



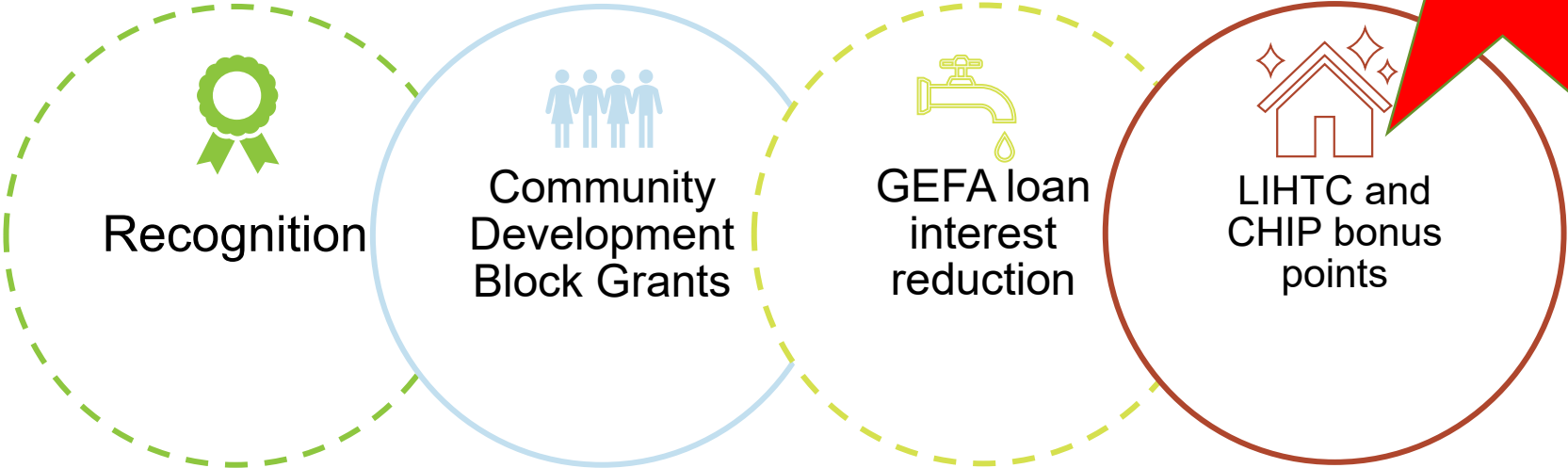
PlanFirst

Statewide recognition for
exemplary Comprehensive
Planning

What is PlanFirst ?



Why do you want to participate ?



Benefits of PlanFirst

- Statewide recognition for outstanding planning and implementation.
- Eligibility to apply EVERY year for CDBG funding.
- 3 Bonus points on Housing Tax Credits application.
- Reduction on certain DCA loans: EIP, Redevelopment Fund and DDRLF.
- Reduction on certain GEFA state loans.
- 2 free registrations at any Community Planning Institute per 3/year cycle.

PlanFirst benefits

1/2%

Reduction on GEFA
loans.

1%

Employment
Incentive Program
reduction.

1%

Redevelopment
Fund Loan
reduction.

1%

Downtown Revolving
Loan Fund reduction.

3

Bonus points on
LIHTC and CHIP
applications.



Satisfaction points of
being a PlanFirst
community...

From: Ronnie Kurtz <rkurtz@cityofgrovetown.com>

Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 12:33 PM

To: Daniel Gaddis <Daniel.Gaddis@dca.ga.gov>

Subject: RE: PlanFirst Communities-free registration for Spring Community Planning Institute

Thanks! They both should be registered now.



Ronnie Kurtz, AICP
Director of Planning and
Community Development
City of Grovetown


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Alphabet soup-lightning round

CPI



LIHTC




GEFA




RDF



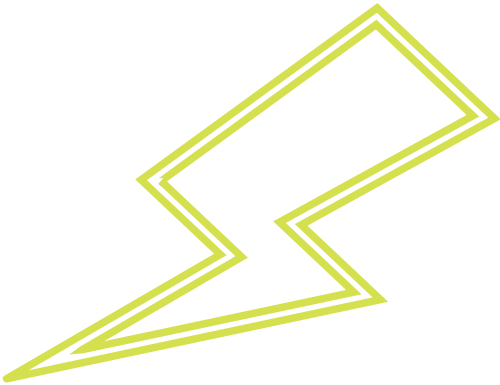

CDBG



DDRLF



EIP



PlanFirst Communities

There are 27 active
PlanFirst
Communities.



How do I participate?

- QLQ status
- SDS, and surveys (GOMI, RLGF).
- Met MINIMUM Performance Standards established by the local regional commission.
- Show highly effective Comprehensive Planning
- Contact planning@dca.ga.gov by April 15 to check eligibility.
- Application due May 15.

FOUR INDICATORS

- Goals
- Leadership
- Participation
- Implementation



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
of COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

PlanFirst Program Application – Due May 15, 2025

Introduction: The Department of Community Affairs' PlanFirst program recognizes local governments that clearly demonstrate success with implementing their Local Comprehensive Plan. In order to apply for PlanFirst designation, a local government must have participated in at least two Local Comprehensive Plan update cycles, and they must also have Qualified Local Government certification and be current on required reporting to DCA. *Before you begin the application process, you **must** inquire with the Office of Planning at planning@dca.ga.gov regarding your historic performance status and prerequisites by April 15th.* To check your current status, please visit: <http://www.georgiaplanning.com/planners/planreview/Default.asp>.

A multi-agency review panel will evaluate a number of indicators of community success with plan implementation to select communities for this designation. All of these indicators are equally important, but size of the community is taken into consideration in the evaluation so that communities of various sizes are equally competitive for PlanFirst designation.

Instructions: Please answer all the following questions thoroughly, attach additional pages where necessary, so that the reviewers have sufficient information to measure the success of your Local Comprehensive Plan implementation. Supporting documents might include: news articles, legal ads, lists of attendees, letters of support or other evidence of local involvement and commitment to successful plan implementation activities in your community. *Total application length, including supporting information and support letters, must not exceed 22 pages. Text areas will expand as needed.* Please send your application as one document, not to exceed 22 pages. Please do not send separate files.

Applicant government	_____
Mailing address	_____
Telephone	_____
Email	_____
Contact person; title	_____
Application prepared by	_____
I, the undersigned authorized representative of the applicant, certify that to the best of my knowledge the information in this application is true and correct.	
Name of authorized official signing	_____
Title of authorized official signing	_____
Date	_____
Signature	_____

Indicator: Goals

- Community and Leadership Support
- Ambitious and Achievable
- Steer Local Decision-Making
- Consistent Progress



City of Thomasville Victoria Place Overlay District

Indicator: Leadership

- Effective Planning Staff
- Active Planning Commission
- Effectively Evaluate Planning
- Trained Local Officials
- Collaborative Partnerships



**City of Dublin
2018 Planning Session
AGENDA**

Friday, February 16th

Check in at Andaz Savannah

On Your Own

Saturday, February 17th

7:30am	Breakfast	
8:30am	Opening Remarks & Discussion	Mayor Best
9:00am	Financial Overview	Greg Chapman, Nichols Cauley
9:30am	Comprehensive Presentation	
	City Manager Lance Jones & Wayne McCary	
	Plaza Update & Additional Comments	T&H Engineering
10:00am	Pool Update and Comments	Assistant City Manager
10:15am	Legal Recommendations	City Attorney Josh Powell
10:30am	Council Planning Session	
12:00N	Lunch	
1:30pm	Continued Council Planning Session	

Sunday, February 18th

7:30am	Breakfast	
8:30am	Council Goal Planning & Priorities	
12:00N	Adjournment	

Indicator: Participation

- Lots of Opportunities for Community Input
- Community Input Incorporated in Your Plan
- Steering Committee Guided Process
- Effective Outreach Process
- Advocates



Jones County Plan Meeting

Exhibit 1



Community member interacting with members of the Project Team at a Planning Workshop

Exhibit 2

- GOAL 1 // CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A PLAN TO REVITALIZE AND REACTIVATE DOWNTOWN, AND BRING IN NEEDED ACTIVITY TO THE AREA
- GOAL 2 // REDEVELOP OLDER, UNDERUTILIZED STRIP SHOPPING CENTERS
- GOAL 3 // DEVELOP QUALITY, DIVERSE HOUSING THAT CAN ATTRACT A WIDE RANGE OF PEOPLE AND LIFESTYLES
- GOAL 4 // ATTRACT USERS OF THE SILVER COMET TRAIL TO POWDER SPRINGS VIA IMPROVED SIGNAGE, WAYFINDING, CONNECTIVITY, AND FACILITIES
- GOAL 5 // ATTRACT NEW RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS, MARKETING, AND BRANDING

Goals, 2017 Springs In Motion Comprehensive Plan, Page 67

Indicator: Implementation

- Action Items in Work Program
- Work Program Addresses Local Needs
- Good Track Record
- Consistent Capital Budget
- Recent



Amphitheater in Woodstock City Park

Financial Planning Policies

Long-Range Planning

Strategic Planning
The City of Gainesville employs various types of strategic planning techniques. Primarily, the City uses a Vision, Mission and Values strategy, to help guide individual departments on a micro level. On a macro level, the City uses a comprehensive plan, trend analysis and City Council Direction to help determine the overall direction of the City of Gainesville. The City of Gainesville will develop a multi-year plan for capital improvements and update it annually. The City will enact an annual capital budget based on the multi-year capital improvements plan. Future operating costs associated with new capital improvements will be projected and included in operating budget forecasts.

Capital-Asset
Fixed assets include a unit cost of \$10,000 or more, with some exceptions for something that is expected to have a long-term useful life. It possesses a substance and is not intended to be consumed or that extend beyond the current fiscal year. Assets include one of the following: Land, Buildings, Land, Buildings & Equipment, Improvements, Water Treatment Facilities, Sewerage Facilities, Water Lines, Intangible, and Structure.

Asset
Controllable assets are charged to an operating budget. However, an asset will be added into the capital asset system to be tracked and will



City of Gainesville Georgia ANNUAL BUDGET + CAPITAL FY2018 Gainesville.org

Tips and tricks

01

Read the questions carefully and make sure you answer the question asked in its entirety.

02

Remember-this is about the Comprehensive Plan, not any other strategic plan, like an area plan, or corridor study.

03

Reference the plan with the correct section, date of the plan, and page number.

Tips and tricks

04

Tell a complete story with pictures-in focus and clearly identified.



05

Elaborate beyond yes or no answers, explain and be thoughtful and thorough in your answers.

Additional tips for success



Use the application for ideas for your implementation.



Start early! The application is due May 15.



Let other community staff and trusted professionals review your application.

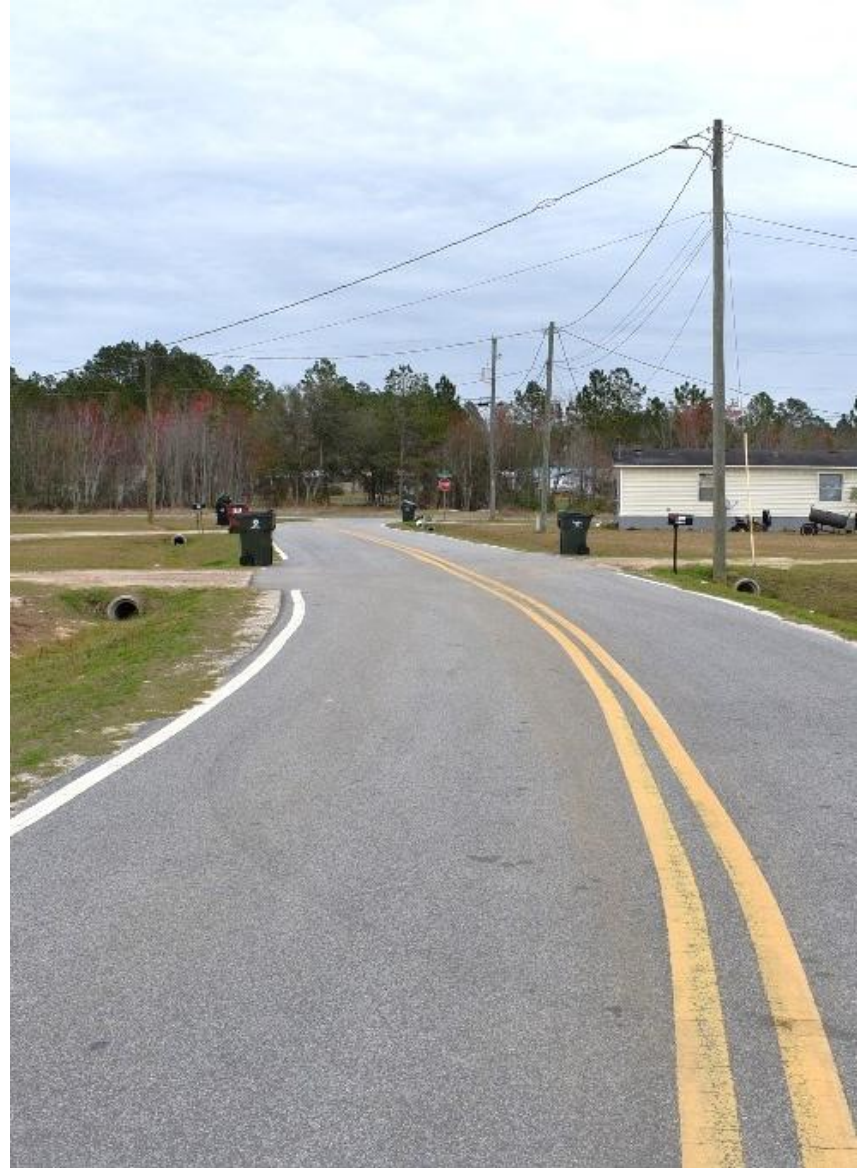


Examples, examples, examples!.



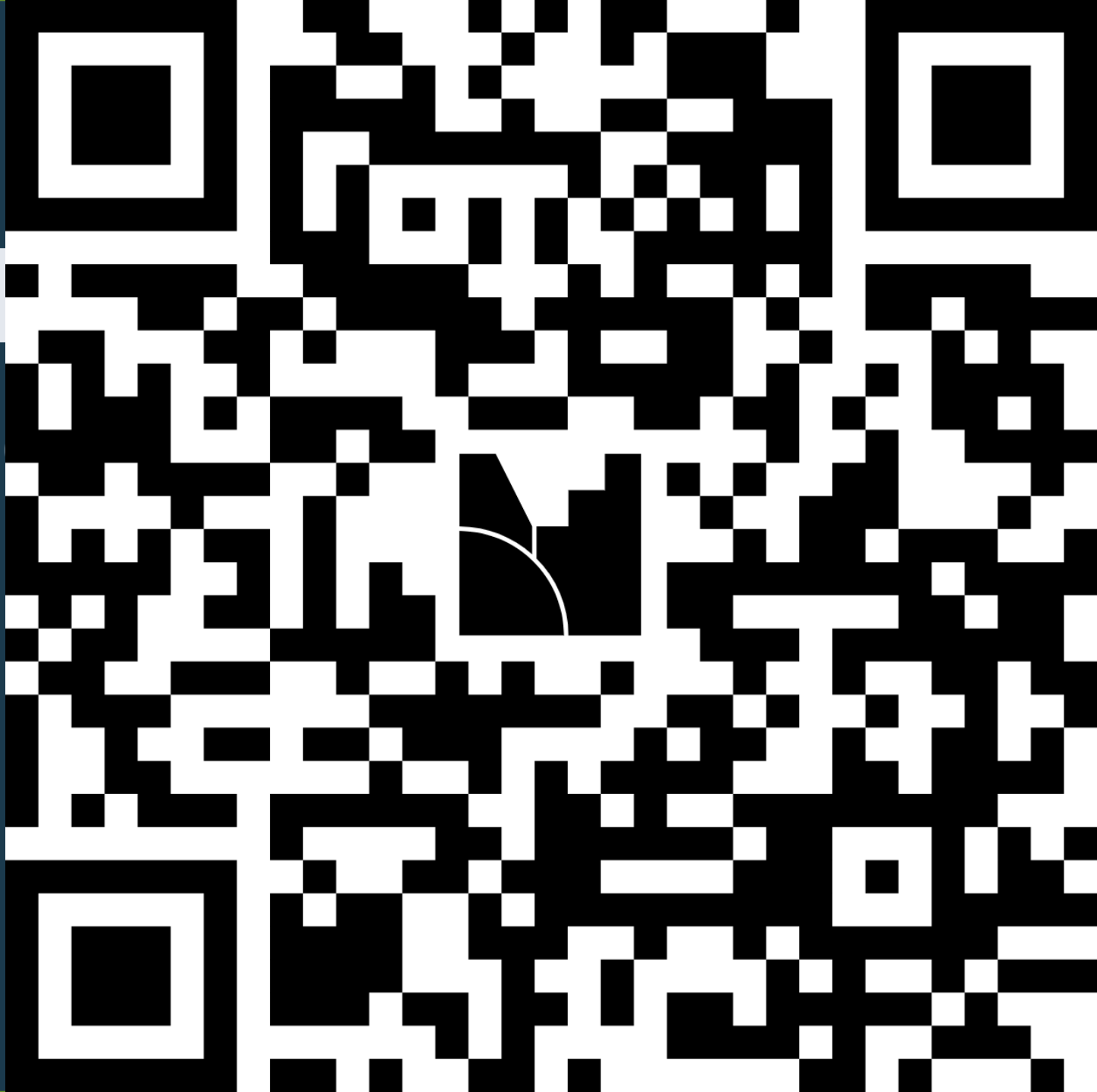
PlanFirst incentives-a success story

- PlanFirst community 2017-2025
- 2017 EIP winner-100 jobs created-infrastructure for Elixer Extrusions manufacturing
- 2018 CDBG award winner-\$459,895-water and sewer improvements.
- 2019 CDBG award winner-\$373,727-drainage and street improvements
- 2020 CDBG award winner-\$750,000-public facility to address mental health benefitting 951 persons
- 2022 CDBG Annual Competition-\$1,000,000 expansion of Early Head Start facility benefitting 125 persons.
- 2022 GEFA loan to upgrade wastewater treatment plant-\$3,000,000-interest rate savings on a 20 year loan~\$170,000
- 2024 and 2025 Housing Tax Credits Award Winner!









Thanks!

Daniel Gaddis, AICP

Planning Outreach Coordinator

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Cell: 470.352.0395

dca.ga.gov