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# Service Delivery Strategies

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Implementation... So Far

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# Purpose

- Eliminate duplication of services
- Reduce future disagreements
- Cost savings to taxpayers



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# Each Strategy Must Include

- Identification of all services presently provided in the county by cities, counties and authorities
- Assignment of which local government will be responsible for providing which service in what area of the county
- Description of how all services will be funded
- Identification of intergovernmental contracts, ordinances, resolutions, etc. used in implementing the Strategy, including existing contracts.



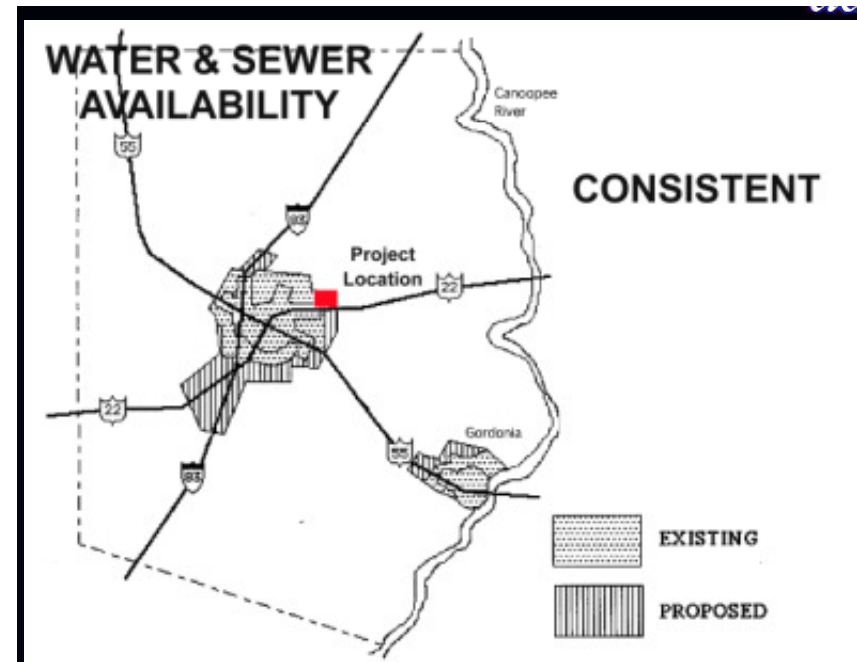
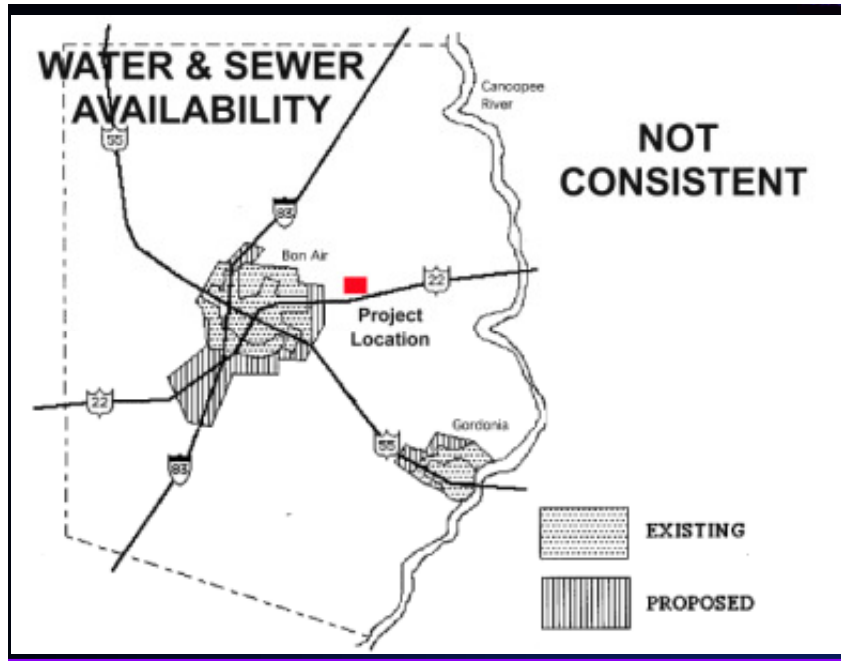
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# Each Strategy Must

- Provide for the elimination of duplication of services, or explain why not eliminated
- Eliminate water and sewer rate differentials , or justify continuation
- Ensure that services provided primarily for unincorporated areas are funded by revenues derived exclusively from those areas



Projects inconsistent with the Strategy will not be eligible for state funding or permits



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# Each Strategy Must Be Adopted By

- The county,
- The county seat city,
- All cities over 9,000 population, and
- 50% or more of all other cities over 500 population.



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# Verification by DCA

- Failure to have a verified strategy means loss of eligibility for all state assistance (grants, loans, permits, etc.)



# Strategy Must Be Updated Whenever

- The county government prepares a full update of their comprehensive plan
- Service delivery or revenue distribution arrangements are changed
- There are changes in revenue distribution arrangements
- There is creation, abolition, or consolidation of local governments
- An existing service delivery strategy agreement expires
- The county and affected municipalities agree to revise the strategy





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# Administrative Challenge

- DCA given no rule making authority
- Must work directly with the content of the legislation
- *Charting a Course* – joint interpretation by GMA, ACCG, CVIOG, and DCA
- Otherwise, we ask the Attorney General



# Change of Update Requirement

- SDS must be updated in conjunction with the updates of the comprehensive plan required by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 (Growth Strategies law). These updates must be done at least every ten years on a schedule established by the Department of Community Affairs.



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# Observed Patterns

- SDS negotiations are more difficult in more populous counties
- ... Less difficult with low growth rate
- ... More difficult in tight financial times
- ... Less difficult with fewer service providers



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# (missed?) Opportunities

- More resulting cooperative arrangements
- More resulting consolidation (of services or governments)
- Tool for finding the most cost effective growth patterns
  - Planned and rational growth
  - Cost efficient development
  - Other ways to make money



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# Assistance from DCA

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