan Gelber	Grice & Associates	<a href="mailto:jgelber@griceinc.com">jgelber@griceinc.com</a>
Pat Peters	EDAW	<a href="mailto:Pat.Peters@edaw.com">Pat.Peters@edaw.com</a>
Paul Moore	Glatting-Jackson	<a href="mailto:PMoore@glatting.com">PMoore@glatting.com</a>

**Public Attendance:**

The meeting was attended by approximately 40 members of the general public, 8 Griffin & Spalding County elected officials or administrative staff members, and 6 members of the consulting team.

## **LOCATION: County Court House Annex, Rm 108, Griffin GA**

The meeting started at approximately 6:30 PM.

The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the Comprehensive Transportation Planning process to members of the community and begin soliciting input and public participation.

### **Summary:**

Commissioner Freeman (Spalding Co). welcomed the audience.

Anthony Dukes (Spalding Co.) presented a brief introduction of the CTP Process

John Funny (Grice) introduced the consulting team and gave a brief presentation of the role and importance of the CTP

Steve Noble (Grice) lead the audience through a 30 minute overview of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and process. Within Noble's presentation, Pat Peters (EDAW) and Paul Moore(Glatting-Jackson) stood to present an overview of the Land Use and Urban Design elements of the plan, respectively.

### **Question and Answers:**

Noble opened up the floor to questions by presenting a list of key transportation issues that had emerged through the initial phases of the public participation process. These included:

- Truck traffic in downtown Griffin
- Transit: local & regional
- Traffic signal system improvements
- Bike & pedestrian trails
- Safety & access, especially on US 19/41. SR 16. and SR 155
- Transportation options to Atlanta and ATL Airport
- Streetscaping & aesthetics
- Road maintenance
- Improved roadways and connectors
- Congestion, especially on US 19/41, and SR 16.
- Offset intersections
- Transportation funding issues
- Railroad crossings

The following questions were asked by audience members:

- How soon can we expect commuter rail?

- What are the plans for the closed bridge on Old Highway 3?
- Has the county considered the impacts of proposed widening or improvements on McDonough Rd?
- Is the county prepared for the potential growth in the region? An estimated 6 million people region-wide will have little room to grow north of Atlanta, so they are likely to come south towards Spalding County.

### **Interactive Exercise and Open Comment:**

Noble concluded his presentation and directed the audience towards an Interactive Exercise, which consisted of two sets of wall maps. Audience members were instructed to place six dots on the locations that they felt need attention in regards to roadway 7 safety issues and bike & pedestrian issues.

Following the break-up of the formal presentation, audience members freely circulated and spoke with staff and elected officials and members of the planning team.

The meeting ended at approximately 9:00 PM.

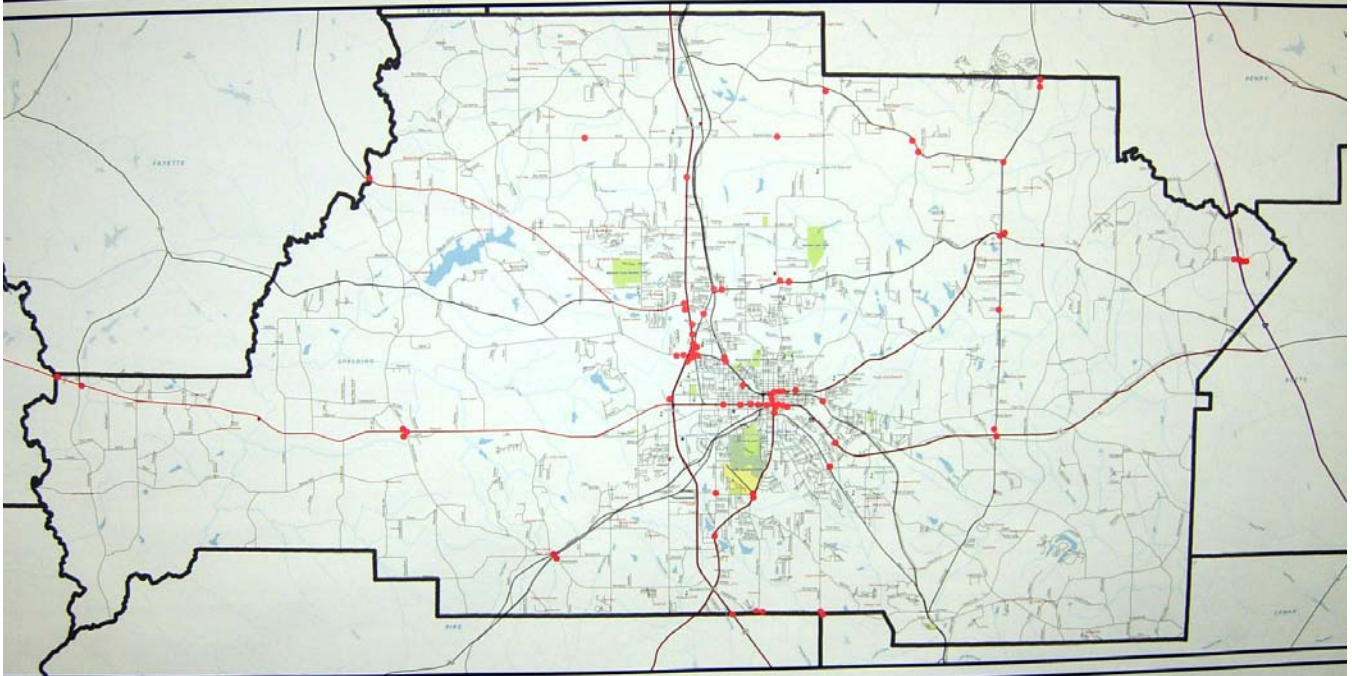
### **Comments Received Verbally by Consulting Team Members**

- Need improved directional and street signage throughout county but in particular on major roads i.e. there are no “named intersection x distance ahead” signs on US-19/41 which leads to people trying to merge left at last minute, or back track etc.
- Several people expressed concern with rerouting SR-155 down N. McDonough to SR-16 because of the residential character of the area and the likely increased truck traffic and noise – not opposed to shoulders and minor widening of the road though. One handed me a position paper.
- Several people support the development of an interchange at I-75 and Jenkinsberg Road
- Several people acknowledged the need for an improved arterial system within the county
- Some support for the SR-16 connector on the south side of Griffin. A number of people acknowledged that this is a logical route for trucks between I-75 and I-85 and that eventually all of SR-16 might be widened.
- Several people thought trucks take SR-155 through Griffin to SR-16 when I-75 is backed up near the SR-155 interchange and because the distance is shorter than taking I-75 south to SR-16 then going westbound.
- Current State-designated bike routing is inadequate due to terrain and lack of destinations. Recommended new designated bike alignment on Old Atlanta Hwy parallel to US 19-41 from North County to Experiment, then along Experiment St.

parallel to train tracks into Griffin. Then south along Macon Hwy parallel to tracks until route rejoins state route at South County Line.

- Utilize sewer trunk ROW for new bike path from US 19/41 to Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park and on to reservoir, which could be developed for recreational use. Anticipate need for new sewer lines to new subdivisions and incorporate bike route planning in conjunction with new sewer installation
- Install new traffic signal at SR 16 at McDonough Road (possibly part of new construction project)
- De-designate GDOT bike route along McDonough road in anticipation of designation as State/truck route.
- Rumble strips on shoulder of US 19/41 difficult for bike riders, possibly in violation of safety standards.
- Center left turn bays in median of US 19/41 are confusing and ambiguous. Need clearer pavement markings.

# Community Exercise #1: Roads, Cars & Trucks



### Directions:

Place your 3 dots on locations that you feel we should examine closely for traffic or safety concerns as we work on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

For example, is there an intersection you think is dangerous? Is there too much congestion somewhere? Should there be a new traffic signal or stop sign somewhere? Whatever it is, put a dot there, and we'll take a closer look at it.

If you have a detailed comment, please use one of the comment forms we have provided.



Scale: 0 1 2 3 4 5  
GRICE EDAW C citilabs

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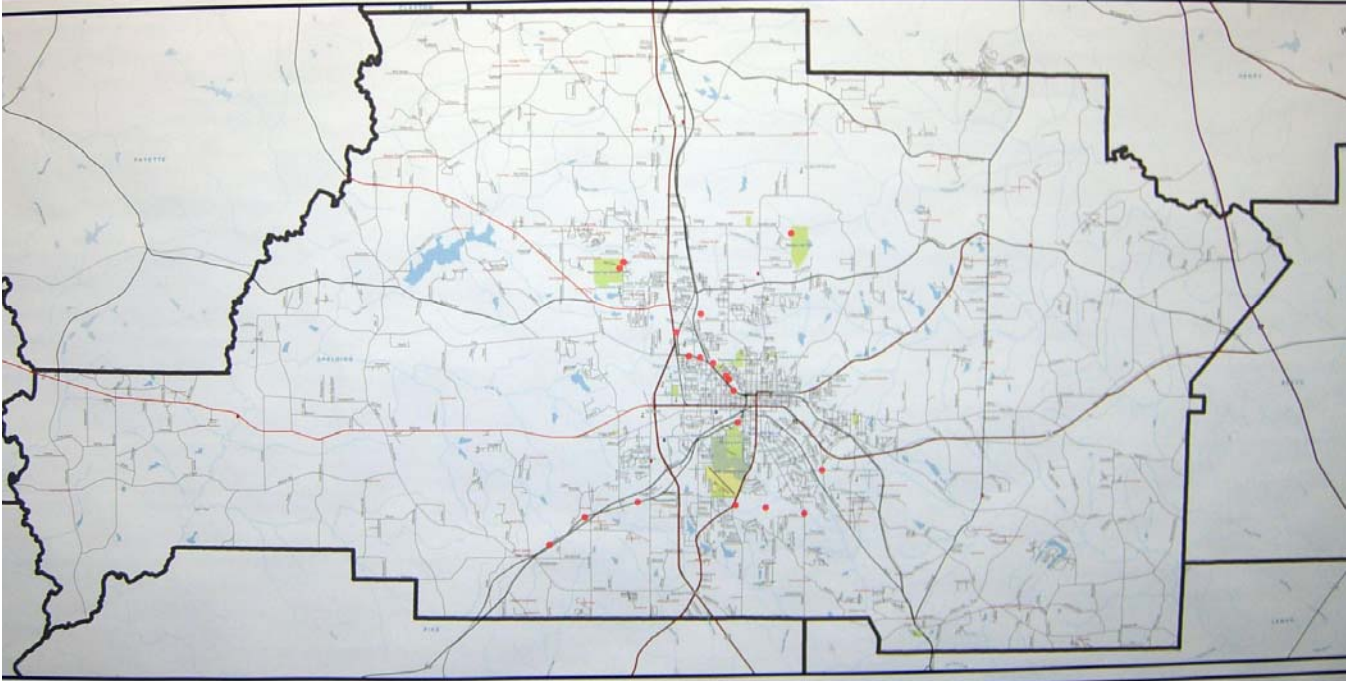
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# Community Exercise #2: Walking and Bicycling



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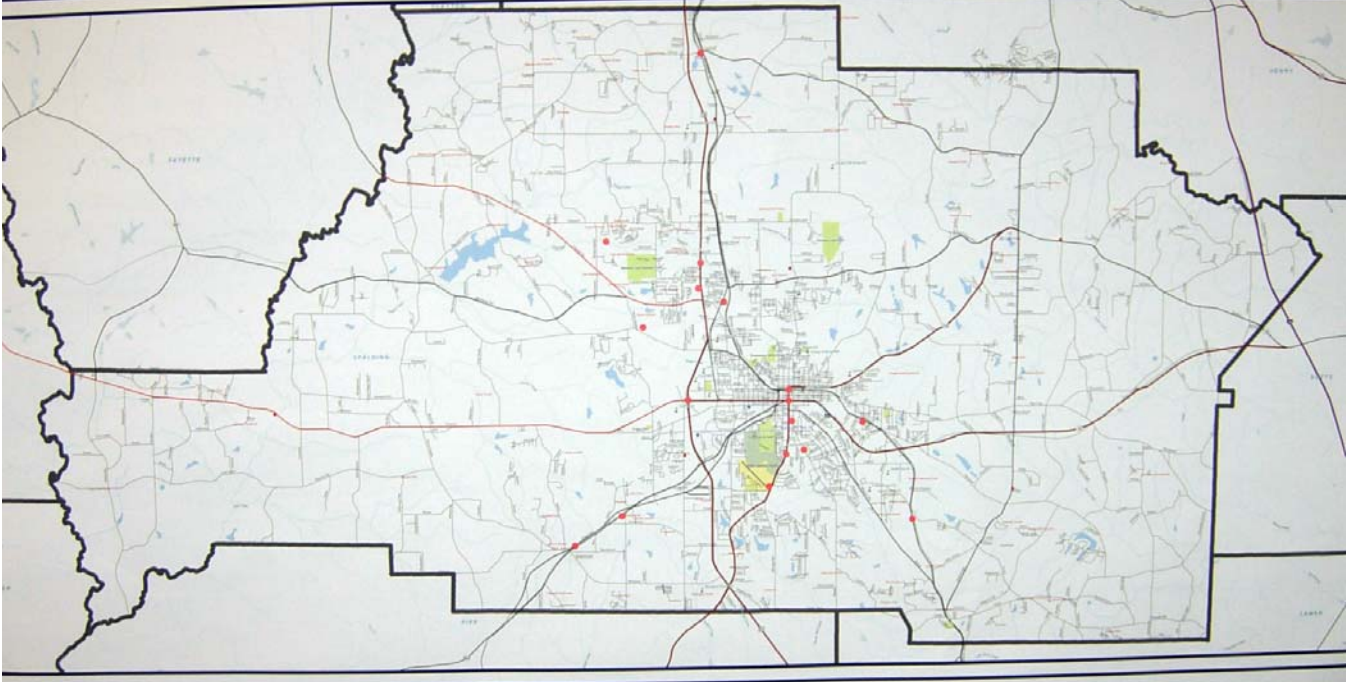
Place your 3 dots on locations that you feel we should examine closely for pedestrian or bicycle concerns as we work on the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

For example, is there a street that is difficult to cross? Is there somewhere you would like to see a bike path? Should there be a new sidewalk somewhere? Whatever it is, put a dot there, and we'll take a closer look at it.

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