

Warren County-Piedmont Scenic Byway Extension



Corridor Management Plan

March 2007

Prepared by:

Warren County Scenic Byway Committee

With technical assistance from the CSRA Regional
Development Center

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Disclaimer

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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
Scenic Byways Program.....	2
Corridor Management Plan.....	3
Planning Process.....	4
How to Use the CMP.....	6
Information Collected.....	6
CMP Organization.....	6
Proposed Route.....	7
Financial and Legal Responsibility.....	8
Federal Requirement Regarding Outdoor Advertising.....	8
Intrinsic Qualities	9
Scenic Qualities.....	9
Natural Qualities.....	9
Historic Qualities.....	9
Cultural.....	13
Recreational.....	15
Preservation and Enhancement.....	16
Scenic Preservation and Enhancement Strategies.....	16
Natural Preservation and Enhancement Strategies.....	16
Historic Preservation and Enhancement Strategies.....	16
Cultural Preservation and Enhancement Strategies.....	17
Recreational Preservation and Enhancement Strategies.....	17
Corridor Issues.....	18
Land Use and Development.....	18
Transportation.....	19
Tourism, Economic Development and Marketing.....	20
Implementation.....	23
Property Rights.....	26
Work program.....	26
Appendices.....	28

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Vision Statement

To preserve, enhance and display the history, culture and natural beauty of Warren County while encouraging tourism and enhancing the traveler experience.

1.0 Introduction

As in many rural communities, transportation infrastructure has significant impact on development in Warren County. It enables residents to get to work or school, export goods and services, and make other contacts. In short, highways and roads have great effect on the lifeblood of the community.

The proposed Scenic Byway route in Warren County is important because it is an acknowledgement that the highway is not just a paved road but that there is something truly special about this particular route. It's a window to the county's past and its present.

Warren County forms the heart of Georgia's scenic and historic piedmont region. In addition, the county enjoys a wealth of cultural and recreational opportunities. The gently rolling hills of the Byway pass through a wildlife management area, farmland, rivers, and historic properties.

Residents of Warren County began working on the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Extension in 2003 in coordination with members of the existing Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway. Warren County formally petitioned the Georgia Department of Transportation to extend the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway from the Hancock/Warren county line to the City of Warrenton.

Residents believe that Georgia Scenic Byway designation will allow for planned growth, bring economic benefit to the area, protect the historic rural culture and enhance the overall quality of life.



Agricultural operations along SR16 near the Warren-Hancock County line



Historic church along SR 16 in downtown Warrenton

There are a number of benefits to scenic byway designation for local communities. Designation allows more local control over management of the Byway route. Designation also places the Byway on state maps and in travel magazines, which can attract travelers who would otherwise use an alternate route. Finally, local jurisdictions with byway status have the opportunity to access additional state, federal, and private funding sources for programs and projects.

The overall goals for the Byway are:

- To preserve the rich historic, cultural and natural resources along State Route 16.
- To facilitate tourism and development opportunities.
- To improve quality of life for Warren County residents.

1.1 About the GDOT Scenic Byways Program

Georgia Scenic Byways is a community-driven program that seeks to preserve Georgia's legacy of remarkably diverse scenic heritage woven together by an extensive system of roads and highways in a way that enhances economic development.

A Georgia Scenic Byway is defined as any designated highway, street, road, or route, which features certain intrinsic qualities that should be protected or enhanced. It is these qualities, be they scenic, historic, natural, archeological, cultural, or recreational that give byways their character and appeal. Currently, nine corridors have achieved Georgia Scenic Byways status as designated by Georgia Department of Transportation.

With the passage of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA) in 1991, the National Scenic Byways Program was created at the federal level. The program grew so popular that by the mid-1990, states developed their own programs. With the availability of federal funds and state oversight, many corridors are being rediscovered and tapped for tourism.

To obtain designation, a local sponsor must complete a multi-stage process of identifying



Scenic view along SR 16 at the Warren-Hancock County line



View of the Ogeechee River at the Warren-Hancock County line

a route, submitting an application, developing a Corridor Management Plan (CMP), and receiving approval by the State Transportation Board. The application defines the route, acknowledges local support of the byway, and assesses the intrinsic qualities and potential issues of the route.

The Scenic Byway planning process functions within a framework that is specific to Warren County. In order for tourism to be compatible with the county's rural character, there are specific questions that need to be addressed, including:

- How can tourism help Warren County diversify its economic base while maintaining residents' valued rural lifestyle?
- How can places of significant cultural and historic importance be preserved while allowing public access to those sites?
- How can visitors be encouraged to spend more time and money in the county?
- How can visitors be alerted to the availability of hospitality and other services before they reach the Byway?
- How can tourists be attracted to the Byway and ensure that they have a quality experience once they get there?



Hobby farm along SR 16 near Warrenton

1.2 The Corridor Management Plan

The Corridor Management Plan (CMP) provides a comprehensive long-term vision of the Byway and an understanding of the Byway's importance to the surrounding areas. The CMP includes a description of the planning process and goals for the Byway. Further, it lays out management strategies to promote economic development along the corridor while balancing preservation of valuable resources. A byway management plan is an essential platform in forming partnerships, seeking funding, and gaining consensus for economic development activities.



Scenic view shed along SR 16 near Warrenton

It should be noted that the CMP is not a regulatory document and has no legal standing. Local authorities are solely responsible for implementing changes within their

jurisdictions. The CMP is intended to be a flexible tool, subject to reviews and updates. There are three important principles that guide the development of this CMP:

- The Byway plan is designed for voluntary implementation on the part of local jurisdictions.
- The Byway plan will be controlled by local jurisdictions.
- Private properties and privacy will be preserved as part of any implementation options.

1.3 The Planning Process

1.3.1 Approval and Fieldwork

In the spring of 2003, Hometown Warrenton, Inc. (Warrenton's Better Hometown, non-profit organization) met several times to discuss the opportunity of extending the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway into Warren County. In June 2003, The CSRA Regional Development Center (CSRA RDC) was contacted to review the route for byway eligibility. GDOT representatives visited and reviewed the route on November 24, 2003, and approval was given for Warren County to submit an application.

The application was submitted and approved by GDOT. This action permitted Hometown Warrenton to move forward with the working meetings, public consultation, and the development of the Corridor Management Plan.

Field work was conducted with the assistance of CSRA Regional Development Center staff between October 17, 2003 and February 28, 2004. This included taking photographs and researching various historic sites along the proposed route.

1.3.2 Public Involvement

Presentations of the proposed Scenic Byway route were provided to various groups, committees, and civic clubs in Warren County during late 2003 and early 2004:

- October 2, 2003, Warrenton Community Center (Warren County Comprehensive Plan Review meeting)
- October 7, 2003, Warren County Courthouse (Board of Commission Meeting)
- October 13, 2003, Warrenton City Hall (City Council Meeting)
- January 7, 2004, Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter Meeting Room (DAR Meeting)
- January 13, 2004, Miss Jane's Restaurant (Kiwanis Meeting)

These meetings included:

- Reviews of the project's purpose
- Discussions of resources along the Byway, and
- Brainstorming sessions of possible activities and projects to be implemented along the proposed Byway.

An initial Byway public meeting led by Warrenton Better Hometown was held in March 10, 2005 to inform residents of the Byway process and to recruit volunteers for a Scenic Byway Committee. Other prospective members were identified and contacted. At the second Byway meeting on April 14, 2005, it was decided that landowners along the proposed Byway needed to be made aware of the effort underway. An informational letter was written and sent to all individuals that owned land along the Byway, and follow-up phone calls were made during late April and early May 2005. Letters, along with newspaper articles, invited community citizens to the first public hearing, held on May 12, 2005, at 5:30 p.m. at Warrenton City Hall. A second public hearing was held on November 12, 2005. Several residents along the proposed Byway attended this meeting.



Public meeting presentation at Warrenton City Hall on May 12, 2005

A copy of the CMP was made available in public locations at the Warren County Chamber of Commerce and announced in the local newspaper for public review and comments. Since the project's start, the Byway committee has met with elected officials representing the City of Warrenton, Warren County Board of Commissioners, and state officials to keep them informed and demonstrate community support for the project.

1.3.3 Advisory Committee

A diverse Committee was created to oversee the planning process. Specifically, the Committee was responsible for:

- Compiling and assessing intrinsic qualities along the Byway
- Identifying other points of interest
- Developing strategies for enhancing or preserving intrinsic qualities



Byway committee working meeting in Warrenton

- Identifying locations for sign placement so that signage does not detract from the scenic experience of the Byway
- Identifying projects to further the goals of the Byway
- Guiding and developing the Corridor Management Plan

Committee meetings were held during 2005 to complete various sections of the plan and to prepare for public meetings and hearings.

1.4 How to Use the CMP

The CMP is intended to serve as a reference for potential users. A number of companion planning documents should be used in conjunction with the CMP. These include:

- Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan
- Warren County Joint Comprehensive Plan
- CSRA Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
- Local laws and ordinances

1.5 Information Collected

The Warren County Scenic Byway Committee relied heavily on technical assistance provided by the CSRA RDC. The RDC reviewed the county's comprehensive plan for land use issues, references to the Byway route, and tourism and historic resources. This information assisted in compiling an inventory of resources along the Byway.

Maps were produced using data from the RDC. Road conditions were surveyed by the RDC and supplemented by GDOT traffic counts.



View of historic downtown Warrenton

1.6 CMP Organization

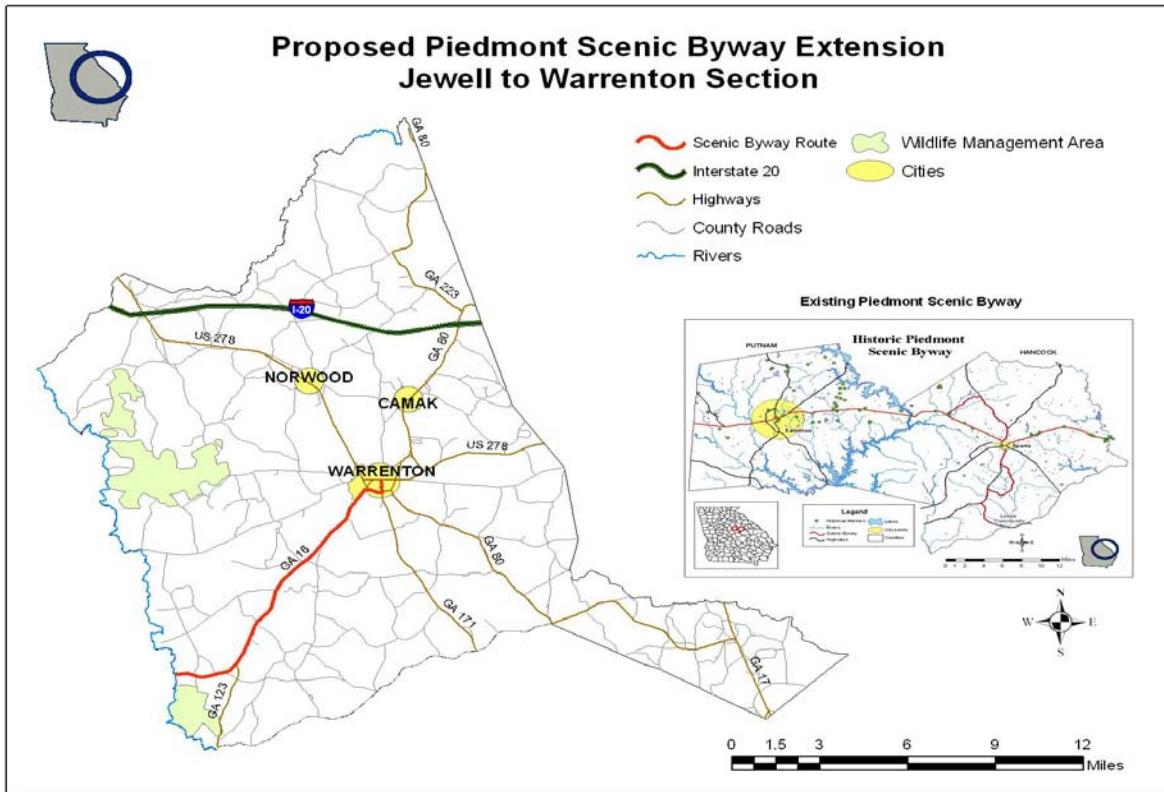
The CMP report is organized in three sections. The first section introduces the CMP project and outlines the report's organization. In addition, the purpose and goals of the Byway are identified. The second section inventories intrinsic qualities along the Byway route. The third section provides a needs assessment, including preservation and development strategies.

The CMP recommendations are the foundation for future action by a variety of public and private entities along the Byway route. The intent is to guide local governments in the implementation of appropriate policies.

1.7 Proposed Route

The existing Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway consists of three State Highways and two Hancock County Roads for a total of 85 miles. The Scenic Byway begins at the Putnam/Jasper County line along State Route 16 and continues east in Putnam through Eatonton, crossing the Oconee River into Hancock County, through Sparta to the Hancock/Warren County line at Jewell. There are also northern and southern Byway sections in Hancock County. The northern section begins in Sparta with SR 15 heading north to SR 77 and south to SR 16 at Shoulderbone Creek. Including the SR 16 section this forms a complete loop from Sparta. The southern section begins in Sparta with the intersection of SR 15/16 and Boland Road, and travels south to Brown Chapel Road to the second intersection with Linton Road towards the Linton Community.

The proposed extension of the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway into Warren County begins at the Hancock/Warren County line at Jewell and continues to the City of Warrenton where SR 16 ends at the intersection of SR12. For the most part, the route is rural and agricultural with some residential. The rural character blends smoothly and enhances the area's history and natural beauty.



1.7.1 Origin and History of the Roads

SR 16 follows the approximate route of an early trail shown on maps from about 1715 to 1755, and was utilized long before 1715 by Native Americans. The trail connected what is now Augusta with the Mississippi River and was known as the Okfuskee Trail, named for Okfuskee Town, an Upper Creek central town on the Tallapoosa River in Alabama. Connecting trails led to the Chickasaws, Choctaws and other Native-American groups. In 1540 when Hernando De Soto and his Spanish conquistadors entered the Oconee River Valley, they crossed this trail. In the seventeenth century as the English established the colony of Carolina, Native-Americans carried deer pelts through Warren County along the route of today's Georgia State Route 16. The trail was mentioned in William Bartram's travels and became the historic colonial Upper Trading Path. As Warren County developed in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, the trail became a major travel route. Fertile land in Georgia attracted thousands of people dislodged by the American Revolution. Scores of families from Virginia and the Carolinas moved along the old Indian trail of today's Georgia Highway 16 as they cleared land in the newly formed counties of the Piedmont region.



View of SR 16 near Warrenton

1.8 Financial and Legal Responsibility

State Highway 16 is under the jurisdiction of the Georgia Department of Transportation. GDOT will be responsible for the provision and placement of the Scenic Byway signs. However, GDOT assumes no financial or legal responsibility as a result of this road being designated a Scenic Byway. Further, GDOT assumes no responsibility for any additional maintenance or special design requirements. (See Appendix A for Frequently Asked Questions about the Georgia Scenic Byways Program from GDOT).

1.9 Federal Requirements Regarding Outdoor Advertising

New billboard construction is prohibited along designated scenic byways that are on interstate, National Highway System, or federal-aid primary highways. Existing billboards may remain and continue to be maintained along designated scenic byways. On-premise signs are unaffected by scenic byway designation. As a federal-aid highway, SR 16 is subject to this requirement.

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2.0 Scenic Qualities

The rural character of the Byway from beginning to end is evident, with woodlands, pasturelands, and historic farmhouses around every curve. The Scenic Byway passes tree-lined residential streets, historic landscapes, and historic districts in small communities. Most of the landscape is either forest or pastureland, offering aesthetically pleasing qualities that contribute to the road's rural character. The rural corridor is framed with pristine woods, natural creeks and rivers, and rolling hills.

Along the corridor is evidence of the rich farm activity that has shaped the Piedmont region. Historic farm sites, homes, quaint churches and communities can all be seen as the route winds through areas that have had very little commercial activity to disturb the scenic landscape. The narrow roadway travels through tunnels of trees along some stretches and through wide-open farmland along others. Historic Jewell and Warrenton, both listed as districts in the National Register of Historic Places, provide outstanding opportunities for travelers to gain a glimpse of the charm of the Piedmont region.

2.1 Natural Qualities

The proposed Scenic Byway passes through a variety of natural resources, including the shoals of the Ogeechee River and several creeks. Dairy pastures and other farmland attest to the agricultural heritage of the area, while the unspoiled rural character of the rolling countryside alerts the traveler to the area's numerous natural qualities. The corridor offers opportunity to view a variety of wildlife including deer, fox, wild turkey, geese, ducks, raccoons, hawks and bald eagles.

The Ogeechee River, which crosses the Byway in Jewell, is a 245-mile blackwater river that has many devotees who love its



Residents and tourists enjoy natural spring water at Fountain Campground

primitive qualities. Originating in Greene County, the Ogeechee is one of the few major untamed rivers in America. Canoeists and sport fishermen have long been attracted to the River. There are several scenic rapids along the Ogeechee produced by strata of granite that permeates the State.

2.3 Historic Qualities

Long before Georgia's founding, SR 16 served as a Native American trade trail. During the seventeenth century as the English established the colony of Carolina, Native-

Americans carried deer pelts through Warren County along the route of Georgia 16 that became known as the Okfuskee Path or Upper Trading Path/Seven Islands Stage Coach Route. By the end of the colonial era, settlers reversed the flow of the trail as they moved deeper into Native American territory. As more colonists entered the Upper Piedmont, the Native-Americans were pushed further west. The Treaty of Shoulderbone Creek, negotiated between an independent Georgia and 59 Creek leaders in 1786, ceded the lands east of the Oconee River to Georgia. This land was soon carved into counties for orderly settlement. The Age of the American Revolution gave birth to the three counties of Putnam, Hancock and Warren as well as the county seats of Sparta, Eatonton and Warrenton. While sharing a common heritage, the three counties and their seats of government are among the oldest in Georgia.

As the State land lotteries opened new territories, many smaller farmers sold out and moved west while others bought up the arable acreage and increased their holdings. With the development of the cotton gin and the cultivation of cotton throughout the Piedmont, the African American population increased as plantations expanded.

By the 1830s, the plantation system of the Old South was fully entrenched in Warren County. Planters built new mansions in the popular Greek Revival style that they felt symbolized their republic. Some Greek Revival houses still stand in the countryside, while most Antebellum houses are located in the National Register Districts of Warrenton and Jewell.

Following the Civil War, cotton cultivation resumed. Despite unfavorable terms set by northern credit sources, the cotton-based economy of the region did allow for some luxuries. The more prosperous land owners and merchants built new houses in the latest architectural styles, with Folk Victorian and Queen Anne styles predominating, while others simply modified the old Piedmont plain-type houses with Victorian-era wrap-around porches and ornamentation. While most farmers produced cotton, there was enough interest in crop diversification that some landowners began experimenting in raising dairy cattle.

Many existing structures allow visitors to relive the history of this area, including old mansions and homes in Warrenton such as the Burkhalter House (c.1770s), Marshall Welborn House (c.1880s), Mrs. J. P. Wilhoit House (1907), Wheeler House, Mary Hall Evans House, as well as homes in Jewell such as Hugh Cason House (Graystone), Rogers Cason House (1868), Bunyan Cason House (1870), Denham Cason House (1908) (Rosemont), and the old mercantile store (1870) next to Rosemont.

For African American sharecroppers during the decades of the early 20th century, life offered little more than the hard labor of growing cotton. As with the rest of Georgia and the South, the boll weevil had devastated crops in the county by the end of the 1910s, ending the reliance on cotton as a cash crop in the region. By the 1930s several farmers had moved away or turned their fields into pastureland for cattle.

2.3.1 Jewell Historic District

Jewell was once a prosperous textile mill community. The town has the distinction of lying in two counties - Warren and Hancock - with historic homes built on either side of the Ogeechee River.

Jewell is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and has long been noted by travel writers for its uniqueness. Graced by Victorian homes, a historic Methodist church and nineteenth century schoolhouse, the town developed in the 1830s around a cotton mill (Rock Factory) on the banks of the Ogeechee. Built by settlers, the mill attracted high paid workers who built the large Victorian homes found today. The mill is also known for having avoided torching by Sherman's Raiders upon discovery that the owner (then P.A. Jewell) was a member of the Masonic order.



One of many historic homes in Jewell

The community grew until the mill burned in the 1920s. Many workers moved to Greensboro, Eatonton and Augusta. Others never left Jewell and now commute to Augusta. In the last few years, Atlanta residents have purchased weekend homes in the tranquil community.

2.3.2 Warrenton Historic District

Warrenton's downtown area is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Visitors can enjoy the town's historic charm with a walk down Main Street. Most of the structures are late 19th century, one and two-story attached brick buildings.



The National Register-listed Warren County Courthouse

Several properties within the historic district are unique and listed individually with the National Register. The 1909 County Courthouse, constructed in neoclassical style, includes character-defining features such as the full-height portico and the octagonal-shaped dome. The first building erected on this site burned in 1853. In 1908, the second Courthouse was also destroyed by fire. The current Courthouse was renovated and expanded in 2000 to accommodate the future growth of the County.

The Courthouse houses the Walk the Halls of History Art Gallery, which features paintings and sketches by several local artists. These

include portrayals of sites around Warren County, many of which were significant to the area's history.

Adjacent to the courthouse is the Confederate Monument. The monument was erected in 1907 on the town square, and pays tribute to soldiers from Warren County who served in the War Between the States. There are approximately 265 names engraved in the marble slabs at the base of the Monument.



The Confederate Monument at the heart of the Warrenton Historic District

The monument was the first of several that now make up the Veteran's Memorial Park located on the grounds of the historic Courthouse. Over the years, additional monuments have been added to commemorate various wars, including the Revolutionary War, World Wars I and II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. In 2005, funds were raised locally to purchase a bronze statue of a rifle, pair of boots, and helmet. The statue was placed at the entrance of the Courthouse to honor all veterans of all wars. The Veterans Memorial Park was dedicated in a ceremony honoring veterans on November 10, 2005.

A few yards from the Veterans Monument Park lay the Knox Theatre. The theater opened in 1936 and operated until 1997. The theatre is a charming example of Art Deco style architecture, signified by striking geometric patterns and structures using metals and plaster. At its peak, the Knox aired the latest movies, and hosted many different road shows and music groups. The theatre's demise followed the growth of the multiplex and subsequent influence of movie studios over film distribution companies. As movie studios determined which theatres ran their films, small independent theatres such as the Knox suffered.

In 2002, the Warren County Board of Commissioners purchased the theater and commissioned a feasibility study to rehabilitate the structure. Plans include various renovations to the facility and its promotion as a tourist attraction featuring classic and family movies.



Other historic properties within the city include the Warren County Cultural Center. The Cultural Center was built during the Great Depression with funds from the Work Projects Administration. This building originally served the needs of Warren County High School students until 1980 when a new gymnasium was built.

The historic Warren County Cultural Center

The City of Warrenton and the Warren County Historical Society received federal assistance in 1997 to restore the building and serve the citizens as a cultural center. During the next few years, the community worked hard to raise the remaining funds necessary to renovate the building. The project was completed in 2001, and Governor Roy Barnes was on hand for the dedication ceremony.

2.4 Cultural Qualities

There are number of annual festivals and monthly events that provide visitors to Warren County a unique experience. These include:

- ***First Saturdays*** take place in historic downtown Warrenton the first Saturday of each month during the year. Vendor space at no charge is made available to the public on the sidewalks of Main Street to sell their wares. Some First Saturdays have a special theme or event for that day; others are sidewalk sales and a chance for shoppers to find unique treasures. (Jan – Dec)
- The ***March Hare 5K & Fun Run*** is held annually for runners, walkers, children and adults. The 5K route takes runners and walkers through the neighborhoods of Warrenton and begins and ends at the Courthouse. Trophies and ribbons are awarded to the winners of various divisions. The Fun Run is a 1-mile route that is free for children. (March)
- The ***Skins Game Golf Tournament*** is held at the Boulders Golf Course in Warrenton. The golf Tournament is played with a “skins format”. After a day of fun and competition, dinner and a live auction is conducted at the clubhouse. The day of fun in the sun is open to all golfers and golf enthusiasts. (April)
- The ***Gunn/Stewart Trail Ride*** is held in the spring and the fall of each year. It is a two-day trail ride that includes horses and wagons. A dinner and dance is held on Saturday night. A camping area is provided in the pecan orchard and surrounding area of the Gunn Family Farm. (May, September)
- The ***First Saturday Cycle Tour*** is for bicycle enthusiasts. There are 12-mile, 26-mile, and 50-mile routes that wind throughout Warren County and start and finish at the Courthouse in Warrenton. Adults and children are welcome to participate and may choose a route appropriate for their stamina and skill level. (May)
- ***Art on Main*** is a festival held in downtown Warrenton to highlight artists of all types with original work for show and for sale. Demonstrations and make-it, take-it sessions are held by some of the artists and designers. Face painting and mural coloring are available for children. (June)
- ***Back Roads & Bikes Charity Ride*** is for motorcycle enthusiasts. The 40-mile route, which begins and ends at the Courthouse in Warrenton, takes bikers through Warren, Glascock, and McDuffie Counties. Poker hands are purchased by participants and funds are raised for a charity that is specified for the event. (August)

- The **Farm City Tour** is held in the fall and is open to the public at no charge. A tour is arranged for the morning beginning at 9:30a.m., and it includes a farm and a local industry. The tour concludes at the Community Services Building with a catered lunch held under the pecan trees. Legislators are usually on hand to have one-on-one time with local citizens to discuss issues of interest. (November)
- The **Cruise-In** is an event that is held during the Sportsman's Festival in November and also during the spring on a First Saturday. Cars, tractors, and motorcycles cruise into town and park around the town square. Music fills the streets and prizes and awards are given out throughout the event. (May, November)
- The **Sportsman's Festival** is another highly-anticipated annual tradition. The festival takes place in downtown Warrenton and includes a parade, arts & crafts, commercial vendors, cruise-in, foods of all types, carnival rides, turkey shoot, big buck contest, veterans program, games & prizes, and a free health fair. (November)
- The **Lighting of the Tree of Honor** is held the first week of December. The event takes place at the historic Warren County Courthouse and is sponsored by the Warrenton Garden Club. (December)
- **A Hometown Christmas Evening** is held in historic downtown Warrenton the first Thursday in December. Local restaurants serve dinner, and shops open for business to complete every shopping list. Children and adults enjoy roasting marshmallows in the fire cauldrons along Main Street while watching the horse-drawn carriages tour visitors to view the holiday-decorated homes. The Art Gallery & Museum, Christmas Store, Elves Bakery, and Santa's Workshop are open, and Santa is on hand to hear every child's request. Live music permeates the streets, talented sketch artists are on hand, and photo opportunities abound in this night to remember

No tour of Warren County would be complete without a trip to one of the eateries in Warrenton. Miss Jane's restaurant, family owned and operated, is a true Southern delicacy. It is a local's favorite place to have a good home cooked meal with friends. Kendricks Q has the best BBQ in the area with the pit right out back, and is open every Thurs-Sat. Two new restaurants opened during 2005 to provide an international touch to the dining selections in the community. The Mouse's House of Pizza provides the Italian flair, while Lin's Wok offers Chinese favorites as well as other home cooked selections. The owners and staff will make you feel right at home and tempt your taste buds with their specialties.



Miss Jane's historic restaurant in downtown Warrenton

2.5 Recreational Qualities

There are numerous recreational opportunities offered to travelers along and in proximity of SR 16. These include equine activities, golfing, boating, fishing, hunting, camping, biking and hiking.

The Ogeechee Wildlife Management Area is a 24,000-acre management area shared with neighboring Hancock County. Fishing, hiking and bird watching are among the many activities that draw tourists to the area. In addition, with plentiful deer, turkey, small game, fox, and feral hogs, the area is a hunters' paradise.

Less than a mile from downtown Warrenton is Boulders Golf Course. Visitors with an interest in golf will be delighted with the challenging fairways of the newly-developed 18-hole golf course.

Events and activities, such as the March Hare 5K & Fun Run, Skins Game Golf Tournament, First Saturday Cycle Tour, Back Roads and Bikes Charity Ride, Gunn-Stewart Trail Ride, and Rock Mill petting zoo are also recreational events offered along the proposed extension into Warren County.

Warren County has been fortunate to have the opportunity to be included in the route for the Tour de Georgia on two separate occasions. The cyclists actually traveled the proposed scenic Byway route of GA Hwy 16 from Warrenton to Jewell. This was part of the second leg of the Tour de Georgia from Augusta to Macon.



Tour de Georgia comes through Warrenton

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3.0 Scenic Preservation and Enhancement Strategies

To preserve and enhance the scenic qualities of the Byway route, the Warren County Byway Committee will:

- Promote cluster and planned unit development alternatives to discourage sprawling housing developments.
- Promote appropriate design techniques along the corridor to improve the quality of existing views.
- Create vantage points and other amenities, and use vegetation management to preserve open vistas.
- Encourage and promote best management timber practices to maintain an appropriate buffer along the Byway.
- Inform residents and businesses of billboard restriction policy.
- Work with GDOT to maintain or improve scenic impact of road projects and, where possible, tie in scenic Byway projects.
- Continue streetscape work in downtown Warrenton.
- Use landscaping to buffer less scenic areas along the Byway route.

3.1 Historic Preservation and Enhancement Strategies

To preserve and enhance the historic qualities of the Byway route, the Warren County Byway Committee will:

- Assist local historic groups with preservation efforts.
- Conduct additional inventory research into the major and more obscure historic sites as a basis for interpretive materials and programs.
- Utilize improvement facade grants and restoration programs for historic structures along the Byway.
- Enhance Jewell and Warrenton entrances.
- Educate owners of historic properties through workshops on potential tax incentives.
- Seek city and county approval for the Byway Committee to review potential changes along the Byway viewshed and provide recommendations.
- Restore important historic buildings and sites located within the historic districts of Jewell and Warrenton.
- Place appropriate markers and signage highlighting historic districts and structures.

3.2 Natural Preservation and Enhancement Strategies

To preserve and enhance the natural qualities of the Byway route, the Scenic Byway Committee will:

- Educate residents on the importance of preserving the natural environment.

- Work with the local governments to protect natural qualities along the Byway.
- Work with Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on wildlife habitat identification and preservation strategies for areas along the Byway.

3.3 Cultural Preservation and Enhancement Strategies

To preserve and enhance the cultural qualities of the Byway route, the Warren County Byway Committee will:

- Expand, enhance and promote more widely the Sportsmen Festival, the Jewell Fest, Tour of Homes, various concerts, and other local cultural events.
- Coordinate with state tourism officials to market Warren County's festivals.

3.4 Recreational Preservation and Enhancement Strategies

To preserve and enhance the recreational qualities of the Byway route, the Warren County Byway Committee will:

- Improve entrances to recreational sites.
- Promote and develop bicycling, equestrian, hiking and birding trails along the Byway.
- Coordinate the development of new county and city recreational facilities with the Byway.

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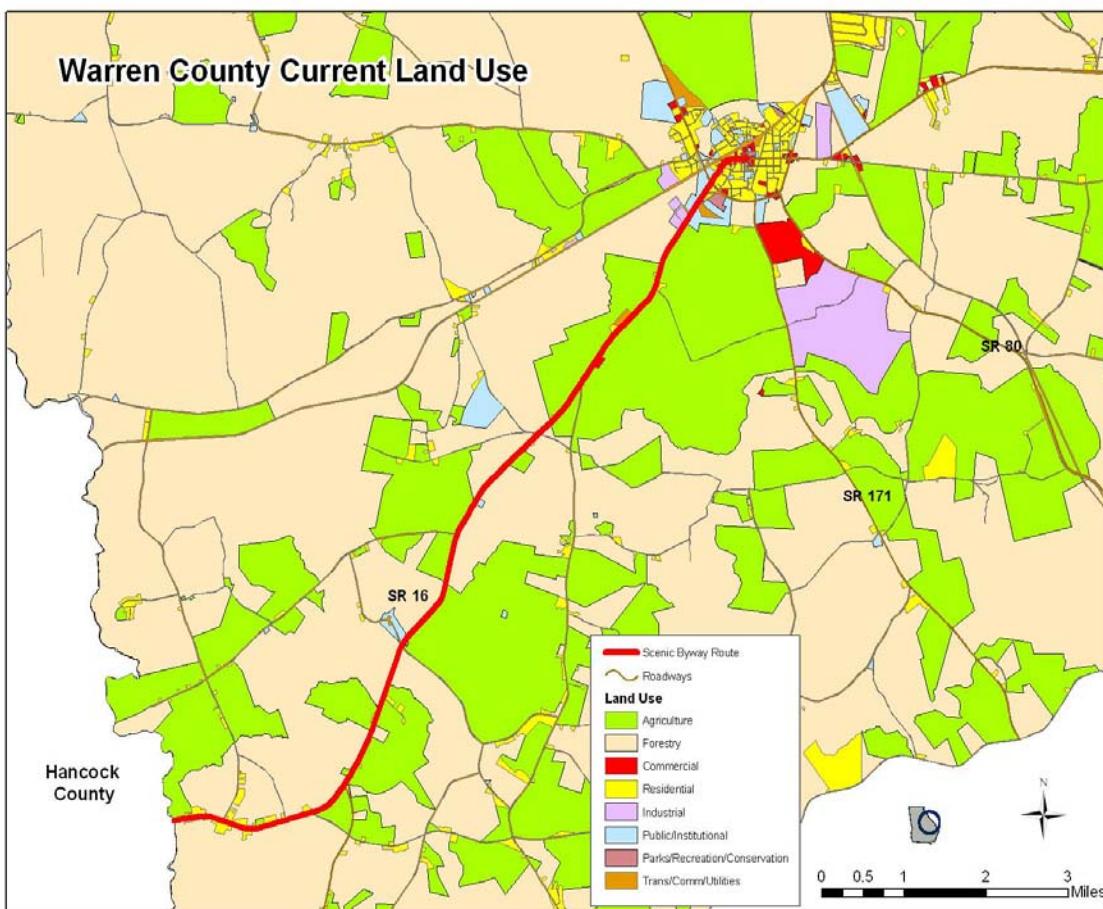
4.0 Land Use and Development

Goals

- Promote land use patterns that preserve the rural character of the Byway route.
- Encourage development regulations that preserve and enhance the intrinsic qualities of the Byway route.

Land use along the Byway route in the unincorporated area is primarily agriculture and forestry. According to the Warren County Tax Parcel Database, there are very few property/land owners located along the route. Most land holdings range from 5 to 500 acres and are owned by individuals or timber companies. Within the City of Warrenton, land use is mixed residential and commercial.

There is currently no zoning ordinance in the unincorporated area of Warren County. The City of Warrenton has a zoning ordinance in place. The Byway section is zoned primarily residential and commercial.



4.0.1 *New Development*

Residents generally agree that development should occur along the Byway. However, residents also want to see development objectives that contribute to the Byway's enhancement. The Warren County Byway Committee will therefore encourage more clustered and context sensitive designed development.

There are no current development projects along or in proximity of the proposed scenic Byway route. Local government development projects are geared toward the industrial park located several miles away from the Byway route off I-20. The Georgia Department of Transportation lists three projects in Warren County as part of the State Transportation Improvement Plan FY 2006-2008. Two projects involve signal and maintenance work along State Highways 10, 12, 17 and 80. Neither project will impact the scenic Byway route. The final project involves a Transportation Enhancement project to fund the rehabilitation of a historic depot in Warrenton. This project is expected to enhance the Byway route.

4.0.2 *Improvements to Unsightly Areas*

Along a small stretch of roadway entering Warrenton and in the unincorporated area just outside the city limits (in proximity to the power station), there are a few unsightly structures that could use improving. The Warren County Scenic Byway Committee will work with property owners to develop landscaping plans to address these unsightly areas.

4.1 **Transportation**

Goals

- Provide a range of good experiences to the traveling public.
- Ensure safety for movement along the Byway.

4.1.1 *Existing Roadway Conditions*

The CSRA Regional Development Center conducted a windshield survey and did not identify any deficiencies. GDOT recently completed maintenance work along SR 16.

The total length of the proposed Byway extension is 13 miles. Currently Annual Average Daily Traffic along SR 16 is 2,500 vehicles per day. The roadway is operating at well below capacity and provides a Level of Service of A, the least congested rating. According to GDOT, there are no major safety issues along the current Byway route and no conflicts among different roadway users (i.e. vehicles and trucks).

Future on and off-street parking projects may need to accommodate both regular size and larger vehicles such as tour buses and recreational vehicles. The Warren County Byway Committee will work with the City of Warrenton, Warren County and GDOT to analyze future demand and identify locations suitable for on and off-street parking.

Much of the Byway is within a beautiful area with scenic vistas and low vehicular traffic volumes. Both of these make the Byway route desirable for recreational cyclists. SR 16 is identified as a desirable bicycle route in the CSRA Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan. The Warren County Byway Committee will work with GDOT to assist in developing bicycle lanes.

4.2 Tourism, Economic Development and Marketing

Goals

- Increase the number of visitors along the Byway.
- Increase visitor's length of stay along the Byway.
- Promote education on the need for resource protection and preservation.
- Promote sustainable economic development and tourism management.

The Historic Piedmont region remains one of Georgia's best-kept secrets. The region is not well known outside the state or even within the Middle Georgia region and the corridor has had little visibility as a tourist destination. A coordinated and focused effort between partners within the corridor can dramatically increase the effectiveness of marketing efforts.

The strength of the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway lies in the strong and creative development of tourism assets to further economic development consistent with the rural integrity of the route. It is also important to establish an atmosphere that is attractive to tourism-related businesses along the Byway.

Warren County contains an abundance of current and potential tourism assets in heritage tourism, eco-tourism, and recreational tourism. Development of such assets has a two-fold purpose. One is to help foster and promote historic preservation. Buildings and sites that are of interest to visitors and that generate income are more likely to be preserved than sites that lay empty. Attention focused on the sites by the promotion of the Byway will stimulate a desire to preserve the past.

Tourism is economic development. It brings money into the community directly through the dollars spent by visitors and by the jobs created. Visitors need restaurants, gas stations, grocery stores, and campsites to enjoy the traveling experience. The Byway must be seen as an economic engine and supported as such.

Warren County has developed printed guides of historic areas that treat visitors to a glimpse into the County's past, portraying the earliest days of the communities up through the turn of the last century.

As noted, there are plenty of recreational opportunities along the Byway. The Ogeechee Wildlife Management Area has drawn fishermen and hunters for years and will continue to remain a major tourism generator.

Cycling has increased in popularity in recent years and Warren County offers extensive opportunities for road cycling through beautiful rolling hills and tree-lined roads with relatively little automobile traffic. Off-road potential exists for biking enthusiasts.

Equestrian events are also popular in the county through events such as the Gunn-Stewart Trail Ride, which takes place twice a year, and is located along the Scenic Byway in Warren County.

Due to the rural nature of Warren County, wildlife viewing is popular in the area. Wild turkey, deer, fox, and coyotes are frequently seen along SR 16. Less traveled roads provide even more opportunities for viewing wildlife. The area also has an abundance of flora that is noteworthy.

The Warren County Scenic Byway Committee will develop tourism assets and improve them. The Historic Depot Welcome Center in Warrenton offers visitors information on tourism activities and public restroom facilities. Public restroom facilities are also available at the County Courthouse just across the street.

The Commission is also researching topics and locations for interpretive historic markers complete with parking and landscaping. Since history is the primary theme of the Byway, historic markers will list sites in a manner that will tell a story of the region's heritage and culture, as well educate visitors about ways to help preserve the Byway.

There are a number of current and potential assets that can assist the Warren County Scenic Byway Committee further to develop tourist destinations. Current assets include:

- Heritage Driving Tour Self-Guided
- Walk the Halls of History Art Gallery
- WMA hiking trails and viewing areas
- Ogeechee River wildlife viewing area
- Fishing and shooting areas
- Hunting
- Genealogy resources at Forest & Land Services and the Warren County Library
- Archeological Display at the Warren County Library
- Rocky Comfort Plantation RV Campground
- Beall Springs
- Veterans Memorial Park

- Boulders Golf Course
- Burkhalter Home
- Civil War Heritage Trail sites
- Knox Theater
- Train Depot Welcome Center/Museum
- March Hare 5K & Fun Run
- First Saturday Cycle Tour
- Art on Main
- Back Roads & Bikes Charity Ride
- Warrenton Holiday Drive
- Tour of Homes
- Sportsman's Festival
- Farm City Tour
- Gunn-Stewart Trail Rides

Potential assets include:

- Concerts in the Park
- Road and off-road cycling routes
- African-American Heritage Events
- Unexplored Civil War sites
- Native-American sites
- Education and religion development sites
- Walking trails
- Architecture tours
- Wildlife viewing

4.2.1 Marketing

Several tourist markets were identified during the public consultation process. These include residents along the Byway, visitors to the area, and heritage tourists. With proper and coordinated marketing, all tourist markets can be reached.

Close coordination with local community groups is critical to developing an effective Byway marketing program. The Warren County Scenic Byway Committee will work closely and coordinate with the Warren County Chamber of Commerce, Warrenton Better Hometown, Inc., and the Warrenton Merchants Group to develop strategies aimed at all tourist segments. In particular, the Committee will provide local organizations and businesses with information and resources about the Byway to be incorporated in their promotional materials. These will include distributing Byway brochures to local businesses around town. The Committee will also partner with various outdoor activities groups, including cycling clubs, hiking clubs, motorcycle clubs, etc., to promote events along the Byway, and encourage local school districts and faith-based organizations to organize field trips along the Byway.

The Committee will also work with GEcD on a variety of projects aimed to promote the Byway to out-of state tourists, including developing a special scenic Byway segment for “Georgia On My Mind” publications and travel videos.

Other marketing activities will include contacting media outlets to promote the Byway. The Committee will create press releases for local newspapers and radio stations, develop a regular newspaper series on the resources and opportunities available along the Byway, and generate familiarization tours for journalists and travel writers to highlight the Byway. Examples of this are Turner South’s *Southern Living* television series, which offers small communities exposure on a regional level and The American Automobile Association’s *Travel Magazine*.

The Committee will highlight the Byway on the Warren County website. The Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway brochure will be available as a printable document from the website to make it as accessible as possible. The website will be linked to other tourism websites in Hancock and Putnam Counties the three counties and others deemed relevant. Brochures will also be available through traditional information centers and key locations along the Byway.

4.3 Implementation

Goals

- Implement the Corridor Management Plan
- Inform and involve residents in the Byway’s development

4.3.1 Scenic Byway Committee

The vehicle to implement the Corridor Management Plan will be the Warren County Byway Committee, to be operated under the umbrella of Hometown Warrenton, Inc., which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. One advantage of being designated a non-profit is that the Byway becomes eligible for funding from organizations and individuals that contribute only to non-profits.

The Committee will serve to establish Byway goals and strategies, recruit working committee members, and serve as coordinator with local, state and federal bodies. The nine-member board of Hometown Warrenton has 3-year terms, with three individuals rotating off each year. The Scenic Byway Committee will be a subcommittee of this body.

Specific Responsibilities of the Committee will include:

1. Implementing the CMP

2. Maintaining public involvement
3. Serving as clearinghouse and public education provider for all corridor-related initiatives
4. Advising local governments on corridor issues
5. Administering grants and assisting local governments in administering state and federal grants
6. Working with the new Welcome Center and Warren County Chamber of Commerce to include appropriate scenic Byway presence
7. Monitoring the Byway corridor for development changes and improvement projects
8. Participating in the design of corridor landscaping, scenic and historic pull-offs, and wildflower programs
9. Working with neighboring jurisdictions to coordinate land use and entrance gateways
10. Submitting reports as requested to the Georgia Scenic Byways Coordinator

4.3.2 Other Agencies and Stakeholders

Local Jurisdictions: As the largest local governing entity along the Byway, Warren County has the broadest responsibility for management of land uses adjacent to the Byway. The application of existing policies consistent with the goals and strategies of the Byway plan should be supported.

As the primary service center for Byway travelers, cities have the ability to define and create conditions conducive to lengthier Byway stays. It is expected that Jewell Community and the City of Warrenton will undertake enhancement projects needed to attract travelers, and join the Warren County government to identify suitable locations for on and off-street parking.

State Agencies: As a state route, the roadway is administered and managed by GDOT. As such, any improvements to the roadway such as widening, construction of turn lanes, roadway re-alignment, and speed limits will primarily be the responsibility of GDOT. GDOT will provide technical assistance on matters such as road construction standards, safety, parking facilities, and alternative transportation modes.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs provides comprehensive planning, technical and research assistance to local governments. The agency, along with the University of Georgia's School of Environmental Design, currently supports projects in both Hancock and Putnam Counties. It is expected that design and planning support will be extended to Warren County Byway projects.

With an abundance of natural and historic resources in the Piedmont region, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources will be asked to provide technical support in determining appropriate features of Byway improvements to minimize negative environmental and historical impacts.

Regional Agencies: The CSRA Regional Development Center has assisted Byway designation efforts by providing technical support throughout the project. It is expected that the Byway Committee will continue to draw upon the resources and technical expertise of the RDC to implement the CMP.

Local Businesses: Local businesses are important to the implementation of the Byway plan in providing needed traveler services such as motels, restaurants, and shops. Their role could be to support related activities of the Byway plan provided it meets their business needs.

Local businesses also include larger companies that operate along the Byway such as logging companies and Georgia Power. It is expected that businesses will inform the Committee of significant changes that may alter or threaten the Byway's intrinsic qualities.

4.3.3 Funding

National Scenic Byways funds are intended to support projects that improve the quality of visitors' experience along scenic byways, attracting more visitors or enticing them to stay longer. Proposed project funding under this grant program includes up to 80% of the cost of pedestrian and bicycle facilities, pull-off and shoulder improvements, recreational area access enhancements, easements, and marketing.

Transportation Enhancements funds support transportation-related activities that are designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the Nation's intermodal transportation system. Eligible activities under this program include pedestrian and bicycle facilities, acquisition of scenic and historic easements and sites, tourist and welcome centers, landscaping and beautification, historic preservation, control and removal of outdoor advertising, and archeological planning and research.

Ranges of private funding sources are also available for scenic byway-related construction, facilities, and educational programs. While smaller in sum than federal and state funds, they require no local match and in many cases can serve as the local match for *National Scenic Byways* or *Transportation Enhancement* funds.

4.3.4 Community Support

Throughout the extensive public consultation process, the Byway Committee has endeavored to maintain a community-driven planning process. The Committee will continue to expand this process by implementing an ongoing community participation program and promoting partnerships between community organizations, businesses, and local governments, as well as coordinating with various media outlets, such as newspapers, radio and internet sites, to keep the public informed.

4.3.5 *Byway Evaluation*

The implementation of the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway project is a long-term task. As such, the Committee, through the working groups, will evaluate the Byway to determine whether the goals and strategies have been successful. The Committee intends to survey visitors to identify visitor satisfaction/dissatisfaction with services and attractions, and conduct evaluations to determine local economic impacts of the Byway.

4.4 Property Rights

The Byway Committee and area residents expressed the desire that that designation of the Byway must occur only with the protection of property rights. Any implementation options identified in this plan should only be considered following a review to determine the potential effects to property rights. Designation as a Georgia State Scenic Byway does not in any way impact property rights or land use regulations- the only requirement is that no new billboards be erected.

4.5 Work Program

Central to the Byway implementation plan is the work program to be carried out. The following table includes specific project and planning tasks that the Byway Committee intends to implement. Work elements included in the CMP and not in the work program are longer-range projects and will be incorporated as needed in future work plan updates.

C O R R I D O R M A N A G E M E N T I S S U E S

Activity	Timeline	Responsible Party	Cost	Funding Source
<u>Enhancements</u>				
Add scenic Byway signs	(2007-2008)	GDOT	N/A	GDOT
Develop Byway section on Chamber website	(2007-2008)	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	Scenic Byway Committee
Add gateway signs for Jewell and Warrenton	(2007-2009)	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	Transportation Enhancements / County
Add interpretive signage at the Veterans Park in Warrenton, and in Jewell	(2007-2011)	Warren County Hometown Warrenton	\$25,000	DNR/Local/Private
Renovation depot and provide a Welcome Center & Museum in downtown Warrenton	(2007-2008)	Warren County City of Warrenton Warrenton DDA	\$50,000	Transportation Enhancements / LDF/ Local/Private
Restore Knox Theatre	(2007-2011)	Warren County Hometown Warrenton	\$700,000	Federal/Local/Private
Continue renovation of restrooms and kitchen area in Cultural Center	(2008-2015)	City of Warrenton County Historical Society Hometown Warrenton	\$300,000	Federal/Local/Private
Use façade grants/restoration program for properties within historic districts	Ongoing	Warrenton DDA	N/A	Warrenton DDA/Private
Streetscape Downtown Warrenton & area around the County Courthouse	(2007-2011)	City of Warrenton Warrenton DDA Warren County	\$125,000	Transportation Enhancements / LDF/ Local Private
Pave parking lots and provide restrooms near major points of interest	(2010-2015)	Warren County Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	Local/Private
Add sidewalks in downtown Jewell	(2008-2010)	Jewell Community Warren County Hometown Warrenton	\$50,000	Transportation Enhancements / LDF/ Local/Private
<u>Planning & Coordination</u>				
Incorporate scenic Byway provision in future planning and regulatory documents	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A
Coordinate all Byway planning with local government agencies	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A
Review proposed development for consistency with CMP	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A
Develop landscaping strategies for less scenic area	(2008-2009)	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A
Work with State Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator during Bicycle Route Network updates	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A
Incorporate scenic Byway in all new county tourism materials	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A
Develop marketing plan/ materials and scenic Byway brochure	(2007-2008)	Scenic Byway Committee	\$5,000	Federal/Local
Coordinate tourism strategies with local and state agencies	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A
Work with property owners on tax incentives for historic properties	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A
Identify and secure additional off-street parking.	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	Federal/Local
Maintain, evaluate and amend CMP as needed	Ongoing	Scenic Byway Committee	N/A	N/A

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- Scenic Byway FAQs
- Letters of Support
- Public Outreach Efforts

Appendix A



Georgia Scenic Byway Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Scenic Byway?

A Georgia Scenic Byway is defined as any designated highway, street, road, or route which significantly features certain intrinsic qualities that should be protected or enhanced. Intrinsic qualities are the resources present along a byway that define its character, interest, and appeal. There are six types of intrinsic qualities: scenic, historic, natural, cultural, archeological, and recreational. Intrinsic qualities should be within the viewshed of the byway and must relate or contribute to the distinctive character of the region.

What is a Corridor Management Plan?

A Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is a guide for the future promotion, preservation, and enhancement of a scenic byway. The plan is a result of local governments, community organizations, and byway residents working together to establish goals and objectives that hope to achieve through designation. These goals may include the promotion of tourism, protection of historic and natural resources, or preservation of scenic views.

The CMP is not a document of new laws, regulations, or ordinances, but instead is composed of existing land use plans plus recommendations, by property owners and stakeholders, used to assist in protecting and promoting the byway.

Who will implement and manage the corridor management plan?

The objectives of the CMP will be carried out by the local governments and the members of the Corridor Management Plan Committee.

What are the community benefits of a Scenic Byway?

A community's benefits depend on the objectives established in the Corridor Management Plan. For example, if a local government uses the designation to promote tourism in the area, then

residents may see an increase in economic development and a decrease in taxes due to the generation of new tourism revenue. Or, if a community decides to emphasize the protection of scenic and natural areas, land use ordinances could be created to preserve the rural character of a byway and limit development intrusion. Scenic Byway designation is a unique tool, in that it can be used to achieve a wide variety of your community's goals.

How will the Byway be funded?

There are several possible funding sources, including Federal and State government programs and private foundations. At the Federal level, National Scenic Byways Grants and Transportation Enhancements can be used to fund improvements to the byway such as information kiosks, marketing brochures, scenic overlooks, streetscaping plans, and safety enhancements. The Georgia Departments of Natural Resources and Community Affairs also offer funding programs that could be used for byway-related projects.

What will the Byway cost the sponsor and/or local government?

It depends. The most obvious cost is time, which includes working on the application, holding public meetings, and developing the Corridor Management Plan (if they choose to do so themselves). As far as money is concerned, the local government may need to provide a match for a grant to develop the CMP or to implement a project once designated. They may also wish to contract out some elements of the designation, implementation, and maintenance processes. The extent of money and time needed is difficult to determine since governments can take a more or less active part in developing, maintaining, and promoting a byway.

Is there any more maintenance required by local governments with a Byway? Will a Scenic Byway route have improvements made to the roadway?

After designation, GDOT Maintenance staff will work with local jurisdictions to develop a maintenance plan and schedule for the byway. The local governments, if they desire, can choose to go beyond the routine GDOT maintenance and develop their own plan of litter control, mowing, landscaping, etc. It is expected that the local government will maintain any county or city streets along the byway. In fact, if local roads are to be included in a byway, the governing jurisdiction must submit a resolution of support with the application. Also, local governments must approve the CMP, which should describe how the local government would maintain and operate the byway. Byway sponsors can also work with GDOT's Wildflower and Adopt-A-Highway Programs to help enhance the appearance of designated roadways. In addition, Byways may be allowed revisions from standard construction and maintenance practices which would promote Context Sensitive Designs.

What kinds of property restrictions are required? Does the local government have to adopt zoning?

The only property restriction is the prohibition of new billboards along routes designated as Federal Aid Primary, National Highway System, or Interstate. This essentially covers all state routes. Currently existing billboards may remain.

The CMP is not a zoning plan but should reference any current land use or community plans that would impact the byway corridor. If it is the community's goal to implement and/or enforce zoning or land use ordinances, then that should be detailed in the CMP. Ideally the community would develop some type of control measure along the byway to further the goals of enhancement, promotion, and preservation.

How will living on the Scenic Byway affect my property?

Most likely, the byway will have no effect on an individual's property. GDOT has only one land use restriction, the prohibition of the construction of new billboards, which accompanies Scenic Byway designation. This rule applies to Interstate, National Highway System, or Federal-Aid Primary routes. Any other effects would come out of the Corridor Management Plan, which citizens and residents help to develop. Since byways are often viewed as valuable community resources, it is possible that living on a Scenic Byway will create a greater sense of pride for your land and may increase your property values.

Does designation as a Scenic Byway mean that GDOT will exercise Eminent Domain?

NO. Designation as a Scenic Byway in no way facilitates GDOT's ability to "take" your property, nor does it increase the likelihood of such an action.

Does designation as a Scenic Byway impact my ability to secure additional curb cuts/access points?

NO. GDOT's driveway permitting process is not altered by the route's Scenic Byway designation. However, byway designation is based on the route's intrinsic qualities and the protection of those qualities through local land use plans and zoning.

What happens if an easement, property, or access to property is needed for a scenic vista or byway amenities?

If an easement, property, or access to property is needed for a scenic vista or other byway project (such as the construction of physical amenities including turnouts and parking areas, etc.) and federal-aid funds are used to purchase the access/property, the sponsor must follow the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, more commonly known as the 'Uniform Act'. This law requires that certain procedures be followed in securing needed easements/access/property in order to ensure that affected property owners are treated fairly and equitably.

Appendix B

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE HISTORIC PIEDMONT SCENIC BYWAY

WARREN COUNTY

WHEREAS, Jasper County, Putnam County, Hancock County and the cities of Monticello, Eatonton and Sparta have made application to and were approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation for classification of 85 miles of State Highway 16 throughout these three counties as the "Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway"; and

WHEREAS, Warren County and the City of Warrenton are making application to the Georgia Department of Transportation for classification of State Highway 16 from the Warren County/Hancock County border into Warren County, a corridor length of approximately 20 miles; and

WHEREAS, if approved, the additional highway length will become part of and will be known as the "Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway", and

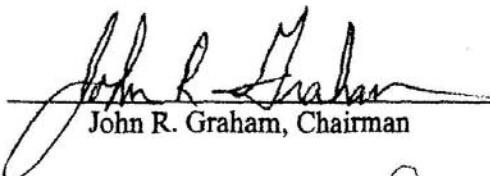
WHEREAS, the designation of such a route will provide incentive to tourists to visit adjacent areas to the Byway and thereby contribute to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the classification of said route will provide opportunity to protect the rural character of the county and preserve the natural and historic resources;

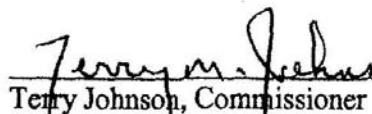
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Commissioners, by this resolution, does hereby endorse said application and urges approval by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Adopted this 14th day of October, 2003.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WARREN COUNTY



John R. Graham, Chairman



Terry Johnson, Commissioner



Richard Burley, Commissioner

Warren County Board of Commissioners

P.O. Box 46

Warrenton, Georgia 30828

Richard Burley, Jr.

Commissioner, District 1

Terry M. Johnson

Commissioner, District 2

706-465-2171 FAX 706-465-1300

John R. Graham

Chairman

Cathy Cooper

County Clerk

Pamela H. Lester

Administrative Assistant

January 24, 2006

Mrs. O.B. McCorkle
Warren County Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 27
Warrenton, GA 30828

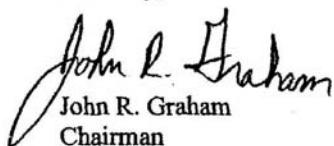
Dear Mrs. McCorkle:

The Warren County Board of Commissioners offers this letter of support for the Scenic Byway along State Hwy. 16. This roadway offers our residents and other motorists the opportunity for unobstructed beauty of the rural character of this land. We are very much in favor of preserving the view shed of this scenic corridor and maintaining the rural aesthetics and open space feel.

The Board of Commissioners is very appreciative of the time you and your committee have devoted to this special project. This project is a great benefit to this community.

If we can be of assistance in anyway, please give me a call.

Sincerely,



John R. Graham
Chairman

An Equal Opportunity Employer

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE HISTORIC PIEDMONT SCENIC BYWAY**

CITY OF WARRENTON

WHEREAS, Jasper County, Putnam County, Hancock County and the cities of Monticello, Eatonton and Sparta have made application to and were approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation for classification of 85 miles of State Highway 16 throughout these three counties as the "Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway"; and

WHEREAS, Warren County and the City of Warrenton are making application to the Georgia Department of Transportation for classification of State Highway 16 spanning from the Warren County/Hancock County line to the point of its termination in the City of Warrenton, a corridor length of approximately 20 miles; and

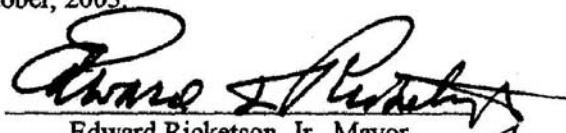
WHEREAS, if approved, the additional highway length will become part of and will be known as the "Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway", and

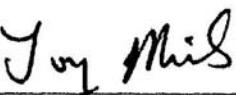
WHEREAS, the designation of such a route will provide incentive to tourists to visit adjacent areas to the Byway and thereby contribute to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the classification of said route will provide opportunity to protect the rural character of the county and preserve the natural and historic resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Warrenton, by this resolution, does hereby endorse said application and urges approval by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Adopted this 7th day of October, 2003.


Edward Ricketson, Jr., Mayor



Mayor Pro-tem Tony Mimbs

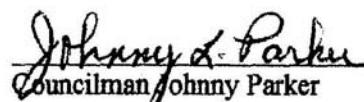


Councilman P.H. Giddens

Councilman Chris McCorkle



Councilman Lavern McCullough



Councilman Johnny Parker

CITY OF WARRENTON

P.O. BOX 109

WARRENTON, GEORGIA 30828-0109

PHONE: 706-465-3282 • FAX: 706-465-3463

MAYOR:

Tony D. Mimbs

MAYOR PRO TEM:

Chris McCorkle

CITY CLERK:

Mary Ann Moseley

"A Family-Friendly Community"

CITY COUNCIL:

Chad Mosley

J. Lavern McCullough

Johnny Parker

Lewis L. Roberts, Sr.

February 1, 2006

O.B. McCorkle
Hometown Warrenton, Inc.
PO Box 27
Warrenton, GA 30828

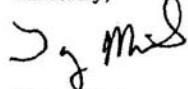
Dear Ms. McCorkle:

Warren County and the City of Warrenton have made application to the Georgia Department of Transportation for classification of State Highway 16 spanning from the Warren County/Hancock County line to the point of its termination in the City of Warrenton to be designated a Scenic Byway. Please allow this letter to serve as support for the additional highway length to become part of the "Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway".

The designation of the route will provide incentive to tourists to visit adjacent areas to the Byway and thereby contribute to the local economy. The effort will also provide opportunity to protect the charming character of the city and enhance its historic resources.

The City of Warrenton Mayor and Council would like to thank Hometown Warrenton, Inc. for being the catalyst for seeking the Scenic Byway designation for State Highway 16.

Sincerely,



Tony Mimbs
Mayor





State Transportation Board of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia

Raybon Anderson
12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 1447
STATESBORO, GEORGIA 30458
(912) 764-9084

September 20, 2006

O.B. McCorkle
Warren County Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 27
Warrenton, GA 30828

RE: Warren County-Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Extension

Dear Ms. McCorkle:

Per the request of John Graham, Chairman of the Warren County Commission, I would like to offer my support for your application for a scenic byway designation in Warren County. Scenic byways offer a way to preserve the natural beauty of a community and its historical integrity, and in this case, Warren County is a perfect candidate.

I look forward to assisting you in any way I can to see that it becomes a reality. Please call on me if I may be of further assistance in your journey to see this through. Thank you for the time, energy and strong leadership you have devoted to this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Raybon Anderson
Raybon Anderson, 12th Congressional District
State Transportation Board

WARREN COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

January 22, 2006

Ms. O.B. McCorkle
Hometown Warrenton, Inc.
552 Main Street
Warrenton, GA 30828

RE: Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Extension

Dear Ms. McCorkle:

Please allow this letter to express the Warren County Chamber of Commerce's support of the extension of the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway into Warren County along GA Highway 16.

Tourism is one of Warren County's primary economic engines. The designation of the Scenic Byway will stimulate the economy further. By attracting tourists and increasing traffic flow, the County will continue to flourish with its tourism plans.

Thank you for initiating the process of extending the byway into our County. Let us know where we may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Brewer

Cheryl Brewer
Chairman

Development Authority of Warren County

P.O. Box 27, Warrenton, Georgia 30828

chamber@warrencountyga.com
www.warrencountyga.com

706.465.9604
FAX 706.465.1789

January 30, 2006

Ms. O.B. McCorkle
Hometown Warrenton, Inc.
552 Main Street
Warrenton, GA 30828

RE: Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Extension

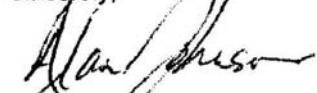
Dear Ms. McCorkle:

The Development Authority of Warren County supports the Scenic Byway Program in Warren County. Trails and tours are effective ways of leading others to and through our county. It is an economic development tool that we should utilize.

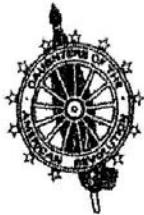
The Development Authority recently sponsored two sites on the Civil War Heritage Trail. On site is the Town of Jewell, located on Highway 16, and the second site is at the Shoals, which is located just off of Highway 16. These sites will benefit from the byway extension, and the byway will benefit from having the sites, as well.

All community groups must work together to continue smart growth of the county. Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Alan Johnson
Chairman



**Burkhalter Chapter, NSDAR
Warrenton, Georgia**

January 11, 2006

O.B. McCorkle
Warren County Chamber of Commerce
Warrenton Better Hometown
P.O. Box 27
Warrenton, Georgia 30828

Dear O.B.,

I am writing to express support for the creation of a Scenic Byway into Warren County and Warrenton on behalf of the Burkhalter chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. We believe the byway will be great for the future of Warrenton and Warren County.

We appreciate the hard work and dedication to this project that has been put forth by you and your committee. By designating State Highway 16 as a Scenic Byway into Warren County, the historical, cultural, natural and scenic attributes of the area will be protected and enjoyed by all.

Sincerely,

Diane C. Griffin
Secretary
Burkhalter Chapter
NSDAR

Kiwanis Club of Warrenton, Inc.



Chartered July 19, 1926

January 30, 2006

Mrs. O.B. McCorkle
Warren County Chamber of Commerce
Warrenton Better Hometown
P.O. Box 27
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear O.B.,

The Kiwanis Club of Warrenton would like to express our support of your efforts in establishing the designation of Scenic Byway to the stretch of Georgia Highway 16 from Jewell to Warrenton.

As business men and women from Warren County and surrounding areas, we feel this endeavor will certainly have positive economic impact on our community through increased tourism. And, at the same time, this Scenic Byway will enhance the aesthetic beauty of our rural area.

Thank you for your hard work and time you have put into this project.

Sincerely,

Chad Mosley
President
Kiwanis Club of Warrenton, Inc.

Oct. 8, 2003

Supermarket. Ms. Ivey's name was drawn at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 27th. Mike Gurley (right), owner of Gurley's IGA in Warrenton, presented Ms. Ivey with the keys to her new car. Gurley commented, "We appreciate our customers and what they mean to the growth of our business and Warren County. We also appreciate our friends and suppliers who participated in the car give-away promotion. We plan more promotions to express our appreciation to our customers and friends." Among those participating with Gurley's in the promotion were: Kendrick's Q, Reed Ice, Earthgrains Bread, Roger Wood, and Budweiser.

City Council Shows Support For Scenic Byway Program

By Kim A. Cason

The City of Warrenton City Council voted unanimously during their regular monthly meeting Tuesday, October 7 to support a scenic byway program and a transportation enhancement program.

On a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Tony Mimbs and a second by Councilman Johnny Parker, Council voted to sign a resolution of support for the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway which will encompass the 20-mile portion of State Highway 16 which runs from the Hancock County line to the City of Warrenton. The scenic byway will embody 105 miles of State Highway 16 running through Jasper, Putnam, Hancock Counties, and now Warren County. The 85 miles were approved as a scenic byway by the Georgia Department of Transportation and applications to approve the remaining 20 miles located in Warren County will soon be submitted for approval.

The City also signed a resolution of support, on a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mimbs and a second by Councilman P. H. Giddens,

for participation in a Transportation Enhancement project which will create Civil War era heritage trails and interpretive markers within the City. An application for the project, which will be implemented at no cost to the City, has already been prepared for the City by Georgia's Civil War Heritage Trails, Inc.

On a motion by Councilman Giddens and a second by Councilman Parker, Council voted unanimously to authorize Mayor Edward Ricketson to sign a contract with Allen-Smith Consulting for administrative services of the \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant the City recently received for water system improvements.

Mayor Ricketson informed Council of several appointments to the City's Zoning Board which needed to be made. The names of Chad Mosley, Scott Johnson, Diane Griffin, Mary Grier and Albert Massey were brought forth. On a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mimbs and a second by Councilman Parker, Council unanimously approved Mosley, Johnson and Griffin to serve four

year terms and Grier and Massey to serve three year terms. All have agreed to serve with the exception of Massey, whom Council is awaiting a reply.

Richard Britton of Your Future Inc. came before Council to inform them of the services the company can provide for the residents of the City of Warrenton. He said the company, located in the former Warren County High School building, helps 19-21 year olds receive an education and acquire the proper job training to get the jobs they desire.

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Council unanimously agreed to change their next regular meeting date from Tuesday, November 4 to Thursday, November 6, due to the November election. City elections will be held Tuesday to determine who will hold the seat currently held by Councilman Giddens. Councilman Giddens will be facing off against Lewis Roberts. Mayor Pro Tem Mimbs and Councilman Chris McCorkle were also up for reelection, but both do not have opposition.

Councilman McCorkle was not present at the meeting.

County To Allow WWG to Pay Back Funds Over 3 Year Period

By Kim A. Cason

The Warren County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously during a special call meeting Monday,

of nearly \$3 million which will not only assist them in paying off the EIP loan to the County, but will also help the company pay the ap-

resolution regarding the payment issue to County Attorney Hal Hinesley, and everything was in order.

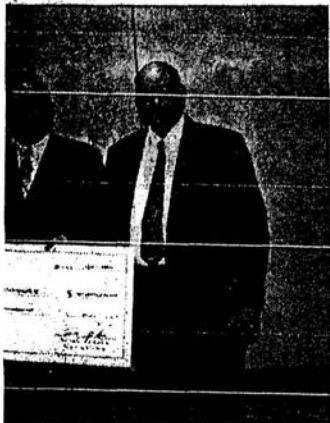
On a motion by Commissioner Tom M.

TO INCLUDE WARREN COUNTY

Board Discusses Historic Byway

By Kim A. Cason

Finding ways to encourage tourism in Warren County this was discussed during the regular monthly meeting of the Warren County Board of Commissioners Tuesday, October 14.



awarded a \$500,000 Employee by Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue to assist WWG (Wheland Management) at its Warrenton facility. Present were (left to right) in Chairman John Graham, of Commerce President O. B. McCorkle, and Warren County Com-

Warren County Chamber of Commerce President O. B. McCorkle came before the Board to garner support for the Historic Scenic Piedmont Byway to extend from the Hancock County line at Jewell to Highway 16's ending point in Warrenton. The Historic Scenic Piedmont Byway encompasses 85 miles of Highway 16 in Jasper, Putnam and Hancock counties. The additional 20 miles leading from Hancock to Warrenton would give the scenic byway 105 miles. Bringing the byway into Warren County would give the County a new avenue to go through when applying for grants. On a motion by Commissioner Terry M. Johnson and a second by Commissioner Richard Burley, the Board voted unanimously to sign a resolution of support for the scenic byway. The CSRA Regional Development Center will be overseeing the project.

The Board turned their attention to another means of

**val Guest Speaker at
eau Annual Meeting**

meeting held on Tuesday, October 7 at the Community Services Building in Warrenton. Fourth District State

Director and dairy farmer Zippy Duval of Greene County was the featured speaker.

Warren County Farm Bureau President Kenneth Ansley introduced various guests and speakers along with conducting the local Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. Vice President Curtis Smith welcomed everyone and introduced Robert Fountain, Middle Georgia Farm Bureau Vice President, to provide the invocation before the buffet dinner of Kendrick's Barbecue chicken and fixin's.

The female gospel group



Oct 17, 2003

Sheriff's Deputies
Purvis and Michael

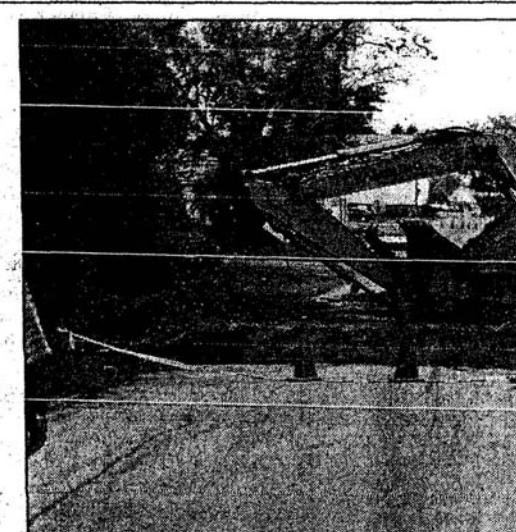
CITY ELECTED

**Giddens:
Run Fo**

By Kim A. Cason

City of Warrenton in District 1 will be to the polls to cast their votes Tuesday, November 4.

City Councilman Giddens, who represented District 1 for five years, facing off against Roberts in this election, will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the County Community



Clipper
June 24th 2005

... active in his community. A former Mayor for the City of Norwood, Yelton serves as the fire chief for the City of Norwood and serves on the FPR Committee of Norwood United Methodist

specialist.

Yelton holds certificates in various emergency courses including Awareness for Response to Hazardous Materials, Auto Extrication, Incident Command, Infection

enjoyed working with him and look forward to several more years helping him serve Norwood."

New Fire Chief Is Looked

By Kim A. Cason

Warrenton Crossing, the strip mall building complex across from Warren County Middle/Hight School on Norwood Road is looking for occupants.

Though the building has been completed with six store/office spaces available for rent, no occupants have been pinpointed to fill the space according to Warren County Chamber of Commerce.

Crumpton Nominated To Key Terrorism Post

By Kim A. Cason

CIA and FBI veteran and Warren County native Henry "Hank" Crumpton has been nominated by President George Bush to serve as the Department of State's Coordinator for Counter-Terrorism with the rank of Ambassador At Large. The nomination came Thursday, June 9.

Crumpton, if confirmed by the U.S. Senate, will replace Cofer Black, who resigned from the office last year following the release of a botched report which had been used to argue that President Bush was winning the war on terrorism. The report, which was later revised, underestimated the number of people who had died from international terrorism.

Crumpton currently holds the position of Chief of the National Resources Division of the Central Intelligence

Agency, where he has previously served as the Chief of the Counterterrorism Center, Operations. Prior to joining the CIA, Crumpton served as Deputy Chief of the International Terrorism Operations Section of the FBI's Bureau of Investigation.

Crumpton, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Crumpton of Warrenton, received his bachelor's degree from the University of New Mexico and his master's from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. He currently resides in Virginia.

In his speech confirming Crumpton's nomination, President Bush announced that he would be nominating four individuals to designate two individuals and appoint two individuals to serve in his administration.

Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Project Underway

Georgia Highway 16 is designated a Scenic Byway from Monticello to Jewell. Hometown Warrenton, Inc. a Better Hometown non-profit organization, is spearheading the extension of the Scenic Byway into Warren County from Jewell to Warreuton.

The Scenic Byway committee held its third meeting Thursday, May 12 at Warrenton City Hall. Approximately 20 Warren County citizens attended the meeting.

Putnam and Hancock
(Continued on Page 2)

are produced by the Georgia Department of Transportation in an effort to encourage travelers to experience the historic scenery of the state.

If you have questions, or if you would like to serve on the Scenic Byway Committee, please call 706-463-9604. We are looking to be part of your local effort.

WARREN COUNTY **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

TO: Georgia Hwy 16 Property Owner
FROM: Warren County Scenic Byway Committee
DATE: April 25, 2005
RE: Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Project

Georgia Hwy 16 is designated a Scenic Byway from Monticello, Georgia to Jewell, Georgia. Hometown Warrenton, Inc., the Better Hometown non-profit organization, is spearheading the extension of this byway into Warren County from Jewell to Warrenton. The Scenic Byway committee held its second meeting on Thursday, April 14th, at City Hall in Warrenton. There were approximately fifteen Warren County citizens in attendance, along with Larry Moore of Putnam County and Nancy Stephens of Hancock County.

Putnam and Hancock Counties support the extension of the byway because with the additional 15 miles, the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway will be the longest byway in the State of Georgia. It will also add several historic and scenic sites to the byway for travelers to view and enjoy. State Byways are highlighted on all maps that are produced by the Georgia Department of Transportation in an effort to encourage travelers to experience the historic scenery of our beautiful state.

The Warren County Scenic Byway committee meets monthly, and the next meeting will be a public hearing, held on Thursday, May 12, 2005, at Warrenton City Hall at 5:30p.m. The public is encouraged to attend, learn more, offer suggestions and give input.

Following the public hearing on the 12th of May, the committee will meet on Thursday June 2, 2005, to begin work on the Corridor Management Plan that is required by Georgia DOT. Everyone is welcome to be part of county-wide effort, and you are invited to be part of the Scenic Byway Committee.

If you have questions, please call any of the current members of this committee. Names and phone numbers are listed below.

Andrew & Denise Coard 465-2198
Marti Edwards 465-1388
Louise Hadden 465-3368
O.B. McCorkle 465-9604
Jennifer Mosley 465-0542
Chris Osborne 465-0700
Terry Johnson 465-1113

Jeremy Rachels 465-2227
Alan Shapiro 465-1169
Janice Thigpen 465-2227
Joan Wiseman 465-1078
Wendy McMichael 465-1367
Cheryl Brewer 465-3339



as the church above (left to right), their old-fashioned



Dressed in old-fashioned clothing, the Johnson family prepare to begin their "Little House on the Prairie" re-enactment. (Left to right) Kelbie Gagne, Clare Johnson, Michael Johnson, and (far right) Logan Johnson and Logan Johnson. (Photo By Q. B. McCall)

STEM

Position Education

2006

January 27

Meats -
Barbecue Ribs or
Fried Shrimp,
Ham

Staples -
Pasta, Fried Okra,
Stewed Apples,
Mac & Cheese,
Green Beans,
Rice, Field Peas,
Biscuits, Biscuit
sticks

January 28

OK'S
ICE

January 29
Meats -
Roast Beef, Baked
Chicken, Fatback

Staples -
& Cheese, Cream
Beans, Peas, Rice,
Potatoes, Green
Turnips, Stewed
Tomatoes

Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan Available For Review

Georgia Highway 46 is designated a Scenic Byway from Monticello, Georgia to Jewell, Georgia. Hometown Warrenton, Inc., the Better Hometown non-profit organization, is spearheading the extension of byway into Warren County from Jewell to Warrenton. The Scenic Byway Committee has had several meetings and two public hearings.

Putnam and Hancock Counties support the extension of the byway because with the additional 15 miles, the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway will be the longest byway in the State of Georgia. It will also add several historic and scenic sites to the byway for travelers to view and enjoy. State Byways are highlighted on all maps that are produced by the Georgia Department of Transportation in an effort to encourage travelers to experience the historic scenery of our beautiful state.

The Corridor Management Plan is available for review by the public. It is available at the Warren County Courthouse, the Warrenton City Hall, the Warren County Library, and the Warren County Chamber of Commerce. Please feel free to make comments, additions, and suggestions regarding the document. If you have questions or comments, please call (706) 465-9601.

Warrenton Clipper
Jan 19, 2006

CSRA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

WARREN COUNTY SCENIC BYWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 14, 2005

NAME	ORGANIZATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Louise Hadden	Better Hometown Warrenton	465-3368
Larry Moose	Historic P. Edmont Scenic Byway Better Hometown Foundation, Inc.	706-485-1234
Annie Coard	Jewell	706-465-2198
Dandy Stephens	Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway	706-444-8201
Alan Shearin	Jewell	706-465-3285
Joe Wissman	Better Hometown Warrenton	706-465-1078
John Graham	Wharren Do Box	706-465-2121
Janice Thompson	Better Hometown Warrenton	706-465-2227



CSRA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

WARREN COUNTY SCENIC BYWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 14, 2005



APPENDICES

CSRA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

WARREN COUNTY PROPOSED SCENIC BYWAY PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

May 12, 2005

NAME	ORGANIZATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Alan Shapiro		465-3285
house Hadden		465-3368
John Wise man		465-1078
Carol Marvin		465-1528
Fernie Carroll		465-2198
Angela Conner		465-2198
3rd Mile Jacks		(404) 444-7593
Kerry Freshman food		(404) 363-5479
Syberup S. Joe		465-9718

CSRA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

WARREN COUNTY SCENIC BYWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

August 25, 2005 (Warrenton, GA)

Warren County Scenic Byway Committee Meeting
Oct 13, 2005

Name	Organization	Contact Info
Audrey Conrad		706 - 465 - 2128
Jenise Cleveland		704.465.2198
Louise Hadden	BHT Warrenton	706 - 465 - 3368
O.B. McCorkle	BHT	706.465.9604
Alain Shropshire		706 - 465 - 3285
Jeremy Rabels	BHT	465 - 2774

Scenic Byway Corridor Management Topics

Additional Data Needs

- List of Tourist and Cultural Events
- List of Tourist Amenities (accommodations, restaurants)

Organization

- Who Will Manage Issues Related to the Byway?
 - * What Stakeholders?
- How Will the Byway be Managed?
 - * Regulation, Persuasion?

Marketing

- How will the Byway be Marketed?
 - * Linked with Other Projects?
 - * Specific Strategies?

Preservation/Projects

- How will the Byway be Preserved?
- What Projects are Most Important?

General Goals and Objectives for Byway