

Policy 1.4: Encourage keeping the Alapaha River clean.

Cultural Resources

Goal 2: Protect, preserve, and promote the historic and cultural resources of Echols County through such measures as regulations, adaptive reuse, and tourism and education programs focused on historic preservation.

Needs & Policies

Need: *There are not enough properties listed and recognized as historical, so many are lost and not preserved.*

Policy 2.1 Support creating an inventory of National Register eligible sites with County staff and members of the Historical Society.

Need: *A new courthouse needs to be built that will house the BOCC offices, Commissioner's meeting room, and Sheriff's Office.*

Policy 2.2: Encourage the use of SPLOST and grants, for construction of a new courthouse, commissioners meeting room, and Sheriff's Office.

Economic Development

Goal 3: Improve the Echols County economy by developing and enhancing new and existing strengths that will draw new business, expand existing businesses, diversify the local economy, and help Echols County compete in the regional economy.

Needs & Policies

Need: *There are not enough restaurants in the County, which cause loss of income and sales tax because residents and or visitors leave the County to eat.*

Policy 3.1: Private sector economic investments should be encouraged and fostered through the availability of financial and technical assistance.

Need: *Commercial sales taxes are lost to Lowndes County due to the lack of businesses in Echols County.*

Policy 3.2: Consider the establishment of a small Chamber of Commerce that can attract businesses to Echols County.

Policy 3.3: Encourage coordination between potential developers, the County Commission, and the Southern Georgia Regional Commission to utilize specific programs and financing mechanisms that will create local businesses, and in result expand the County's commercial tax base.