News from CQGRD

Coastal Georgia’s Population to Grow 50 Percent
By 2030, projections show that over 840,000 people will call the Georgia coast home. That is up 50 percent from the roughly 558,000 people living there in 2000. These findings are the result of a recently released study commissioned by the Coastal Georgia Regional Development Center (CGRDC) and conducted by CQGRD. The results of this six-month study were unanimously approved by the board of directors at the CGRDC board meeting held on October 11, 2006 in the City of Richmond Hill. To uncover these trends, the CQGRD research team conducted over 45 interviews with local representatives including commissioners, mayors, city managers, planners, school administrators and others. For more information, see http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/story.php?id=1166.

Growth Leadership for Florida 2060
On Dec. 6, 1000 Friends of Florida announced their Florida 2060 initiative. The kick off included the release of the report, *A Time for Leadership: Growth Management and Florida 2060*, which was produced by the Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development (CQGRD), a research center of the College of Architecture at the Georgia Institute of Technology. The report is a review of current policies in Florida and their implications for the state, as well as a series of recommendations of how best to meet critical challenges. For more information, see http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/story.php?id=1217.

Everyday Neighborhoods symposium a success
On September 21, 2006, CQGRD and the Georgia Tech City and Regional Planning Program hosted a one-day symposium on “Everyday Neighborhoods: Redeveloping Urban Nowhere Zones.” The symposium looked at how to develop “everyday neighborhoods” that bring vitality and economic development to an urban area by featuring equity and social mobility, mixed-use development, pedestrian access, sustainability, lifecycle community and appropriate urban design. More details and full proceedings can be found at http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/everyday_neighborhoods.php.

Ross Named Fellow of National Academy of Public Administration
Dr. Catherine L. Ross, director of CQGRD and Harry West Professor of Quality Growth and Regional Development at Georgia Tech, has been named a 2006 Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA). The National Academy of Public Administration, in operation for more than 35 years, describes itself as “an independent, non-partisan organization chartered by Congress to assist federal, state, and local governments in improving their effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability.” The NAPA’s Fellows address emerging issues and contribute to the intellectual and popular discourse on government. Past named Fellows include Henry Cisneros, who headed the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under President Bill Clinton; Paul Volcker, former chairman of the Federal Reserve Board; and Donna Shalala, president of the University of Miami. Harry West, whose
endowment led to the creation of the CQGRD, was named a Fellow in 1996. For more information, visit http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/story.php?id=1141.

CQGRD Presents to Warner Robins
On September 21st, Jason Barringer, Research Scientist at CQGRD, gave a presentation on the Piedmont Atlantic Megaregion at the Warner Robins, GA Chamber of Commerce. The presentation was a part of a workshop in an ongoing series entitled "Leadership Warner Robins". The title of this workshop was Regionalism and Building Communities through Collaboration.

CQGRD Talks Health and Built Environment with State Legislator
CQGRD Research Scientist Karen Leone de Nie talked with state legislators about the state of research regarding “Understanding and Making Healthy Places.” The presentation was given as part of the Council of State Governments Health Policy Forum held in September in Memphis.

New Publication on International Cities
“Footprint for an International City: Transportation and Redevelopment,” by Dr. Catherine Ross and Jessica Harbour, a doctoral student at the College of Architecture and researcher at CQGRD, appears in the most recent issue of the Georgia State University Law Review. The essay is based on a talk given by Dr. Ross as part of Georgia State University College of Law’s symposium on international cities in February 2006.

Upcoming Events

Healthy Places Research Group
February 6, 2007
At the next Healthy Places Research Group, Mary Jean Brown, ScD, Chief of the Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch and Healthy Homes Goal Team at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will present “CDC’s Healthy Homes Activities: Policy and Research” at the Healthy Places Research Group meeting. HPRG is free and open to anyone interested in the relationship between health and the built environment. The meeting will take place at 7:30 a.m. in the Rita Anne Rollins room at Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health, Grace Crum Rollins building. For more information about Healthy Places Research Group and directions to this meeting, see http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/hprg/.

Research and News of Interest

A New Spin on Workforce Housing
What if companies started providing workforce housing for their own workers? That's the experiment now being tried by Tesco, a prominent British supermarket chain, which will allot 13 of 250 planned apartments near its new store in Streatham, in central London, to employees. A housing association, not Tesco, will control the property and renters will have the right to stay in the property even if they change jobs. A spokeswoman for Tesco says the chain hopes the workforce-housing project will help improve retention rates in London and that, if successful, it could be expanded to other stores. For more information, visit http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/london/6264059.stm.
TRB Releases Third National Report on Commuting Trends
The Transportation Research Board (TRB), whose executive committee is chaired by Georgia Tech civil engineering professor Michael Meyer, has released its third national report on commuting trends across America. Drawing data from the 2000 census, the report found several surprising trends, including a newfound surge in carpooling (led mainly by Hispanic immigrants), an increase in “reverse commutes” from city to suburb, and a decline in the number of zero-vehicle households. Meanwhile, the national average travel time from home to work has risen three minutes since 1990, to 25.2 minutes. The report can be downloaded as a PDF at http://www.trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6699.

Seeing Sprawl from Space
A report in the May 2006 issue of The Quarterly Journal of Economics is prompting new debate about the extent of sprawl. Researchers Marcy Burchfield, Henry Overman, Diego Puga, and Matthew Turner used high-altitude photographs to study patterns of residential development and found that by 1992, only 1.9 percent of the United States was built or paved up. They also put forward some hypotheses about why metropolitan areas might vary in sprawl: more underdeveloped land outside a city, and less responsibility on the part of residents to pay for extending infrastructure, leads to more sprawl. But some critics have argued that the authors do not pay enough attention to underdeveloped areas around buildings and highways, which increase sprawl. You can read the full report at Dr. Puga’s website: http://diegopuga.org/papers/sprawl.pdf.

Atlanta’s Most Dangerous Intersections
The Atlanta Regional Commission’s new report, “Traffic Crash Profiles for the Atlanta Region”, includes the intersections that saw the highest numbers of fatal crashes between 2000 and 2004. The top three were all in Cobb County: Austell Road at the East-West Connector, Barrett Parkway at Cobb Place Boulevard, and Barrett Parkway at Cobb Parkway. About 45 percent of the more than 180,000 crashes each year in the 18-county Atlanta region occur at intersections. The report is available for download at http://www.atlantaregional.com/cps/rde/xchg/SID-3F57FEE7-C4C18FD1/arc/hs.xsl/81_2702_ENU_HTML.htm.

Where Is the Affordable Housing?
A study from Virginia Tech’s Metropolitan Institute looks at the housing costs and burdens working families face in 28 cities. Looking at both housing and transportation costs, they found that total costs tended to increase with commute distance (even though housing costs typically went down). But moderate-income families were increasingly choosing to move further away, increasing commute time and costs. The study’s recommendations include promoting mixed-income housing and increasing workforce transportation options, especially public transit. To download a PDF of the report, go to http://www.cnt.org/repository/H-T-Tradeoffs-for-Working-Families-n-28-Metros-FULL.pdf.
Greetings from Georgia Tech’s Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development (CQGRD). This issue of *Quality Growth Quarterly* provides news about the CQGRD’s latest activities; links to events; and highlights of recent research in the field.

To view the entire newsletter visit [http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/publications/newsletter.php](http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/publications/newsletter.php) or click on the links below.

### Highlights from CQGRD

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**Growth Leadership for Florida 2060**

**Everyday Neighborhoods Symposium a Success**
Elected officials, developers, designers, planners, and community advocates came together in September to talk about creating Everyday Neighborhoods. [LINK](http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/publications/newsletter.php)

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**CQGRD Researchers Talk about International Cities, Regionalism and Health**
In the past six months researchers from the Center have appeared before audiences and their articles have been included in publications ranging from issues of international cities, to multi-state regionalism, to health. [LINK](http://www.cqgrd.gatech.edu/publications/newsletter.php)

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ABOUT CQGRD: The Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development is an applied research center at Georgia Tech studying solutions and tools that communities can implement to foster quality growth and development.

Click here to see the full text of the winter 2007 Quality Growth Quarterly.

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