

**DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION AGENDA – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022  
DAWSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM  
25 JUSTICE WAY, DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA 30534  
4:00 PM**

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**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Presentation of Request to Accept a Georgia Forestry Commission Volunteer Fire Assistance 50/50 Grant- Emergency Services Director Danny Thompson
2. Presentation of FY 2023 Council of Accountability Court Judges / Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Enhancement Grant for Dawson County Treatment Court- Treatment Services Director Jessi Emmett
3. Presentation of FY 2023 Council of Accountability Court Judges / Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Enhancement Grant for Dawson County Family Treatment Court- Treatment Services Director Jessi Emmett
4. Presentation of Request to Approve Professional Exemption for LMC Inc. d/b/a McCormick Solutions- Chief Appraiser Elaine Garrett
5. Presentation of Request for Additional 2021 Funds for Keep Dawson County Beautiful (KDCB)- KDCB Executive Director Kara Wilkins
6. Presentation of Budget Increase Request for De-Icing Salt Product- Public Works Director Denise Farr
7. Presentation of Driveway Permitting Information- Public Works Director Denise Farr
8. Presentation of Request to Seek Design and Cost Estimate for Special Needs Field at Rock Creek Park- Parks & Recreation Director Matt Payne
9. Presentation of Request to Amend the Dawson County Sign Ordinance-Chapter 129- Planning & Development Director Sharon Farrell
10. County Manager Report
11. County Attorney Report

***\*A Voting Session meeting will immediately follow the Work Session meeting.***

*Those with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting, should contact the ADA Coordinator at 706-344-3666, extension 44514. The county will make reasonable accommodations for those persons.*



## DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA FORM

Department: **Emergency Services**

Work Session: **2.17.22**

Prepared By: **Danny Thompson**

Voting Session: **3.3.22**

Presenter: **Danny Thompson**

Public Hearing: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No **X**

Agenda Item Title: **VFA 50/50 Grant**

Background Information:

The Georgia Forestry Commission annually opens up a 50/50 grant program to smaller rural communities in Georgia. The maximum allowed on this grant is \$10,000. The grant period closed on December 1, 2022.

Current Information:

Dawson County Fire was notified that we received the 50/50 grant that was recently applied for in January. The purchases have to be made and submitted for reimbursement by April 1, 2022.

Budget Information: Applicable: ☒ Not Applicable: Budgeted: Yes ☒ No \_\_\_\_\_

Fund	Dept.	Acct No.	Budget	Balance	Requested	Remaining

Recommendation/Motion: **Approve agenda item**

Department Head Authorization: FDI

Date: 2.4.2022

Finance Dept. Authorization: Vickie Neikirk

Date: 2/4/22

County Manager Authorization: David Headley

Date: 2-04-2022

County Attorney Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Attachments:

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## DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA FORM

Department: Family Treatment Court

Work Session: 2/17/22

Prepared By: Jessi Emmett

Voting Session: 2/17/22

Presenter: Jessi Emmett

Public Hearing: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X

Agenda Item Title: FY23 CACJ Grant Application Approval

Background Information:

Approve the application of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for FY2023 Accountability Court Funding for the Dawson County Family Treatment Court to fund staff, provide surveillance, drug testing, lab supplies, and in-state training in the amount of \$106,851.60, and if awarded, appoint the Grants Manager as Program Designee and authorize the Chairman to execute all related application and award documents. An in-kind match of \$12,822.19 is required and will be fulfilled from a current county-funded position assigned to the program. Our programs have been awarded grant funding through the Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ) since their creation in 2015. Continued below:

Current Information:

Funding is awarded on an annual basis beginning July 1 through June 30. Our program is not requesting any significant increases from last year's application and will maintain current operations with one full-time staff member dedication to the program. We have included supporting narratives in the application to CACJ to support the funding of a third full-time counselor in Treatment Court as we will utilize these resources across all programs to streamline processes and provide an elevated level of care, which we are unable to obtain utilizing private treatment providers.

Budget Information: Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Budgeted: \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Fund	Dept.	Acct No.	Budget	Balance	Requested	Remaining

Recommendation/Motion: Approval to submit application

Department Head Authorization: Jessi Emmett

Date: 2/9/22

Finance Dept. Authorization: Vickie Neikirk

Date: 2/10/22

County Manager Authorization: David Headley

Date: 2-10-2022

County Attorney Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Attachments:

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**FY2023 CACI/CICC Grant Applications (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)**

**Treatment Services  
Dawson Co. Treatment Court (2900)**

**Personnel (\$11100)**

<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary Request</u>	<u>Fringe Benefits Request</u>
April Hendry	Counselor	\$ 40,310.00	\$ 10,217.94
Brand Turpin	Counselor	\$ 44,990.80	\$ 10,576.02
Vacant	Counselor	\$ 40,310.00	\$ 10,217.94
		\$ 125,610.80	\$ 31,011.89

**Total Request \$ 156,622.69**

**Fringe Calculations**

<u>FICA</u>	<u>Health/STD/Life Insurance</u>	<u>WC</u>	<u>Retirement</u>
\$ 3,083.72	\$ 6,327.96	\$ -	\$ 806.26
\$ 3,441.80	\$ 6,327.96	\$ -	\$ 806.26
\$ 3,083.72	\$ 6,327.96	\$ -	\$ 806.26

The Treatment Court grant supports two full-time Counselor positions. Treatment Court oversees three separate tracks (Drug, DUI, Mental Health) to better share resources and allow for individualized treatment for participants. As a result, the total program census continues to increase and provide full caseloads for our counselors based on Best Practice standards. These positions provide direct clinical services to participants in all tracks of Treatment Court. These positions are vital to the continued operation of Treatment Court and our ability to continued growth. Our programs experienced an increase in enrollments by 100% in 2021 compared to 2020. Due to this significant influx in enrollments, we are seeking funding for a third full-time counselor to absorb this growth. Additionally, we have utilized grant funds in previous years to contract with a private provider to help offset the need for additional groups and to provide treatment for Dawson County Family Treatment Court. This has presented constant struggles with securing stable contract counselors and consistent treatment for our programs. The third counselor supported by this grant will allow us to share treatment resources and absorb FTC participants eliminating the need for contract treatment fund requests in this grant and Dawson Co. FTC grant. Our staff counselors facilitate 17 treatment groups each week (1,326 hours annually) as well as individual counseling sessions and treatment planning for a case load of approx. 30 participants each.

\*The Coordinator's (Brittany Currans) salary is used for the grant match.

**Technical/Professional Services**

CPT/DT Officers (\$23850)	\$ 52,560.00	*See side box
Interoffice Drug Testing Lab (\$71000)	\$ 62,530.00	*See side box

**Total Request \$ 115,090.00**

We are requesting funds to send two Community Policing officers out 8 times per month. We recently established a renewed relationship with our local Sheriff's office which affords us more officers to conduct home visits putting us in compliance with State Standards and Best Practices which has been an issue for our programs. Officers will be able to see participants in all three tracks of Treatment Court (Drug, DI and Mental Health) and can share resources with Family Treatment Court. Additionally, we are requesting funds to continue our partnership with the Dawson Co. Sheriff's Dept. and DCS to provide officers to collect drug screens for 14 hours per week. We combine resources between Dawson Co. Treatment Court and Dawson Co. Family Treatment Court to better utilize funds and space. We are requesting to pay for half of the annual cost of drug screening officers in Dawson Treatment Court's grant and the other half in Dawson Family Treatment Court's grant. These funds will allow for drug screening collections for 8 hours per day x 7 days per week x \$30/hour x 2 officers.

We utilize the Treatment Services drug screening lab in Hall County for testing. Our officers collect the screens, we package the, and use Stat Delivery to courier them to Hall County multiple times per week. Confirmation and specialty testing is conducted through Lifetope Labs. We are requesting funding for the following drug testing services. \$3.50/screen x 100 participants x 3x/week x 52 weeks = \$54,600; \$8.80/confirmation test x 100 screens = \$880; \$45.50/Comprehensive screens x 100 screens = \$4,550; \$25/Specialty Test x 100 screens = \$2,500.

**Supplies (\$3101)**

DT Collection Cups	\$ 6,750.00
Latex Gloves	\$ 1,689.90
DT Biohazard Collection Bags	\$ 681.12
<b>Total Request</b>	<b>\$ 9,121.02</b>

We wish to purchase drug testing collection cups, biohazard collection bags, and latex gloves for collection with grant monies.

**Travel (\$23500)**

CACI Conference Expenses	\$ 4,400.00	Parking, Mileage, Per Diem, Hotel x 8 people
<b>Total Request</b>	<b>\$ 4,400.00</b>	

**Total Grant Request \$ 285,233.71**

**Match Requirement \$ 34,228.04** Brittany Currans' salary and benefits to be used as Match

**Project Descriptions**

Treatment Services is the agency umbrella encompassing all programs in our circuit. This allows for sharing of resources across programs and greatly increases our ability to provide services. Dawson County funds the Coordinator, Lead Counselor, and Case Manager positions under the General Funds budget making the program a permanent fixture. Program participants are charged a monthly fee of \$150 to help offset some operational costs. The Treatment Services budget is made up of County General Fund, participant fees, and grant awards. When federal funding ends, we are hopeful that County Commissioners will absorb the grant-funded positions and benefits under the General Fund budget. Additional assistance comes from Friends of Recovery, a nonprofit organization formed in 2006 to support the accountability courts. Treatment Court is the largest program in our county serving nearly 100 participants across three tracks designed to address specific criminogenic and treatment needs and is under the direction of two judges. Treatment Court restructured in FY19 to bring HELP Program (Mental Health Track) under the same umbrella to better serve participants and share resources more effectively. Dawson County Treatment Court is comprised of the Drug, DUI and Mental Health tracks with staffing/court sessions at separate times for Drug/DUI vs. Mental Health tracks. While all case management and clinical services are conducted by the same treatment staff, team members including ADA and PD are different and the tracks are directed by two separate judges.

Treatment Court is the largest accountability court program in Dawson County encompassing Drug, DUI, and Mental Health tracks. In 2021, this program experienced an increase in total program enrollments by 100% and an increase in overall drug screening services of 12% which supports our funding requests made in this proposal. Along with Substance Abuse Services (evaluations and referrals program), the Drug Testing Lab, and the other accountability court programs in Hall and Dawson Counties, the programs are organized under one agency umbrella called Treatment Services. This allows for sharing of resources such as office space, drug testing services, community policing efforts, and personnel. We do not have individual program budgets. Rather, the Treatment Services budget is made up of participant fees, grants, and the County's general fund. In the Dawson County office, we have 6 employees and serve approximately 115 participants. Between regular office hours, in-house counseling groups, and drug testing services, we operate 7 days a week. We conduct on-going, onsite training for new and seasoned staff alike. We make all of this work together to provide efficient and effective programs for the participant we serve.

**FY2022 Grant Award Total \$259,794\*** \*Does not include Match

**Current Funding July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022**

**FY2022 Grant Request \$291,218**



## DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA FORM

Department: Tax Assessors Office

Work Session: 02/17/2022

Prepared By: Melissa Hawk

Voting Session: 02/17/2022

Presenter: Elaine Garrett

Public Hearing: Yes ☒ No ☐

Agenda Item Title: Request to Approve Professional Exemption for LMC, Inc. dba McCormick Solutions

### Background Information:

On October 15, 2020, the Board of Commissioners approved an agreement with LMC, Inc. dba McCormick Solutions to develop rural and urban land schedules to properly value land by developing neighborhood and location adjustments and tables, in the amount of \$39,500. A contract amendment was executed on August 24, 2021, by the County Manager, to extend the contract through December 31, 2022, and add the scope for the digest review, preliminary work for the 2022 Tax Digest, assist the appraisal staff with collection of data for commercial new construction and to continue to develop the Power BI software in the amount of \$2,500.

### Current Information:

The Tax Assessor's Office is requesting that a professional exemption and contract amendment be issued by the Purchasing Office to LMC, Inc. dba McCormick Solutions to perform physical field review of real property parcels to pick up new construction at a cost of \$25.00 for each permit. Four years of pricing was received: 2022 - \$35,000; 2023 - \$38,000; 2024 - \$38,000 and 2025 - \$38,000. Each contract term will expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>, with no further obligation to the County. There will be a clause stating that the contract may automatically renew unless writing has been received thirty (30) days prior to the new contract term.

Budget Information: Applicable: ☒ Not Applicable: ☐ Budgeted: Yes ☐ No ☒

Fund	Dept.	Acct No.	Budget	Balance	Requested	Remaining
100	1550	521200				

Recommendation/Motion: Staff respectfully requests the Board to approve a professional agreement exemption and contract to McCormick Solutions to perform the scope to perform physical field review of real property parcels to pick up new construction at a cost of \$25.00 for each permit.

Department Head Authorization: Elaine Garrett

Date: 02/08/2022

Finance Dept. Authorization: Vickie Neikirk

Date: 2/8/22

County Manager Authorization: David Headley

Date: 2-08-2022

County Attorney Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Attachments:



## DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA FORM

Department: Keep Dawson County Beautiful

Work Session: 2/17/2022 \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: Kara Wilkins

Voting Session: 2/17/2022

Presenter: Kara Wilkins

Public Hearing: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item Title: Request for Additional Funds \_\_\_\_\_

Background Information:

Keep Dawson County Beautiful exceeded budget in 2021 by \$206.39. We added on two additional events, Tire Amnesty rate per ton increased, put an Ad in the Chamber's Map for more advertising, Shore Sweep's budget was doubled and re-stocked supplies needed for events.

Current Information:

Requesting additional funds - KDCB went over by \$206.39 in 2021 budget.

Budget Information: Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable: ☒ Budgeted: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No ☒

Fund	Dept.	Acct No.	Budget	Balance	Requested	Remaining

Recommendation/Motion:

Department Head Authorization: Dave Headley

Date: 2/8/2022

Finance Dept. Authorization: Vickie Neikirk

Date: 2/10/22

County Manager Authorization: David Headley

Date: 2-10-2022

County Attorney Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Attachments:

Request to vote on tonight's voting session due to finance needing this closed out as soon as possible for audit purposes and closing the 2021 fiscal year.



## DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA FORM

Department: Public Works \_\_\_\_\_

Work Session: 02-17-2022

Prepared By: Denise Farr \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Session: 02-17-2022

Presenter: Denise Farr \_\_\_\_\_

Public Hearing: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X

Agenda Item Title: De-Icing Product and Increase Budget Request

### Background Information:

The County is presently under contract with JPCS, LLC for De-Icing/Salt product purchases. As the RFP did not specify a requirement for density, the County has received a low-density product, which has proven to be unsuitable for our use. This product is brown / tan in color.

### Current Information:

During the last storm event, crews began de-icing the roads using the most recent delivered salt (low density-brown salt). They soon noticed that large amounts of the salt were blowing off the roads and that what product remained on the road was melting very quickly. They returned to Public Works and mixed the brown salt with an existing storage of white and blue rock salt (larger density). This mixture was used for the de-icing of the roads. 175 tons of the salt mixture was used as opposed to 75 tons previously required using higher-density salts (Blue & White). Public Works is requesting an increase in budget so as to re-stock the salt supply with higher performing salt product.

Budget Information: Applicable: X Not Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Budgeted: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Fund	Dept.	Acct No.	Budget	Balance	Requested	Remaining
100-00-4220-	Public Works	531119-000	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$20,530.00	

Recommendation/Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Head Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Finance Dept. Authorization: Vickie Neikirk

Date: 2/8/22

County Manager Authorization: David Headley

Date: 2-08-2022

County Attorney Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Attachments:



# DE-ICING SALT

**FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> WORK SESSION**

# JANUARY 2022 STORM EVENT

Crews distributed 175 Tons of Salt.

Pre-Treatment of the area included Eight (8) Concrete Deck Bridges and Four (4) highly traveled County Roads.

De-Icing Treatment included the use of three (3) Spreader Trucks and fourteen (14) crew members. Crews worked a 14-hour shift, salting 113.35 miles of County roads (51 Roads).





# JANUARY 2022 STORM EVENT

## SALT PRODUCTS:

A low density salt (brown salt) product was initially used. This product was received in October 2021 and was purchased per our recent contract. The product was found to be inferior as it quickly blew off of the roads and melted easily.

Crews returned to Public Works and mixed the brown salt with existing salts (white & blue).

Approximately 125 tons brown salt and 50 tons of mixed salts were used.

In past Storm Events, white and blue salts were used having road coverage completed using 75 tons of product.

Remaining quantity of stored salt is 20 Tons. (mixed product).



# COMPARISON OF SALT PRODUCTS & COSTS

- 2022 Contractual Salt Product
  - Low Density Salt Product Costs: \$142.98/Ton (Contract Pricing)
  - Estimated Quantity for 2-Day Storm Event: 250 Tons (\$35,745.00)
- Improved Salt Product Costs:
  - Estimated Cost: \$267.00 / Ton
  - Estimated Quantity for 2-Day Storm Event: 75 Tons (\$20,025.00)

# BUDGET INFORMATION & STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- 2022 Salt Budget: \$3,500.00
- Improved Salt Product Costs:
  - Estimated Cost: \$267.00 / Ton
  - Total for 90 Tons: \$24,030.00 (\$267.00/Ton)
  - Increase in 2022 Budget: \$20,530.00

*Staff Respectfully request the Board to consider increasing Public Works' 2022 Salt Budget from \$3,500.00 to \$20, 530.00.*





## DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA FORM

Department: Public Works \_\_\_\_\_

Work Session: 02-17-2022

Prepared By: Denise Farr \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Session: 03-03-2022

Presenter: Denise Farr \_\_\_\_\_

Public Hearing: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item Title: Driveway Permitting

### Background Information:

Presently, Driveway Permits are required for new construction and for new secondary driveways. There is no charge for these permits. The County inspects the construction site, and determines the location, size and material of the driveway pipe. The installation of the driveway is the responsibility of the owner. Correct installation is a condition for certification of occupancy.

### Current Information:

Public Works was requested by the Board of Commissioners to provide estimated costs for permitting and installation of Driveway Pipes.

Budget Information: Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Budgeted: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Fund	Dept.	Acct No.	Budget	Balance	Requested	Remaining
N/A	Public Works	N/A	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

Recommendation/Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Head Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Finance Dept. Authorization: Vickie Neikirk

Date: 2/8/22

County Manager Authorization: David Headley

Date: 2-08-2022

County Attorney Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Attachments:

# DRIVEWAY PERMITTING

**FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> WORK SESSION**



## WHY IS A DRIVEWAY PERMIT NECESSARY?

In order for a driveway to connect to a public street, it must first cross public Right-of-Way.

A permit provides assurance that the construction performed within the County's Right-of-Way is performed in accordance with the County's Driveway Regulations.



# DAWSON COUNTY POLICY FOR DRIVEWAY PERMITTING

Driveway Permits are required for new construction projects and for new secondary driveways.

The County does not charge for these permits.

The County inspects the construction site and determines the location, size and material of the driveway pipe.

Installation of the driveway pipe is the responsibility of the owner.

Correct installation is a condition for certification of occupancy.



# PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

## \$250.00 / APPLICATION

- Application Review (\$35.00)
  - Ensure all relevant information is provided, Schedule Inspection Visit, Process Payment
- On-Site Travel & Inspection Costs (\$60.00)
  - Vehicular & Employee Costs
- Engineering Costs (\$35.00)
  - Sizing of Pipe & Selection of Material
- Construction Inspection & Final Site Inspection (\$120.00)
  - Vehicular & Employee Costs

## ESTIMATED INSTALLATION COSTS:

- (2) Man Crew for 4 Hours
- (1) Mini-Ex , (1) Dump Truck
- (10) Tons of Gravel

Pipe Material	Material Cost	Labor/Machinery /Gravel-(1) Driveway	Total Estimated Cost (1) Gravel Driveway
15" HDPE	\$310.00	\$750.00	\$1,060.00
18" HDPE	\$399.00	\$750.00	\$1,149.00
24" HDPE	\$695.00	\$750.00	\$1,445.00
36 " HDPE	\$1,335.00	\$750.00	\$2,085.00
24" Concrete	\$846.00	\$750.00	\$1,596.00
30" Concrete	\$1,230.00	\$750.00	\$1,192.00
36" Concrete	\$1,691.00	\$750.00	\$2,441.00



## **DIRECTION / RECOMMENDATION**

Public Works respectfully requests direction from the Board of Commissioners concerning the proposed Driveway Fee Schedule and Responsibility for Installation.



## DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA FORM

Department: Parks & Recreation

Work Session: 2/17/2022

Prepared By: Matt Payne

Voting Session: 3/03/2022

Presenter: Matt Payne

Public Hearing: Yes        No x

Agenda Item Title: Presentation of Request to Seek Design and Cost Estimate for Special Needs Field at Rock Creek Park

### Background Information:

The Parks & Recreation department requests commissioner approval to seek a design and cost estimate for the special needs field at Rock Creek Park.

### Current Information:

N/A

Budget Information: Applicable:        Not Applicable: x Budgeted: Yes        No       

Fund	Dept.	Acct No.	Budget	Balance	Requested	Remaining

Recommendation/Motion:       

Department Head Authorization:       

Date:       

Finance Dept. Authorization: Vickie Neikirk

Date: 2/8/22

County Manager Authorization: David Headley

Date: 2-08-2022

County Attorney Authorization:       

Date:       

### Comments/Attachments:



## DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA FORM

Department: Planning & Development

Work Session: 02/17/2022

Prepared by: Sharon O. Farrell

Voting Session: 03/03/2022

Presenter: Sharon O. Farrell

Public Hearing:

Agenda Item Title: Presentation of a request to amend the Dawson County Sign Ordinance/Chapter 129

### Background Information:

The sign ordinance has not been updated since June 2, 2011; the sign code definitions and performance standards should be revised to meet the changing legal and built environment of 2022.

### Current Information:

The revision is to delete duplicative language, clarify temporary signage standards, remove language that could be associated with content regulation.

Budget Information: Applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Not Applicable: **X** Budgeted: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Fund	Dept.	Acct No.	Budget	Balance	Requested	Remaining

Recommendation/Motion: Approval to place on public hearing agenda

Department Head Authorization: SO. Farrell

Date: 2/8/2022

Finance Dept. Authorization: Vickie Neikirk

Date: 2/8/22

County Manager Authorization: David Headley

Date: 2-08-2022

County Attorney Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Comments/Attachments:

Draft Ordinance – Chapter 129 Signs. Draft by P.Frickey & S.Farrell

## Proposed amendments to Chapter 129 Signs

1. Add findings on public health, safety, and welfare rationales of sign regulations
2. Add findings on the business interest rationales of sign regulations
3. Add findings on the aesthetic rationales of sign regulations
4. Add or modify Definitions
5. Add new graphic for sight visibility triangle
6. Add performance standards for LED signs.
7. Update list of Signs that do not require a permit.
8. Re-write Temporary Signage standards
9. Delete duplicative language of parcels within or not within the GA 400
10. Add criteria to application for sign permit
11. Extend time frame to review a permit from seven to thirty days.
12. Delete Repealer provision.

## Chapter 129 SIGNS

### ***ARTICLE I. TITLE, PURPOSE, JURISDICTION, COMPLIANCE RESPONSIBILITY***

#### **Sec. 129-1. Title.**

This chapter shall be known as the Sign Ordinance of Dawson County, Georgia and will be referred to as "the Sign Ordinance."

#### **Sec. 129-2. Purpose.**

The sign chapter within Dawson County is necessary in the public interest to:

- (a) Protect property values;
- (b) Protect the public from damage or injury caused or partially attributable to distractions or obstructions from improperly designed or situated signs;
- (c) Maintain the legibility and effectiveness of signs;
- (d) Create and maintain high quality signage;
- (e) Eliminate excess signage;
- (f) Protect the right of citizens to enjoy Dawson County's natural scenic beauty;
- (g) Encourage business and tourism; and
- (h) Regulate the construction, erection, maintenance, and size of signs.

#### **Sec. 129-3. Jurisdiction.**

This chapter applies to all signs in the unincorporated areas of Dawson County Georgia.

#### **Sec. 129-4. Compliance.**

All signs must be in compliance with the provisions of the Dawson County Minimum Standards Code for Construction and the Dawson County Land Use and Land Development Resolutions adopted by Dawson County.

#### **Sec. 129-5. Responsibility.**

It shall be both the property owner's and the sign owner's responsibility to maintain and ensure conformity with the provisions of this chapter.

#### **Sec. 129-6. Message substitution.**

A non-commercial message of any type may be substituted for any duly permitted or allowed commercial message or any duly permitted or allowed non-commercial message if the sign structure or mounting device complies with the provisions of this sign chapter without consideration of message content. Such substitution of message may be made without any additional approval or permitting. This provision prevails over any more specific provision to the contrary within this chapter. The purpose of this provision is to prevent any inadvertent



favoring of commercial speech over non-commercial speech or the favoring of any particular non-commercial message.

**Sec. 129-7. Findings on the public health, safety, and welfare rationales of sign regulations.**

Building code requirements address many public concerns about dangerous signs. Appendix H of the 2012 International Building Code is supposed to ensure that they will not pose a fire hazard and are appropriately anchored or secured so that they do not fall or blow down. However, Appendix H does not regulate the location of signs, except to prevent them from interfering with an entryway, opening required for ventilation, or fire escape (International Building Code. 0121994. Appendix H, Section H103.1, Location Restrictions).

Sign regulations achieve public safety rationales not achieved by the standard building code. Without a sign ordinance, signs can pose a clear danger to public safety. It has long been recognized that signage controls are needed to promote traffic safety and avoid traffic accidents. A 1980 Federal Highway Administration study found a positive correlation between billboards and accident rates (Scenic America. Fact Sheet (1): Billboard Control: Fighting Visual Pollution, <http://www.scenic.org/factl.htm>).

Signs too close to the road can cause accidents. Without additional regulation, signs can be placed dangerously close to rights-of-ways in locations where they might be struck by an oncoming vehicle using the road or having to veer off the road.

Signs can impair visibility. The placement of signs can interfere with the sight of motorists trying to exit a driveway onto a public road. Traffic safety is improved by restricting the size, height, and spacing of signs.

Signs distract motorists. By their very nature, signs are designed to direct attention to something and distract motorists to view a message or turn off the roadway and into a property to frequent a business, place, or activity. To the extent that signage captures the sight and attention of a motorist, it distracts motorists from the primary purpose of safely maneuvering a vehicle along the road.

Signs can confuse motorists by mimicking traffic safety signals and signs. Motorists might confuse signs that contain flashing or blinking red, green, or yellow lights (such as a lighted portable sign adjacent to the road) with roadway traffic signals, emergency vehicles, or other hazards. Signs constructed of shapes like an octagonal "stop" sign might also impair public safety by confusing the motorist.

Limitations on window signs can increase visibility from the public right-of-way and thus deter crime and robberies. Sign controls that limit the amount of storefront window and door areas that can be covered with signs enhance visibility of activities within the store or building. Limits on window signs can provide for an appropriate minimum of exterior visibility and thus increase public safety of commercial areas through a reduction in crime potential.

Signs can degrade property values. A principal purpose of land use regulations, including sign controls, is to protect and preserve property values. There is no question that signs affect the character of districts and the value of buildings, or that they are not appropriate in different parts of a community.

The size, height, materials of construction, location, condition, and attributes of signs can have an impact on surrounding and nearby land uses. For instance, if signs were unregulated, large, tall signs could be erected in the county's single family residential districts. Such signs, if erected, would be out of character with residential neighborhoods and could result in the lowering of property values for residential use. As another example, blighted signs and antiquated signs and sign structures (i.e., the pole with a blank structure for a sign face) can contribute to an overall image of blight and a reduction of property values in declining areas, if not addressed and removed via sign controls. Dawson County's sign regulations are needed to ensure that signage is compatible with its surroundings and does not take away from the character of particular districts.

Unregulated signage can degrade the utility of public safety signs. In some places, unregulated signs can reduce the effectiveness of signs needed to direct the public due to competition with other signs and the resulting reduction in visibility of public purpose signs.

The Federal Communications Commission regulates our air waves and television stations and the content that passes through them. Aside from the Highway Beautification Act of 1965, there is little if any federal involvement in the regulation of signs. Signs are one of the most obtrusive forms of advertising. Signage is probably the only type of advertising that cannot be turned off or rejected by the consumer. Radio advertisements can be avoided by turning off the radio. The same is true with television advertisements; we flip channels or take a break when television commercials come on. Junk mail can be thrown away. We quickly flip past the advertisements in our favorite magazine when we are disinterested. Phone solicitations can be avoided with "caller identification" or terminating the conversation. The same cannot be said of outdoor advertising structures and commercial signs. One's vision of signage cannot be turned off. We are captivated by signage when we drive down the road. How do you avoid signs? We must keep our eyes open to drive and cannot block out signs from our peripheral vision. Perhaps one could take an alternative route that is not developed with signs, but that is not always feasible. Absent federal and significant state regulation, it is in the public interest for cities and counties to control signage.

Signs derive their value from public improvements. Businesses locate, and signs are constructed, because of the access the community provides to business locations. It is precisely these types of advertising that are the principal target of local sign regulation - the signs controlled locally are those which are visible from public ways. It is the public way that creates the value for the person erecting the sign, and visibility from the public way is what creates the problems which give rise to the need for sign controls. This is a sound rationale for sign regulation. It logically follows that, because the public way provides value, the public therefore has a right, and indeed an obligation, to control the problems that arise from creating that value.

Unregulated signs adversely impact public investments. Sign regulation helps to assure that public benefits derived from expenditures of public funds for the improvement and beautification of streets and other public structures and spaces are protected. Unregulated signs have the potential to negate those public investments, as well.

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#### **Sec. 129-8. Findings on the business interest rationales of sign regulations.**

Sign regulation is in the interest of businesses. One often overlooked justification for the regulation of signs is that sign regulations benefit those businesses that seek to advertise. Unregulated competition among business results in too many signs and can reach a point of diminishing returns where individual business signs are not adequately visible. Patrons of individual businesses located along the unregulated commercial strip may miss their destination because they cannot find the particular business in the sea of signage. The unregulated commercial strip signage also can work to the detriment of individual businesses in that they are forced to erect larger and more costly signs to outdo their neighboring businesses and competitors. Therefore, sign regulations benefit individual business owners.

The lack of sign controls causes uncertainty among prospective business owners. Dawson County's sign ordinance provides prospective businesses with guidance on how much signage they may have, where it is allowed to be located and what types of signs are permitted. Without sign controls, business owners lack such guidance. Such a situation could have detrimental impacts on businesses, either through inequitable treatment or a delay in the time involved in the permitting of signs. Such potential detrimental impacts would not exist or would be mitigated with a clear set of sign regulations.

#### **Sec. 129-9. Findings on the aesthetic rationales of sign regulations.**

There are many reasons to justify the county's sign ordinance. However, among the most relevant reasons are to promote and ensure the aesthetics of the community. In the earliest days of sign regulations, relying on aesthetics as a rationale could not legally justify local sign controls. The United States Supreme Court began a slow transformation, from its previous position that aesthetics alone could not justify land use regulations, to a position that aesthetic considerations were legitimately within the scope of police power. In 1954, Justice Douglas found the following: The concept of public welfare is broad and inclusive. The values it represents are spiritual as well as physical, aesthetic as well as monetary. It is within the power of the legislature to determine that the community should be beautiful as well as healthy, spacious as well as clean, well balanced as well as carefully controlled (Berman v Parker 348 U.S. 26, 75 S. Ct. 98, 99 L. Ed. 27 (1954)).

Sign regulations help communities maintain their scenic heritage and unique character. Without Dawson County's brand of sign regulation its commercial areas will likely end up looking like any other place. Signs can interfere with scenic views. The appearance of the community, which is substantially influenced by signs, is essential to the county's long-term economic viability and helps determine how residents and visitors alike perceive it. Sign control is an integral part of improving visual character and quality of life.

**Secs. 129-~~107~~—129-30. Reserved.**

## **ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS**

### **Sec. 129-31. Purpose.**

The purpose of article II is to define specific terms for use in enforcement and interpretation of the sign ordinance. When construing the terms of this chapter, the word "shall" is deemed mandatory not discretionary. The word "may" is permissive.

### **Sec. 129-32. Definitions.**

The following words that are used in this chapter shall be deemed to have the following meaning(s), unless the context requires otherwise:

*Awning* shall mean a cloth, plastic or other non-structural covering attached to a building when the same is so erected as to permit its being raised or retracted to a position against the building when not in use.

*Banner* shall mean a cloth, plastic or paper sign characteristically suspended along or across any private street, from a building fronting a street or towed by or attached to an aircraft or other mobile machinery.

*Beneficial use* shall mean person or persons deriving the proceeds or other advantages from the erection or operation of sign.

*Canopy* shall mean a non-retractable structure, other than an awning made of cloth, metal or other material, with frames attached to a building and carried by a frame supported by the ground or the building.

*Canopy Sign* -shall mean sign affixed to, imposed upon, or painted on any roof-like structure either permanently or temporarily extended over a sidewalk or walkway, which can be mounted flush or suspended. A flush canopy sign is one that is mounted in such a manner that a continuous plane with the canopy is formed. A hanging canopy sign is one suspended from beneath the canopy.

*Changeable copy sign* shall mean a sign whereon provision is made for letters or characters to be placed in or upon the surface area either manually or electronically to provide a message or picture.

*County* means the unincorporated areas of Dawson County, Georgia.

*County Board of Commissioners* or *Commissioners* means the Dawson County Board of Commissioners.

*Development Entrance Sign* A sign located on either side of an intersection of the driveway, road, or entryway of a residential subdivision, or a multi-family development, or a commercial/industrial development with a county-maintained road or state route.

*Directional Sign* shall mean a sign, no larger than two square feet for projects where circulation is complex and traffic must proceed through the site along a specific path for service.

*Electronic Sign* shall mean a sign whose message may be changed at intervals by computer controller, microprocessor controller or remote control, and whose message is displayed through the use of LED, LCD, or other similar technology, including devices known as commercial electronic message signs, and digital signs.

*Face* or *facing* shall mean the surface or plane of the sign upon, against, or through which a message or picture is displayed.

*Flashing sign* shall mean any sign whose illumination is not kept constant in intensity at all times when in use, and exhibits sudden or marked change in lighting effect.

*Freestanding canopy* shall mean a self-supported, open-air structure with a roof which protects goods/services or people which are underneath from direct exposure to rain or sunshine.

*Height* shall mean the vertical distance from the grade at the base of the sign to the highest point on the sign unless otherwise specified in the ordinance.

*Illuminated sign* shall mean any sign that has characters, letters, figures, designs, or outline illuminated by electric lights or luminous tubes as a part of the sign or by accessory flood or spotlights.

*Individual lot* shall mean a lot of record that is not part of any other overall development and where the lot is owned by one person, entity or corporation and where only one primary structure will be located.

*Lot* shall include the words *piece*, *plot* and *parcel*.

*May* is permissive.

*Monument sign* shall mean a freestanding sign where the base of the sign structure is on the ground; with a solid-appearing base with no open space between the ground and the sign for the entire width of the sign.

*Name plate* shall mean a sign no larger than two square feet placed on the front of a premises, multi-use building or shopping center.

*Official signs and notices* means signs posted by authorized persons performing official governmental duties.

*Out parcel* shall mean a lot of record or leased lot that is part of an overall development and where only one primary structure will be located.

*Permanent* shall mean permanently affixed to the building or ground, intended to last indefinitely without change, lasting a relatively long time.

*Permanent window signs* shall mean any letters, words, or symbols which are displayed on and permanently attached to the window glass of a structure or displayed permanently within the building but visible through the window primarily to attract the attention of the passing public. Such signs shall be deemed wall signs.

*Person* shall mean and include any individual, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or organization of any kind.

*Planned center* shall mean a building or group of buildings in common ownership or condominium ownership developed on one lot, which may include buildings with more than one tenant. Multi-tenant buildings singularly or in a group may be considered planned centers if the following provisions apply:

- (1) Building size of at least 25,000 sq. ft.
- (2) The building is intended for multiple tenants (i.e., constructed with fire wall separations and has separate outside entrances for each tenant).
- (3) Each tenant in a wholly enclosed space separate from other tenant space (i.e., no sharing of space).
- (4) A minimum of five tenants are included in the building.
- (5) Accessory uses. Uses that are related but subordinate to the primary use (based on square footage), may not be counted as a separate tenant.

*Planning Commission* means the Dawson County Planning Commission.

*Shall* is mandatory, not discretionary.

*Sign* shall mean a device designed to inform or attract the attention of the public.

*Sign, abandoned.* A sign or sign structure on a site where all buildings have been demolished or removed.

*Sign, animated or moving.* Shall mean any sign or part thereof that changes physical position or light intensity by any movement or rotation or that gives the visual impression of such movement or rotation.

*Sign, awning.* See Canopy Sign.

*Sign, face.* The surface or plane of the sign upon, against, or through which a message is displayed or illustrated. The sign face area shall constitute the entire face of the sign including any illustrations and script and any framing, trim or molding, however, specifically excluding the support structure (i.e., poles, monument base, etc.). Ground mounted signs shall be limited to two faces.

*Sign, illegal.* See article V of this chapter.

*Sign, non-conforming* shall mean any sign legally existing prior to the adoption of this chapter that does not conform to the requirements of the zoning district in which it is located.

*Sign, owner* shall include the person receiving benefit from the sign and/or the property owner or, lessee.

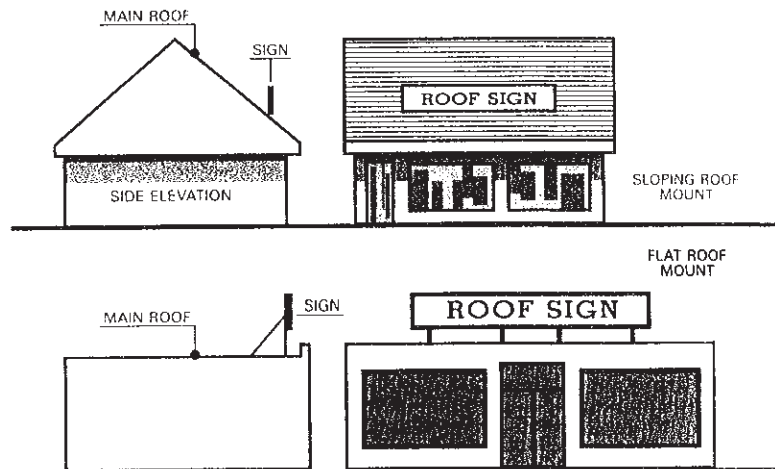
*Sign, pole.* A sign that is mounted on a freestanding pole or other support that is not itself an integral part of the sign.

*Sign, portable.* Any sign that is not permanently attached to the ground, a structure, or a building that can easily be moved from one location to another, with or without wheels. A-frame signs and trailer signs are examples of portable signs.

*Sign, prohibited.* See article V (originally section 6) of the sign ordinance adopted by the board of commissioners on October 27, 1997 and any amendment thereto.

*Sign, roof.* Shall mean a sign that is mounted on the roof of a building or that is wholly dependent upon a building for support and that projects above the top walk or edge of a building with a flat roof, the

eave line of a building with a gambrel, gable, or hip roof, or the deck line of a building with a mansard roof.



Source: United States Sign Council. 2001. *Guideline Code for Regulation of On-Premise Signs*.

*Sign, standard* shall mean a sign with an area of not greater than six square feet with a sign face made for short-term use that when erected stands at a height no greater than three feet and is mounted on a stake or metal frame with a thickness or diameter not greater than one and one-half inches.

*Sign, temporary* shall mean any sign constructed of an impermanent material not permanently attached to the ground or a building.

*Sign, wall* shall mean any sign attached to or painted or printed upon the exterior vertical side (wall) of a building in such a way that the wall becomes the supporting structure, not including temporary signs placed on windows but including signs placed on canopies and awnings attached to the exterior vertical structure (wall).

*Sign, window.* A sign affixed to the interior or exterior of a window or placed immediately behind a window pane so as to attract the attention of persons outside the building.

~~*Signs, abandoned.* A sign shall be considered abandoned when the activity, which such sign advertises, is no longer in operation or does not have a current license in effect.~~

~~*Specific interest of the traveling public* means information regarding places offering lodging, food, or motor vehicle fuels and lubricants, motor vehicle service and repair facilities or any service or product available to the general public.~~

*Structure* shall include the words *building* and *sign*.

*Temporary* shall mean having or suggesting a non-durable character or a limited or short-term period of use.

*Used for* shall include the phrases *arranged for* and *designed for*.

*Visible* means capable of being seen (whether or not legible) or noticed without visual aid by a person with normal visual acuity.

**Secs. 129-33—129-52. Reserved.**



### **ARTICLE III. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Sec. 129-53. Purpose.**

The purpose of article III is to provide general regulation for all signage within the unincorporated portions of Dawson County.

#### **Sec. 129-54. Sign maintenance.**

Any sign not meeting the following provisions shall be repaired or removed within 30 days after the receipt of notification by the county manager or designee or his authorized representatives.

- (a) Undergrowth vegetation around the sign shall be properly maintained.
- (b) All damaged panels that create a safety hazard or detract from the surrounding aesthetics must be replaced as soon as discovered.
- (c) All sign copy shall be maintained securely to the face, and all missing copy must be replaced.
- (d) All structural defects that create a safety hazard shall be promptly repaired.
- (e) Cracked or peeling paint on the face or supporting structure shall be refurbished and/or repainted.

#### **Sec. 129-55. ~~Building graphics.~~Reserved.**

~~Drawings painted on buildings that contain copy, symbols, or other references to products or services shall be considered signs and shall not be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.~~

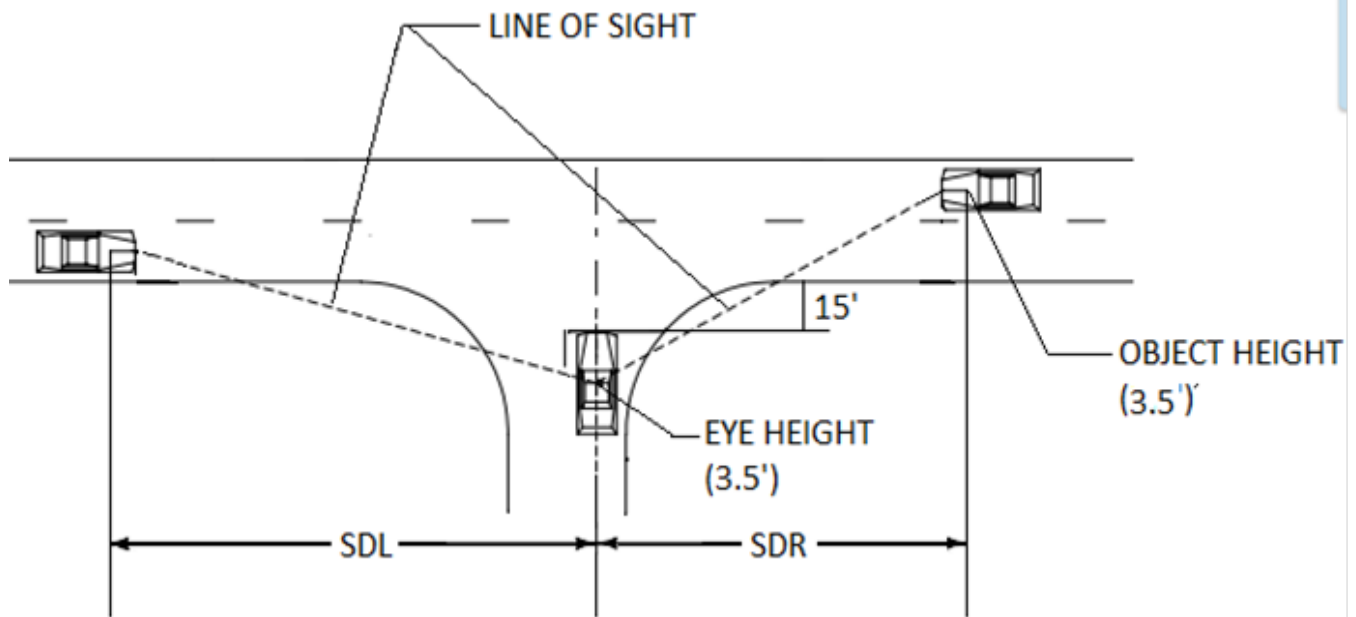
#### **Sec. 129-56. Sign in or over public right-of-way.**

No sign shall be allowed to project in or over a public right-of-way or easement over or through which the general public maintains a right of access., ~~unless permitted in accord with the terms hereof.~~

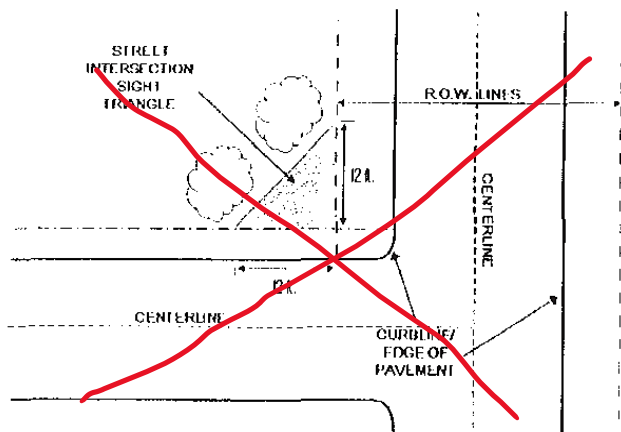
#### **Sec. 129-57. Sight triangle.**

Signs shall not obstruct the view ~~across the triangle formed by joining points measured 12 feet distant along the property line from the intersection of two streets or 12 feet along both the street right-of-way and alley or driveway right-of-way lines measured from the intersection of the street and the alley or driveway of the~~ Street Intersection Sight Triangle.





[GDOT driveway manual](#)



*Street intersection sight triangle illustration.*

ILLUSTRATION  
NOT TO SCALE

## Sec. 129-58. Sign face area.

The sign face area shall be the entire face of the sign including the advertising surface and any framing, trim or molding; the support structure (i.e., poles, monument base, etc.) shall be excluded in measuring the sign face area. Sign area shall be measured by encompassing all signage elements.

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## Sec. 129-59. Electronic (LED) signs.

Electronic (LED) signs must comply with ~~article V, section 129-117 of this chapter regarding brightness and message motion~~ the following:

- a. Only freestanding monument style signs shall be used as electronic signs.
- b. Electronic signs shall contain static messages only, and shall not have movement nor flashing on any part of the sign structure, design, or pictorial segment of the sign.
- c. Electronic signs shall not have varying light intensity during display of any single message.
- d. Sign displays must be equipped with an automatic dimming technology such that the sign(s) automatically sense dusk and darkness and adjust the brightness level accordingly.
- e. ~~To protect against malfunction, The~~ sign owner must provide Dawson County the 24-hour number of an employee or agent capable of adjusting the brightness of the sign(s) or, if the over-bright condition cannot be fixed, turning off the sign(s) ~~in times of darkness~~ until repairs can be made.
- f. Maximum brightness levels for changeable, LED and EMC signs shall not exceed (5,000) nits when measured from the sign face at its maximum brightness, during daylight hours.
- g. Maximum brightness levels for changeable, LED and EMC signs shall not exceed (500) nits when measured from the sign face at its maximum brightness, between sunset and sunrise, those times are determined by the National Weather Service.
- h. Staff of Dawson County may request a certification of brightness under measurement conditions by an independent contractor if a concern arises as to the brightness. The owner shall have ten (10) days to provide the certification to Dawson County.
- i. No more than 60% of the freestanding sign area can be digital display
- j. The message or copy of the sign cannot move or change more frequently than once every 8 seconds – it shall not wipe, scroll, etc.
- k. Illumination spillover to neighboring properties cannot exceed one foot candle as measured at the property line.
- l. Electronic signs shall not be allowed in residential zones.

## Secs. 129-60—129-89. Reserved.

## ***ARTICLE IV. NON-CONFORMING SIGNS***

### **Sec. 129-90. Purpose.**

The purpose of article IV is to identify non-conforming signs and establish regulations pertaining to non-conforming signs.

### **Sec. 129-91. Definition and statement of intent.**

Any sign legally existing prior to the adoption of the sign ordinance of October 27, 1997 and as amended from time to time, which does not conform to the requirements of this chapter, shall be deemed to be a non-conforming sign.

### **Sec. 129-92. Existing non-conforming signage.**

Subject to the following conditions, non-conforming permanent signs may remain in operation and maintenance after the effective date of this chapter. Such signs shall not be:

- (a) Changed to or replaced with another non-conforming sign.
- (b) Enlarged, extended, reconstructed, moved or structurally altered except to bring the sign into conformity with all provisions of the ordinance.

Nothing contained herein shall prevent repairing or restoring to a safe condition any part of a sign or sign structure or normal maintenance operations, unless the damage or destruction to the sign is 50 percent or more of the area of the sign, or if the sign no longer serves a function as a sign because of damage or destruction.

### **Sec. 129-93. Removal.**

All signs erected after the effective date of this chapter that are non-conforming under this chapter or any sign which has been modified as contemplated by section 129-92 (a), or (b) ~~or (c)~~ shall be removed within 90 days of notice by the County Manager or designee in accordance with enforcement provisions of this chapter.

### **Secs. 129-94—129-114. Reserved.**

## **ARTICLE V. ILLEGAL AND PROHIBITED SIGNAGE**

### **Sec. 129-115. Purpose.**

The purpose of article V is to define those signs that are of a type specifically prohibited in the unincorporated area of Dawson County.

### **Sec. 129-116. Illegal sign.**

An illegal sign shall mean:

- (a) Any sign established prior to or subsequent to the adoption of this chapter, without proper authorization or permit; or
- (b) Any sign existing in the public right-of-way ~~without a proper permit.~~

### **Sec. 129-117. Prohibited signs.**

The following signs are not permitted in any land use district:

- (a) Signs imitating traffic or emergency signals. No signs shall be permitted which imitates an official traffic sign or signal or contains words or symbols displayed in a manner which might mislead or confuse drivers of vehicles, or which displays intermittent lights resembling the color, sign, shapes or order of light customarily used in traffic signs or in emergency vehicles or on law enforcement vehicles, except as part of a permitted or public traffic control sign.
- (b) Signs ~~or devices~~ employing confusing, distracting, or intense illumination when visible from the public right-of-way. No sign ~~or device~~ shall be permitted which utilizes spot lights, flood lights, flashing or blinking lights, or any type of pulsating or moving light which may impair the vision, cause glare, or otherwise interfere with a driver's operation of a motor vehicle or aircraft.
- (c) Signs employing confusing or distracting motion either by changing physical position or light intensity. No sign shall be permitted which employs motion in such a manner as to obstruct or interfere with a driver's view of approaching, merging, or intersecting traffic, or a traffic signal, device of sign, or which would otherwise interfere with a driver's operation of a motor vehicle.
- (d) Sign lighting. No sign shall be illuminated if such illumination is not effectively shielded so as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the traveled way, which beams or rays of light are of such intensity or brilliance as to cause glare or impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle or which otherwise may interfere with the operation of a motor vehicle.
- (e) Signs that project into or over, or are constructed within the public right-of-way ~~without a proper permit.~~
- (f) Signs that are tacked, painted, posted, marked, or otherwise affixed on trees, utility poles or other similar structures or on rocks or other natural features.

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- (g) Signs that prevent free ingress or egress from any door, window, or fire escape. No sign of any kind shall be attached to any fire escape.
  - (h) Signs placed on or painted on a motor vehicle or trailer and parked with in sight of a public right-of-way and in such a manner that the ~~primary purpose of providing a~~ sign not would not otherwise be allowed by this chapter.
  - (i) Signs that require the removal of any trees from the public right-of-way, excluding official signs and notices.
  - (j) Any air or gas filled balloons or other similar devices and permanent signs made of paper, cloth or other nondurable materials, except as specifically permitted in this chapter.
  - (k) Roof signs.
  - (l) Portable signs.
  - (m) Abandoned signs.
  - (n) Signs on Courtesy benches, waste containers or other forms of street furniture.
  - (o) Searchlights.

**Secs. 129-118—129-148. Reserved.**

## ***ARTICLE VI. SIGNS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT***

### **Sec. 129-149. Purpose.**

The purpose of article VI is to identify those signs for which a permit is not necessary.

### **Sec. 129-150. Sign types included.**

A permit is not required for the following types of signs, and such signs shall not be considered in determining the allowable number or size of signs on a parcel or at a specific location; provided, however, that such signs must comply with all other applicable sections of this article. The erection of any sign not listed in this section shall require a permit.

- (a) Official signs and notices. ~~Signs erected by a governmental entity shall require a permit as specified by article XIII unless otherwise ordered by a court or mandated by legislation.~~

- (b) Standard signs ~~—See definition.~~ All signs shall have a contact name and phone number legibly displayed on the back of such sign. No sign shall be posted within the public right-of-way or a private easement ~~without written approval.~~
- (c) Name plates not exceeding two square feet in area.
- (d) Flags shall be limited to one per parcel and shall not exceed 40 square feet in area. ~~but the size of the flag shall be included within the total area of signs allowed. The flag of the United States the state flag of Georgia and/or any other official flag authorized by the United States and or the State of Georgia shall be exempt from this regulation when and if said flags are displayed in an official manner as prescribed in United States Code Title 4, Chapter 1 and Georgia Code Title 50 Chapter 3. The use of these flags for decorative purposes only does not exempt them from this regulation.~~
- (e) Integral ~~decorative or~~ architectural features of buildings., except letters, trademarks, moving parts, or moving lights.
- (f) Indoor signs, not including permanent window signs.
- (g) Signs that appear on vending machines as original factory design.
- (h) Temporary signs located on the inside of windows that do not cover more than 25 percent of the total window area.
- ~~(i) Gasoline pump signs—Signs on gasoline pumps~~ which signs that are flat signs not to exceed six square feet in the area per sign face, or a total of 12 square feet per pump.
- (j) Air or gas filled balloons, inflatable signs, banners, feather signs, and streamers may be displayed for no more than ~~four~~ seven (7) consecutive days and shall not be displayed more than six times per calendar year on the same property. Such ~~decorations signs or devices~~ shall not be illuminated, may not exceed 35 feet in height from ground, nor interfere with the safe and free flow of traffic.
- (k) Signs carried by a person.
- (l) Temporary Signs as permitted in article VII
- (m) Temporary Banner signs made of non-rigid material within Mixed Use Village districts when attached to pedestrian lighting fixtures for a period up to 60 days.
- (n.) Signs authorized in accordance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), as amended.

**Secs. 129-151—129-168. Reserved.**

**Sec. 129-169. Purpose.**

The purpose of ~~s~~Article VII is to provide for the regulation and enforcement of appropriate temporary signage.

**Sec. 129-170 General.**

Temporary sign shall mean any sign not permanently anchored to the ground or a building, meeting the performance standards of section 129-171.

- (a) Types of temporary signs permitted: freestanding signs, and window signs.
- (b) A temporary sign shall not be permitted in the public right-of-way.
- (c) Temporary signs shall not be illuminated.
- (d) A temporary sign shall not have flashing lights or copy, moveable parts or colored lights that may resemble those of traffic signals and/or emergency vehicles, or lights.

**Sec. 129-171. Performance Standards.**

Temporary Signs may be constructed of cloth, canvas, fabric, paper, plywood, or other light material which are not intended or designed for permanent display. Temporary Signs must comply with the following standards:

1. For parcels or lots that front on a four (4) or more lane roadway, a single sign less than or equal to thirty-two (32) square feet of sign copy area and greater than three (3) square feet of sign copy area, may be displayed on said property or parcel. The following criteria shall apply:

- a. Each sign shall be a maximum of eight (8) feet in height.
- b. Electric or illuminated signs are prohibited.
- c. Each sign shall not obstruct the visibility of a permanent sign.
- d. Each sign shall be located a minimum of twenty (20) feet from the right of way and a minimum of ten (10) feet from side property lines.
- e. Each sign shall be kept in a good and safe condition and not permitted to deteriorate as evidenced by, but not limited to tearing, rot, corrosion, peeling paint, etc.

2. For parcels or lots without frontage on a four (4) or more lane roadway, for every 330 linear feet of road frontage a parcel has, a single sign less than or equal to sixteen (16) square feet of sign copy area and greater than three (3) square feet of sign copy area, may be displayed on said property or parcel. The following criteria shall apply:

- a. Each sign shall be a maximum of six (6) feet in height.
- b. Electric or illuminated signs are prohibited.
- c. Each sign shall not obstruct the visibility of a permanent sign.

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d. Each sign shall be located a minimum of twenty (20) feet from the edge of pavement and a minimum of ten (10) feet from side property lines.

e. Each sign shall be kept in a good and safe condition and not permitted to deteriorate as evidenced by, but not limited to, tearing, rot, corrosion, peeling paint, etc.

3. For any sign less than or equal to three (3) square feet of Sign Copy Area in size the following criteria shall apply:

a. Each sign shall be a maximum of six (6) feet in height.

b. Electric or illuminated signs are prohibited.

c. Each sign cannot obstruct the visibility of a permanent sign.

d. Each sign shall be located a minimum of twenty (20) feet from the edge of pavement and a minimum of ten (10) feet from side property lines.

e. Each sign shall be kept in a good and safe condition and not permitted to deteriorate as evidenced by, but not limited to, tearing, rot, corrosion, peeling paint, etc.

#### 4. Window Signs

a. Maximum of 25% of window coverage

b. Window signs shall be limited to the ground floor only

Signs placed on a lot in contravention of this section shall be subject to all enforcement action allowed under article XIII of this ordinance. However, if the only basis for enforcement action is the number of Temporary Signs on a lot, the Marshal's office shall notify the pertinent lot/sign owner and provide the lot/sign owner an opportunity to remove the number of Temporary Signs such as will result in compliance

#### **~~Sec. 129-171. Temporary signs in residential zoning districts.~~**

~~Temporary signs may be erected in residential districts for a period of six months with a six month extension, provided that such signs do not exceed 32 square feet in area in RA (residential agricultural) districts and do not exceed 16 square feet for all other residential districts, which signs shall be located and at the main entrance of new residential platted subdivisions and not more than 16 square feet for all other residential districts, are set back at least ten feet from the right of way and adjacent property lines. Maximum number shall be one per street frontage. Maximum height of sign from ground level shall be eight feet in RA (residential agricultural) districts and at the main entrance of new residential platted subdivisions and not more than six feet for all other residential districts~~



**~~Sec. 129-172. Temporary signs in commercial zoning districts.~~**

~~Temporary signs in commercial districts shall be permitted in all non-residential districts provided the following conditions are met:~~

- ~~(a) An annual permit shall be required in order to display a temporary sign. Signs may be interchanged as needed so long as only one sign is displayed at a time.~~
- ~~(b) The display permit shall be produced on demand when the permit is requested to be viewed onsite by a county official.~~
- ~~(c) Only one temporary sign shall be permitted on an individual lot of record.~~
- ~~(d) The maximum permitted sign area per face shall not exceed 32 square feet per face.~~
- ~~(e) No freestanding temporary sign shall be permitted except at the site of new construction or exterior renovation. Permits shall not be required for signs placed on construction sites. The maximum height of freestanding signs shall not exceed eight feet. Such signs shall be removed 15 days after the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or completion by the Building Official of Dawson County.~~
- ~~(f) All other temporary signs shall be displayed on the face of the building or window.~~

**Secs. 129-173—129-197. Reserved.**

***ARTICLE VIII. PERMANENT SIGNS IN RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS***

**Sec. 129-198. Purpose.**

The purpose of article VIII is to provide definition and regulation for permanent signage within residential districts in unincorporated areas of Dawson County located adjacent to arterial and collector roads in order to promote traffic safety and to preserve the aesthetics of residential districts along arterial and collector roads.

**Sec. 129-199. Entrance signage.**

By permit only if a tract or parcel of land has been developed to create a residential subdivision and is adjacent to a collector road, as opposed to a major arterial road.

- (a) One freestanding monument sign is allowed at each entrance from the primary roadway. Sign face shall not exceed 36 square feet with a maximum of six eight feet in height overall. The sign shall be set back ten feet from any road right-of-way. Illumination will be allowed by indirect lighting only. Signage must be maintained by the ~~homeowners'~~ property owner's association or sign owner; or
- (b) Two freestanding monument signs, one on either side of the entrance from the primary roadway. Sign face not to exceed ~~18~~ 20 square feet each with a maximum six feet in height. The sign shall be set back ten feet from any road right-of-way.

Illumination will be allowed by indirect lighting only. Signage must be maintained by the homeowner's association or sign owner.

- (c) There shall be a minimum 100-foot separation between signs at each entrance.
- (d) If signage is not maintained, then the provisions of article III section 129-54 "sign maintenance" shall be applied.

(e) No signs will be permitted on islands within a public right of way.

**Sec. 129-200. All other permanent signs in residential zoning districts.**

One freestanding monument sign shall be allowed on an individual residential lot except as provided in article VI section 611 of the Dawson County Land Use Resolution. The sign face shall not exceed ~~three~~ six square feet with a maximum height of six feet overall. Signs shall be constructed on a base of brick or stone. The sign shall meet the minimum building setbacks for the lot on which it is placed as prescribed in the Dawson County Land Use Resolution. Illumination of the sign shall not be allowed.

**Secs. 129-201—129-221. Reserved.**

***ARTICLE IX. PERMANENT SIGNS IN COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICTS***

**Sec. 129-222. Purpose.**

The purpose of article IX is to identify signs allowed within commercial districts in unincorporated areas of Dawson County in order to promote traffic safety and to preserve the aesthetics of such area.

**Sec. 129-223. Freestanding Permanent signs.**

Those signs wholly supported by their own structure and completely separate from a commercial building.

- (a) Planned Center — ~~Outside the Ga. 400 Overlay District.~~
  - (1) One freestanding sign per street frontage not to exceed 100 square feet. One freestanding sign per street frontage will be allowed assuming each frontage is equal to or greater than 200 feet in length. The sign shall be constructed of material such as brick, stone, stucco or similar material consistent with the architecture and exterior treatment of the building(s).
  - (2) The sign shall have a maximum height of 20 feet. However, up to an additional ten feet in height may be added resulting in a total maximum height of 30 feet if the base of the sign is below the grade of the adjoining road as calculated at a one-foot rise of sign height per one foot drop from road grade elevation.

- (3) Any and all structural components shall be fabricated or covered so that such components may not be detected visually.
  - (4) The width of a monument sign shall not exceed the width of the supporting structure.
  - (5) The copy area of freestanding signs shall not exceed 75 percent of the sign area. The copy area shall be measured by the smallest geometric form that encompasses it.
  - (6) Changeable copy signage may be used, but the sign counts toward the total sign area allowed.
  - (7) The sign shall include the street address for the project. The maximum copy area does not include the street address.
  - (8) All signs shall be located in such a way that they maintain horizontal and vertical clearance from all overhead utilities in accordance with the International Electrical Code specification. In no case shall any sign be installed within five (5) feet horizontally or vertically from an overhead utility line or utility guy wire.
  - (9) To ensure visibility, the copy of the sign shall be no less than five feet above grade.
- ~~(b) Planned center—Within the Ga. 400 Overlay District.~~
- ~~(1) One freestanding sign per street frontage not to exceed 150 square feet. One freestanding sign per street frontage will be allowed assuming each frontage is equal to or greater than 200 feet in length. The sign shall be constructed of material such as brick, stone, stucco or similar material consistent with the architecture and exterior treatment of the building(s).~~
  - ~~(2) The sign shall have a maximum height of 25 feet. However, up to an additional ten feet in height may be added resulting in a total maximum height of 35 feet if the base of the sign is below the grade of the adjoining road as calculated at a one foot rise of sign height per one foot drop from road grade elevation.~~
  - ~~(3) Any and all structural components shall be fabricated or covered so that such components may not be detected visually.~~
  - ~~(4) The width of a monument sign shall not exceed the width of the supporting structure.~~
  - ~~(5) The copy area of freestanding signs shall not exceed 75 percent of the sign area. The copy area shall be measured by the smallest geometric form that encompasses it.~~
  - ~~(6) Changeable copy signage may be used, but the sign counts toward the total sign area allowed.~~
  - ~~(7) The sign shall include the street address for the project. The maximum copy area does not include the street address.~~

(c) Outparcels and individual lots—~~Outside the Ga. 400 Overlay District.~~

- (1) Signs shall be limited to ground-mounted type signs. Base and sign structure shall be constructed of materials such as brick, stone, or similar materials consistent with the architecture and exterior treatment of the building.
- (2) Surface area of the sign face shall be a maximum of 48 square feet per side.
- (3) The sign shall have a maximum height of ten feet. However, up to an additional ~~ten~~ five feet in height may be added resulting in a total maximum height of ~~20~~ 15 feet if the base of the sign is below the grade of the adjoining road as calculated at a one-foot rise of sign height per one foot drop from road grade elevation.
- (4) Structural poles used in the construction of said sign shall be wrapped with either brick or stone which shall be at least four feet in width on the sides of the sign intended for viewing. The pole wrap shall not be used as part of the sign face for copy.
- (5) Changeable copy signage may be used but will count towards the sign area allowed.
- (6) For individual lots and outparcels only one freestanding sign shall be allowed.
- (7) All signs shall be located in such a way that they maintain horizontal and vertical clearance from all overhead utilities in accordance with the International Electrical Code specification. In no case shall any sign be installed within five (5) feet horizontally or vertically from an overhead utility line or utility guy wire.
- (8) To ensure visibility, the copy of the sign shall be no less than four feet above grade.

(d) ~~Outparcels and individual lots—Within the Ga. 400 Overlay District.~~

- ~~(1) Signs shall be limited to ground-mounted type signs. Base and sign structure shall be constructed of materials such as brick, stone, or similar materials consistent with the architecture and exterior treatment of the building.~~
- ~~(2) Surface area of the sign face shall be a maximum of 72 square feet per side.~~
- ~~(3) The sign shall have a maximum height of 15 feet. However, up to an additional ten feet in height may be added resulting in a total maximum height of 25 feet if the base of the sign is below the grade of the adjoining road as calculated at a one-foot rise of sign height per one foot drop from road grade elevation.~~
- ~~(4) Structural poles used in the construction of said sign shall be wrapped with either brick, stone, or similar materials consistent with the architecture and exterior treatment of the building which shall be at least four feet in width on the sides of the sign intended for viewing. The pole wrap shall not be used as part of the sign face for copy.~~

~~(5) Changeable copy signage may be used but will count towards the sign area allowed.~~

~~(6) For individual lots and outparcels only one freestanding sign shall be allowed.~~

#### Sec. 129-224. Wall signs and **freestanding** canopy-signs.

Those signs attached to the building or structure for stability or decoration.

(a) Wall signage for single tenant buildings.

(1) Three wall signs will be permitted per building.

(2) Only one wall sign shall be permitted per wall.

(3) Signs shall not exceed one square feet per linear feet of building wall facade each and shall not exceed 180 square feet each.

(b) Wall signage for multi-tenant buildings.

(1) Two wall signs shall be permitted per ~~tenant.~~ street frontage or entrance

(2) Only one wall sign shall be permitted per tenant wall.

(3) Wall signs shall not exceed one square feet per linear feet of tenant wall facade each and shall not exceed 180 ~~sqauresquare~~ feet each.

(4) Wall signs shall not exceed three feet maximum height of copy area

(c) Canopy signs

(1) One canopy sign per entrance not to exceed twelve (12) square feet shall be permitted.

~~(1) Three signs will be permitted per freestanding canopy.~~

(2) Only one ~~wall~~ sign shall be permitted per ~~canopy side.~~ not to exceed 12 square feet.

(d) No wall sign or canopy sign shall be located so that any part of the sign or supporting structure extends above the top of the wall or parapet.

(e) Signs installed below a canopy, awning, overhang or porch shall be a minimum of nine feet above ground from the pedestrian way.

#### Sec. 129-225. ~~Vehicle signs.~~ Freestanding Canopy Signage

~~No vehicle or trailer with lettering or graphics applied thereto shall be parked or stored within any public right of way or within any road median. Banners attached to or hanging from a vehicle or trailer shall be considered a temporary sign and shall be regulated as such. This provision is intended to prohibit the use of vehicles to circumvent provisions of limiting the number and size of signs allowed. See "sign, temporary."~~

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- (1) One sign per road frontage not to exceed twenty (20) square feet shall be permitted on each freestanding canopy
  - (2) Signage must be flush against the canopy fascia.
  - (3) Banding of corporate colors shall be regarded as part of the sign and shall count toward the allowable twenty (20) square feet.

**Sec. 129-226. ~~Murals and wall graphics~~Reserved.**

~~Exterior murals and wall graphics shall be considered wall signs.~~

**Secs. 129-227—129-245. Reserved.**

## ***ARTICLE X. VARIANCES***

**Sec. 129-246. Purpose.**

Variances to the sign chapter are granted for specific waiver or release of a requirement of this chapter based on proof of hardship to the applicant.

**Sec. 129-247. Administration.**

Variances to sign requirements shall be granted by the planning commission in the same manner and pursuant to the same criteria as variances from the Dawson County Land Use Regulations. Administrative variances may be granted by the county manager or designee if the following criterion exists:

- (a) Dimensional variances only (i.e., setback, size, or height)~~-excluding off-site signs.~~
- (b) Shall not be greater than ten percent of allowable limits.
- (c) Shall not subvert the intent of the ordinance.
- (d) Applicant shall show substantial hardship naturally occurring or otherwise.
- (e) Granting the variance shall not create a safety hazard or other condition inconsistent with the general purpose of this chapter; and
- (f) Granting the variance may include minor stipulations to compensate for the alterationameliorate the impact of the variance (i.e., landscaping, material, lighting, etc.); ~~and~~
- ~~(g) Extreme topographic conditions prevent the sign from being legible and effective from the roadway; a variance may be granted to allow the height to be measured from the base of the road after final grading.~~

**Secs. 129-248—129-272. Reserved.**

## ***ARTICLE XI. PERMITS***

### **Sec. 129-273. Purpose.**

The purpose of article XI is to establish methods for allowing signs within the unincorporated portions of Dawson County.

### **Sec. 129-274. Permits required.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to erect or relocate within the county any sign, as defined in this chapter, without first obtaining a sign permit from the county manager or designee and making payments scheduled if applicable. Signs shall also be subject to the provisions of the electrical code and the permit fees required therein. ~~A permit shall be required for each incidence of temporary sign usage. In order for any permit to be issued, applicant must have a Dawson County Business License or out of county business registration.~~

### **Sec. 129-275. Application for sign permit.**

Applications for sign permits shall be made upon application forms provided by the county manager or designee and shall contain or have attached thereto the following information:

- (a) Name, address, business telephone number of the applicant, sign owner and land owner;
- (b) Address of building, structure, or lot to which or upon the sign is to be attached or erected;
- (c) The sign and the distance of the sign from adjacent buildings, structures, property lines, other signs and any other measurements as may be required by the county manager or designee.
- (d) Drawings of the plans, specifications, and method of construction and attachment to the building or ground for the sign, as well as a scale drawing of the site showing drives, structures, and any other limiting site features as well as drawings showing the relation of the road grade of the adjoining road to which the sign face is perpendicular to the base of the sign;
- (e) Name of person, firm, corporation or association erecting the structure; and
- ~~(f) Any replacement, repair, or altering of existing sign from the disconnect that does not require the disturbance of the electrical service or disconnect shall not require a permit;~~
- (g) A plat, with street right of way lines, showing the sign location upon the premises.

(h) The type of sign

(i) The value of the sign

(j) The square foot area per sign and the aggregate square foot area if there is more than one sign face.

(k) Written consent of the owner, or his agent, granting permission of which the subject sign will be located.

#### **S999ec. 129-276. Permit issuance.**

It shall be the duty of the county manager or designee, upon the filing of a ~~an~~ complete application for a sign permit, to examine such plans and specifications and other data and the premises upon which it is proposed to erect the sign; and if it shall appear that the proposed ~~structure-sign~~ is in compliance with all the requirements of this chapter and all other laws and resolutions of the county, then the permit shall be issued. If no decision is made by the county manager or designee within ~~seventy~~thirty (30) days of the application being filed, the application shall be deemed denied. If the work authorized under a sign permit has not been started within ~~12~~ 6 months after the date of issuance, then the permit shall become null and void and a new permit shall be required. All signs shall be subject to on-site inspections by the county manager or designee or its authorized representative before a permit is issued.

#### **Sec. 129-277. Permit fees.**

Every applicant before being granted a sign permit shall pay the county a permit fee in accord with the fee schedule approved by the board of commissioners. ~~Non-profit organizations that are a valid 501.c.3. shall be exempt from fees. After the one-time permit fee is paid, annual assessments will be made through ad valorem taxes.~~

**Sec. 129-278 Relationship to Building and Electrical Codes.** These sign regulations are intended to complement the requirements of the building and electrical codes adopted by Dawson County. Wherever there is an inconsistency between these regulations and the building or electrical code, the more stringent requirement shall apply

#### **Secs. 129-279—129-302. Reserved.**



## ***ARTICLE XII. APPEALS***

### **Sec. 129-303. Purpose.**

Any decision or action of County personnel under this chapter may be appealed to the Board of Commissioners of Dawson County; provided, however, that any such action or decision shall remain in full force and effect pending such appeal.

### **Sec. 129-304. Appeals process.**

If an applicant or permittee desires to appeal any decision or action of the County Manager or designee or its authorized representative or the planning commission, then the applicant or petitioner shall notify the County Manager or designee of Dawson County in writing within ten days of the date of the action or decision. Upon receipt of the notice, the Board of Commissioners shall set an appeal hearing date regarding the appeal within 30 days of such notice and shall notify the applicant or permittee in writing by first class mail and shall render a decision within 45 days of such notice.

### **Secs. 129-305—129-326. Reserved.**

## ***ARTICLE XIII. ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION***

### **Sec. 129-327. Purpose.**

The purpose of article XIII is to provide clear guidelines for enforcement and administration of the sign chapter.

### **Sec. 129-328. Administrative powers.**

The Board of Commissioners of Dawson County, Georgia shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter, and the County Manager or designee is hereby appointed to exercise the powers prescribed by this chapter. These powers shall include, but shall not be limited to, accepting and processing applications, conducting inspections, issuing permits and instituting enforcement actions through one or more employees of the county; subject to the right of appeal to the Board of Commissioners as otherwise provided by this chapter.

### **Sec. 129-329. Enforcement.**

The erection or maintenance by any person, firm, or corporation of any sign for which a permit is required by this chapter without a valid permit or renewal thereof issued by the county is declared to be a public nuisance. In addition to the remedies provided for in this chapter or that may otherwise exist under the laws of the State of Georgia, the county is authorized to pursue all equitable remedies and criminal and civil sanctions available.

- (a) Notification of violations. Such notification shall be made in writing from the county manager or designee or an authorized representative of the board of commissioners to the applicant's or individual's last known address or at the location of the sign if notice can be given in person or to the owner's representative and shall provide the violator ten days from the date of the letter to bring the sign into compliance. The notice shall be deemed sufficient upon mailing to the last known address or upon hand delivery to the owner or owner's representative.
- (b) Signs placed in the public right-of-way or any sign posing an immediate danger to the public may be removed by the Dawson County Marshal's Office or the Dawson County Sheriff's Office without notice. Signs placed in the right-of-way are hereby considered litter and shall be remanded to the county transfer station. ~~Signs removed due to an immediate public danger shall~~ will be returned to the sign owner, if said owner ~~can be located,~~ collects the sign in a timely manner.
- (c) Revocation of permits and licenses. Any person failing to comply with any provision of this chapter shall be subject to revocation of the business license, work permit or other authorization for the conduct of business and associated work activities within the unincorporated areas of Dawson County.
- (d) Stop work orders. Any person failing to comply with any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a stop work order. Upon receipt of the stop work order, work on any project that is being performed in violation of this chapter shall immediately stop. Such notice shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the property, owner of the sign, the owner's authorized agent or the person or persons in charge of the activity on the property and shall state the conditions under which work may resume. If an emergency exists, then no written notice shall be required.
- (e) Violation of permit. If through inspection it is determined that a person engaged in any activity covered by this chapter has failed to comply with the ordinance or the conditions of the permit issued, then a written notice to comply shall be served upon that person. The notice shall set forth the measures necessary to achieve compliance and shall state the time within which such measures must be completed. If the person engaged in the activity fails to comply within the time specified, then such person shall be in violation of this chapter and in addition to other penalties or enforcement, any applicable performance or surety bond shall be subject to forfeiture.
- (f) Permit suspension or revocation. The permit issued hereunder may be suspended or revoked by the county upon a finding that the holder is in violation of the permit or any portion of this chapter.
- (g) Administrative fines. Any person violating any provision of this chapter, permitting conditions, or stop work order shall be liable for a civil penalty of not less than \$100.00 per day or not to exceed \$1,000.00 per day. Each day the violation continues shall constitute a separate violation.
- (h) Criminal citation. Any person who shall do anything prohibited by this chapter or who shall fail to do anything required by this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor,

amenable to the process of the magistrate court of Dawson County, and upon conviction, shall be assessed with any penalty, including fine, confinement, or both, allowed by law for the violation of the county resolutions or ordinance. Each day and every day that such violation exists shall be deemed to constitute a separate offense.

- (i) Board of commissioner's action. In addition to any other remedies, any violation of this chapter may be addressed by the board of commissioners of Dawson County by instituting injunction, mandamus, or other appropriate action or proceeding to stop the violation. Such proceeding may be instituted without the necessity of showing the lack of an adequate remedy at law.
- (j) Any one or more of the foregoing enforcement provisions may be utilized separately or in combination to achieve compliance with this chapter.

#### **Sec. 129-330. Abandonment.**

An abandoned sign must be removed within 30 days from the date official notice is given by the county manager or designee, the county marshal, or the board of commissioners to the owner by certified mail to the last known address. If an abandoned sign is not removed within 30 days of the receipt of the official notice or if said notice is returned undeliverable, then the county may remove such sign.

#### **Sec. 129-331. ~~Revenue use.~~**

~~The county may make such appropriations from its revenues as it may deem necessary, may accept and apply grants or donations and utilize permit fees collected hereunder, to assist it in carrying out the provisions of this chapter in connection with the exercise of the powers granted hereunder.~~

#### **Sec. 129-332. Disclaimer.**

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to abrogate or impair the powers of the courts or of any department of the county to enforce any provisions of its ordinances or regulations nor to prevent or punish violations thereof; and the powers conferred by this chapter shall be in addition to and supplemental to the powers conferred by any other law.

#### **Sec. 129-333. ~~Repealer provision.~~**

~~Any ordinance, rule, regulation or other instruction previously approved by the board of commissioners which is inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter is repealed, revoked, and shall be of no further force or effect upon the effective date of this chapter; but it is hereby provided that any ordinance or law which may be applicable hereto and aid in carrying out and making effective the intent, purpose, and provisions hereof, which shall be liberally construed to be in favor of the county, is hereby adopted as part hereof. A Resolution entitled "Georgia 400 Sign Ordinance" adopted April 6, 1981 and a resolution adopted November 4, 1985 regulating signs on and along county owned and maintained streets and roads are specifically repealed in their entirety.~~

**Sec. 129-334. Effective date.**

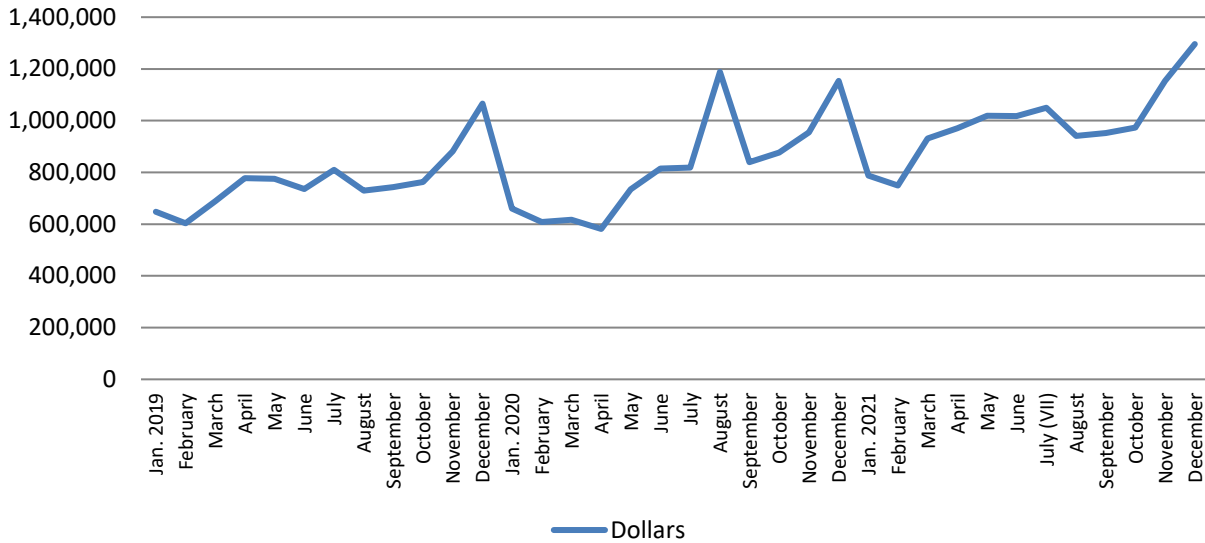
This chapter shall be effective on the day of its adoption by the board of commissioners of Dawson County.



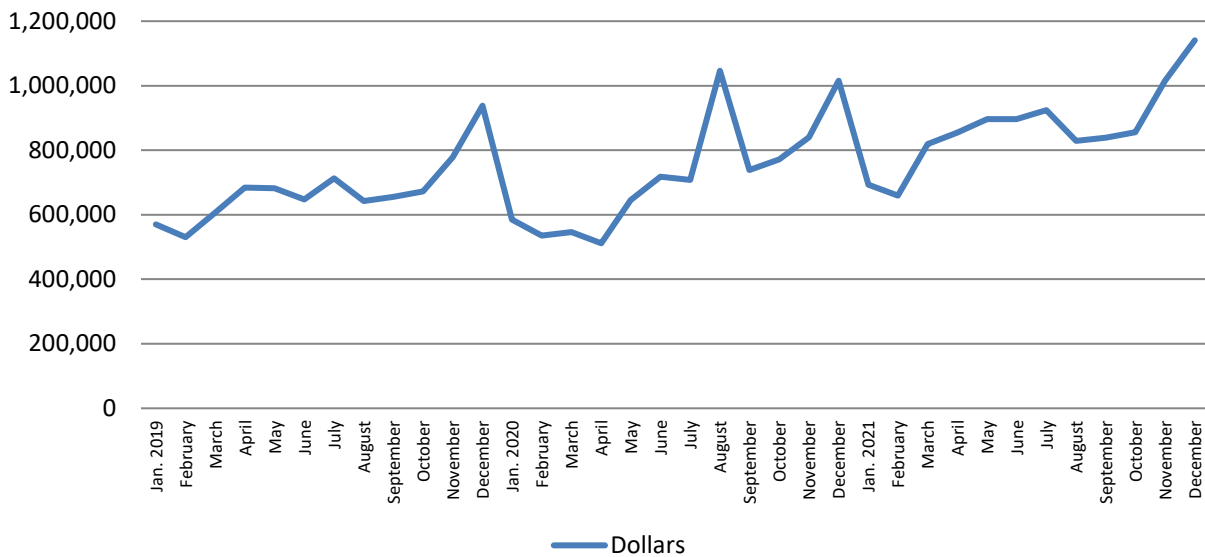
## Key Indicator Report

January 2022

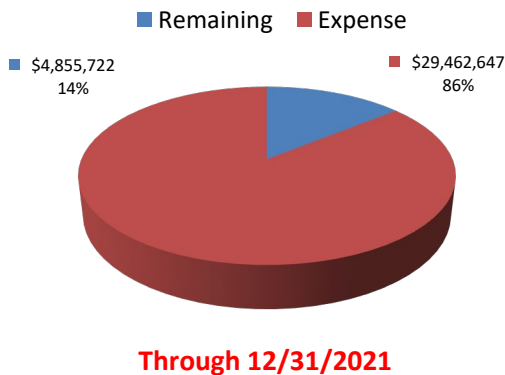
### SPLOST VI and VII COLLECTION CHART



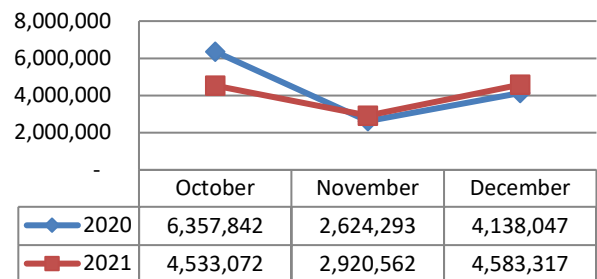
### LOST COLLECTION CHART



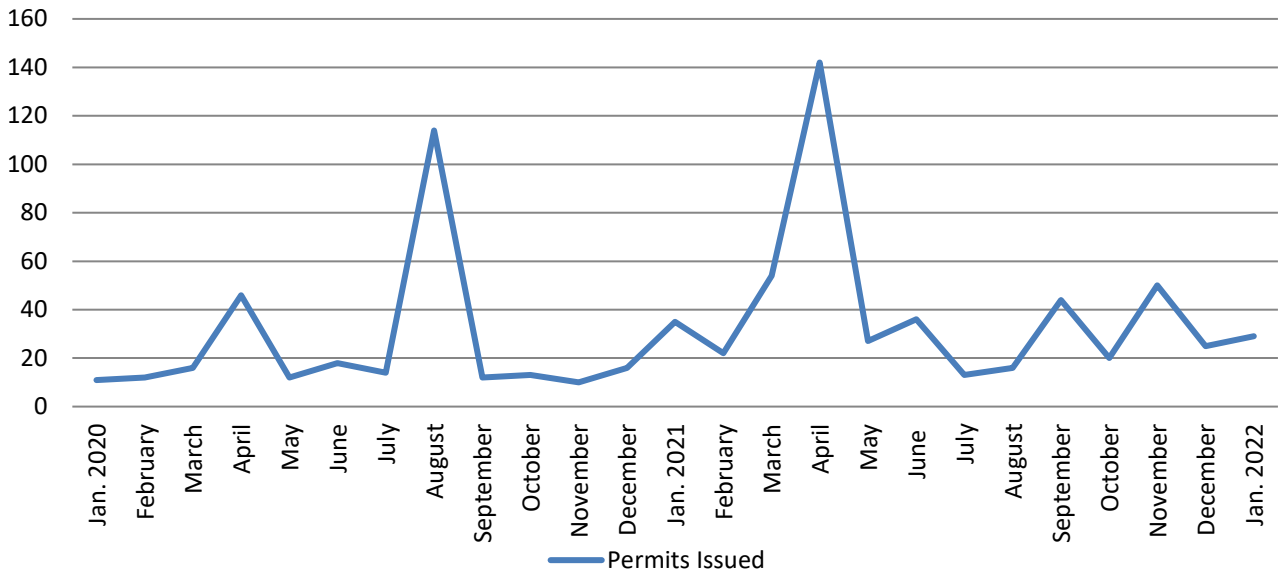
### Budget



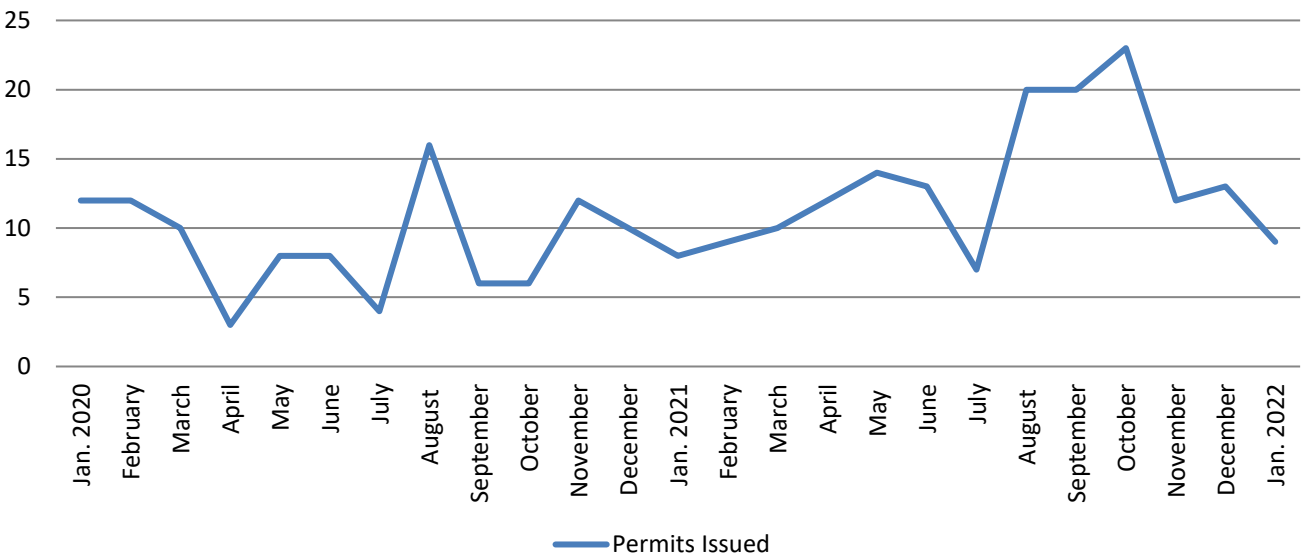
### All Revenue Per Month



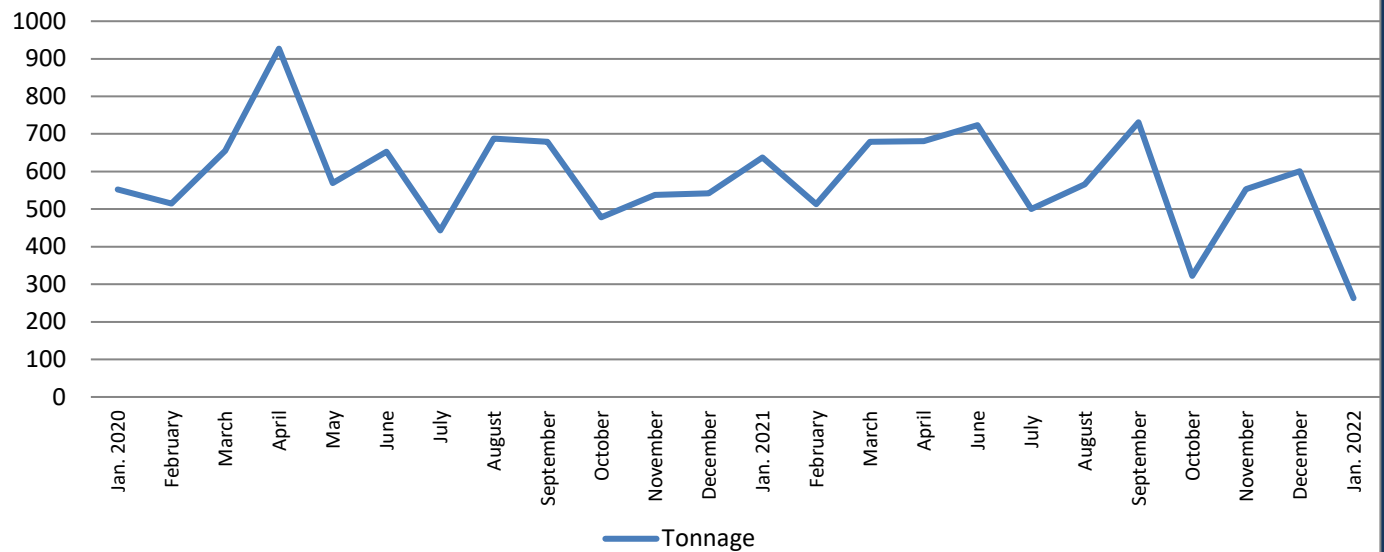
### SINGLE-FAMILY HOME BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED



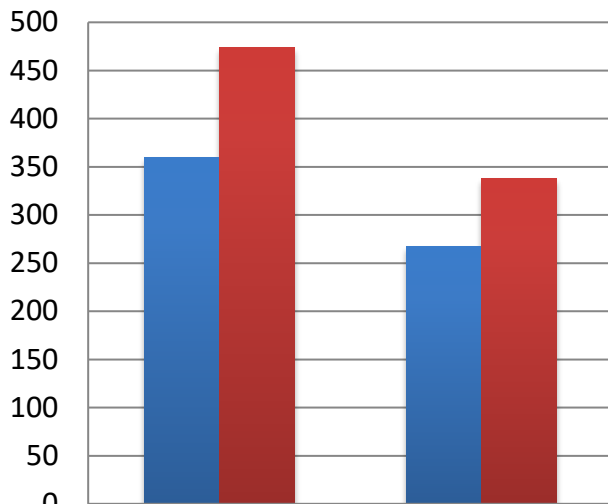
### COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED



### TRANSFER STATION TONNAGE COLLECTION

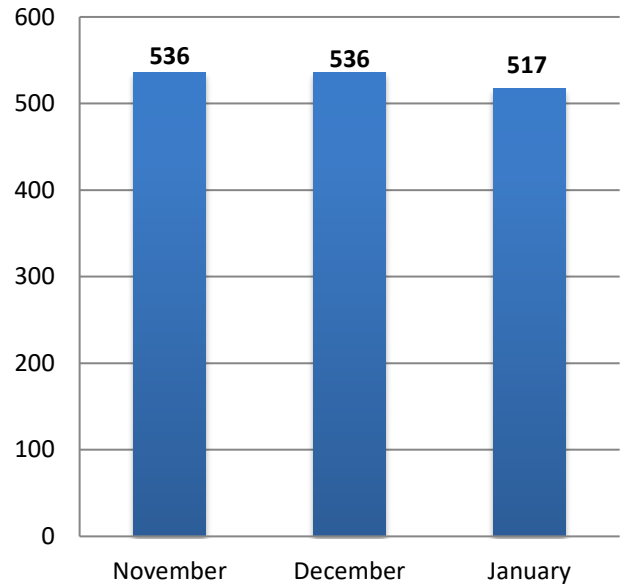


### EMS/Fire Calls for Service



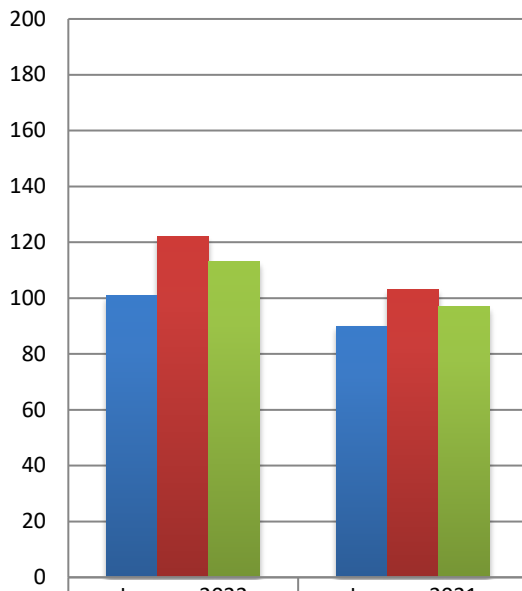
■ EMS	360	267
■ Fire	474	338

### Number of County Employees





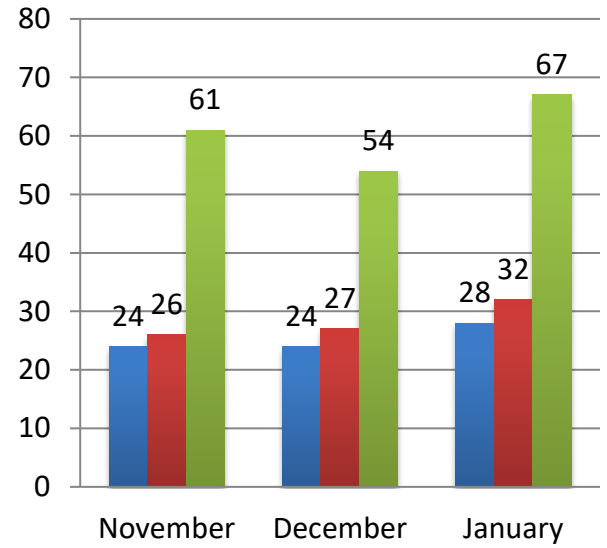
### Inmate Population



Lowest Daily Count	101	90
Highest Daily Count	122	103
Daily Average	113	97

### Repair Requests

■ Roads ■ Facilities ■ Fleet





## **Dawson County Board of Commissioners**

### Elections/Registrar Monthly Report – January 2022

- **New Applications/Transfers In: 227**
- **Changes/Duplicates: 381**
- **Cancelled/Transferred Out: 121**
- **Total Processed: 729**

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **Voter Registration Projects:**

- GARVIS (the State's new voter registration system) has been introduced. Webinars have begun and training forthcoming and will continue through February into March. Projected to "go live" March 14, 2022.
- Updated voter education materials for 2022 election year.
- NCOA (National Change of Address) notices mailed on 1/4/22 are being received. As of 1/10/22, 289 (out of 875) have been returned and processed.
- Local redistricting is passing through legislation. We are teaming with GIS to verify addresses that are affected by new proposed district changes and updated maps to reflect the new changes.

#### **Elections Projects:**

- Switched Director's office & board room to allow more room for board meeting public attendance and early opening space during elections.
- Coordinated with Facilities to put a case opening doorway into the training room/poll worker lunch room to allow Voter Services Specialist office more privacy during elections, allowing more security with absentee balloting.
- 2022 election calendar information cards for hand out is complete.
- Department webpage information project well under way, nearing completion.
- Qualifying fees set and published by BOC; candidate qualifying packets are updated and ready for the upcoming March 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> qualifying. Times are 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 9am to 5 pm & 11<sup>th</sup> 9 am to noon.
- Elections Coordinator is currently training to implement Easy Inventory Module for new voting equipment.
- Poll worker contact and updates to set sufficient staff for 2022 elections are near completion.

#### **Highlights of plans for upcoming month:**

- Move forward with completing process for Redistricting.
- Training in Macon February 22-25, 2022 for the new voter registration system (GARVIS).
- Follow legislation for bills affecting voter registration and elections; give input when needed.
- Board of Elections & Registration monthly meeting is February 16 2022, 9:30 a.m. at 96 Academy Avenue.



## Dawson County Board of Commissioners

### Dawson County Emergency Services Monthly Report – January 2022

Fire Responses	NOV	DEC	JAN	EMS Responses	NOV	DEC	JAN	EMS Revenue		
2020	343	385	354	2020	232	295	266	2021	JAN	\$47,540.46
2021	366	437	338	2021	276	339	267	2022	JAN	\$90,493.91
2022	-	-	474	2022	-	-	360	90.35% increase from last year		

Plan Review and Inspection Revenue Total		Business Inspections Total	
		Final Inspections	Annual & Follow Up Inspections
County	\$3,180.00	10	115
City	\$300.00	4	16

HIGHLIGHTS: Dawson County Emergency Services Projects			
Training Hours Completed by Staff	1,140 hours	Fire Investigations	1
PR Detail	2	CPR Training per Individual	0
Smoke Detector Installations	0	Stop the Bleed Training per Individual	0
Public Education (Schools)	0	Child Safety Seat Installations	2
Search & Rescue / Water Rescue	1	Plan Reviews	14

Types of Fires Total – 10			
(11) 111-118: Structure Fire Building, Cooking, Chimney- Flue, Incinerator, Fuel Burner-Boiler	3	(14) 141-143: Natural Vegetation Fire Forest, Woods, Wildland, Brush, Grass	6
(12) 121-123: Fire in Mobile but Fixed Structure Mobile Home, Motor Home, RV, Camper, Portable Building	0	(15) 151-155: Outside Rubbish Fire Rubbish, Trash, Waste, Dump, Landfills, Dumpsters	1
(13) 131-138: Mobile/Vehicle Property Fire Passenger, Road Freight, Transport, Rail, Water Vehicles, Aircraft, Campers/RV, Off Road Vehicles, Heavy Equipment	0	(16) 161-164: Special Outside Fire Storage, Equipment, Gas/Vapor, Mailbox	0

Total Water Usage – 150 gallons			
Etowah Water	150 gallons	Pickens County	0 gallons
City of Dawsonville	0 gallons	Big Canoe	0 gallons
Forsyth County	0 gallons	Other	0 gallons



## **Dawson County Board of Commissioners**

### Facilities Monthly Report –January 2022

- **Total Work Orders: 32**
- **Community Service Workers: 1**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- \*Installed air vents in Government Center for all courtrooms
- \*Replaced batteries in smoke detectors and exit lights for all county buildings
- \*Replaced 24 lights to LED at the Detention Center
- \*Repaired major water leak in new parking lot at Veterans Memorial Park
- \*Had HVAC preventative maintenance completed for the Government Center



# DAWSON COUNTY, GA

Where Quality of Life Matters

## FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

### MONTHLY REPORT

For Period Covering the Month of JANUARY 2022

SN	TASKS/ WORK DONE	LOCATION/S of Service
1	Removed tree	Edge of the World Park
2	Installed air vents	Gov Ctr-All Court Rooms
3	Replaced lock	New Senior Center
4	Repaired bay heaters	Fire Station #2
5	Replaced batteries in smoke detectors-exit lights	All county buildings
6	Replaced 24 lights to LED	Detention Center
7	Working on warranty issues	Fire Station #8
8	Installed entry way	Chappell Building
9	Repaired major water leak-New parking lot	Veterans Memorial Park
10	Removed graffiti	Ag Building
11	Had HVAC preventative maintenance completed	Government Center
12	Repaired heat in house on suite 105	KH Long Building
13	Repaired floor	K-9 Building
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26	Total Work Orders for the month = 32	Facilities
27	Total Community Service for the month = 1	Facilities

**These numbers do not reflect daily/ weekly routine duties to include:**

- Cutting of grass and landscape maintenance on all county properties
- Cutting of grass and landscape maintenance on all five (5) parks on the west side of county
- Cleaning of the government center and other county owned buildings, offices and facilities
- Emptying outside trash receptacles at county owned buildings
- Collecting and recycling of all county buildings, offices and facilities

# Dawson County Board of Commissioners

Finance Monthly Report – January 2022

## FINANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- **LOST Collections:** \$1,140,733 – up 12.33% compared to December 2020
- **SPLOST Collections:** \$1,296,045 – up 12.32% compared to December 2020; Total SPLOST VII collections: \$6,367,083
- **TAVT:** \$223,920 – up 17.7% compared to December 2020
- **See attached Revenue and Expenditure Comparison for 2021**
- **Total County Debt:** \$2,200,000 (See attached Debt Summary)
- **Audit Status:** 2021 Audit fieldwork to begin February 2022
- **EMS Billing Collections:** \$109,105 for December 2021; \$883,413 YTD
- **Budget Status:** FY 2022 Budget approved 11/18/2021
- **Monthly Donations/Budget Increases:** \$717,923
  - Passport Fees - \$4,165
  - Donations - \$43,848
  - Comprehensive Security Upgrade (Use of Fund Balance) - \$669,910

## PURCHASING HIGHLIGHTS

### **Formal Solicitations**

- Single Restroom at Splash Pad – Park & Rec

### **Informal Solicitations**

- Natural Gas

### **Quotes for less than \$25,000 this month**

- Gasoline – Fleet Maintenance
- Diesel – Fleet Maintenance
- Baseball & T-ball Uniforms – Park & Rec
- Refurbish Football Helmets – Park & Rec

### **Purchase for less than \$25,000 that did not receive required quotes**

- None

### **Pending Projects**

- Awaiting Delivery of New Vehicles
- Comprehensive Upgrade of Security System
- Single Restroom Addition at Splash Pad
- Radio System Upgrade Plans

### **Work in Progress**

- Land Use Resolution Update
- 400 Overlay Update
- 53 Overlay
- Energov Upgrade
- Road Rehabilitation
- Unified Solution for Inmate Communication
- Culvert Renovations
- Artificial Turf at Rock Creek Park
- Etowah River Canoe Ramp

### **Future Bids**

- Install Soil Vapor Extraction System at Closed Landfill
- Inmate Banking/Commissary
- Inmate Food Services

### **Future Bids – SPLOST VI**

- Pothole Patching Machine – Roads
- Water Filtration System for DCGC & DCSO – Facilities
- 2022 Capital & SPLOST Projects

### **Purchase for more than \$25,000 that did not receive required sealed bids**

- None

## Budget to Actual

	Actual at 12/31/2021	Percent of Budget Actually Collected/ Expended	2021 BOC (2) Approved Budget	Over(Under) Approved Budget	Percentage Over(Under) Approved Budget
Revenue	\$ 34,119,674	99.42%	\$ 34,318,369	\$ (198,695)	-0.58%
Expenditures	29,462,647	85.85%	34,318,369	(4,855,722)	-14.15%
	<u>\$ 4,657,027</u>	<u>13.57%</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,657,027</u>	<u>13.57%</u>

**\*NOTE:** Adjustments will be made during the year-end close out. The actual revenue and expenditure totals are subject to change pending normal year-end adjustments such as accruals and results of the audit.

(1) Reporting actuals as of 12/31/2021 because revenue collections are 30 days behind. The LOST revenues for the month of December 2021 were received in January 2022.

(2) Change in total budget due to account adjustments:

\$ 30,788,031	Original Budget
\$ 151,209	Carryover Balances
\$ 1,941	January
\$ 44,412	February
\$ 249,377	March
\$ 340,272	April
\$ 231,749	May
\$ 41,002	June
\$ 7,955	July
\$ 254,611	August
\$ 4,275	September
\$ 1,413,555	October
\$ 47,057	November
\$ 742,923	December
<u>\$ 34,318,369</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>



**ACTUAL COMPARISON  
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2021**

MONTH	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec*	YTD
2020 REVENUE	1,270,151	2,149,916	2,256,958	1,984,127	2,046,586	2,284,093	2,423,070	2,467,239	2,841,996	6,357,842	2,624,293	4,138,047	32,844,319
2021 REVENUE	1,241,090	2,358,206	2,399,317	2,824,690	2,662,284	2,442,165	2,621,534	2,721,316	2,812,122	4,533,072	2,920,562	4,583,317	34,119,674
% CHANGE	-2%												4%
2020 EXPENSE	1,891,343	3,111,473	2,310,296	1,947,487	1,975,746	2,299,611	2,239,179	1,380,393	2,517,171	2,146,187	2,113,825	3,386,130	27,318,841
2021 EXPENSE	1,985,299	2,033,065	2,512,136	2,268,779	2,264,957	2,532,193	3,103,383	2,289,953	2,573,384	2,146,187	2,255,732	3,497,579	29,462,647
%CHANGE	5%												8%
2021 Total Rev-Exp	\$ (744,209)	\$ 325,141	\$ (112,820)	\$ 555,911	\$ 397,327	\$ (90,028)	\$ (481,849)	\$ 431,363	\$ 238,738	\$ 2,386,885	\$ 664,830	\$ 1,085,738	\$ 4,657,027

**REVENUE**  
 YTD 2020 32,844,319  
 YTD 2021 34,119,674  
 % Changed 3.88%

**EXPEDITURES**  
 YTD 2020 27,318,841  
 YTD 2021 29,462,647  
 % Changed 7.85%

\*NOTE: Adjustments will be made during the year-end close out. The actual revenue and expenditure totals are subject to change pending normal year-end adjustments such as accruals and results of the audit.

DAWSON COUNTY LOST COLLECTION ANALYSIS

LOST COLLECTIONS BY SALES MONTH	2020									2021								
	2020 LOST	\$ CHANGE	%CHANGE	TAVT	\$ CHANGE	TAVT % CHANGE	TOTAL OF LOST & TAVT	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE	2021 LOST	\$ CHANGE	%CHANGE	TAVT	\$ CHANGE	TAVT % CHANGE	TOTAL OF LOST & TAVT	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
JANUARY	585,076	14,660	2.57%	197,780	77,111	63.9%	782,856	91,771	13.28%	693,527	108,451	18.54%	190,308	(7,472)	-3.8%	883,834	100,979	12.90%
FEBRUARY	535,152	4,785	0.9%	162,878	66,319	68.7%	698,029	71,104	11.3%	659,451	124,300	23.23%	181,007	18,129	11.1%	840,458	142,429	20.40%
MARCH	546,172	(61,078)	-10.1%	163,568	57,003	53.5%	709,740	(4,076)	-0.6%	819,160	272,988	49.98%	246,536	82,968	50.7%	1,065,696	355,956	50.15%
APRIL	511,547	(172,733)	-25.2%	103,305	(56,401)	-35.3%	614,852	(229,134)	-27.1%	854,327	342,780	67.01%	218,835	115,530	111.8%	1,073,162	458,310	74.54%
MAY	645,955	(36,605)	-5.4%	164,494	58,439	55.1%	810,449	21,833	2.8%	896,340	250,384	38.76%	218,332	53,839	32.7%	1,114,672	304,223	37.5%
JUNE	717,680	69,992	10.8%	193,280	54,739	39.5%	910,959	124,731	15.9%	895,943	178,263	24.84%	217,706	24,427	12.6%	1,113,649	202,690	22.3%
JULY	707,901	(4,797)	-0.7%	171,205	12,706	8.0%	879,106	7,908	0.9%	923,876	215,975	30.51%	188,197	16,992	9.9%	1,112,073	232,966	26.5%
AUGUST	1,046,184	403,971	62.9%	171,212	14,294	9.1%	1,217,396	418,265	52.3%	828,631	(217,553)	-20.79%	213,580	42,368	24.7%	1,042,211	(175,185)	-14.4%
SEPTEMBER	739,021	83,636	12.8%	173,450	23,718	15.8%	912,471	107,354	13.3%	838,437	99,416	13.45%	213,535	40,085	23.1%	1,051,973	139,501	15.3%
OCTOBER	771,452	99,518	14.8%	185,115	27,059	17.1%	956,567	126,577	15.3%	856,016	84,564	10.96%	220,277	35,162	19.0%	1,076,293	119,726	12.5%
NOVEMBER	839,832	61,344	7.9%	181,214	52,912	41.2%	1,021,046	114,256	12.6%	1,015,873	176,041	20.96%	171,995	(9,219)	-5.1%	1,187,868	166,821	16.3%
DECEMBER	1,015,493	77,095	8.22%	190,308	41,699	28.1%	1,205,801	118,794	10.9%	1,140,733	125,241	12.33%	223,920	33,613	17.7%	1,364,654	158,853	13.2%
Prorata Distribution(June)	606	(2,684)	-81.6%	0	0		606	(2,684)		1,144	538	88.67%						
Prorata Distribution (Dec.)	1,100	(1,135)	-50.8%	0	0		1,100	(1,135)		692	(409)	-37.14%						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,663,171</b>	<b>\$ 535,967</b>		<b>\$2,057,809</b>			<b>10,720,980</b>	<b>\$966,700</b>		<b>\$ 10,424,150</b>	<b>\$ 1,760,979</b>		<b>\$2,504,229</b>			<b>12,926,543</b>	<b>\$2,207,269</b>	

FY21 LOST & TAVT	12,926,543
FY20 LOST & TAVT	10,720,980
FY19 LOST & TAVT	9,755,416
FY18 LOST & TAVT	\$8,871,741
FY17 LOST & TAVT	\$8,094,043
FY16 LOST & TAVT	\$7,147,120
FY15 LOST & TAVT	7,024,812
FY14 LOST & TAVT	6,771,602
FY13 LOST & TAVT	6,287,973
FY12 CONVERTED	5,763,005
FY12	5,632,027
FY11	5,244,606
FY10	4,939,542
FY09	4,789,221
FY08	5,015,881
FY07	5,621,760
FY06	5,608,446
FY05	4,426,013
FY04	3,527,663

BELOW FIGURES INCLUDE  
TAVT CALCULATIONS

<b>FY20 ACTUAL TO DATE</b>	<b>\$8,663,171</b>
<b>FY21 ACTUAL TO DATE</b>	<b>\$10,424,150</b>
<b>\$ DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>1,760,979</b>
<b>% DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>20.33%</b>

<b>FY20 ACTUAL TO DATE</b>	<b>\$10,720,980</b>
<b>FY21 ACTUAL TO DATE</b>	<b>\$12,926,543</b>
<b>\$ DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>2,205,563</b>
<b>% DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>20.57%</b>

SPLOST COLLECTIONS BY SALES MONTH	Total Actual 2020	County (85%)	City (15%)	% Change 2020
JANUARY	659,726	560,767	98,959	1.78%
FEBRUARY	607,910	516,724	91,187	0.9%
MARCH	616,984	524,437	92,548	-10.4%
APRIL	581,347	494,145	87,202	-25.2%
MAY	733,999	623,899	110,100	-5.3%
JUNE	815,415	693,103	122,312	10.8%
JULY	819,086	696,223	122,863	1.1%
AUGUST	1,188,750	1,010,438	178,313	63.1%
SEPTEMBER	839,517	713,589	125,928	13.0%
OCTOBER	876,561	745,077	131,484	15.0%
NOVEMBER	954,260	811,121	143,139	8.2%
DECEMBER	1,153,910	980,823	173,086	8.3%
Prorata Distribution (June)	687	584	103	-81.6%
Prorata Distribution (Dec.)	1,248	1,061	187	-50.9%
SPLOST Jet Fuel Tax (July)		-	-	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,849,401</b>	<b>\$8,371,991</b>	<b>\$1,477,410</b>	

#### SPLOST 6

Total Actual 2021	County (85%)	City (15%)	% Change 2021	2021 Projections	2021 Actuals vs. Projections
787,979	669,783	118,197	19.44%		Total SPLOST VI projection of \$46 million reached in 2020
749,380	636,973	112,407	23.27%		
930,667	791,067	139,600	50.84%		
970,671	825,071	145,601	66.97%		
1,018,430	865,666	152,765	38.75%		
1,017,979	865,282	152,697	24.84%		
1,304	1,108	196	89.7%		
<b>\$5,476,412</b>	<b>\$4,654,950</b>	<b>\$ 821,462</b>			

#### SPLOST 7

Total Actual 2021	County (85%)	City (15%)	% Change 2021	2021 Projections	2021 Actuals vs. Projections
1,049,558			28.14%		
941,469			-20.80%		
952,448			13.45%		
972,563			10.95%		
1,154,214			20.95%		
1,296,045			12.32%		
787					
<b>\$6,367,083</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>			<b>-</b>

2015 \$ 3,665,116  
2016 \$ 7,064,885  
2017 \$ 7,913,104  
2018 \$ 8,587,749  
2019 \$ 9,226,607  
2020 \$ 9,849,401  
2021 \$ 5,476,412

Total SPLOST 6 Collections to date: **\$51,783,273**

2021 \$ 6,367,083  
2022  
2023  
2024  
2025  
2026  
2027

Total SPLOST 7 Collections to date: **\$ 6,367,083**

**DAWSON COUNTY  
DEBT SCHEDULE**

1/31/2022

DEBT DESCRIPTION	BANK/PAYEE	CURRENT SOURCE OF PAYMENT	DEBT ORIGINATION DATE	DUE DATE OF FINAL PMT	PRINCIPAL BAL AT 12/31/2021	NEW LOANS IN 2022	2022 PMTS TO DATE		BALANCE DUE	PENDING 2022 PAYMENTS		PROJECTED BAL AT 12/31/2022	NOTES
							PRINCIPAL	INTEREST		PRINCIPAL	INTEREST		
2012 EWSA Bonds	Community & Southern Bank	General Fund	5/14/2012	3/1/2027	2,200,000.00	-			2,200,000.00	285,000.00	60,902.00	1,915,000.00	Partial defeasement of bonds in April 2012 reduced principal by \$1,525,000. Refunded Bonds and received lower interest rate of 2.96% on 5/14/2012. Interest due semi-annually on March 1 and Sept. 1.
Fire Pumper Truck	BB & T	SPLOST VI	1/12/2018	1/12/2025	267,812.50		267,812.50	7,793.34	-		-	-	Pumper was purchased January 2018. First annual payment from SPLOST VI paid Jan 12, 2019. Annual payments made in January each year. <b><u>BOC voted to pay off loan during FY 22 Budget process using SPLOST Overage. Payoff occurred 1/12/22</u></b>
<b>Totals</b>					<b>\$ 2,467,812.50</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 267,812.50</b>	<b>\$ 7,793.34</b>	<b>\$ 2,200,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 285,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 60,902.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,915,000.00</b>	



## Dawson County Board of Commissioners

### Fleet Maintenance and Fuel Center Monthly Report – January 2022

#### **FLEET**

- **Preventative Maintenance Performed: 26**
- **Tires Mounted: 18**
- **Repair Orders Completed: 67**
- **Labor Hours: 334**
- **Labor Cost Savings: \$ 18,370**  
(Comparison of the Fleet Maintenance rate of \$25.00 per labor hour to outsourced vendors rate of \$80.00 per labor hour)
- **Parts Cost Savings: \$ 1,652.78**  
(Comparison of Dawson County's parts discounts to outsourced markup; average 20%)
- **Total Cost Savings for Jan: \$ 20,022.78**

#### **FUEL CENTER**

- **Average Fuel Center Price Per Gallon:**  
Gasoline: \$ 2.57  
Diesel: \$ 2.83
- **Fuel Center Usage - Dawson County and Board of Education**  
Gasoline: 13,296.2 gallons; 922 transactions  
Diesel: 7,303.6 gallons; 195 transactions
- **Fuel Center Usage - Etowah Water and City of Dawsonville**  
Gasoline: 1,311.4 gallons; 75 transactions  
Diesel: 605.8 gallons; 19 transactions
- **Revenue from Etowah Water and City of Dawsonville: \$ 95.86**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Fleet is continuing to list and sell on GovDeals.
- Fleet had a successful Environmental Protection of Georgia underground storage tank inspection.
- We are seeing fuel cost continuing to rise.



## Dawson County Board of Commissioners

### Human Resources Department Key Indicator Monthly Report – January 2022

#### **POSITION CONTROL**

- Positions approved by BOC: 610
- # of filled F/R Positions: 312
- # of filled F/T Positions: 1
- # of filled Grant Funded Positions: 12
- # of filled P/R Positions: 69
- # of filled P/T Positions: 66
- # of Supplemental Positions: 58
- # of Vacant Positions: 92
- # of Frozen Positions: 23
- % of Budgeted/Actual Positions: 84.92%

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

FMLA/LOA/Military tracking: 2/0/0  
Unemployment Claims received: 0  
Property & Liability Claims: New: 2 Open: 9  
Worker's Compensation Claims: New: 2 Open: 6  
Performance Evaluations received: 47

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

##### **Positions Advertised/Posted: 20**

- Public Defender – Legal Assistant – 5
- Parks & Recreation – PT Parks Maintenance Worker -- 1
- Planning & Development – Senior Plan Reviewer – 1
- Planning & Development – Building Inspector --10
- Superior Court – Pretrial Officer - 6
- Marshal's Office – Code Enforcement Officer – 2
- Marshal's Office – Administrative Assistant – 16
- Emergency Services—Firefighter/Paramedic – 3
- Emergency Services – Firefighter/EMT -- 3
- Emergency Services – Fire Inspector --2
- Emergency Services – Volunteer Firefighter -- 13
- Public Works – Roads Operator II – 1
- Public Works – Transfer Station Operator I – 1
- Public Works – Transfer Station Attendant -- 0
- IT – IT Technician – 3
- IT – Network Systems Administrator – 0
- Senior Services/Transit – Transit Driver -- 2
- Facilities – Part Time Custodian – 1
- Sheriff's Office – Detention Officer – N/A
- Sheriff's Office – Deputy Sheriff – N/A
- General Application – 1

##### **Applications Received: 71**

##### **New Hires added into system: 10**

- Scott Morgan – Planning & Development – Permit Specialist
- Lacey Edwards – Planning & Development – Permit Specialist
- David Helms – Public Works – Roads Operator II
- Bradley Anderson – Senior Services/Transit – Transit Driver
- William Roper – Emergency Services – FT Firefighter/EMT
- Brian Borden – Emergency Services – FT Firefighter/Paramedic
- Billy Carlisle – Superior Court – Bailiff
- William Kerdsonboone – Emergency Services -- FT Firefighter/EMT
- Patrick Stewart – Emergency Services – FT Firefighter/EMT



- Corey Tacy – Facilities – PT Custodian

**Termination/Resignation/Retirement Processed: 12**

- Rachel Ogletree – District Attorney – Vic. Advocate/Admin. Assistant
- Christopher Rexroat – Emergency Services – FF/EMT
- Michael Baumgartner – Emergency Services – Fire Lieutenant
- Scott Anderson – Emergency Services – FF/EMT
- Robert Major – Emergency Services – Volunteer
- James Fraser – Emergency Services – Volunteer
- William Goode – Emergency Services – Volunteer
- Michelle Tarchetti – Emergency Services - Volunteer
- Christina ‘Miki’ Mullis – Planning & Development – Permit Specialist
- Yahaira Briones – Public Defender – Vic. Advocate
- Robert Hixson – Senior Services – Transit Driver
- Morgan Gross – Sheriff’s Office – Detention Officer

**Promotions:0   Transfers:5   Re-Classed:2   Personnel/Payroll Updates: 347**

**Additional Highlights:**

- Receiving and logging of Employee Evaluations
- Assisted in creating Merit Review 2022 check list for CM Headley
- Logged \$1 BOC approved increase for all qualifying employees
- Completed audit of 2021 Position Control, created 2022 Position Control
- Restructured Fire and EMS departments on Position Control and in CSI to increase functionality for Emergency Services, Finance and HR.
- Completed Step Chart for current salary grades.
- Created Grade Chart for First Responders group (Firefighters, S.O. and Roads Dept.)
- Submitted annual EEOC-4 report.
- Submitted EEO for federal grant reporting.



## **Dawson County Board of Commissioners**

### Information Technology – January 2022

- **Calls for Service: 197**
- **Service Calls Completed: 197**

### **Highlights**

- Desk phone upgrades (100)
- 2022 Project planning
- Set-up influx of new county staff
- Hired a Network Administrator
- IT Dept. structure changes and re-organization

## Marshal's Office 2022 Monthly Report

Activity	January	Total Activities / Revenues
Animal Control Cases	29	29
Animal Cruelty Investigations	4	4
Animal Bite Investigations	2	2
Animals Quarantined	1	1
Animals transported to DC Humane Society	16	16
Animal Control Citations Issued	0	0
Animal Control Court Cases	0	0
Code Enforcement Cases	20	20
Erosion Site Visits	9	9
Code Enforcement Citations or <b>STOP Work</b> Issued	2	2
Sign Complaints: Non-Conforming Signs Removed, Signage letters sent, Warning	1	1
Open Records Requests	7	7
Alcohol Visits/Vape Audit Site Visits	0	0
Alcohol Pouring Permits Issued	31	31
<b>Certified Business</b> Letters Mailed	2	2
Code Compliance Court Cases	0	0
Short term Rental Letters Sent	65	65
Short Term Rental Renewals	4	4
New Short Term Rentals	3	3
Sign Reviews Conducted*	6	6
Signs Purchased*	6	6
Short-term Rental Revenues	1200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Donation Box Revenues	0.00	\$ -
Excise Tax Revenues (30)		\$ -
Pouring Permit Revenues	620.00	\$ 620.00
Magistrate Revenues	0.00	\$ -
<b>STOP WORK</b> , Dangerous Dog, <b>APPEALS</b>	400.00	\$ 400.00
Sign Revenues	900.00	\$ 900.00

Notes:

1. Short-Term Rentals: Notified 62 property owners of the new STRBB Ordinance going into effect on 02/16 via mail packets containing a copy of the new ordinance and STRBB application.
2. Staffing: Hired CE Officer filling vacancy left from 2020. MO is now comprised of 1 Marshal, 2 CE Officers, and 1 Admin. Asst. (vacant/in process of filling).

## 2022 DAWSON COUNTY PERMITS

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
BUILDING PERMITS	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63
<b>SINGLE FAMILY</b>	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
GARAGE - POLE SHED	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
STORAGE BUILDING	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
ADDITIONS/REMODELS	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
FARM BUILDING	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>RETAIL - COMMERCIAL</b>	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
MISC	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
MULTI - FAMILY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MOBILE HOME	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ELECTRICAL	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50
PLUMBING	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36
HEATING & AIR	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
<b>ZONING / VARIANCES</b>	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
PLAN REVIEW - PLATS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
PLAN REVIEW - SITE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PLAN REVIEW - BUILDING	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
PLAN REVIEW - SIGN	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
GRADING PERMITS-LDP	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
GRADING PERMITS-AGRI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE</b>	214	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	214
SIGN PERMITS	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
SHORT-TERM RENTAL	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
BED & BREAKFAST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PARADE/ASSEMBLY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TIMBER HARVESTING	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



## Dawson County Board of Commissioners

### Parks and Recreation Monthly Report – January 2022

- **Youth Sports Participants:**
  - January 2022: 948 – down 9.5% compared to same month last year
  - YTD 2022: 948 – down 9.5% compared to last year
- **Facility Rentals/Bookings/Scheduled Use:**
  - January 2022: 1,334 – down 26.7% compared to same month last year
  - YTD 2022: 1,334 – down 26.7% compared to last year
- **Adult and Youth Wellness and Specialty Program Participation:**
  - January 2022: 496 – up 10.7% compared to same month last year
  - YTD 2022: 496 – up 10.7% compared to last year
- **Total Customers Served:**
  - January 2022: 2,778 – down 16.2% compared to same month last year
  - YTD 2022: 2,778 – down 16.2% compared to last year

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **Park Projects:**

- Turfing two of the soccer fields at Rock Creek officially began in January 2022.
  - During this work, the soccer program will be relocated to Veterans Memorial Park and the lacrosse program will use the 1 soccer field at Rock Creek that is not being turfed.
- The River Park Canoe Put-in river entry area will be replaced in the upcoming months.
- A family restroom will be added to the Small Pavilion at Rock Creek in the upcoming months.
- The walking trail at Rock Creek will undergo a slight reconfiguration in the area near the playground.
- We are adding junior lines to 2 of the tennis courts at Rock Creek as soon as weather cooperates. This will better accommodate the growing tennis lessons program.
- The park board approved to use money from our donations account to purchase new pickleball nets, balls, and paddles to replace the equipment we've been using since 2019, when the pickleball program began. Additionally, we will be adding pickleball lines to the indoor court at Veterans Memorial Park to help accommodate the growth and demand in this program.

**Athletic and Program Summary:**

- Adult Boot Camp, Krav Maga, Kids Yoga, Pickleball, Tai Chi, Tennis clinics, Volleyball lessons, Yoga continue to go well.
- Travel Team activities continue to go well.
  - 13 total teams registered (baseball, softball, basketball, tennis)
- Pickleball open play continues to go well and the demand for more courts is on the rise.
- Basketball games finished up towards the end of January with the end of season tournaments.
- Wrestling season is also nearing the end.
- Spring Sports online registration opened January 2, 2022. Walk-in registration started January 31, 2022. The registration deadline is February 7, 2022.
- The EPIC Day program started for the year on January 20<sup>th</sup>, where we played basketball and other indoor games, finishing up with lunch from Chick-fil-A.

**On the Horizon:**

- We will host our annual Battle of the Best all-star basketball tournament February 4-5, 2022 at Rock Creek and Veterans Memorial Park. This tournament kicks off the all-star tournament season for the 10U girls, 10U boys, 12U girls, and 12U boys teams.
- We will host the 12U girls Mountain Athletic Conference all-start basketball tournament the weekend of February 11, 2022 at Veterans Memorial Park. The other age groups will travel to other agencies for their tournaments.
- All all-star teams will travel the weekend of February 25<sup>th</sup> for the district tournaments, where they will fight for the chance to play in the state tournament the first weekend of March.
- Spring sports player evaluations will take place on Saturday, February 19, 2022. Teams will begin practicing the week of February 28, 2022.
- The annual Spring Sports Opening Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 19, 2022, where we will celebrate 50 years of parks & recreation in Dawson County.



## **Dawson County Board of Commissioners**

### Public Works Monthly Report – January 2022

#### **ROADS:**

- Work Orders: 28
- GAB: 273 Tons
- #4 Stone: 125.21 Tons
- Rip Rap: 20 Tons
- Salt: 177.50 Tons
- #89 Stone: 174 Tons
- Limb ROW: 0.00 miles. In lieu of limbing, crews have been splitting wood for Seniors.
- MOW ROW: 0.00 miles. In lieu of mowing, crews have been splitting wood for Seniors.
- “Heat a Senior’s Home” Program: Delivered 16 loads to 16 residents.

#### **PROJECT MANAGEMENT:**

##### **Lumpkin Campground Round About**

Final paving of the RAB has been completed as of 11/30/2021. The county is awaiting additional directional signage to be installed. Once stabilization is achieved, BMP’s will be removed. The scheduled completion date is 2/16/2022.

##### **Rock Creek Park Restrooms**

The architectural plans have been approved by the County and Purchasing is preparing to release for bid (Invitation for bid is 6 weeks).

##### **Rock Creek Trail Relocation**

A PO was issued to Townley Construction to relocate a portion of the walking trail around the playground. The estimated timeframe for construction is based on the paver’s schedule. Contractor is coordinating for the next couple weeks weather permitting. Estimated completion date is February 18, 2022.

##### **Rock Creek Street and Walking Trail Light Replacement**

The county has coordinated with GA Power to make all the arrangements necessary to update and retrofit all of the lights at Rock Creek Park to LED and to make sure all light function properly. From now on the county will not be responsible for any maintenance or replacement of lights inside the park. Installation timeframe of the lights are based on supply from GA Power. GA Power is expecting to begin installation the end of February.

##### **Rock Creek Park Turf Soccer Field**

All of the unsuitable soils have been removed. Field location sites have been stabilized with concrete and desirable soils. Drainage infrastructure and stone basins is scheduled to be completed next week. The installation of Turf material is scheduled to be completed April 1, 2022, with testing of Turf to be complete by third week of April.

##### **Fire Station 2 Sanitary Sewer**

Materials for the sanitary sewer are onsite and construction is ready to begin, the county will coordinate with Townley Construction for an estimated start date. The estimated start date received from Townley Construction is late February or early March 2022.



**Dawson Forest/53 Round About**

The County received parcel plats on 2-2-2022. This information will be forward to legal in preparation for closing. The County has also received the final civil plans. These plans are presently under review with an expected approval date of 2-15-2021.

**Shoal Creek/136 Round About**

SEI will submit plans to GDOT on February 25,2022, with expected GDOT approval on or before April 25, 2022. The updated timeline is as follows:

    GDOT & Dawson County Approval-April 25, 2022.

    Certify ROW and Utilities May 15,2022

    Advertise for Construction May 15,2022

    Construction NTP June 30,2022

**Rock Creek River Canoe Put In**

Tri-scapes is currently working on finalizing civil plans for the county's approval. Plans scheduled to be submitted to the county by end of this week.

**Georgia Power Make Ready Program**

The County staff met with Georgia Power to determine potential charging locations for the Government Building, Veterans Park and Rock Creek. The preferred site breakdown includes 3 dual stations at the Government Building, 6 dual stations at Veteran's Park, and 5 duals at Rock Creek Park. Presently, the County only has an agreement and grant funding for the charging stations located at the Government Building. Additional funding and agreements will be necessary for the other locations.

**Elliott Road Realignment**

The Public Works Department has received the realignment plan, individual parcel plats and legal descriptions from DES. We are awaiting BOC direction concerning mailing the notifications to residents requesting donation of right of way. (PW will present to BOC on 2-3-2022)

**FDR (Wesley Chapel, GW Tafter and Howser Mill)**

The FDR project is complete. The County will continue to monitor stabilization of shoulders and grassed areas.

**TRANSFER STATION:**

- Solid Waste: 131.25 Tons (first half of month). Estimated month of January 262.50 Tons
- Recycling: 8.88 Tons (first half of the month). Estimated month of January 17.76 Tons
- Recycling Tires: 10.62 Tons for entire month of January
- Recycling Scrap Metal-400 Waste: 11,900 lbs. for entire month of January

\*\* Solid Waste and recycling invoices for the second half of the month of January 2022 have not been received. Therefore, estimations for the entire month have been provided.



## Dawson County Board of Commissioners

### Dawson County Senior Services Monthly Report – January 2022

#### **SENIOR CENTER**

- **Home Delivered Meals Served**
  - January 2022: 2,731
  - YTD 2022: 5,043
- **Congregate Meals Served**
  - January 2022: 265
  - YTD 2022: 645
- **Physical Activity Participation** (Tai Chi, Silver Sneakers, Yoga, individual fitness)
  - January 2022: 206
  - YTD 2022: 399
- **Lifestyle Management Participation** (Awareness, Prevention, Virtual Learning)
  - January 2022: 423
  - YTD 2022: 1,385

#### **TRANSIT**

- **DOT Trips Provided**
  - January 2022: 127
  - YTD 2022: 274
- **Senior Trips Provided**
  - January 2022: 350
  - YTD 2022: 923
- **# of Miles**
  - January 2022: 5,173
  - YTD 2022: 12,294
- **Gallons of Fuel**
  - January 2022: 645
  - YTD 2022: 1,436

**LOST and SPLOST Collections**

Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) collections are up 12.33% for the same month in 2020 and up 20.33% for year to date. Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) collections are up 12.32% for the same month in 2020. Total SPLOST VII collections (July 2021 to present) are \$6,367,083.

December 2021 collections received in January 2022 are as follows:

<b>LOST</b>	<b>\$1,140,733</b>
<b>SPLOST</b>	<b>\$1,296,045</b>
County (100%)	\$1,296,045
City (0%)	\$0

**Items Approved by the County Manager or Chief Financial Officer Since Last Report**

Allan Vigil Ford-Lincoln	Tax Assessor	2022 Ford Escape S	Cooperative Agreement Purchase	Purchase Order	\$26,560	Funding Source – Tax Assessor’s Capital Fund Budget
Cintas Corporation 2	Facilities Department	Inspections/ Maintenance/Repairs for kitchen hoods, fire extinguishers, wet and dry sprinklers and fire alarms	Cooperative Agreement	Purchase Order	\$15,260.78 annually for inspections; repairs at per hour cost. (\$99 per hour – Regular hours; \$148 per hour – Overtime/After Hours; \$198 per hour – Weekends/Holidays	Funding Source – Facilities Regular Operating Budget

Presidio	Courtroom C Upgrade	AV System Hardware and Software	Cooperative Agreement	Purchase Order	\$34,917.96	Funding Source – IT Capital Fund Budget
S & L Integrated	Courtroom C Upgrade	System Design and Installation	Professional Exemption	Purchase Order	\$16,325.68	Funding Source – IT Capital Fund Budget