

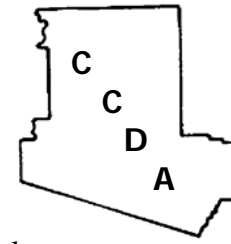
The CCDA needs an interested member to lead the Industry Committee to accomplish the following objectives.

- ❖ **Network with other development groups and developers to identify ways to help the county develop.** CCDA recommends that its members and other concerned citizen work jointly with the Greenwood-Leflore Carroll Economic Development Foundation to promote and develop areas in Carroll County.
- ❖ **Work to support existing businesses.** CCDA recommends developing a business appreciation day. CCDA recommends working with current businesses to host workshops to provide advice and technical assistance to help businesses manage and market their products, especially through websites.
 - Provide Certificates of Appreciation to county businesses.
- ❖ **Promote the county's business and industrial interests** CCDA recommends that a team of interested individuals identify and promote the county through printed material, websites and personal contacts.
 - Help promote 911 signage by businesses and families.

Education and Workforce Development

- ❖ **Work with the School District to promote ways to increase adult literacy and GED attainment.** CCDA recommends finding ways to seed funding, resources and volunteers to help our undereducated adult population.
- ❖ **Promote career and job skill development.** CCDA recommends making the school district technology resources available to all county citizens for skills development in a supervised setting.
- ❖ **Seek ways to organize churches, civic groups, individual volunteers and businesses to support literacy efforts and career/job skill training and development.**
- ❖ CCDA recommends increasing awareness among these groups of the negative impact lack of education and job skills have on our county. We also need to make these groups aware of how to get funds, volunteers, mentoring and other support to implement literacy and job skills programs.
 - ✓ Encourage interested adults to work with the Barksdale Reading Program established in each elementary school.
- ❖ **Make a concerted effort through all means possible to motivate our citizens, young and not so young, to take advantage of all educational opportunities we can organize.** CCDA recognizes that no matter how

much we improve our educational facilities and faculties, an unmotivated student population will not accomplish much. All county citizens, particularly parents, guardians, and extended families must make education a strong priority for the youths they represent.



This plan represents a significant step for Carroll County in the new millennium. It is our desire to meet the challenges of the new millennium with a positive attitude and a willingness to make a difference.

"I am only one. But still I am one. I cannot do everything. Because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do."
Edward Everett Hale

Join us in our efforts to provide a better future for all our citizens.

Carroll County Development Association
PO Box 561
Carrollton, MS 38917

Planning for the Future By Working Together Today



CARROLL COUNTY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Strategic Plan 2007-2008

INTRODUCTION

The new millennium saw a renewed resolve in Carroll County. Citizens organized and chartered the Carroll County Development Association. As an association, we envision a stable, flexible, and productive county. Our vision sees a county that will grow through united and proactive efforts that retain our rural heritage.

The CCDA Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen have worked together to assess strengths and weaknesses. From these, we identified goals and some strategies to reach those goals. This document reflects the original plan, the accomplishments and the updates. Even now, this document does not represent a completed plan, but one that is alive and developing as our county grows.

However, the key to successfully implementing this strategic plan is the support and participation of all citizens of Carroll County.

- ❖ = Original plan
- ✓ = Accomplishments
- = Updates

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- ❖ **Preserve and use natural resources responsibly.** CCDA recommends working with NRCS, FSA, Forestry Service, and MSU-ES to provide information on the most efficient ways to preserve and use natural resources.
 - ✓ Assisted County Forestry Association and Extension Service in presenting educational programs to landowners.
 - Work with forestry services and schools to teach children about the role of trees in our environment.
- ❖ **Organize and promote our outdoor recreation resources.** CCDA recommends sponsoring workshops to help development of outdoor recreation resources and agritourism.
 - ✓ Assisted the County in the development of the Carroll County Recreation Park
 - ✓ Working with NRCS to create an educational walking trail across the creek from the park and the installation of a bridge to reach it.
 - ✓ Assisted with a grant to secure trees for the recreation park.
 - ✓ Purchased video tapes that can be used with tourists or schools to explain the role of cotton in today's world.
 - Continue to work as the county's official tourism agency to promote agritourism.

- Continue work on the completion of the Carroll County Recreation Park and Education Center

HISTORIC, CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT

- ❖ **Encourage historic, cultural and artistic tourism.** CCDA recommends that distribution sites for promotional materials be identified and prepared for use.
 - ✓ Developed a county brochure and distributed it throughout the county and to all the state welcome centers.
 - ✓ Developed a county website – www.carrollcountymms.com.
 - Add a picture page to the website to show events in the county.
- ❖ **Encourage development of local arts.** CCDA recommends identifying incubator grants for new businesses and sponsoring workshops to help develop promotional brochures.
 - ✓ Worked with MSU-ES to provide educational workshops to help develop businesses and promotional brochures.
 - Continue to offer workshops.
 - Develop a list of local artists.
- ❖ **Encourage community beautification.** CCDA recommends civic groups, churches, local officials, businesses and individuals develop and promote the beautification of specific areas for pride and tourist attraction.
 - ✓ Working with the Town of Carrollton and the Chancery Clerk to landscape the courthouse and surrounding areas.

- Encourage groups and individuals to adopt a section of our county roads maintain a clean roadside appearance.
- ❖ **Encourage appreciation and promotion of sites of historic and agricultural interest.** CCDA recommends that locations of historic and agricultural interest be identified and tour systems developed to promote these sites.
 - ✓ Working with the Town of Carrollton and the Carroll Society for the Preservation of Antiquities to create a strategic plan for the Town of Carrollton.
 - ✓ Working with the Carl Small Town Center on a grant to create the strategic plan.
 - Work with local genealogy society and local churches to create or update lists of cemeteries and burials. Encourage the cleanup of cemeteries.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- ❖ **Utilize the expertise of all the resources at our disposal to identify the type economic and business development that is feasible for our county.** CCDA recommends that research seminars, workshops and handouts from the resources be used as business and economic development guides.
 - ✓ Worked with MSU-ES to provide educational workshops to help develop businesses. This will be continued.