



Information Sheet about the 2011-2015 SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM

- WHAT:** The City of Clarkston prepared a twenty-year Comprehensive Plan in 2006, under the standards established by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). A component of the Comprehensive Plan is a **five-year action plan**, which is the **Short Term Work Program (STWP)**. Both the regional arm of DCA (the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)) and DCA must review and approve it. The last STWP that Clarkston adopted covered the years 2006-2010.
- The City is now considering its **2011-2015 program STWP**.
- Additionally, another document called the **Report of Accomplishments** reviews the old STWP from 2006-2011 and identifies whether actions were postponed, dropped, or completed.
- HOW it is used:** Action items are listed by categories and targeted years proposed for achieving the action. A rough estimate of potential cost is also identified. However, the STWP does NOT commit the City budget; it serves as a frame of reference only.
- WHY:** State regulations require that jurisdictions prepare updates to the STWP every five years at a minimum, although a jurisdiction may choose to amend the STWP with more frequency, such as on an annual basis. Failure to comply with the five-year update will cause a jurisdiction to lose its **Qualified Local Government** status, which is necessary to receive grants and other funding privileges.
- The STWP serves as a **strategic planning guide** to help current and future elected officials consider allocating resources based upon the vision and goals adopted within the long-range Comprehensive Plan.
- NEXT STEPS:** City Staff will present the 2011-2015 STWP at the City Council meeting on **January 3, 2012**. At this time, a public hearing will be conducted in order to receive any public comment. City Council will then consider adoption of a resolution to submit the STWP to ARC/DCA for review and approval, with any appropriate amendments. After ARC and DCA approval, the documents return to Mayor and Council for **adoption of the STWP as official policy** within the City's Comprehensive Plan.

For additional information, please contact Noreen at City Hall at (404) 296-6489, or email your specific question or comment to nbuschel@cityofclarkston.com.