

HOUSING MARKET ANALYSIS AND STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS TROUP COUNTY, GA

Prepared for Troup County Center for Strategic Planning, Inc. April 2019



On behalf of:









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Cover photo from LaGrange Downtown Development Authority



INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION



- The Troup County Center for Strategic Planning, Inc. engaged Bleakly Advisory Group to assess the housing market conditions, identify gaps in the residential supply, and provide recommendations for improving the housing market situation within Troup County, GA overall as well as in its municipalities of Hogansville, LaGrange, West Point, and the unincorporated portions of the county.
- Bleakly Advisory Group, Inc. is an Atlanta-based economic and real estate development consulting company formed in 2001. The firm has extensive experience in demographics, housing market analysis, retail market analysis, and mixed-use market analysis throughout the southeastern U.S. Bleakly provides a full range of real estate consulting services to both public and private sector clients in the areas of real estate market research and development feasibility analysis, affordable housing and redevelopment plans, highest-and-best use analysis, economic development and housing strategies, and fiscal and economic impact studies.
- The firm has extensive experience working with housing issues in communities throughout Georgia, including assignments in LaGrange and Troup County, over the past decade.
- Bleakly Advisory Group greatly appreciates the time and effort of all that participated in this process.
 Geoff Koski, president of Bleakly Advisory Group, directed this work.

INTRODUCTION

Summary Findings:

- Since the opening of the Kia plant in 2009, Troup County has grown its total employment by nearly a third, for an impressive average annual growth rate of over 4%. However, partly due to a lack of appropriate new housing options in the area, population and household growth has not kept pace with employment growth.
- Thus, Troup employees are choosing to live in nearby counties and commute to work. There is likely a need for additional owner and rental housing options and price points that match the incomes of the expanding workforce. By inducing more employees to live within Troup County, the community will capture a higher percentage of the economic benefits resulting from the expanding local economy.
- Expanding the range of housing type options in the county will "grow the pie" of the local housing market, capturing unmet demand, and allowing for accelerated population and household growth. In providing appropriate levels of housing production, the market will supply the units necessary to keep up with demand locally, rather than allow the demand to escape elsewhere.
- Further, lagging new residential production impacts the market at all levels of housing affordability. Households that choose to live in Troup and can afford midtier and higher-priced homes (both rental and for-sale) often end up occupying homes in lower price bands, making it difficult for lower-income households to find appropriate housing and exacerbating competition for existing supply of more affordable units. This situation also serves as a drag on housing prices overall in Troup.
- A range of aggressive actions can be taken by local public, private, philanthropic, and non-profit sectors to help to expand the supply of housing to meet demand across the entire market spectrum. These potential actions are highlighted in the Key Findings & Recommendations portion of this report.

- Bleakly Advisory Group gathered a wide range of primary and secondary data on Troup County and its cities demographic, economic, and housing real estate trends to provide input into the analysis for this assignment. In the process Bleakly interviewed dozens of local stakeholders in key segments of the community, and conducted an online survey that garnered over one thousand individual responses.
- The work represented in the following report led to numerous conclusions regarding the Troup County housing market, which are summarized and detailed below.

THE FIRST QUESTION TO ASK:

IS TROUP COUNTY GETTING ITS FAIR SHARE OF NEW AREA JOBS AND HOUSEHOLDS?

- Answering this question allows us to gauge how Troup County stacks up against its immediate neighbors.
- We can gauge countywide job and housing growth by how recent growth compares to the county's historical share of regional jobs and households. This is called a fair share comparison, and it measures to what extent a location is receiving its "fair share" of new growth. The equation is:

% of fair share = $\frac{\text{local share of gr}}{\text{local share}}$

 $\frac{\textit{local share of growth from 2010} - 2018}{\textit{local share of growth in 2010}}$

- A result of 100% means that the county received exactly its fair share of recent growth relative to the region. If the percentage is greater than 100%, the county received more than its fair share of growth. If less than 100%, the county received less than its fair share of growth.
- In this analysis, we will compare Troup County and its cities relative to the surrounding nine-county market area, as shown at right.



Nine-County Market Area

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TROUP HAS ADDED MORE THAN ITS FAIR SHARE OF JOBS...

Troup County has received NEARLY DOUBLE its fair share of recent employment growth in recent years. By the fair share metric, it is outperforming all of the other surrounding counties except Coweta County.



2010-2017 County Fair Share of Employment Growth Relative to the Nine-County Market Area

Data source: BLS Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Uses most recent data available.



...BUT TROUP HAS ADDED LESS THAN ITS FAIR SHARE OF NEW HOUSEHOLDS

- In contrast to the strong employment growth, Troup County has received ONLY HALF than its fair share of recent household growth. Instead, an outsized share of the region's household growth is concentrating in Coweta and Lee Counties. This shows that Coweta and Lee Counties could be considered Troup County's greatest competition for new households and housing.
- Examining the fair shares at the city level shows that LaGrange is getting closer to its fair share of household growth than are Hogansville or West Point. Still, all of Troup's cities are seeing less growth than their historical share of regional households would suggest.



2010-2019 County Fair Share of Household Growth Relative to the Nine-County Market Area Fair Share for Cities within Troup County

Data source: Claritas. Uses most recent data available.



WAGES VS. INCOMES DISCREPANCY

Without appropriate new housing options, higher wage earners in Troup often choose to live outside of the county.

- Troup is in the 83rd percentile of all Georgia counties for wages paid in the county, but only 60th percentile for county resident incomes. That is, while only 17% of Georgia counties have higher worker wages than Troup for jobs within the county, 40% have higher resident incomes.
- This points to the fact that many who hold the higher income jobs in the county live outside of the county. The opportunity exists to convert these local employees into local residents with the proper housing products, as well as with enhanced local community amenities and schools.
- 159 Georgia counties Average Weekly Wages (4Q 2017)
 - **1**3: > \$900
 - 25: \$800-\$899 (Troup Avg. Weekly Wage: \$847)
 - 48: \$700-\$799
 - 64: \$600-\$699
 - 9: < \$600</p>

Troup State Ranking: #26

- 159 Georgia counties Median Household Income (2017)
 - 10: >\$70K
 - 26: \$50K-\$70K
 - 54: \$40K-\$50K (Troup Median Household Income : \$43,000)
 - 66: \$30K-\$40K
 - 4: <\$30K

Troup State Ranking: #64



A wider variety of new housing options in Troup Co. is possible due to the prevalence of higher income jobs in the county.

THE RESULT: A JOBS/HOUSING IMBALANCE

- The strong employment growth and slow household growth create an imbalance between jobs and households that manifests in a shortage of housing options in Troup County and its cities.
- The imbalance makes it more likely that new employees will live outside of the county and commute in. Relative to historical patterns, employees are increasingly likely to choose to live in Coweta and Lee Counties.
- Forty-four percent of Troup County workers live in the county, meaning that 56% of Troup County workers commute in.
- As the comparison to Coweta County shows, this is fairly typical for a suburban, employment-centered county, but there are important benefits to the county if it can capture a larger share.
 Consequently, these in-commuters should be considered "prospective residents"—willing to consider living somewhere in Troup County if the right housing options were available.
- The key challenge for Troup County and its cities then is to increase the supply of housing, and to do so thoughtfully with new housing that reflects the housing types, price points, and neighborhood amenities in demand among the growing employment base.

Share of Workers that Work and Live in the Same County





Data source: U.S. Census OnTheMap, 2015. Uses most recent data available.



TROUP COUNTY EMPLOYEE COMMUTES

- 56% of Troup workers commute into work from outside the county. That is, over half of all Troup workers do not live in the county. This represents a strong potential market for future housing.
- If offered a compelling residential option, these workers may seek to live closer to work.
- The survey of local employees who live elsewhere that was conducted in this study confirms the opportunity to attract one-third to one-half of these employees to live in Troup if they were offered appropriate housing and community amenities.





Based on data from US Census



LAGRANGE EMPLOYEE COMMUTES

- 53% of LaGrange workers commute in to the city from outside of Troup County.
- This equates to 12,728 LaGrange employees who could consider living in Troup if attractive and attainable housing options were available to them.



Based on data from US Census



WEST POINT EMPLOYEE COMMUTES

- 71% of West Point workers commute in to the city from outside of Troup County.
- This equates to 5,135 West Point employees who could consider living in Troup if attractive and attainable housing options were available to them.



Based on data from US Census



HOGANSVILLE EMPLOYEE COMMUTES

- 69% of Hogansville workers commute in to the City from outside of Troup County
- This equates to 297 Hogansville employees who could consider living in Troup if attractive and affordable housing options were available to them.



Based on data from US Census



 10% of people who responded to a survey for this study work in Troup County but live elsewhere. Their responses highlighted housing as a top reason for not living where they work.

If you live OUTSIDE of Troup Co., why do you live OUTSIDE of Troup Co.? (choose all that apply) The survey also asked commuters who work but don't live locally whether they would consider ever moving to Troup County; 55% said yes.

> If the reason for living outside of Troup Co. changed, would you consider moving here?



NATIONAL HOUSING TRENDS SUMMARY



NATIONAL HOUSING TRENDS SUMMARY

The following section is adapted from a February 11, 2019 article in Bloomberg Businessweek titled:

America Isn't Building Enough New Housing

- This article is highlighted because it succinctly identifies issues that are hampering housing production throughout the nation.
- Upon examination of the Troup County housing market, it was determined that the issues highlighted from the article on the follow pages impact Troup as well. Of course, Troup's concerns can also be tracked to other, more localized, issues. The combination of the national and local issues have conspired to impede local housing production.

"Rather than heading for another bust, we're still feeling the effects of the last one."

- "Aggressive homebuilders were wiped out, and the survivors are cautious about working on spec.
 - Smaller builders that rely on borrowing can't supercharge construction, even if they want to, because their bankers are afraid of making loans."
- "Even after a gradual rebound from its nadir in early 2009, the <u>rate of starts</u> on erecting single-family residences remains below the level of the early 1960s, when the U.S. population was less than 60 percent of what it is today."
 U.S. Single-Family Housing Starts





ILLUSTRATION: CHARLOTTE POLLET FOR BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEET

Data: U.S. Census Bureau



NATIONAL HOUSING TRENDS SUMMARY

The following section is adapted from a February 11, 2019 article in Bloomberg Businessweek titled:

America Isn't Building Enough New Housing

"Rather than heading for another bust, we're still feeling the effects of the last one."

- "A tight supply has caused housing prices to climb steadily."
- Instead of an oversupply of homes, there aren't enough being built, which is driving up prices at levels that exclude many Americans from ownership. "We are underhoused," says Aaron Terrazas, a senior economist for Zillow Group Inc.
- The shortage is being aggravated by low unemployment, which is making it hard to hire workers.
- Developers claim regulation is driving up costs.
 - Not-in-my-backyard zoning rules are exacerbating the issue of an already small pool of constructionready lots.
 - Tighter financial regulation has ended dangerous practices, such as no-documentation loans, which got people into houses they couldn't afford. . . These changes have made it harder for people to buy a house.
 - Down payment requirements are mostly higher.
 - However, when Fannie Mae, the governmentcontrolled mortgage-buying giant, surveyed housing lenders recently, only 1% blamed tight standards for credit and underwriting for the weakness in sales. 48% cited an "insufficient supply."

U.S. Housing Affordability Index

100 = a median-income family can afford a median-priced house; a higher value indicates greater affordability



Data: National Association of Realtors



ILLUSTRATION: CHARLOTTE POLLET FOR BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK



- One factor that will shape Troup County housing demand over the next decade will be the changing nature of home ownership.
- In 2016, the U.S. homeownership rate fell to its lowest level in more than 50 years.
- The Troup County overall homeownership rate dropped 5% from 2010-2017, to 57% homeowner. The decrease in homeownership rates is noticeable across all age bands, as shown below.



Homeownership Rate by Age, Troup County, 2010-2017

Data source: US Census, 2017 US Census American Fact Finder



- Since 2014, Troup County has seen an average of 11% of home sales being from new construction.
- The 2018 median price of an existing home sale in Troup was \$123,350, while the median price of a new construction sale in Troup was \$235,360 a new construction premium of over \$100,000.
- New home median pricing has increased over 25% in the past two years and by 75% the past four years, while the number of sales has remained relatively flat. This pricing shift in the local new home market is partially due to higher-priced new homes entering the market and also to the relative lack of new supply and increasing demand driving up per square foot pricing.
- The new home market has been driven largely by single-family homes, with townhomes making up only 2% of sales over the past five years.







Troup Median Home Sales Price

KEY TRENDS DRIVING DEMAND HOUSING PREFERENCES BY TARGET MARKET SEGMENT

• The matrix below details the major categories of buyers and renters in the market today. Troup households in each category report difficulty finding appropriate housing options to fully meet demand, particularly for lower-income households, young professionals, and empty nesters.

	Below-Market Renters	Young Professionals	Young Families	Middle-Age Families	Middle-Age Singles and Couples	Empty Nesters
Age	All	22-34	25-35	35-55	35-55	55+
Income	<\$35,000	\$35,000+	\$50,000+	\$60,000+	\$60,000+	\$70,000+ or retired
Spending constraints	Limited savings	College debt	College debtChildcare costs	Saving for college	Variable	 Saving for retirement
Household composition	SinglesCouplesFamilies	 Singles Couples Roommates 	 "Pre-families" Singles and couples who just had their first kid 	 Singles and couples with 1+ kids 	 Mostly singles May have kids on part-time basis 	• Couples
Moving because	 Looking for better quality or management 	 Graduated college Moving in with significant other 	 Need more space Buying first home 	 Need more space Kids entering grade school 	 Major life change (divorce, job change, etc.) 	Downsizing
What they look for in a housing unit	 Affordability trumps other preferences Accepts housing vouchers Standard level of finish in a well- maintained unit 	 Willing to sacrifice space for a more amenitized building or "cool" location Low maintenance, on-site management 	 Some space for their family to grow, but may also plan to move again before 2nd kid or grade school A small yard 	 Single-family home with a yard Upgraded finishes compared to first home purchase A "forever home" where they can stay a while 	 If moving from an apartment: an upgraded version of the apartment they lived in as a young professional If moving from a house: comparable level of finish 	 Low maintenance without sacrificing the quality they have come to expect (large closets, master suite, etc.) Want to downsize without being cramped
What they look for in a community/ neighborhood	 Safe neighborhood Good schools Convenience to employment and groceries 	 Shops, restaurants, etc. entertainment options within walking distance Apartment amenities (pool, gym, etc.) 	 Other young families A good place to raise a child, but do not want to give up proximity to shops and restaurants 	 Safe neighborhood Good schools 	 Value convenience and proximity—to work, children, and shops and restaurants 	 Close to grandkids and/or other couples like them



HOUSING PREFERENCES BY TARGET MARKET SEGMENT

• This matrix shows the types of housing units each market segment is most likely to consider.

		Below-Market Renters	Young Professionals	Young Families	Middle-Age Families	Middle-Age Singles and Couples	Empty Nesters
	# of Bedrooms	1+	Studio, 1, or 2	2-3	3+	1, 1 w/ den, or 2	1 w/ den, 2, or 2 w/ den
Rental	Apartment	\checkmark	√			√	\checkmark
	Townhome	√		√		1	\checkmark
	Single-Family Detached	√		1			
For-Sale	Condo					√	\checkmark
	Townhome					√	√
	Small-Lot Detached			1			\checkmark
	Medium- to Large- Lot Detached				1		



- One reason for the decreasing homeownership rates across the country is an increase in "renters by choice," those who could financially own a home, but choose not to for a variety of reasons including need for mobility for employment, desire to downsize and avoid maintenance responsibilities, and draw towards highly amenitized rental communities.
- Because they have more financial resources and are not pushed to renting out of financial necessity, "renters by choice" will often choose higherend apartments in amenity-rich developments and walkable communities. They are often willing to trade-off size of their unit for attractive and walkable community amenities. These types of amenities can include parks and trails, as well as other commercial community gathering locations such as craft breweries and/or other high-quality locally-owned food and beverage operations.
- These "renters by choice" are not finding local communities in Troup with the locations and amenities they seek, and are forced into other nearby housing markets.

Renters by Choice: Typical Market Segments

Young Professionals



Not ready to buy, but earn enough to choose a high-end apartment.

Unit preferences: studio, 1-bedroom



Prefer the convenience and flexibility of renting. Want the level of quality of for-sale, but none of the hassle.

Unit preferences: 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom

Downsizers



Prefer the convenience of renting in amenityrich communities. Want the level of quality of for-sale, but none of the hassle.

Unit preferences: 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom

- While there is certainly demand for larger (3+ bedroom) rental units locally, and we recommend continuing to seek opportunities to meet this demand, "renters by choice" is a separate target market segment who have limited options in Troup Co. based on the current rental inventory. The "family" renter, that often seeks 3+ bedrooms, is typically more price and unit-type sensitive than renters by choice.
- Thus, we recommend pursing opportunities to create more smaller unit rental housing options in walkable mixed-use settings that can attract singles and couples/professionals and downsizers, to meet the local "renter-by-choice" demand while, at the same time, pursuing additional rental units that appeal to families in other locations, likely outside of the downtowns.

- The diversity of incomes of the new employees in Troup County brings with it a diversity of desires for housing types.
- New housing offerings throughout Troup has been generally limited to large single-family detached and, to a lesser degree, large-scale multifamily housing developments.
- To capture a larger portion of the new employees working in Troup County, new housing types and products will need to be brought to market. These new housing products should be targeted to what is most appropriate for their specific communities.

Key Quality Housing Types Currently Lacking in Troup County







Smaller single-family detached (<2,000 SF)

"Missing Middle" housing

Downtown multifamily



- Despite the perception of a lack of higher-end housing options in Troup County, home sales data shows a number of new and resale homes are being purchased in the higher price bands each year.
- These higher-priced homes look different depending on the context of the community; while a high-end home in unincorporated Troup County will likely have several thousand SF of living space situated on a multi-acre lot, high-end in LaGrange may be a smaller SF loft in a mixed-use adaptive reuse project downtown.
- Along with encouraging more types of housing, Troup County will need to invest in community resources and amenities that drive demand for these higher-end products.



High-end in the county...



...looks different than high-end in town



Improved health, longer lifespans, and generational trends means that the share of the county's population that is 65 or older is expected to increase significantly in coming decades.

- The 55+ population in Troup County is significant and projected to grow in the next 10 years.
- Troup County added nearly 4,000 new 55+ households since 2000, and is expected to add nearly 1,800 more by 2029.
- The number of 55+ households is expected to grow in all areas of the county, however, this growth is most pronounced in unincorporated Troup.
- Housing options targeted to seniors include a variety of for-sale and rental products, from active adult communities limited to person 55+ to specialized assisted living communities where care and services are included.

Households	Troup County Total		West Point	Hogansville	Troup County Unincorporated
2010	8,011	3,865	572	485	3,089
2019	11,840	5,105	729	570	5,436
2024	12,736	5,454	745	591	5,946
2029	13,632	5 <i>,</i> 803	761	612	6,456

55+ Households



SENIOR HOUSING DEMAND DRIVERS



WHAT IS SENIOR HOUSING?

Households seeking homes targeted to active adults is a very specialized segment in a wide range of housing choices available to 55+ households.

- The first housing decision they face when relocating is do they want to live in conventional, multigenerational housing, an active adult community limited to persons 55+, or senior housing where care and services are included.
- Second, they need to determine if they will rent or own their unit.
- Those choosing rental apartments limited to residents 55+ are seeking a conventional apartment unit, active lifestyle amenities (pool, social rooms, gym) and any services are "a la carte".
- 55+ households choosing senior housing, are typically older, 65+, seeking a combination of services along with their unit, which can be food and activities in independent living, and medical/care services in the other forms of senior housing.



DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT: SENIORS

- The age 55+ population in Troup County is significant and projected to grow in the next 10 years.
- Troup County added nearly 4,000 new 55+ households since 2000, and is expected to add nearly 2,000 more by 2029.
- The number of 55+ households is expected to grow in all areas of the county, however, this growth is most pronounced in unincorporated Troup.
- The expected growth in 55+ households provides a tremendous opportunity to add additional housing in Troup to meet the housing needs of seniors in various life stages. Currently, the county lacks a wide range of housing options for these households.
- Housing that meets the needs of this growing population can come in many forms, as highlighted above, and does not necessarily need to be marketed to 55+ households exclusively. In fact, national and state trends show that younger childless households often seek the same type of housing and housing locations as do older childless households. These housing types that attract a range of smaller households typically include smaller unit sizes, shared maintenance units, attached units, etc. in vibrant active walkable mixed-use settings.

Households	Troup County Total	LaGrange	West Point	Hogansville	Troup County Unincorporated
2010	8,011	3,865	572	485	3,089
2019	11,840	5,105	729	570	5,436
2024	12,736	5,454	745	591	5,946
2029	13,632	5,803	761	612	6,456

55+ Households



DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT: SENIORS

- Household growth is expected to be fastest in the 65-74 age range, the immediate target for active senior housing products.
- Over 1,200 new households headed by people in this age range are expected in Troup County over the next ten years.
- The 75+ age group is also growing quickly, the prime target for care-oriented senior housing.

55-64	Troup County Total	LaGrange	West Point	Hogansville	Troup County Uninc.
2019	5,062	2,118	293	229	2,387
2029	4,888	2,108	239	189	2,352
% Change	-3.44%	-0.47%	-18.43%	-17.47%	-1.47%

65-74	Troup County Total	LaGrange	West Point	Hogansville	Troup County Uninc.
2019	4,021	1,666	247	195	2,247
2029	5,265	2,114	309	261	2,581
% Change	30.94%	26.89%	25.10%	33.85%	14.86%

75+	Troup County Total		West Point	Hogansville	Troup County Uninc.
2019	2,757	1,321	189	146	1,312
2029	3,479	1,581	213	162	1,523
% Change	26.19%	19.68%	12.70%	10.96%	16.08%



DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT: SENIORS

- There is a significant and growing number of middleand upper-middle income seniors in Troup County.
- LaGrange and Unincorporated Troup show especially strong growth in the upper-middle income bands.
- The growth in higher-income seniors again points to the opportunity to expand housing options for seniors in Troup, as these households have the ability to afford specialized housing in desirable formats and locations.

1,000 900 800 700 600 500 400 300 200 100 0 \$35,000 -\$75,000 -<\$35,000 \$50,000 -\$100,000+ \$50,000 \$75,000 \$100,000

Troup County New Households 55+ by Income, 2019-2029

	Troup County Total %				West Point			Hogansville			Troup County Unincorporated			
Households	2019	2029	70 Change	2019	2029	⁷⁰ Change	2019	2029	% Change	2019	2029	% Change	2019	2029 Chang
<\$35,000	5,205	5,221	0.3%	2,583	2,589	0.2%	397	343	-13.6%	345	333	-3.5%	1,880	1,956 4.09
\$35,000 - \$50,000	1,590	1,836	15.5%	668	812	21.6%	110	150	36.4%	72	72	0.0%	740	802 8.4%
\$50,000 - \$75,000 \$75,000 -	2,144	2,306	7.6%	799	829	3.8%	73	75	2.7%	73	87	19.2%	1,199	1,315 9.7%
\$100,000	1,014	1,470	45.0%	376	558	48.4%	50	60	20.0%	29	37	27.6%	559	815 45.8%
\$100,000+	1,887	2,799	48.3%	679	1,015	49.5%	99	133	34.3%	51	83	62.7%	1,058	1,568 48.2%

KEY FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS



SPECTRUM OF HOUSING TYPES - FOR-SALE

In a healthy housing market, we expect to see a variety of housing types, both rental and for-sale, on offer for the variety of needs and desires present in a given community.

For-sale housing types:



Large-lot single family

Can be developed as master-planned community (100+ units). builder community (20+ units), or infill



Small-lot single family

Can be developed as master-planned community (100+ units), builder community (20+ units), or infill



Townhomes

Attached single-family products

Can be incorporated as one element in larger developments or as townhome-only development



Duplex / Quadplexes Attached single-family products

Rarely built in new construction



Condominiums

For-sale multifamily product

Can be single-story or multiple stories



Lofts over commercial space

For-sale multifamily product

Can be part of a mixeduse development or incorporated into a commercial district

Rental housing types:



Mid- or High-rise Multifamily

4-20 story podium-built apartment buildings, generally having 200+ units



Garden Apartments

50+ unit apartment complexes, generally in several smaller buildings of 2-3 stories



"Town Center" Apartments

50+ units in streetfronted apartment building

Mimics style of mixeduse district



Townhomes

Attached single-family products

Can be designated rental community or as one element of a larger planned development



20 or fewer units in a single building or cluster of buildings Rarely built in new construction



Apartments over commercial space

Rental multifamily product

Can be part of a mixeduse development or incorporated into a commercial district

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Small Multifamily

EXISTING HOUSING TYPES IN TROUP COUNTY

- Despite the wide variety of potential housing types, only a few are available in Troup County.
- For-sale products are almost exclusively single-family detached homes, whether large- or small-lot.
- Troup County rentals are also primarily single-family detached homes. Of non-single-family rental, few types of products are currently on offer.

For-Sale:		Large-lot single family	Small-lot single family	Townhomes	Duplex / Quadplexes	Condominiums	Lofts over commercial space
	LaGrange	Prevalent	Prevalent	Limited	Opportunity	Limited	Limited
	West Point	Prevalent	Prevalent	Opportunity	Opportunity	Opportunity	Opportunity
	Hogansville	Prevalent	Prevalent	Opportunity	Opportunity	Opportunity	Opportunity
	Unincorporated Troup	Prevalent	Limited	Limited	Opportunity	Opportunity	N/A
Rental:		Mid- or High- Rise Multifamily	Garden Apartments	"Town Center" Apartments	Townhomes	Small Multifamily	Apartments over commercial space
	LaGrange	N/A	Prevalent	Opportunity	Limited	Limited	Opportunity
	West Point	N/A	Limited	Opportunity	Opportunity	Limited	Opportunity
	Hogansville	N/A	Opportunity	Opportunity	Opportunity	Limited	Opportunity
	Unincorporated Troup	N/A	Limited	N/A	Opportunity	Opportunity	N/A

- **Prevalent:** These are the dominant housing types available in the specified location.
- *Limited:* Some options of these types are currently available in the specified location.
- **Opportunity:** Housing of these types do not currently exist in the specified location.
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SUPPLY/DEMAND MISMATCH

The lack of new supply, and corresponding mismatch between supply and demand, leads to:

- Potential new residents not able to find viable housing options.
- Mid-to-high-income home seekers able to choose lower-priced houses or, often, unable to find appropriate housing and forced into other nearby housing markets.
- Home pricing muted because of lack of middle-income housing, as middle-income commuter households choose to live elsewhere.
- Lower-income home seekers unable to compete with mid-tohigh-income households for quality housing, even when they can afford it.
- Renters looking to buy and homeowners looking to upgrade having few options available.
- "Renters by choice" not finding local communities with the amenities they seek and forced into other nearby housing markets.
- Home renovations having little return on investment.



TROUP COUNTY HOUSING DEMAND

- While the range of housing types in Troup is relatively limited, this study concludes that the potential exists to broaden the range of residential options due to housing demand that is currently unmet locally. The unmet demand in Troup escapes to nearby communities, negatively impacting the local housing market and partially undermining local economic development.
- Housing demand in Troup originates from three consumer segments:
 - new households moving to the county,
 - current owner households in turnover, and
 - current rental households in turnover.
- To estimate future housing demand in Troup and its cities, this study analyzed these three segments in the county by income level, tenure (ownership vs. rental), annual turnover, preference for new product, and future opportunity by jurisdiction.
- The analysis considered two possible growth scenarios: a constant-growth scenario continuing Troup's recent patterns of household growth, and a high-growth scenario in which Troup recaptures up to 50% more of its expected "fair share" of regional growth.





HOUSING OPPORTUNITY IN TROUP – FOR-SALE

- The analysis of for-sale absorption potential considered two possible growth scenarios: a constant-growth scenario continuing Troup's recent patterns of household growth, and a high-growth scenario in which Troup recaptures up to 50% more of its expected "fair share" of regional growth.
- In addition to higher population growth assumptions, the high growth for-sale demand incorporates increased new product capture due to the lack of recent new construction to meet this influx of households.
- To capture all of this demand, the for-sale products offered would need to be available across a wide range of income bands, and in a variety of product forms. Producing units priced below \$100,000 will be difficult given the costs to produce the units. To meet the demand for new units at these lower price points, public subsidies will likely be necessary.
- Each municipality and unincorporated Troup will need to encourage development in the types of products most appropriate and attractive to their specific communities.

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	Total
Home Price	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	
Constant-Growth					
Scenario	15 units	40 units	40 units	20 units	115
High-Growth					
Scenario	30 units	55 units	50 units	20 units	155

Troup County overall annual for-sale absorption potential:

Troup County will need a broad range of product types to capture this demand:

- Large-lot Single Family Subdivision
- Small-lot Single Family Subdivision
- Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding. Source: Bleakly Advisory Group
- Small-lot Single Family Infill

- Townhomes
- Condominiums
- Lofts over commercial space
- Senior-oriented housing



HOUSING OPPORTUNITY IN TROUP - RENTAL

- Similar to the for-sale analysis, the for-rent analysis of absorption potential also considered two possible growth scenarios: a constant-growth scenario continuing Troup's recent patterns of household growth, and a high-growth scenario in which Troup recaptures up to 50% more of its expected "fair share" of regional growth.
- In addition to higher population growth assumptions, the high growth rental demand incorporates increased new product capture due to the lack of new rental construction to meet this influx of households.
- To capture all of this demand, the rental products offered would need to be available across a wide range of income bands, and in a variety of product forms. Producing units priced below \$650/month will be difficult given the costs to produce the units. To meet the demand for new units at these lower price points, public subsidies will likely be necessary.
- Each municipality and unincorporated Troup will need to encourage development in the types of products most appropriate and attractive to their specific communities.

Income	Below	\$25,251	\$40,401	\$50,501	\$60,601	
	\$25,250	\$40,400	\$50,500	\$60,600	and above	Total
Rents	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	
Constant-Growth						
Scenario	140 units	125 units	65 units	40 units	140 units	510
High-Growth						
Scenario	200 units	150 units	55 units	45 units	130 units	580

Troup County overall annual for-rent absorption potential:

Troup County will need a broad range of product types to capture this demand:

- Rental townhomes
- "Town Center" apartments
- Apartments
 - Market-rate & Affordable

- Small multifamily
- Apartments over commercial space
- Adaptive reuse
- Senior-oriented housing

Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding. Source: Bleakly Advisory Group



TROUP COUNTY HOUSING DEMAND POTENTIAL

- Below is the summary of the housing demand/absorption potential in the high-growth scenario. This level of housing production throughout the county can be considered a "stretch goal" for Troup and its municipalities.
- These are **average annual absorption** goals for the **2020-2025** period.

	For-Sale	Large Lot Subdiv.	Small Lot Subdiv.	Small Lot Infill	Townhome	Condo/Lofts	
LaGrange	70	10	25	20	10	5	
West Point	10	7			3		
Hogansville	15	10			5		
Unincorporated Troup	60	40	15		5		

	Rental	Garden Apts.	Town Center	Small Mulitfamily	Rental Townhome	Rental Lofts
LaGrange	245	100	75	25	25	20
West Point	120		50	25	20	25
Hogansville	100		40	20	15	25
Unincorporated Troup	115	90			25	

The distribution of unit absorption among the county and the municipalities is likely to vary. Shown at left is one distribution scenario based on current and future trend analysis and forecasts. However, should the county or a municipality not produce the units at levels as shown, that demand will likely shift to the other areas of the county.

Further, external circumstances over the next five years can impact the trajectory of housing demand and lead to alternative potential outcomes.

That is, external growth pressures could emerge that drives additional growth to portions of Troup. For example, Atlanta metro regional growth not tied to the Troup area could push additional demand to northeastern Troup in and around Hogansville. Alternatively, national and/or international economic "shocks" could negatively impact demand throughout the county.

While these types of fundamental shifts due to external forces were contemplated in this analysis, it is difficult to accurately predict their timing and impacts. Thus, both the constant and accelerated growth demand scenarios are tied to statistical trends and future growth forecasts that assume no fundamental external shifts will occur in the near-term.

Additionally, there is an opportunity for "active adult" and "independent living" senior housing. Based on the demographic trends and relative lack of supply of these types of senior housing in the area, it is likely that up to 200 "active adult" and "independent living" units could be added in Troup County (unincorporated or in a municipality) over the next five years with no negative impact to the above opportunities.

TROUP COUNTY HOUSING PRODUCTION GOAL 2020-2025

Troup County							
2000-2018 Est. Average Annual New Households: 221							
Historic Future							
	Avg. Annual (2013-2018)	Annual Production Goal* (2020-2025)					
New Home Sales	87	155					
New Rental Unit Deliveries	55	580					

* Based on the analysis conducted in this assignment. Including affordable/subsidized units.

- As noted previously, to meet the production goals shown above over the next five years, the new housing offered would need to be attainable to households across a wide range of income bands, in a variety of unit types, and in various locations throughout Troup County. Many of the unit types that have the potential to drive-up production and absorption have not yet been offered to the market locally.
- Based on the evidence found in this study, it appears that providing a wider array of new housing options in the county and its cities will allow for an expanded market, assuming that employment growth continues in Troup.
- The relative lack, or under production, of new residential supply in the last decade has likely created "pent-up" demand for quality new units in Troup, particularly:
 - rental units, generally,
 - rental and for-sale units in walkable areas, specifically,
 - affordable units, and
 - senior-oriented units.
- While it is difficult for the new construction residential market to meet the demand of rental units priced under \$650/month and for-sale priced under \$100,000, it should be noted that significant demand exists and public policy can be aligned to help meet the housing needs of lower-income households.

- Aggressive action is needed to improve the Troup County housing market.
- To do so, local leaders can work with community partners by seeking to advance:

Three Pillars of Action





- Aggressive action is needed to improve the Troup County housing market.
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The Playbook

- Identify priority redevelopment and greenfield sites that are large enough to attract the interest of experienced sophisticated developers to provide additional residential options locally. Specific needed additional residential examples are included in this report.
- Apply zoning policies that allow for unique and differentiated housing types that allow for market segmentation.
- Market/develop residential development sites in similar ways that industrial sites are marketed.
- Outreach to local and Atlanta developers/builders to "re-cast" the message of residential development opportunity in Troup and its cities.
- The tools afforded Georgia's Local Government Authorities are commonly used in some jurisdictions to incentivize housing and other developments deemed worthy for the advancement of the community.
- Local Government Authorities should consider using their tools to incentivize new housing to help provide "proof-of-concept" for innovative development. Once new housing concepts have been proven successful, the need for incentives for subsequent development will likely become less necessary.
- The LaGrange Economic Development Authority and the Downtown LaGrange Development Authority, West Point Development Authority, Hogansville Downtown Development Authority, particularly, can serve as key agents in inciting new housing.

Encourage production of new for-sale and quality rental units that broaden the housing type options

The Playbook

- The Local Government Authorities should explore the possibility of providing incentives for residential development.
- This could include:
 - Preparing development sites through site clearance, assemblage, or sub-division.
 - Subsidizing infrastructure development, either preemptively or in cooperation with a developer.
 - Creating leasehold ("bonds-for-title") agreements with landowners to lower tax and infrastructure burdens to provide time for construction of new developments to take place.

According to the UGA Carl Vinson Institute of Government:

In Georgia, local development authorities are used as key financing mechanisms to further economic development initiatives within a community. This is accomplished through development of land . . . and delivery of state and local incentives.

Local incentives may include infrastructure upgrades and improvements, but often include ad valorem tax incentives.

A direct waiver of ad valorem taxes would be illegal under the Georgia Constitution, as well as under basic principles of uniformity of taxation and equal protection of the laws.

Because the Georgia Constitution prohibits the public sector from conferring a gift or gratuity on the private sector, if state grant money is available for a particular project, the development authority would serve as the conduit for the funds.

Development authorities often provide property tax and other incentives through a "bonds-for-title" (or "bondlease") structure. This structure is necessary because Georgia is a "transaction" state, meaning that generally speaking, no property tax abatements or property tax incentives are allowed without a transaction.

The Playbook

Housing Development Fund

- Public / Private / Philanthropic Partnership
- Local private sector and/or philanthropy contributes up to 50% equity in the fund
- \$5 million minimum. \$10 million for high impact.
- Return expectations:
 - Moderate return on investment
 - High return on community
- Leverage the public sector ability to borrow low-interest money, possibly in partnership with a Local Development Authority.
- Should identify narrow objectives. Could identify specific projects.
- Can be packaged with TAD incentives to create robust financing for catalytic projects.
- Could evolve into on-going quasi-governmental development company along the lines of Chattanooga's River City Company, with a specific purpose to entice additional housing in Troup's downtown and intown areas.

Public Purpose Development Company

- River City Company was created as a private non-profit in 1986 to implement a 20-year blueprint for Chattanooga's riverfront and downtown development, originally capitalized with \$12 million from local foundations and financial institutions.
- By working with local government, the private sector and the philanthropic sector, River City Company supports and helps to develops specific real estate projects in Downtown Chattanooga.

The Playbook

Other Potential Tools

- Enact zoning regulations that allow for smaller lot sizes and accessory dwelling units in denser areas of the municipalities and key nodes in the county.
- Ensure permitting and inspections processes remain streamlined to expedite progress and eliminate local delays.
- Work to identify underutilized sites near the downtowns and intown areas that may be suitable for redevelopment.
 - There could be opportunities to seek Area-Wide Planning (AWP) Grants through the EPA for former industrial sites.
- Engage all local utility entities as economic development partners to explore avenues to lessen the burden of infrastructure costs as part of new housing/mixed-use development.

The Playbook

Other Potential Tools & Strategies

- Create opportunity for the "renters by choice," often young professionals and couples, whose spending power could grow Troup's economy. These renters are typically looking for units in convenient vibrant locations such as walkable mixed-use areas and/or areas near recreational amenities (parks, trails, water, etc.).
- Leverage the potential for synergies between apartment development and retail development by incentivizing multifamily near priority mixed-use retail nodes, particularly downtown and near-downtown areas.
- Encourage the reputation of Troup County with employees, visitors, and residents of nearby communities by emphasizing placemaking and community events. Supporting these groups in developing ties to Troup and its cities will encourage them to buy homes in the city in the future.
- Create zoning regulations that allow mixed use development, including multifamily and "missing middle" housing
 along commercial corridors and other highly-used nodes with infrastructure that are outside of Troup's downtowns.
- Ensure the entitlement process remains streamlined for development of highly-amenitized multifamily development that is connected and accessible to retail and other services without the use of automobiles.

The Playbook

- Encourage renovation activity so that homeowners can enjoy a higher quality-of-life in their current home, realize the value of their investment upon sale, and increase the number of movein ready homes in the market.
- The local DASH organization is a excellent model of a nonprofit development corporation effectively working to achieve the above goal. The DASH model should be enhanced and expanded with wide community support to advance housing opportunities throughout Troup.
- Preservation of existing affordable housing stock is far more cost-effective than the construction of new affordable housing units. The cities should consider opportunities to partner with and support the activities of their respective Public Housing Authorities in pursing programs to renovate existing public housing stock as well as support and potentially incentivize landlords who accept housing choice vouchers.

According to DASH:

 DASH (Dependable Affordable Sustainable Housing) was formed in 2002 to address growing concerns of inadequate, unsafe housing in LaGrange and the decline of its once thriving mill villages. Today, DASH provides a holistic array of housing services including homeownership opportunities, safe and affordable rental options, home improvement loan programs, community building programs and neighborhood leadership development.

Support renovation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock

The Playbook

Community Land Bank / Land Trust

- Land bank / land trust partnerships Can help establish pathways for current renters to enter homeownership.
- A land bank is a governmental entity that acquires vacant, abandoned, or tax-delinquent properties and ultimately converts "liabilities into productive assets."
- A community land trust is a nonprofit organization that acquires, retains, and manages scattered parcels of land on behalf of the community with the intention of never reselling properties.
- A land trust can renovate and rent or sell a house to new lower-income households while retaining ownership of the land and granting the right to occupy the site through a ground lease.
- While the goal of a land trust is to have "people build equity from day one and have an ownership stake," there are restrictions placed on the resale value of the home.

- Coordination between the land banks and land trusts can lower land acquisition costs for rehab homes and lessen the bureaucratic, legal, and market timing challenges¹.
- "Strategies for Sustainable Growth in Community Land Trusts," a paper jointly published by NeighborWorks America and the Joint Center for Housing Studies found five strategies for successful Community Land Trusts:
 - Securing the support of local public officials,
 - Using mixed portfolios and programs,
 - Leveraging partnerships,
 - Reducing their organizations' reliance on grants, and
 - Advocating as a collective movement.

1 *Proactive Preservation of Unsubsidized Affordable Housing in Emerging Markets* by Matt Schreiber, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Support renovation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock

The Playbook

Other Potential Tools & Strategies

Lease-purchase programs

- Purchases or develops a property and structures a long-term lease for a prospective buyer. Leases can vary in length from 3+ years.
- Provide opportunity for the tenant to purchase the property.
- Could be part of a Land Trust mission, and typically involve a mission-driven developer, community-based organization, or private corporation.

Low-interest Rehabilitation Financing Program

- Some large cities are undertaking bond projects with money funding housing opportunities, including home rehabilitation.
- Grants and loans to homeowners.
- Could be done through a low-interest revolving loan fund.

Home Ownership Fund

- One example of a homeownership fund for first time homeowners:
 - Using public, private, and/or philanthropic money, provide up to \$10,000 down payment assistance and a five year 50% property tax abatement.
 - The goal could be 100 new homeowners in Troup annually at \$1,000,000 per year, total cost.

Support renovation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock

CONTINUE TO INVEST IN DOWNTOWNS AND INTOWN AREAS

The Playbook

- Having vibrant downtowns is an asset and catalyst for the county-wide housing market, because a majority of home buyers and renters desire downtown amenities nearby, even if they live elsewhere.
- Encourage mixed-use development, including multifamily and "missing middle" housing, in the downtown cores and walkable intown areas.
- Incentivize adaptive reuse in the historic downtowns and ensure approval processes remain streamlined.
- Because of downtown LaGrange's regional significance, it will also be important to invest in connectivity to downtown with public walking, hiking, and bicycling infrastructure so that its impact extends beyond downtown. The in-progress Thread trail system is a great example that can help accomplish this goal. Opportunities to connect higher-density housing options to direct access to The Thread will create positive synergies, induce housing demand, and ensure trail usage. Opportunities to link to West Point and Hogansville should be explored.
- Consider a Complete Streets approach for transportation gateways to downtown and intown areas.
 - Complete Streets integrate people and place in the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of transportation networks. This helps to ensure streets are safe for people of all ages and abilities, balance the needs of different modes, and support local land uses, economies, cultures, and natural environments. (*National Complete Streets Coalition*)
 - LaGrange Gateway Corridors Plan (2016) provides a blueprint for the necessary transformation of the public infrastructure. Multiple portions of this plan should be implemented to help improve the community and potentially drive additional housing in and near the focus areas.



Continue to

invest in

Troup's

downtowns

and intown

areas

OTHER POTENTIAL SOURCES OF HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

Land Acquisition Funds

- The creation of land acquisition funds to support housing development has been a growing trend in cities around the nation.
- These funds can be used to acquire sites for future development of housing or to acquire and preserve existing affordable housing before land and property values increase.
- Doing this ensures that the economics of development deals work and community goals are addressed.
- Some municipalities are devoting general budget funds to stand-up housing programs such as this, while others are issuing housing opportunity bonds, and/or devoting impact or other fee collections.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- CDBG can be used for pre-development, site acquisition, site improvements, property acquisition, property rehabilitation, and first-time homebuyer assistance.
- CDBG funds can also be used for other purposes, such as the construction of public facilities, public services, and economic development activities.
- At least 70% of CDBG funds must be used for the benefit of lowand moderate-income households.

In 2002, the Town Council of Chapel Hill, North Carolina established an **Affordable Housing Fund** to preserve owner-occupied housing in Chapel Hill for affordable housing purposes. Since then, the eligible uses of the Affordable Housing Fund have expanded and include a variety of uses, such as land acquisition, renovation, homeownership assistance, new construction of affordable housing, and rental and utility assistance.

Undoubtedly, Troup County's housing market is much different from Chapel Hill's. However, the mechanism of the land acquisition fund and other tools provides an example for Troup and its municipalities.

AREAS TO BE ADDRESSED BY BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS

Three Pillars of Action

Encourage production of new for-sale and quality rental units that broaden the housing type options Support renovation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock

Continue to invest in Troup's downtowns and intown areas

The Playbook

Use Approved Redevelopment Powers (TAD) and Consider Additional Districts

- TAD funds should be used strategically to leverage other funding sources where possible and to incentivize private investments in housing that create new taxable digest.
- The intent is to employ TAD proceeds as available and necessary to make site development financially feasible and to attract the types of end-users that would positively impact the redevelopment area, the jurisdictions, and the regional economy.
- TAD proceeds should be used to supplement private equity and debt financing and reduce overall development costs in order to make proposed projects financially feasible.
- TAD proceeds should be applied to address on- and off-site development costs, including demolition costs or other internal infrastructure, as well as to help reduce building construction costs to levels that can be supported by prevailing market rents.



AREAS TO BE ADDRESSED BY BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS Three Pillars of Action

Encourage production of new for-sale and quality rental units that broaden the housing type options Support renovation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock

Continue to invest in Troup's downtowns and intown areas

The Playbook

Use Approved Redevelopment Powers (TAD) and Consider Additional Districts

TAD proceeds may include:

- supporting on- and off-site development (including buildings, access, signage, site preparation, utility improvements and any environmental remediation to support redevelopment),
- paying for desired public amenities that cannot otherwise be afforded based on prevailing rents,
- reimbursing developers for the added cost of building demolition and remediation of greyfield sites,
- funding potential incentives to attract high quality end-users,
- to help provide "proof-of-concept" for innovative development.
- Once new housing concepts have been proven successful, the need for incentives for subsequent development will likely become less necessary.



Three Pillars of Action

Encourage production of new for-sale and quality rental units that broaden the housing type options Support renovation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock Continue to invest in Troup's downtowns and intown areas

The Playbook

Continue to seek opportunities to enhance residential options in **compact walkable places** throughout Troup – both existing and new.

Nationwide:

- 70% of people place a high value on walkability when choosing a new community.
- 61% would accept a smaller home in exchange for a shorter commute.
- 54% of Americans prefer three or more community attributes associated with compact development.

Source: America in 2015: A ULI Survey





COMPACT WALKABLE DEVELOPMENT VALUE PROPOSITION

Three Pillars of Action

Encourage production of new for-sale and quality rental units that broaden the housing type options Support renovation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock

Continue to invest in Troup's downtowns and intown areas

The Playbook

- Encourage compact mixed-use development at higher, but still appropriate, densities.
- This type of housing development will not only expand the market options and meet demand, but will help to drive property tax collections and promote a more efficient, and resilient, land use pattern.
- The fiscal benefits to local jurisdictions of a more compact development pattern are illustrated in the case study below.
- <u>The takeaway</u>: On a per acre basis, a compact walkable downtown in Cherokee County, GA is worth 5 times that of a new nearby outlet mall with national tenants.
- Many other similar examples are evident throughout Georgia.



CASE STUDY:

Downtown Woodstock, GA & The Outlet Shoppes at Atlanta







COMPACT WALKABLE DEVELOPMENT VALUE PROPOSITION



COMPACT WALKABLE DEVELOPMENT VALUE PROPOSITION





Taxable Value:

Walkable

District

Downtown

\$23,627,960

\$1,460,409/Acre

Property Tax/Acre:

\$31,000

The Outlet Shoppes at Atlanta Taxable Value: • \$13,381,648 t • \$274,158/Acre r Property Tax/Acre • \$6,000



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Troup County Housing Market & Strategy Analysis 60

PEER COUNTIES COMPARISON

- 1) Summary Comparison Matrix
- 2) Housing Demand Drivers
- 3) Housing Supply Analysis



PEER COUNTY COMPARISON SET

This section of the report compares Troup County to other counties that should be similar to Troup on various housing market metrics. They serves as a benchmark of how Troup County compares to its peers.

Peer County Comparison Set

Peer County	Core City/ County Seat	Why consider this county a 'peer?'
Coweta County, GA	Newnan	Home location of large numbers of Troup employees. Primary housing "competitor" county for Troup and its cities.
Floyd County, GA	Rome	Similarly located in regards to distance to Atlanta. Very similar economies and current housing situation. Generally similar resident base size.
Lee County, AL	Opelika	Home location of large numbers of Troup employees. Housing "competitor" county for Troup and its cities.
Carroll County, GA	Carrollton	Similarly located in regards to distance to Atlanta. Very similar economies and current housing situation.
Muscogee County, GA	Columbus	Home location of large numbers of Troup employees. Nearby employment center. Similar demographics.

SUMMARY OF PEER COUNTIES COMPARISON

- As shown below, Troup lags many other peer counties in important supply and demand categories. In particular, Troup under-performs neighboring counties Coweta and Lee, both of which were identified as popular residential locations for Troup employees.
- Future improvement to Troup County school performance is likely to have a significant positive impact on housing demand in the county.

HOUSING DEMAND DRIVERS	TROUP	COWETA	FLOYD	LEE (AL)	CARROLL	MUSCOGEE
2010-2019 Avg Annual Household Growth	0.5%	1.9%	0.1%	2.1%	0.8%	0.4%
Median Household Income	\$45,700	\$76,800	\$52,000	\$50,500	\$53,500	\$45,000
% Own	61%	74%	63%	62%	67%	52%
% Renters that are Cost-Burdened	45%	45%	43%	49%	41%	49%
% 1-2 Person Households	57%	52%	59%	61%	53%	62%
% Households with Children	38%	41%	34%	32%	38%	35%
School District State Percentile Rank	27%	91%	79%	N/A	59%	52%
HOUSING STOCK	TROUP	COWETA	FLOYD	LEE (AL)	CARROLL	MUSCOGEE
% Single-Family Detached	75%	83%	74%	58%	75%	67%
% of Single-Family Stock Built since 2010	2%	5%	1%	9%	1%	5%
% of Multifamily Stock Built since 2010	6%	2%	4%	16%	2%	10%
Median Home Value	\$138,500	\$215,400	\$139,000	\$182,000	\$139,400	\$156,900
% of Homes Valued <\$200,000	74%	45%	70%	56%	75%	67%
2010-2018 New Single-Family Permits	894	5,779	755	6,955	1,607	2,506
2010-2018 New Apartment Units	193	500	124	N/A	198	1,708
Avg Market-Rate Apartment Rent PSF	\$0.77	\$0.96	\$0.91	N/A	\$0.64	\$0.74
Apartment Vacancy Rate	6%	7%	6%	N/A	6%	6%

HOUSING DEMAND DRIVERS

These are economic and demographic trends that influence the scale and character of housing demand.



HOUSEHOLD GROWTH

Troup County has experienced a low household growth rate, particularly relative to Coweta and Lee Counties. Given their nearby location to Troup County, these counties are not only peers but competitors for Troup County. Currently, Coweta and Lee Counties are capturing a larger share of new area households.



2010-2019 Average Annual Household Growth Rate by County



HOUSEHOLD INCOMES

- Troup County is tied with Muscogee County for the lowest median household income in the peer comparison set. Still, these household incomes are generally comparable to those in Floyd, Lee, and Carroll Counties.
- Median household incomes are highest in Coweta County. This is in part a reflection of the county's closer proximity to the Atlanta MSA, where household incomes tends to be higher. However, it is also a reflection of Coweta County's desirability as a place to live.



Median Household Income by County



TENURE

- The Troup County ownership rate falls in the middle of the pack, with Muscogee County having the lowest ownership rate at 52% and Coweta County having the highest ownership rate at 74%.
- Troup County's ownership rate is on par with the national homeownership rate of 64%.



Household Ownership Rate by County



HOUSING COST BURDEN

- The rule of thumb is that housing-related expenses such as rent, mortgage payment, and utilities should be less than 30% of household income to be considered affordable for that household. When a household pays more than 30% of their income toward housing costs, HUD considers that household "housing cost-burdened."
- As the graphs at right show, levels of owner and renter cost burden are similar across the peer comparison set, with close to half of renters and one-fifth of owners experiencing housing cost burdens.
- The renter cost burden, while typical in relative terms, is still high in absolute terms: one out of every two renter households is spending more than they can afford on rent. This phenomenon is likely the result of multiple factors, including low wages, but also housing factors, such as the lack of quality affordable housing or the lack of right-sized housing options. For example, the lack of rental apartments may be pushing some households to rent single-family detached homes, which may cost more to rent.



% of Renters that are Housing Cost-Burdened



% of Owners that are Housing Cost-Burdened

Data source: U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

- Troup County public schools perform significantly lower than other county school districts in the peer set. Troup County is only in the 27th percentile for "overall performance," as measured by the Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement. Overall Performance is based on an index score that weights all of the schools in the district on various factors, including:
 - Student content master
 - School progress
 - Student readiness
 - Graduation rates
- Troup County public schools have an 84% graduation rate. However, only approximately half of graduates are considered "college and career ready." This measure accounts for factors such as:
 - Share of students entering the technical college or university system without needing remediating
 - Student ACT, SAT, or AP/IB course scores
 - Student participation in work-based learning programs
- Troup County's relatively low competitiveness on school performance is a significant barrier to attracting households with children.



District Percentile Rank for Overall Performance

Share of Graduates that are "College and Career Ready"



Data source: Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement and Alabama State Department of Education, 2016-2017



HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN

The share of households with children in Troup County is comparable to the other counties in the peer set; approximately one in every three households has children at home. This impacts size and character of housing that is in demand, as well as the importance of amenities like school quality.



Households with Children at Home



HOUSING SUPPLY ANALYSIS

A comparison of the characteristics of the housing stock itself.



HOUSING STOCK BY STRUCTURE TYPE

Troup County's housing stock composition is most similar to Floyd and Carroll Counties:

- 75% of housing units are single-family detached homes.
- Historically, homes were either built as single-family detached or multifamily units, so there are only a handful of single-family attached units (i.e., townhomes) available.
- Mobile homes comprise 7-10% of the housing stock. They offer a valueoriented alternative to the conventional single-family home.
- Multifamily units comprise approximately 15% of the housing stock, and most multifamily units are small complexes with less than 20 units. Units in small complexes are often more affordable, but also older, which makes them vulnerable to maintenance concerns or candidates for redevelopment. Preserving this stock is key.
- Each county has a handful of larger apartment complexes, typically built in the 1980s to early 2000s. Quality and pricing vary considerably from complex to complex.

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"Mobile home" refers to the US Census designation of movable or portable dwellings constructed to be towed on its own chassis, manufactured with transportation gear as an integral part of the structure. It does not include modular homes that are prefabricated and assembled on a permanent site.



Single-Family Homes as Share of Total Housing Units

Multifamily Housing Units as Share of Total Housing Units



Troup County Housing Market & Strategy Analysis 72
SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSING STOCK BY YEAR BUILT

- Troup County's single-family housing stock has a similar vintage to Floyd and Muscogee Counties.
 - Approximately 80% of their single-family homes were built before 2000, and approximately half were built before 1980.
 - New home construction has dropped off considerably for the 2010-2017 period, compared to the 2000-2009 period that preceded it. This is a reflection of how the housing market has changed from the pre-recession to post-recession years.
- Troup County's single-family stock tends to be older than the two counties with which Troup directly competes for household growth: Coweta and Lee Counties.
 - Homes built since 2000 account for only 20% of the Troup market, but closer to 35-40% of the Coweta and Lee markets. Households
 that live in these counties are more likely to live in a newer home.
 - Homes built since 2010 account for 5% and 9% of homes in Coweta and Lee Counties, respectively. Even though new construction levels are considerably lower than pre-recession 2000-2010 levels, these housing markets have rebounded and new homes are being built at a relatively faster clip than in Troup County.



Data source: U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates. Note: excludes mobile homes.



MULTIFAMILY HOUSING STOCK BY YEAR BUILT

- Lee County has expanded its multifamily stock the most since 2010.
- Troup is second only to Floyd county for having the lowest share of multifamily units built since 2000. Only 29% of Troup's multifamily stock was built in the last 20 years, as compared to 42% in Lee County and 33% in Coweta, Carroll, and Muscogee County.



Data source: U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates. Note: excludes mobile homes.



HOME VALUES

- The median home value in Troup county is approximately \$140,000.
- This is similar to their peers Floyd, Carroll, and Muscogee Counties but considerably lower than Troup's direct competitor peers, Coweta and Lee Counties:
 - This difference is driven in large part by the share of homes valued at less than \$200,000.
 These homes account for 75% of the Troup market, but closer to half of the Coweta and Lee County markets.
 - Lee an Coweta Counties have a more evenly distributed range of home values, which translates into greater consumer choice at each price tier. While Troup may be relatively more affordable, households making good wages at the Kia plant or elsewhere may prefer homes in the \$200,000+ range, particularly if a less expensive home in Troup County tends to be older, require more upgrades to be move-in ready, come with a lower rated school system, etc.

Data source: Claritas





Median Home Value for Owner-Occupied Homes

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MARKET-RATE APARTMENT DELIVERIES

- Troup County has also lagged behind all of its peers besides Floyd County in new market-rate apartment construction.
- This lag is significant not only in the sense that Troup is adding fewer housing units, but also in the sense that it is adding fewer housing options. Why? Because apartments being built today are different from their predecessors: they are more likely to be highly amenitized and positioned as "luxury" properties that target more affluent renters. So when Troup County builds fewer new apartment units, it is exacerbating its overall housing shortage, but it is also missing out on an opportunity to broaden its local housing choices and appeal to these previously untapped renter markets.



Market-Rate Apartment Units Delivered

Data source: CoStar. Note: data unavailable for Lee County, AL.



MARKET-RATE APARTMENT FUNDAMENTALS

- Among the existing market-rate apartment inventory, Troup County has middling rents relative to its peers.
- It is worth noting that the rent uptick in rents in Coweta and Floyd Counties is attributable to the completion of new "luxury" apartment buildings that are priced at a significant premium to existing apartments.
- Apartment vacancy is similar in all of the counties, hovering around 6%. The rule of thumb for a "healthy" market vacancy rate is approximately 5%, and this falls close to that benchmark.

\$1.00 Effective Rent (\$/SF) \$0.90 \$0.80 \$0.70 \$0.60 \$0.50 \$0.40 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2012 2013 Carroll Muscogee Troup Coweta Flove

Average Market-Rate Apartment Rents

Market-Rate Apartment Vacancy (Note: Spike in 2016 due to new properties in lease-up)



Data source: CoStar. Note: data unavailable for Lee County, AL.



CITY & COUNTY HOUSING SUPPLY



HOUSING STOCK BY STRUCTURE TYPE

- While Troup County's aggregate housing stock aligns with the nine-county region, it masks differences in the housing composition from city to city within the county.
- Single-family homes are a lower share of the housing stock in LaGrange and West Point than in other parts of Troup County, indicating that these two cities are where the county's multifamily stock is concentrated. Even with these apartments, though, singlefamily homes still dominate every local market.





Multifamily Homes as Share of Total Housing Units

Data source: U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates; Claritas.



SINGLE-FAMILY STOCK BY YEAR BUILT

- Again, Troup County overall has a similar residential vintage to the nine-county area, but there are substantial differences in the age of the housing stock at a city level.
- In absolute terms, unincorporated Troup County is the largest single-family market in the county. It has the most single-family housing options available at almost every vintage.
- None of Troup's cities, nor unincorporated Troup County, match the 9-county area in terms of the share of single-family homes built since 2000. This means that every jurisdiction in the county has lagged behind the region on new construction for the past 20 years.



Single-Family Housing Units by Year Built

Data source: U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates. Note: excludes mobile homes.



MULTIFAMILY HOUSING STOCK BY YEAR BUILT

- The age profile of the multifamily stock is more varied from city to city, largely because the multifamily stock in these cities is limited and therefore more sensitive to small variations in year built.
- One of the most striking differences is that multifamily units built since 2000 account for only 7% of West Point's multifamily stock, but it accounts for 60% of the multifamily stock in Hogansville. This means that Hogansville's multifamily is on average much newer than West Point's multifamily. In LaGrange, the share built since 2000 is in the middle at 30%, but LaGrange has more new units in absolute terms.
- Unincorporated Troup County has minimal multifamily units. It is dominated by single-family homes.



Multifamily Housing Units by Year Built

Data source: U.S. Census American Community Survey 2017 5-Year Estimates. Note: excludes mobile homes.

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HOME VALUES

- Troup County has lower home values than the nine-county area overall.
- Home values in LaGrange and Hogansville fall below the countywide median by \$15,000-\$35,000, respectively. By comparison, home values in West Point are \$12,000 higher than the countywide median.
- West Point is too small a city to explain the gap in median home value between LaGrange and the county overall. This means that homes located in unincorporated Troup County tend to have higher home values than the county median.

\$169,900 \$180,000 \$150,000 \$160,000 \$138,500 \$140,000 \$122,200 \$120,000 \$102,600 \$100,000 \$80,000 \$60,000 \$40,000 \$20.000 \$0 Hogansville West Point LaGrange Troup 9-County County Area

Median Home Value for Owner-Occupied Homes



Owner-Occupied Home Value Distribution

Data source: Claritas



HOME SALES

- Troup County saw 1,037 homes sold in 2018.
 - Unincorporated Troup: 545 sales
 - LaGrange: 402 sales
 - West Point: 26 sales
 - Hogansville: 64 sales
- In addition to seeing more home sales, values of the homes sold were significantly higher in unincorporated areas of Troup County and in the City of LaGrange.



2018 Home Sales Average Price

2018 Home Sales Value Distribution



Data source: Troup County Tax Assessor and Georgia MLS



HOME SALES

Of the 1,037 homes sold in Troup County in 2018, many of the lower-valued homes were clustered in the incorporated areas, while the majority of higher-valued homes were in unincorporated areas of the county. This is in keeping with the median sale prices for the cities and county in 2018.



- <\$80,000
- \$80,000 \$140,000
- \$140,000 \$190,000
- \$190,000 \$255,000
- \$255,000+

Data source: Georgia MLS



- Not surprisingly, new homes are priced significantly higher than the countywide median home value.
- In LaGrange and Hogansville, new homes in 2018 sold at a \$100,000 premium to the countywide median home value.
- The premium is closer to \$50,000 for a new home in West Point.



Data source: MLS



 The newest products (Built 2014-2018) made up a significant proportion of 2018 home sales in both unincorporated Troup County (17% of sales) and LaGrange (12% of sales).



% Sold by Year Built



2018 Home Sales Avg Price by Year Built



Data source: Troup County Tax Assessor



- New homes have also been increasing in size.
- In unincorporated Troup County, homes built before 2000 have an average of 1,675 SF, while homes built since 2014 average 2,360 SF – a 40% increase in size.
- This pattern is also true in the City of LaGrange. Homes built before 2000 have an average of 1,755 SF, while homes built in the city since 2014 average 2,410 SF – a 37% increase in size.
- Though the total average sale price was higher for new homes in unincorporated Troup, due to the increase in the size of new product, the average \$/SF was lower for homes built after 2014.



Avg SF by Year Built





Data source: Troup County Tax Assessor



Another way to analyze new home pricing is to compare current new construction sale prices to current resale prices. Again, there is a large and growing premium for new construction, regardless of its location within the county.





Data source: MLS



- New home sales from 2013-2015 were mostly in the \$150,000-199,000 range.
- Mostly recently, from 2016-2017, new home sales have shifted to predominately the \$200,000-249,000 range.
- Average price of homes has reached a new high of \$215,000 in 2017.

All New Home Sales, Troup County, 2012-2017





HOME SALES VOLUME

- The volume of annual home sales has trended slightly upward in LaGrange, a reflection of the increasing strength of the market after the recession and the arrival of the Kia plant. There are now approximately 400 sales annually, of which +/- 10% are new homes.
- In Hogansville and West Point, where there are fewer homes to change hands, sales have remained steady at approximately 70-80 combined sales annually. New homes are added sporadically.
- Unincorporated Troup contains the largest portion of home sales, however, this may change as new product types are added in the incorporated areas to better capture other aspects of the market demand.



Home Sales Volume, 2017-2018



FUTURE HOUSING DEMAND BY AREA



FOR-SALE DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH

- As noted in a previous section, to estimate future housing demand in Troup and its cities, this study analyzed households by income level, tenure (ownership vs. rental), annual turnover, preference for new product, and future opportunity by jurisdiction.
- The analysis considered two possible growth scenarios: a constant-growth scenario continuing Troup's recent patterns of household growth, and a high-growth scenario in which Troup recaptures up to 50% more of its expected "fair share" of regional growth.
- Under the constant growth scenario, Troup County shows absorption potential for approximately 115 new units of for-sale products per year.
- To capture all of this demand, the for-sale products offered would need to be available across a wide range of income bands, and in a variety of product forms.
- 15% of Troup County's absorption potential is for homeowners with annual incomes less than \$23,000 (approximately 50% AMI). These households could afford homes priced below \$100,000, while paying a third of their income or less on housing. New deliveries for homes priced at this level would likely need some form of affordable housing subsidies, or other assistance, due to the rising cost of new construction and delivery. This could be in the form of partnership with DASH, Habitat for Humanity, or other homeowner assistance programs. Troup County overall for-sale annual new construction absorption potential, 2020-2025:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	15 units	40 units	35 units	20 units	115 units
	@	@	@	@	
		\$100,000 -	\$250,000 -		
	<\$100,000	\$250,000	\$400,000	\$400,000+	

Source: Bleakly Advisory Group



FOR-SALE DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH LAGRANGE

This potential absorption for new for-sale units in Troup County was also divided by likely preference for municipal jurisdiction based upon current population patterns, stated, and potential future product demand.

Approximately 45% of the county's annual new construction absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of LaGrange:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	5 units	15 units	20 units	10 units	50 units
	@	@	@	@	44%
	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, LaGrange will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Small-lot single-family subdivisions up to 40% of demand
- Small-lot single-family infill up to 35% of demand
- Townhomes up to 15% of demand
- Condominiums up to 5% of demand
- Lofts over commercial space up to 5% of demand
- LaGrange is positioned to capture a growing share of Troup County's new employees. This will only be possible by offering a wide range of product types.
- The city should encourage infill residential development, especially of small-lot products. LaGrange should encourage development of missing-middle housing types wherever possible.
- Focusing smaller footprint development (including townhomes, condominiums, and lofts) near LaGrange's downtown and intown areas will offer the amenities necessary to capture higher price points.



FOR-SALE DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH WEST POINT

Approximately 5% of the county's annual new construction absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of West Point:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	1 unit	4 units	1 unit	0 units	6 units
	@	@	@	@	5%
	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, West Point will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Single family detached up to 70% of demand
- Attached (townhome or loft) up to 30% of demand
- West Point has opportunity for new development focused on its vibrant downtown district.
- The majority of the city's residential development should focus on infill near downtown. This should include both new construction and adaptive reuse.
- Though the majority of the new residential development will likely be small-lot single family, encouraging townhomes and condominiums will meet demand from the greatest number of potential households.



FOR-SALE DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH HOGANSVILLE

Approximately 7% of the county's annual new construction absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of Hogansville:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	2 units	5 units	1 unit	0 units	8 units
	@	@	@	@	7%
	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, Hogansville will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Single family detached up to 70% of demand
- Attached (townhome or loft) up to 30% of demand
- Hogansville has opportunity for new development focused on the downtown district and historic mill village areas.
- The majority of the city's residential development should focus on infill near these key assets. This should include both new construction and adaptive reuse.
- Though the majority of the new residential development will likely be small-lot single family, encouraging townhomes and condominiums will meet demand from the greatest number of potential households.
- As the Atlanta metro area continues to expand and fewer attainable housing options are available near employment centers, areas in and near Hogansville (unincorporated Troup) are well-positioned to provide options for new home buyers. This Atlanta expansion could push up demand expectations in the Hogansville area.



FOR-SALE DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH UNINCORPORATED TROUP

Approximately 45% of the county's annual new construction absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by unincorporated Troup County:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	5 units	15 units	20 units	10 units	40 units
	@	@	@	@	44%
	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, unincorporated Troup County will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Large-lot single family subdivisions up to 65% of demand
- Small-lot single family subdivisions up to 25% of demand
- Townhomes up to 10% of demand
- Though the majority of homeowners in unincorporated Troup County choose to live in the county due to a desire for large-lot single family, other product types are necessary to round out residential development.
- The key for unincorporated Troup County will be to focus development in strategic areas. This could include planning for a development near West Point Lake, or a cluster of mixed-use development near I-85. By focusing infrastructure improvements in areas where the county wants development to happen, the county can maintain its rural character overall.



FOR-SALE DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH

- Under the high growth scenario, Troup County shows absorption potential for approximately 155 new units of for-sale products per year.
- In addition to higher population growth assumptions, the high growth for-sale demand incorporates increased new product capture due to the lack of recent new construction to meet this influx of households.
- To capture all of this demand, the for-sale products offered would need to be available across a wide range of income bands, and in a variety of product forms.
- 20% of Troup County's absorption potential is for homeowners with annual incomes less than \$23,000 (approximately 50% AMI). These households could afford homes priced below \$100,000, while paying a third of their income or less on housing. New deliveries for homes priced at this level would likely need some form of affordable housing subsidies, or other assistance, due to the rising cost of new construction and delivery. This could be in the form of partnership with DASH, Habitat for Humanity, or other homeowner assistance programs.

Income	Below \$23,000	\$23,000 \$60,000	\$60,000 \$90,000	\$90,000 and above	TOTAL
	\$25,000	300,000	\$90,000		IUTAL
	30 units	55 units	50 units	20 units	155 units
	@	@	@	@	
		\$100,000 -	\$250,000 -		
	<\$100,000	\$250,000	\$400,000	\$400,000+	

Troup County overall for-sale annual new construction absorption potential, 2020-2025:



FOR-SALE DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH LAGRANGE

This potential absorption for new for-sale units in Troup County was divided by likely preference for municipal jurisdiction based upon current population patterns and potential product demand in a more aggressive scenario.

Approximately 45% of the county's annual new construction absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of LaGrange:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	15 units	25 units	20 units	10 units	70 units
	@	@	@	@	45%
	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, LaGrange will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Large-lot single-family subdivision up to 15% of demand
- Small-lot single-family subdivisions up to 40% of demand
- Small-lot single-family infill up to 35% of demand
- Townhomes up to 15% of demand
- Condominiums / Lofts- up to 10% of demand
- LaGrange is positioned to capture a growing share of Troup County's new employees. This will only be possible by offering a wide range of product types.
- The city should encourage infill residential development, especially of small-lot products. LaGrange should encourage development of missing-middle housing types wherever possible.
- Focusing smaller footprint development (including townhomes, condominiums, and lofts) near LaGrange's downtown and intown areas will offer the amenities necessary to capture higher price points.



FOR-SALE DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH WEST POINT

Approximately 6% of the county's annual new construction absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of West Point:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	3 units	5 units	2 units	0 units	10 units
	@	@	@	@	6%
	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, West Point will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Single family detached up to 70% of demand
- Attached (townhome or loft) up to 30% of demand
- West Point has opportunity for new development focused on its vibrant downtown district.
- The majority of the city's residential development should focus on infill near downtown. This should include both new construction and adaptive reuse.
- Though the majority of the new residential development will likely be small-lot single family, encouraging townhomes and condominiums will meet demand from the greatest number of potential households.

Source: Bleakly Advisory Group



FOR-SALE DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH HOGANSVILLE

Approximately 10% of the county's annual new construction absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of Hogansville:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	4 units	7 units	4 units	0 units	15 units
	@	@	@	@	10%
	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, Hogansville will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Single family detached up to 70% of demand
- Attached (townhome or loft) up to 30% of demand
- Hogansville has opportunity for new development focused on the downtown district and historic mill village areas.
- The majority of the city's residential development should focus on infill near these key assets. This should include both new construction and adaptive reuse.
- Though the majority of the new residential development will likely be small-lot single family, encouraging townhomes and condominiums will meet demand from the greatest number of potential households.
- As the Atlanta metro area continues to expand and fewer attainable housing options are available near employment centers, areas in and near Hogansville (unincorporated Troup) are well-positioned to provide options for new home buyers. This Atlanta expansion could push up demand expectations in the Hogansville area.



FOR-SALE DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH UNINCORPORATED TROUP

Approximately 40% of the county's annual new construction absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by unincorporated Troup County:

Income	Below	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	
	\$23,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	and above	TOTAL
	10 units	20 units	20 units	10 units	60 units
	@	@	@	@	39%
	<\$100,000	\$100,000 - \$250,000	\$250,000 - \$400,000	\$400,000+	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, unincorporated Troup County will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Large-lot single family subdivisions up to 65% of demand
- Small-lot single family subdivisions up to 25% of demand
- Townhomes up to 10% of demand
- While the majority of homeowners in unincorporated Troup County choose to live in the county due to a desire for large-lot single family, other product types would be necessary to fulfill the level of demand shown above.
- The key for unincorporated Troup County will be to focus development in strategic areas. This could include planning for a development near West Point Lake, or a cluster of mixed-use development near I-85. By focusing infrastructure improvements in areas where the county wants development to happen, the county can maintain its rural character overall.



RENTAL DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH

- Under the constant growth scenario, Troup County shows absorption potential for over **500 new units** of rental products per year.
- To capture all of this demand potential, the rental products offered would need to be available across a wide range of income bands, and in a variety of product forms.
- 27% of Troup County's absorption potential is for renters with annual incomes less than \$25,250 (approximately 50% AMI). These households could afford monthly rents at \$630 and below, while paying a third of their income or less on housing. New deliveries for apartments priced less than \$630/month would likely need some form of affordable housing subsidies, or other assistance, due to the rising cost of new construction and delivery.

Troup County overa	II annua	I new construction renta	l absorption potentia	l, 2020-2025:
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Income	Below	\$25,251	\$40,401	\$50,501	\$60,601	
	\$25,250	\$40,400	\$50,500	\$60,600	and above	TOTAL
AMI	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	140 units	125 units	65 units	40 units	140 units	510 units
	@	@	@	@	@	
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	



RENTAL DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH LAGRANGE

This potential absorption for new rental units in Troup County has also been divided by likely preference for municipal jurisdiction based upon current population patterns and potential product demand.

Income	Below \$25,250	\$25,251 \$40,400	\$40,401 \$50,500	\$50,501 \$60,600	\$60,601 and above	TOTAL
AMI	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	75 units	55 units	30 units	25 units	80 units	265 units
	@	@	@	@	@	50%
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	of Troup

City of LaGrange can capture half of the county's annual new construction rental absorption potential from 2020-2025:

In addition to a range of price points, LaGrange will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Rental townhomes up to 10% of demand
- Garden Apartments up to 40% of demand
- "Town Center" Apartments up to 30% of demand
- Small multifamily up to 10% of demand
- Apartments over commercial space up to 10% of demand
- In addition to the Garden Apartment style already present in LaGrange, the city will need to offer additional types of multifamily products to capture the full potential absorption.
- Encouraging rental development near downtown LaGrange and other established intown areas will add to the vibrancy of the city and amenities necessary to capture higher price points. Any large-scale apartments near downtown or intown areas would benefit from being "Town Center" style rather than traditional garden apartments.
- In addition to large-scale apartment developments, LaGrange should encourage infill products including small multifamily developments and apartments over commercial space. This may also be achieved through adaptive reuse.



RENTAL DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH WEST POINT

Just over 10% of the county's annual new construction rental absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of West Point:

Income	Below \$25,250	\$25,251 \$40,400	\$40,401 \$50,500	\$50,501 \$60,600	\$60,601 and above	TOTAL	
АМІ	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%		
	15 units	20 units	10 units	5 units	15 units	65 units	
	@	@	@	@	@	13%	
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	of Troup	

In addition to a range of price points, West Point will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- "Town Center" Apartments up to 40% of demand
- Small multifamily up to 25% of demand
- Apartments over commercial space up to 20% of demand
- Rental townhomes up to 15% of demand
- As in for-sale development, West Point should focus new rental development near downtown. This will especially be necessary to capture the higher price points.
- West Point will be well-served by encouraging smaller infill developments, whether small-format multifamily, apartments over downtown commercial space, or rental townhomes.



RENTAL DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH HOGANSVILLE

Just over 10% of the county's annual new construction rental absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of Hogansville:

Income	Below	\$25,251	\$40,401	\$50,501	\$60,601	
	\$25,250	\$40,400	\$50,500	\$60,600	and above	TOTAL
АМІ	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	15 units	20 units	10 units	5 units	10 units	60 units
	@	@	@	@	@	12%
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, Hogansville would need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- "Town Center" Apartments up to 40% of demand
- Small multifamily up to 20% of demand
- Apartments over commercial space up to 25% of demand
- Rental townhomes up to 15% of demand
- As in for-sale development, Hogansville should focus new rental development near downtown. This will especially be necessary to capture the higher price points.
- Hogansville will be well-served by encouraging smaller infill developments, whether small-format multifamily, apartments over downtown commercial space, or rental townhomes. To keep its historic feel, the city should encourage adaptive reuse whenever possible.



RENTAL DEMAND – CONSTANT GROWTH UNINCORPORATED TROUP

Approximately 25% of the county's annual new construction rental absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by unincorporated Troup County:

Income	Below \$25,250	\$25,251 \$40,400	\$40,401 \$50,500	\$50,501 \$60,600	\$60,601 and above	TOTAL
ΑΜΙ	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	35 units	30 units	15 units	5 units	35 units	120 units
	@	@	@	@	@	25%
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, unincorporated Troup County would need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Rental townhomes up to 25% of demand
- Garden Apartments up to 75% of demand
- As in for-sale development, the key for unincorporated Troup could be to focus development in strategic areas. This could include planning for a development near West Point Lake, or a cluster of mixed-use development near I-85. By focusing infrastructure improvements in areas where the county wants development to occur, the county can maintain its rural character overall.
- Though the Troup County market shows potential to support multifamily rental units, the County should carefully consider where and how much multifamily should be permitted. The current infrastructure, particularly sewer service in currently undeveloped areas of the county, would be unable to support this type of development.
- The likely most prudent land use policy for the county is to encourage multifamily development within city limits, where access to infrastructure is much greater. The cost to develop and maintain infrastructure in unincorporated areas is likely prohibitive. However, demand for high-density housing options in the county is present.



RENTAL DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH

- Under the high growth scenario, Troup County shows absorption potential for approximately **580 new units** of rental products per year.
- In addition to higher population growth assumptions, the high growth rental demand incorporates increased new product capture due to the lack of recent new rental construction to meet this influx of households.
- To capture all of this demand, the rental products offered would need to be available across a wide range of income bands, and in a variety of product forms.
- 30% of Troup County's absorption potential is for renters with annual incomes less than \$25,250 (approximately 50% AMI). These households could afford monthly rents at \$630 and below, while paying a third of their income or less on housing. New deliveries for apartments priced less than \$630/month would likely need some form of affordable housing subsidies, or other assistance, due to the rising cost of new construction and delivery.

Income	Below	\$25,251	\$40,401	\$50,501	\$60,601	
	\$25,250	\$40,400	\$50,500	\$60,600	and above	TOTAL
AMI	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	200 units	150 units	55 units	45 units	130 units	580 units
	@	@	@	@	@	
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	

Troup County overall annual new construction rental absorption potential, 2020-2025:



RENTAL DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH LAGRANGE

This potential absorption for new rental units in Troup County has also been divided by likely preference for municipal jurisdiction based upon current population patterns and potential product demand in a high growth scenario.

Just over half of the county's annual new construction rental absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of LaGrange:

Income	Below	\$25,251	\$40,401	\$50,501	\$60,601	
	\$25,250	\$40,400	\$50,500	\$60,600	and above	TOTAL
ΑΜΙ	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	80 units	60 units	20 units	20 units	65 units	245 units
	@	@	@	@	@	45%
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, LaGrange will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Garden Apartments up to 40% of demand
- "Town Center" Apartments up to 30% of demand
- Small multifamily up to 10% of demand
- Rental townhomes up to 10% of demand
- Apartments over commercial space up to 10% of demand
- In addition to the Garden Apartment style already present in LaGrange, the city will need to offer additional types of multifamily products to capture the full potential absorption.
- Encouraging rental development near downtown LaGrange and other established intown areas will add to the vibrancy of the city and amenities necessary to capture higher price points. Any large-scale apartments near downtown or intown areas would benefit from being "Town Center" style rather than traditional garden apartments.
- In addition to large-scale apartment developments, LaGrange should encourage infill products including small multifamily developments and apartments over commercial space. This may also be achieved through adaptive reuse.


RENTAL DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH WEST POINT

Just over 10% of the county's annual new construction rental absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of West Point:

Income	Below	\$25,251	\$40,401	\$50,501	\$60,601	
	\$25,250	\$40,400	\$50,500	\$60,600	and above	TOTAL
AMI	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	40 units	30 units	15 units	10 units	25 units	120 units
	@	@	@	@	@	20%
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, West Point will need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- "Town Center" Apartments up to 40% of demand
- Small multifamily up to 25% of demand
- Apartments over commercial space up to 20% of demand
- Rental townhomes up to 15% of demand
- As in for-sale development, West Point should focus new rental development near downtown. This will especially be necessary to capture the higher price points.
- West Point will be well-served by encouraging smaller infill developments, whether small-format multifamily, apartments over downtown commercial space, or rental townhomes.

Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding. Source: Bleakly Advisory Group



RENTAL DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH HOGANSVILLE

Just over 10% of the county's annual new construction rental absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by the City of Hogansville:

Income	Below	\$25,251	\$40,401	\$50,501	\$60,601	
	\$25,250	\$40,400	\$50,500	\$60,600	and above	TOTAL
АМІ	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	30 units	30 units	10 units	10 units	20 units	100 units
	@	@	@	@	@	15%
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, Hogansville would need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- "Town Center" Apartments up to 40% of demand
- Small multifamily up to 20% of demand
- Apartments over commercial space up to 25% of demand
- Rental townhomes up to 15% of demand
- As in for-sale development, Hogansville should focus new rental development near downtown. This will especially be necessary to capture the higher price points.
- Hogansville will be well-served by encouraging smaller infill developments, whether small-format multifamily, apartments over downtown commercial space, or rental townhomes. To keep its historic feel, the city should encourage adaptive reuse whenever possible.



RENTAL DEMAND – HIGH GROWTH UNINCORPORATED TROUP

This potential absorption for new rental units in Troup County has also been divided by likely preference for municipal jurisdiction based upon current population patterns and potential product demand.

Approximately 25% of the county's annual new construction rental absorption potential from 2020-2025 can be captured by unincorporated Troup County:

Income	Below	\$25,251	\$40,401	\$50,501	\$60,601	
	\$25,250	\$40,400	\$50,500	\$60,600	and above	TOTAL
АМІ	< 50%	50% - 80%	80% - 100%	100% - 120%	>120%	
	50 units	30 units	10 units	5 units	20 units	115 units
	@	@	@	@	@	20%
	<\$630/mo	\$630 - \$1,010/mo	\$1,010 - \$1,260/mo	\$1,260 - \$1,515/mo	>\$1,515/mo	of Troup

In addition to a range of price points, unincorporated Troup County would need a variety of product types to capture this demand:

- Rental townhomes up to 25% of demand
- Garden Apartments up to 75% of demand
- As noted above, the key for unincorporated Troup could be to focus development in strategic areas. By focusing infrastructure improvements in limited nodes, the county can maintain its rural character overall.
- Though the Troup County market shows potential to support multifamily rental units, the County should carefully consider where and how much multifamily should be permitted. The current infrastructure, particularly sewer service in currently undeveloped areas of the county, would be unable to support this type of development.
- The likely most prudent land use policy for the county is to encourage multifamily development within city limits, where access to infrastructure is much greater. The cost to develop and maintain infrastructure in unincorporated areas is likely prohibitive. However, demand for high-density housing options in the county is present.

Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding. Source: Bleakly Advisory Group





OVERVIEW

Bleakly Advisory opened an online survey targeted at residents and employees in Troup County.

Of the **1,075 responses** received:

- 45% live in LaGrange
- 33% live in unincorporated Troup County
- 8% live in Hogansville
- 3.5% live in West Point
- **11%** live outside Troup County
- **76%** are employed in Troup County







WHAT FACTORS DRIVE DEMAND OUT OF TROUP?

The key reasons for choosing to live outside Troup County varied by location.

- A majority (65%) of Coweta County residents cited the lack of retail, restaurants, nightlife, and other amenities.
- Harris County residents primarily cited schools (59%) and family ties elsewhere (53%).
- Respondents living in Alabama pointed to the cost of housing (34%), taxes (43%) and family ties elsewhere (46%).



Why do you live OUTSIDE Troup County?

HOW DOES AGE AND INCOME AFFECT HOUSING TYPE PREFERENCE?

Younger people and households with lower incomes are more open to housing types beyond single family.

Though single family housing types remained the most popular, attached townhomes, loft apartments over commercial space, and multifamily apartments or condos all were much more favorably received by respondents **under age 35** or with household **incomes below \$75,000**.

• An additional increase in favorability was seen when selecting for respondents under age 35 who currently live in one of Troup's cities.

As Troup considers the future of its community, this diversity of preference should be given consideration.

Please select the degree to which you may consider another housing type if these options were available within the Troup Co. community.





SURVEY RESULTS - LAGRANGE

CHARACTERISTICS OF LAGRANGE RESPONDENTS

Of respondents who live in LaGrange:

- 70% are Owners
- 30% are Renters

- 47% live in 1-2 person households
 42% live in 3-4 person households
 - 11% live in 5+ person households
- Well-represented range of ages and household incomes:



Which age group fits your current age? What is your combined household's income?





SURVEY RESULTS - LAGRANGE

WHY DO PEOPLE CHOOSE TO LIVE IN LAGRANGE?

Respondents who live in LaGrange were primarily driven by a desire to live near employment. Other key factors included proximity to other family members and a desire to stay in their hometown.

"Other" responses included home prices, location, and ease of living in town.

If you live IN the City of LaGrange, please select your top three reasons for choosing to live in your location:



SURVEY RESULTS - LAGRANGE

WHAT HOUSING TYPES DO LAGRANGE RESIDENTS WANT?

Single family homes were the most popular housing type, followed by townhomes and loft apartments.

Please select the degree to which you may consider another housing type if these options were available within the Troup Co. community.





SURVEY RESULTS - UNINCORPORATED TROUP

CHARACTERISTICS OF UNINCORPORATED RESPONDENTS

Of respondents who live in Unincorporated Troup County:

- 87% are Owners
- 13% are Renters

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- 50% live in 1-2 person households
- 35% live in 3-4 person households
- 15% live in 5+ person households
- Well-represented range of ages, though incomes skewed higher:





What is your combined household's income?



SURVEY RESULTS - UNINCORPORATED TROUP

WHY DO PEOPLE CHOOSE TO LIVE IN UNINCORPORATED TROUP?

Respondents who live in unincorporated Troup chose their location because of their employment, schools, and proximity to family members.

"Other" responses included a desire for a rural lifestyle, lake access, and land availability.



If you live elsewhere IN Troup County, please select your top three reasons for choosing to live in your location:



SURVEY RESULTS - UNINCORPORATED TROUP

WHAT HOUSING TYPES DO UNINCORPORATED RESIDENTS WANT?

Unincorporated Troup respondents expressed a strong preference for single family homes.

Please select the degree to which you may consider another housing type if these options were available within the Troup Co. community.



SURVEY RESULTS – HOGANSVILLE

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOGANSVILLE RESPONDENTS

Of respondents who live Hogansville:

- 81% are Owners
- 19% are Renters
- 45-54 age group slightly underrepresented:

- 55% live in 1-2 person households
- 38% live in 3-4 person households
- 7% live in 5+ person households
- Incomes skewed lower than other survey groups:



Which age group fits your current age?





SURVEY RESULTS – HOGANSVILLE

WHY DO PEOPLE CHOOSE TO LIVE IN HOGANSVILLE?

Respondents who live in Hogansville chose their location because of their employment, proximity to family members, and community and historic/cultural sites.

"Other" responses included a desire for small-town life, close to church, and affordability.



If you live IN the City of Hogansville, please select your top three reasons for choosing to live in your location:



SURVEY RESULTS – HOGANSVILLE

WHAT HOUSING TYPES DO HOGANSVILLE RESIDENTS WANT?

Hogansville respondents expressed a strong preference for single family homes.

Please select the degree to which you may consider another housing type if these options were available within the Troup Co. community.





SURVEY RESULTS - WEST POINT

CHARACTERISTICS OF WEST POINT RESPONDENTS

Of respondents who live West Point:

- 75% are Owners
- 25% are Renters
- Ages skewed lower than in other survey groups:

- 36% live in 1-2 person households
- 44% live in 3-4 person households
- 19% live in 5+ person households
- Incomes skewed higher than other survey groups:



Which age group fits your current age?





SURVEY RESULTS - WEST POINT

WHY DO PEOPLE CHOOSE TO LIVE IN WEST POINT?

Respondents who live in West Point chose their location because of proximity to family members and their employment. "Other" responses included the country setting and small town atmosphere.



If you live IN the City of West Point, please select your top three reasons for choosing to live in your location:



SURVEY RESULTS - WEST POINT

WHAT HOUSING TYPES DO WEST POINT RESIDENTS WANT?

West Point respondents expressed a strong preference for single family homes.

Please select the degree to which you may consider another housing type if these options were available within the Troup Co. community.





MISSING MIDDLE HOUSING TYPES

"Missing middle" housing types were included in the housing preference question of the survey. These are smaller or attached housing options that are more affordable options than traditional single family, without being large-scale multifamily.

These include small cottage homes, attached townhomes, duplexes and quadplexes, and loft apartments over commercial space.

Though these options were not as overwhelmingly popular as traditional single family, survey respondents showed openness to these types:

Please select the degree to which you may consider another housing type if these options were available within the Troup Co. community.





HOW DOES AGE AND INCOME AFFECT HOUSING TYPE PREFERENCE?

Though single family housing types remained the most popular, attached townhomes, loft apartments over commercial space, and multifamily apartments or condos all were much more favorably received by respondents **under age 35** or with household **incomes below \$75,000**.

• An additional increase in favorability was seen when selecting for respondents under age 35 who currently live in one of Troup's cities.

As Troup considers the future of its community, this diversity of preference should be given consideration.

Please select the degree to which you may consider another housing type if these options were available within the Troup Co. community.



■ Overall ■ HH Income <\$75k ■ Age < 35



Bleakly Advisory held stakeholder interviews with key individuals in all three cities and the county.

Several common themes were heard at all four locations:

- 1. Schools are an issue both an issue of perceptions and competition with neighboring communities.
- 2. Rental options are needed for younger people, older people downsizing, and new employees moving into the area.
- **3.** Homes are not available for middle-income buyers new construction is not profitable for builders, and existing options need extensive renovation.
- 4. Troup County needs senior housing options across income levels, rental and for-sale.

WEST POINT

Other key themes heard in West Point:

- Downtown is a destination and an opportunity for West Point
- What encourages people to move to West Point?
 - Point University
 - Quality of life
 - Local connections
 - The river
 - Work opportunities



HOGANSVILLE

Other key themes heard in Hogansville:

- Why does a person choose Hogansville?
 - More affordable than LaGrange or Coweta
 - Small town / more rural feel
 - Closer to Atlanta
- Hogansville has an opportunity for housing development Downtown: adaptive reuse, loft apartments, townhomes, and other infill
- Affordable housing needs are exacerbated by high utility costs and lack of transportation



LAGRANGE

Other key themes heard in LaGrange:

- LaGrange has a lot going on, but new and prospective residents often don't know about it
- The economics of new construction don't work for builders in LaGrange
- Key housing needs:
 - Smaller, accessible homes for aging community
 - Options attractive to renters-bychoice
 - Starter options to transition into homeownership





TROUP COUNTY

Other key themes heard in Troup County:

- People in the county want "elbow room," not small-lot development
- Development costs in the county (primarily infrastructure) are too high for builders, so growth has to happen outward from the cities
- Perceived lack of amenities is mostly a lack of big-box options desired by those moving from larger cities







- Bleakly Advisory Group, Inc. is an Atlanta, Georgia based market and economic consulting firm
 - Founded in 2001
 - Six member professional team
- Our practice covers six areas in both public and private sectors:
 - Market Analysis
 - Real Estate Economics
 - Development Consulting
 - Financial Analysis
 - Incentives & Public Finance
 - Housing Analysis





TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Accuracy of Report: Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that the data developed in this assignment reflects the most accurate and timely information possible and is believed to be reliable. This consulting assignment is based on estimates, assumptions and other information developed by Bleakly Advisory Group ("BAG") from its independent research efforts, general industry knowledge and consultations with the client for this assignment and its representatives. No responsibility is assumed for inaccuracies in reporting by the client, its agents or representatives or any other data source used in preparing or presenting this study. The research and reports is based on information that is current as of the date of the report. BAG assumes no responsibility to update the information after the date of the report. The research may contain prospective financial information, estimates or opinions that represent our view of reasonable expectations at a particular point in time, but such information, estimates or opinions are not offered as assurances that a particular outcome will occur. Actual results achieved during the period covered by our prospective analysis may vary from those described on our research and report and variations may be material. Therefore, no warranty or representation is made by BAG that any of the projected values or results contained in the work product from this assignment will actually be achieved.
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