

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR OLDER ADULTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT**  
**FINAL REPORT**  
**EPA INITIATIVE**

**Date:** November 7, 2006

**Recipient:** Atlanta Regional Commission

**Report Number:** 6<sup>th</sup> Report—Final Report

**Reporting Period:** February 14, 2005 to October 31, 2006

**Agreement Project Period:** February 14, 2005 to October 31, 2006

**Recipient Contact Person:** Kathryn Lawler

**Principal Investigator/Project Director:** Kathryn Lawler

## I. Progress Achieved

Objective	Activities to date	Outcomes
Form community alliances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Created alliances in Cherokee County, City of Woodstock and North Fulton County.</li> <li>• All 3 alliances continue to meet and promote age friendly community design</li> <li>• Model has been developed for Atlanta region.</li> <li>• Alliance building successes are integrated into new Age Friendly Community Institute beginning November 1, 2006</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community based alliances were instrumental in creating local policy change</li> <li>• Model was developed and is now being implemented in other parts of the region.</li> </ul>
Educate older adults on smart community design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed and tested education program for increasing older adults' understanding of smart growth issues, and the impact those issues have on older adults' lives.</li> <li>• Emphasized the link between policy decisions and health/quality of life outcomes for older adults.</li> <li>• Discussed smart growth principles and their ability to affect an individual's experience as they age.</li> <li>• Received funding to further develop this education model into a senior institute which will begin in City of Atlanta November 2006 and expand across region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older adults better educated with increased knowledge of transportation and housing programs/funding.</li> <li>• Older adults using their education to advocate for change on local level</li> <li>• Developed and funded first Age Friendly Community Senior Institute</li> </ul>
Create a cross-sector approach to community design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked with several counties and cities including Cobb, DeKalb and Cherokee counties and the cities of Sandy Springs, Roswell and Alpharetta to bring together their planning and senior services departments.</li> <li>• Used GIS technology to bring groups together and analysis specific spatial components of aging issues in local communities</li> <li>• Have permanent work group bringing together transportation planners, transit providers and social service providers to examine needs and develop coordinated human services transportation plan.</li> <li>• ARC Board resolution mandating cross sector approach in regional transportation plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have successfully established new process for planning aging services in conjunction with local planning and transportation departments.</li> <li>• Many local jurisdictions are now using the model.</li> <li>• Regional Transportation plan will for the first time include needs of older adults and emphasize smart growth principles when describing problem and identifying solutions</li> </ul>
Marshall support of local business leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Included local business leaders in discussions and education efforts regarding age friendly communities.</li> <li>• Started to examine leadership/resource and technical assistance gap in region for the issue of senior housing.</li> <li>• Currently pursuing funding to support additional activities in this area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business leaders have funded transportation voucher program in one community.</li> <li>• Housing developers in several local communities are now working toward age-friendly community goal, not just creating senior housing units.</li> </ul>

Change local policy to promote age-friendly community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assisted with development of new local zoning policies in Cobb, Cherokee, Fulton and Gwinnett counties and the Cities of Woodstock, Hampton and Snellville.</li> <li>Worked with two counties to integrate older adults into comprehensive transportation plans.</li> <li>Presented work at over 30 different meetings and conferences including: Georgia Gerontology Society semi-annual meeting, White House Conference on Aging follow up session, meetings with staff from local offices of Atlanta region's congressmen and senators, and Congressional Briefing in Washington.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New zoning policies in multiple jurisdictions</li> <li>New transportation plans in multiple jurisdictions.</li> </ul>
Work with EPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated in several conference calls with EPA staff.</li> <li>Met with regional office staff.</li> <li>Reviewed materials for new EPA website.</li> <li>Participated in Washington briefing at EPA recommendation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Established new partners and allies in EPA.</li> <li>Work in Atlanta region was greatly enhanced by EPA expertise and networking.</li> </ul>

**Budget:**

	Project Budget			Total Expenditures February 2005 to October 2006
	EPA	Other	Total	EPA funds
Personnel	14,500	5,800	20,300	14,500
Fringe	5,892	6,084	11,977	5,892
Indirect	0	12,329	12,329	0
Contract	3,275	0	3,275	3,275
Travel	703	0	703	1,330
Supplies	0	10,000	10,000	0
Meeting Costs	627	0	627	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,997</b>	<b>34,213</b>	<b>59,210</b>	<b>24,997</b>

Personnel Changes: There have been no personnel changes in the project.

II. Difficulties Encountered: We have encountered no major difficulties during the project

III. Activity Anticipated Next Reporting Period: None- grant has ended.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Krautler, Director

Date: November 7, 2006