

MISSION
OF
ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY UNIFICATION COMMISSION

By joint resolution of the Quality Growth Task Force, the City of Athens, and Clarke County, the Athens-Clarke County Unification Commission was created to develop a plan of Local Governmental Reorganization for the future of Athens and Clarke County, including necessary implementation legislation to be introduced at the 1990 Session of the Georgia General Assembly.

Members of the Commission are Pat Allen, Ed Benson, Larry E. Blount, Bob Carson, Jack Curtis, Joan Curtis, Tal DuVall, Milton Hill, Willie James, Louise McBee, Libby Morris, Mike Morris, Ron Neislar, Jim Newland, and Don Paulk.

Agreeing that the Athens-Clarke County area is a good candidate for unification since it has an uncontested growth center, and is of appropriate size for unification, Commission members suggest some reasons that unification of governments is in the best interest of the Athens-Clarke County Community:

Increased efficiency of services

- To more efficiently allocate resources to increase the quality of life within the entire county.
- To eliminate duplication of services within the county.
- To provide the highest quality services to all citizens of the county.
- To speak for the community with one voice.
- To improve accountability for community direction.
- To achieve unified commitment regarding problems and opportunities facing the area.
- To ensure efficient utilization of community resources.
- To improve citizen equity.
- To eliminate unproductive conflict between city and county.

Protection of the future quality of life

- To serve the long-term interests of the community.
- To increase the influence of the Athens/Clarke County area in the state and the region.
- To keep future costs of government under control.
- To effectively address the problems, issues, and opportunities of an urban county with regional influence.
- To facilitate greater economic growth and development that is consistent with the capacity of the area.
- To enhance regional leadership.
- To prepare for the growth that is coming and is an inevitable part of the future of the county.

For further information contact the Athens-Clarke County Unification Commission at 354-1972.