

Goals & Strategies of Meriwether County Joint Comprehensive Plan 2018-2038

Goal 1	Improve overall quality of life for Three River’s residents and enhance the Three Rivers Economic Development District’s fiscal well-being.
Goal 1, Strategy 1	Increase the District’s commercial and industrial tax base.
Goal 1, Strategy 2	Implement the economic development visions outlined in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and continue to attract and encourage quality developments to enhance the appeal of the Three Rivers Economic Development District.
Goal 1, Strategy 3	Continue to attract and retain a skilled workforce to meet the needs of business and industry in the District.
Goal 2	Increase job availability within the Three Rivers Economic Development District.
Goal 2, Strategy 1	Establish workforce development and economic development as a top strategy for the District and improve resident’s access to jobs.
Goal 2, Strategy 2	Match workforce development services to skill levels and needs for residents.
Goal 2, Strategy 3	Utilize and promote established workforce development programs to residents.
Goal 3	Establish the Three Rivers Economic Development District as a premier, unique, natural, and cultural destination in the State of Georgia.
Goal 3, Strategy 1	Encourage municipalities to implement and maintain design guidelines.
Goal 3, Strategy 2	Capitalize and build on existing natural and cultural assets through historic preservation and environmental design.
Goal 3, Strategy 3	Identify opportunities to create passive and active recreation.
Goal 3, Strategy 4	Identify opportunities to create cultural gathering spaces, events, and experiences.
Goal 4	Protect the region’s cultural and economic diversity.
Goal 4, Strategy 1	Maintain the diverse business representation on local main streets and downtowns.
Goal 4, Strategy 2	Expand economic opportunities for low/moderate income citizens by targeting reinvestment and utilizing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and other financial resources.
Goal 4, Strategy 3	Promote workforce development through job fairs, mobile career unit strategies and work-based learning programs.
Goal 5	—This was not listed in our Comprehensive Plan—
Goal 6	Facilitate achieving economic development goals by the implementation of transportation Strategies.
Goal 6, Strategy 1	Continue to work with the State and local governments to implement existing transportation plans.
Goal 6, Strategy 2	Coordinate economic development decisions that support the goals of transportation efforts within the District.
Goal 6, Strategy 3	Explore multi-modal enhancements to the District.
Goal 7	To support the expansion of Georgia’s Export/Import Highway from I-85 in LaGrange to I-75 in Macon.

Goal 7, Strategy 1	Collaborate with Troup, Meriwether and Upson Counties, Middle Georgia Regional Commission, Georgia Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration to evaluate parallel alternatives to I-20 that provide a direct route across the State of Georgia from the Port of Savannah to West Central Georgia.
Goal 7, Strategy 2	Conduct a corridor study to identify feasible locations and alignment alternatives for a multi-lane highway between LaGrange and Macon.
Goal 7, Strategy 3	Conduct public forums and other citizen involvement strategies to increase public awareness about the economic impact of Georgia's Export/Import Highway.
Goal 8	Increase the number of business and industries that establish, expand and maintain operations within the Three Rivers Economic Development District.
Goal 8, Strategy 1	Promote the Three Rivers Economic Development District as a business-friendly community.
Goal 8, Strategy 2	Provide subsidies, tax breaks, loans or grants to help new businesses establish themselves and existing business growth within the Three Rivers Economic Development District.
Goal 8, Strategy 3	Attract and attain a variety of businesses providing goods and services in all neighborhoods.
Goal 9	Strengthen the role and vitality of main streets and downtowns, and building regional commercial districts.
Goal 9, Strategy 1	Improve the aesthetics of public places and spaces, existing squares, commercial streets through the use of available financing.
Goal 9, Strategy 2	Adopt Tax Allocation Districts (TAD) and Enterprise and Opportunity Zones, and other programs to target Strategy projects or district improvements.
Goal 9, Strategy 3	Develop the quality, vitality mix of businesses within all commercial districts, main streets, and downtown squares.
Goal 9, Strategy 4	Promote more intense development of regional centers where appropriate to promote employment and tax base for major industrial/commercial centers.
Goal 9, Strategy 5	Build on existing nodes to create more efficiency in the regional centers and minimize the impact on other areas.
Goal 10	Implement and refine the plans for the District's largest industrial areas and plan for the reuse of underutilized buildings
Goal 10, Strategy 1	Seek funding for brownfield cleanup and hazardous waste removal.
Goal 10, Strategy 2	Analyze trade-offs between loss and retention of industrial uses.
Goal 11	Continue to support the State of Georgia's efforts to deepen the Savannah River to serve the Savannah Port.
Goal 11, Strategy 1	Interact with various state agencies and stakeholders to discuss the overall benefits of deepening the Savannah River channel to the Port of Savannah.
Goal 11, Strategy 2	Continuously educate our communities about the importance of the deepening of the Savannah River.
Goal 11, Strategy 3	Work with industries that seek to expand or establish a business that supports access to the Savannah Port.
Goal 12	Establish program initiatives through public and private partnerships to improve soft skills of the District's workforce.
Goal 12, Strategy 1	Educate students K-12 about the importance of soft skills.
Goal 12, Strategy 2	Encourage public agencies and private industries to work together to find innovative methods to teach everyday skills of running a business.
Goal 12, Strategy 3	Strengthen mentorships and apprenticeships programs that focus on soft skills and on-the-job training; in particular by strengthening the College & Career Academies in the District.

Goal 12, Strategy 4	Encourage private industries to commit to workforce development in various community programs that target school-aged children ages 8 to 16 and assist with the development of career pathways.
Goal 12, Strategy 5	Expand job training for seniors in the District.
Goal 13	Expand broadband to underserved rural communities and increase opportunities for business development.
Goal 13, Strategy 1	Continue the regional broadband taskforce to identify solutions to gain access to broadband in rural communities.
Goal 13, Strategy 2	Support state initiatives for broadband implementation and expansion.
Goal 13, Strategy 3	Seek various funding sources to help fund the expansion of broadband services to rural communities.
Goal 13, Strategy 4	Increase consumer awareness of the benefits of broadband access in rural areas.
Goal 14	Expand Tourism opportunities within the Three Rivers Economic Development District.
Goal 14, Strategy 1	Seek opportunities that support natural and cultural tourism within the region.
Goal 14, Strategy 2	Seek opportunities to expand agri-tourism throughout the Three Rivers Economic Development District.
Goal 15	Seek opportunities to expand movie and film production within the Three Rivers Economic Development District.
Goal 15, Strategy 1	Streamline permitting process.
Goal 15, Strategy 2	Identify a contact person from each local government to manage production companies.
Goal 15, Strategy 3	Develop a local database of shooting locations.
Goal 16	Promote and expand agriculture in our District.
Goal 16, Strategy 1	Support agriculture education in our schools.
Goal 16, Strategy 2	Promote and support farmers markets.
Goal 16, Strategy 3	Promote extension agencies in our District.
Goal 16, Strategy 4	Support and encourage sustainable and local agriculture.
Goal 16, Strategy 5	Support local food in our schools.
Goal 17	Expand and improve access to rural healthcare in our District.
Goal 17, Strategy 1	Seek funding for rural healthcare facilities.
Goal 17, Strategy 2	Expand mental health and geriatric facilities.