

Webster County Community Improvement Strategy: Pre-Planning for construction of Lake Kinchafoonee, Workforce Development and Youth Community Involvement Project

Webster County seeks to better educate its workforce and offer community involvement projects for its youth. In addition, Webster County will focus on pre-planning activities for the future Lake Kinchefoonee.

Issues to be Addressed

With unemployment at 10.7% and with 21.14 of its citizens living below the poverty level, Webster County sees the need to better educate its citizens, in order to offer a more attractive workforce to potential industry and investors. The county will offer leadership development opportunities to its future leaders by providing a community involvement project for its youth. In addition, the County will work on pre-planning activities for the future Lake Kinchefoonee, which will not only be an economic development asset for Webster County, but the region as a whole.

Measures of Success

For each strategy listed above, success will be measured at the end of 2 years as follows:

1. Lake Kinchafoonee Pre-Planning Group will be formed. .
2. Informational presentation on the benefits and steps involved in the building Lake Kinchafoonee will be developed and used to build public will for the project.
3. A Job Fair will be held in Webster County
4. Youth Community Involvement project will be developed.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State and Federal Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Starting and ending dates for completion of action item
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Designate Lake Kinchafoonee pre-planning group	Unified Government of Webster County and Webster County Family Connection	Georgia Department of Community Affairs and Economic Development, River Valley Regional Commission, Marion County, Stewart County, National Resources Conservation Services, US Department of Agriculture, Webster County Extension	n/a	n/a	May 2010 to June 2010
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Discuss potential issues with endangered mussels along Kinchafoonee Creek with the Environmental Protection Division	Unified Government of Webster County and Webster Youth Community Builders	Georgia Environmental Protection Division and the Department of Natural Resources, US Environmental Protection Agency	n/a	n/a	May 2010- November 2010

Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Investigate the positives and negatives of taking land for the Lake out of the local tax base	Unified Government of Webster County and local tax assessor's office.	Georgia Department of Community Affairs and River Valley Regional Commission	n/a	n/a	May 2010-November 2010
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Investigate the need for the implementation of zoning in the county prior to the building of the Lake	Unified Government of Webster County	River Valley Regional Commission, Georgia Department of Community Affairs	n/a	n/a	May 2010-December 2010
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Digitize Lake Kinchafoonee studies and plans from the 1970s	Unified Government of Webster County	National Resources Conservation Services and the River Valley Regional Commission	To be determined	To be determined	May 2010-December 2010
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Contact U.S. Army corps of Engineers regarding permitting process	Unified Government of Webster County	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District Office (912) 652-5279	n/a	n/a	May 2010
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Discuss the possibility of building hydro electric for Webster County during the construction of the Lake and dam	Unified Government of Webster County	River Valley Regional Commission, Army Corps of Engineers, Georgia Power, Sumter Electric Membership Co-Op	n/a	n/a	May 2010-September 2010

Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Conduct Economic Feasibility/Impact Study	Unified Government of Webster County, Stewart County and Marion County	Georgia Department of Community Affairs and Department of Economic Development, US Department of Agriculture Rural Economic Development, Georgia Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development	To be determined	USDA Rural Business in Opportunity grant and local funds Stewart, Marion and Webster County	November 2010- Dec 2011
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Develop informational presentation on the benefits and steps involved with building Lake Kinchafoonee to build public will for the project	Webster County Youth Community Builders and Webster County Family Connection	Georgia Department of Community Affairs, River Valley Regional Commission	To be determined	To be determined	January 2011- March 2012
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Research possible funding sources for Lake Kinchafoonee	Webster County Youth Community Builders and Webster County Family Connection	Georgia Department of Community Affairs and Department of Economic Development, Department of Natural Resources Conservation Services, River Valley Regional Commission and US Department of Agriculture	n/a	n/a	May 2010- March 2012

Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Contact State and Federal legislators to discuss possible funding for lake construction	Unified Government of Webster County, Stewart County and Marion County	Georgia Department of Community Affairs and Department of Economic Development, Department of Natural Resources Conservation Services, River Valley Regional Commission and US Department of Agriculture	n/a	n/a	April 2010-ongoing to March 2012
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Conduct Environmental Impact Study	Unified Government of Webster County, Stewart County and Marion County	Georgia Environmental Protection Division Department of Natural Resources, US Environmental Protection Agency, Us Fish and Game	To be determined	Resource Conservation and Development Council grant	Early 2011
Pre-Planning for Lake Kinchafoonee	Begin to apply for funding for construction of lake	Unified Government of Webster County, Stewart County, Marion County	River Valley Regional Commission, US Department of Agriculture	To be determined	To be determined	Early 2012

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State and Federal Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Starting and ending dates for completion of action item
Youth Community Involvement	Webster Youth Community Builders Representatives attend Webster County Unified Government Commissioners Meeting to garner support for the initiative and to request the County act as fiscal agent for the jail rehab project.	Webster Youth Community Builders, Webster County Family Connection	DCA	none	n/a	Completed
Youth Community Involvement	Write articles in the local papers to build community will and support for the project	Webster Youth Community Builders, Webster County Family Connection, Webster County Sheriff	DCA	none	n/a	May 2010-ongoing
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Recruit volunteers (Volu-cruiting) to assist with the project including community organizations	Webster Youth Community Builders, Webster County Family Connection, Webster County	n/a	none	n/a	May 2010-ongoing

		Chamber of Commerce				
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Hold fundraisers to raise money for the project	Webster Youth Community Builders, Webster County Family Connection, Webster County Chamber Of Commerce	n/a	To be determined	To be determined	May 2010-ongoing
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Research oral histories and the story of the jails.	Webster Youth Community Builders, Webster County Family Connection Webster County Sheriff's Office, Webster County Chamber of Commerce, Preston and Weston Women's Clubs, Unified Government of Webster County	River Valley RDC, DCA	none	n/a	May 2010-March 2012
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Use historic research on the jail to write articles in local paper to publicize the rehabilitation	Webster Youth Community Builders, Webster County Family Connection	River Valley RDC, DCA	none	n/a	November 2010-ongoing

	project					
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Based on previous research, write tour guide's "script" for volunteers to give to tour of jail to help publicize the project	Webster Youth Community Builders, Webster County Family Connection, Webster County Chamber of Commerce	River Valley RDC, DCA, Maggie Potter - Tourism Representative from Dept of Economic Development 706-649-1306	none	n/a	January 2011
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Contact folks in Turner County regarding the Crime and Punishment Museum and in Heard County regarding their Jail possibly visit one or both	Webster Youth Community Builders, Webster County Family Connection, Webster County Chamber of Commerce	Heard County Project – Lynn Miller at Three Rivers Regional Commission Turner County Project – P. Baker	\$250.00	Webster County Chamber of Commerce	Summer 2010
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Ask Bill Hover from the Historic Preservation Division to visit the jail and advise on the rehabilitation and what to look for in hiring an architect or contractor to oversee the	Unified Government of Webster County, Webster Youth Community Builders	Bill Hover, Architectural Review, Historic Preservation Division, 404-651-5288	none	n/a	Fall 2010

	project					
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Work with the historic preservation planner Allison Slocum at the River Valley Regional Commission to research and apply for potential grants to fund a phased rehabilitation plan for the jail	Webster County Youth Community Builders, Unified Government of Webster County	River Valley Regional Commission	none	n/a	Fall 2010-ongoing
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Send out a RFP to Georgia architects for the phased rehabilitation plan with cost estimates	Webster County Youth Community Builders, Unified Government of Webster County	River Valley Regional Commission	none	n/a	Summer 2011
Youth Community Involvement Initiative	Hire architect to produce the plan	Webster County Youth Community Builders, Unified Government of Webster County	n/a	To be determined	Georgia Heritage Grant from HPD	Fall 2011

Issue Addressed	Action Item	Responsible Local Partners	Responsible State and Federal Partners	Cost Estimate	Possible Funding Sources	Starting and ending dates for completion of action item
Work Force Education and Skills	Contact Darton College and South Georgia Technical College and form a working group with local community members	Webster County Family Connection, Webster County Chamber of Commerce	Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education	none	n/a	May 2010-June 2010
Work Force Education and Skills	Do a town hall meeting and a community survey to determine training needs	South Georgia Technical College, Darton College and Georgia Department of Labor, Webster County Family Connection, Unified Government of Webster County	Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education	none	n/a	May 2010-August 2010
Work Force Education and Skills	Plan a schedule of classes including but not limited to computer technology, soft skills, resumes,	South Georgia Technical College, Darton College and Georgia Department of Labor, Webster	Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education	To be determined	To be determined	September 2010

	job interviews, Emergency Medical Technicians, accounting and clerical.	County Family Connection, Unified Government of Webster County				
Work Force Education and Skills	Recruit community members that do not have GED for adult education classes	Webster County Family Connection, South Georgia Technical College	n/a	none	n/a	May 2010-ongoing
Work Force Education and Skills	Write grant to provide child care for students during classes	Webster County Family Connection , Webster County Chamber of Commerce, Unified Government of Webster County	DCA	To be determined	Dollar General Family Literacy Grant	Summer 2010
Work Force Education and Skills	Add Job Fair to the Annual Health and Community Resource Fair	Webster County Family Connection and Webster County Fire/EMS	n/a	none	n/a	Spring 2011
Work Force Education and Skills	Provide local GAP skills training access for Georgia Work Ready Program, public computer lab	Unified Government of Webster County, Webster County Family Connection	Georgia Work Ready Program	To be determined	Work Ready Grant	Fall 2010

Work Force Education and Skills	Assess success of efforts and if positive explore a pilot rural community learning center	South Georgia Technical College, Darton College and Georgia Department of Labor, Webster County Family Connection, Unified Government of Webster County	DCA	To be determined	Possible grant	January 2012- March 2012
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