

2022 CENSUS BOUNDARY AND ANNEXATION SURVEY (BAS)

Has your boundary changed in the past year? Then let the NEGRC know! The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) annually to collect information about select, legally-defined geographic areas. The survey allows for counties and municipalities to update their legal boundaries and the names of all governmental units in the United States. Boundary updates complete the Census Bureau's geographic framework for data collection, tabulation, and dissemination. In addition, the updates are vital to the success the American Community Survey (ACS), Population Estimates Program (PEP), and many other surveys. The federal government allocates more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually for health, welfare, infrastructure, education, and other federal programs and services. Responding to the BAS ensures that your local government receives the funds for which it is entitled and has the best data available for its decision-making processes.

The U.S. Census Bureau will be mailing and emailing an annual response letter to all federally recognized tribes with a reservation or off-reservation trust land, counties (and equivalent areas), incorporated places, and minor civil divisions (MCDs) in January 2022. If you need assistance with completing your Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS), contact **Jon McBrayer, NEGRC GIS Planner, at jmcbayer@negrc.org or 706-369-5650.**

NORTHEAST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION'S AREA AGENCY ON AGING PUBLIC HEARING

The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission's (NEGRC) Area Agency on Aging (AAA) will hold a telephonic Public Hearing via the GoToMeeting™ platform on **Friday, January 7, 2022 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.** Due to COVID, the public hearing will be virtual via GoToMeeting™. The purpose of this meeting is to gain input into services needed for our aging population within the 12-county NEGRC planning and service area. Counties included are: Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe and Walton Counties. Information received from the public hearing will assist in planning and developing future NEGRC's AAA services.

The GoToMeeting™ can be accessed via computer, tablet or smart phone at the link: **<https://global.GoToMeeting.com/join/213534477>.** You can also dial-in using your phone at 1(408) 650-3123. Access Code: 213-534-477. If you are new to GoToMeeting™, get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts at the link: **<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/213534477>.**

Anyone unable to join the GoToMeeting™ Public Hearing can provide their input on Aging Services in Northeast Georgia by completing a survey. Please go online to **www.negrc.org** to access and complete the Needs Assessment survey.

Written comments may be submitted no later than one week prior to the meeting and mailed to:

Peggy Jenkins, AAA Director
Northeast Georgia Regional Commission
305 Research Drive
Athens, GA 30605

or via email: **pjenkins@negrc.org**

For questions or further information, contact **Peggy Jenkins, NEGRC's AAA Director, at 706-583-2546 or 1(800) 474-7540 extension 101.**

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS STORY

A Message from one of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) graduates: "Hello! My name is Haley Carr and I was enrolled at Athens Technical College from 2019-2021 as part of the WIOA program. I had just moved to Athens and it was very hard for me to find a job that was accommodating of my busy schedule as a student. When I heard about the program I was slightly skeptical thinking that it was just another federal organization who wasn't going to offer me any financial aid. Boy was I wrong. WIOA helped me tremendously with paying my fees for school as well as books and scrubs for my program. During my schooling they had a system set up so I could go to class and get a sheet signed and I would get compensated for driving to school to help with gas money. Even while I was at the UGA-Veterinary Teaching Hospital doing my rotating internship as a student, they offered to pay for my internship which was amazing. Without them, I probably would not be where I am today with a permanent position in the anesthesia department at UGA working as a Registered Veterinary Technician. I am so grateful for this program and I wish that more people knew about it!"

For information on services available through the WIOA program administered by the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission with oversight by the Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Board, contact **WorkSource Northeast Georgia staff at (706) 369-5703.**

Haley Carr, Registered Veterinary Technician, at UGA's Veterinary Teaching Hospital with a bald-eagle patient.



PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN WORKSOURCE NEGA, UNITED WAY OF NEGA AND FOOTHILLS EDUCATION CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

The NEGRC is excited to highlight one of its success stories through one of its students, Saul Ortiz. Saul is a student at Foothills Education Charter High School and a participant of the WeldReady course. Saul just recently completed his 10-week training, and has accepted his first job. Saul received a grant through WorkSource NEGA, provided by United Way of Northeast Georgia. This grant paid the cost of his course. Saul received certifications in MIG Welding, OSHA 10, CPR/FIRST AID/AED and LEAN SIX SIGMA WHITE BELT. Congratulations Saul on your achievement and thank you to United Way for investing in our young workforce through WeldReady.



Saul Ortiz at the Mobil Welding Lab (above) and displaying his welding certification (right).



Graduates: Sean Corley, Lamar Young Jr., Terri Jackson pictured with Marvin Nunnally of Athens Technical College

Three students recently graduated from the Athens Technical College's "Manufacturing-Ready Program." The students (pictured above) are **Sean Corley, Lamar Young Jr., and Terri Jackson**. This six-week training program prepares individuals for success in the area of manufacturing, a growing sector in Northeast Georgia. The program is intended to serve both unemployed and underemployed individuals that desire to transition to manufacturing jobs and working for manufacturing companies. The program's next classes will be offered starting in 2022. Interested and eligible students are invited to contact **Marvin Nunnally at (706) 369-5876 or mnunnally@athenstech.edu** for further information.

For students eligible for the NEGRC's WIOA assistance, there is no cost to participate in the training program. This program is funded through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds administered by the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission with oversight by the Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Board.

NEGRC AT THE 2021 GEORGIA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In early December, the Planning and Government Services (PGS) Division attended the annual Georgia Transit Association Conference in Jekyll Island, Georgia. The Georgia Transit Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving public transportation in the state of Georgia. Conference attendees were able to experience two full days of speakers and panelists sharing the latest research and trends in public transit as well as learn best practices from peers in the industry. The latest innovations in transit technology and vehicles were showcased during a trade show in the 45,000 square foot exhibit hall. This year the conference focused on addressing the complications of providing service during the COVID-19 pandemic and learning how to provide clear and practical messaging to transit users across technological platforms.

The NEGRC uses knowledge gained to offer assistance to rural transit agencies in the region and plan for the expansion of public transportation into the future. As part of our annual contract with the Georgia Department of Transportation, the PGS Division is able to assist local governments with transit development plans, marketing, federal and state compliance, and more. Any questions regarding assistance by the NEGRC should be directed to **Eva Kennedy, PGS Director**, at EKennedy@negrc.org or by phone at **706-369-5650**.



An EV bus on display at the Jekyll Island Convention Center.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR NORTHEAST GEORGIA

Did you know that we offer transportation through our Regional Transportation Providers to older adults and individuals with disabilities who do not have insurance or other resources to cover transportation? Transportation can be provided for medical needs, shopping needs, meal services, vaccine appointments, or any other needs that will enhance an individual's quality-of-life. If you are interested in learning more or would like to schedule transportation, please call **1-800-474-7540** and learn more about our transportation program.

We do not offer demand transportation and require that clients call at least 3 business days in advance. However, due to COVID-19, clients are asked to call as soon as they are aware of their appointments to ensure a seat is secured on the vehicles. The transportation providers are following the guidance of CDC and transit to ensure that clients remain safe on the vehicles which limits availability. Guidance includes but is not limited to:

- Drivers wearing face masks while operating the vehicles;
- Vehicles have available seats identified to maintain social distancing;
- Vehicles are sanitized and disinfected daily with approved CDC products; and
- All passengers are required to wear masks while on the vehicle. If the passenger does not have a mask, the driver will give the passenger a mask to wear before boarding the vehicle.





305 Research Drive
Athens, GA 30605

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSRT. STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
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ATHENS, GA
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Update

REGIONAL MEETINGS
JANUARY

17 th	All Day	Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	
20 th	Noon	NEGRC Council Meeting	Trumps Catering
26 th	9:00 a.m.	UOBWA Meeting	NEGRC Atrium