

# NewTown Macon

...Growing Jobs, Increasing Residents and Creating a Sense of Place.







In 2005 and 2006, the downtown community celebrated important milestones. The long-anticipated development of the "triangle property" came to fruition with the opening of Gateway Plaza. The historic Cox Capitol Theatre welcomed a new generation of movie-goers after being closed for more than 30 years, and revelers were once again dancing in the ballroom of the Macon Volunteer's Armory.

Today, there are more feet on the street around every corner of downtown. New boutiques, restaurants and entertainment venues have opened their doors. More people are choosing downtown as their home with the restoration of The Terraces and other loft apartments. First Night Macon returned bringing visitors downtown to ring in the New Year, while sculptures along the river have brought others out to walk the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail.

Committed developers, tireless volunteers and savvy entrepreneurs are driving downtown's momentum. New Town Macon is doing its part as the steward of downtown to be a catalyst for renewal. We were honored to receive the 2006 Renaissance Award from the Georgia Cities Foundation. The recognition and our 10th anniversary this year prompted our reflection on where we have been and where we are going. This report card is a snapshot of New Town's work in the last fiscal year. Going forward we will focus our resources on Growing Jobs, Increasing Residents and Creating a Sense of Place in downtown.

One thing is clear: there are many opportunities on the horizon, and we will need your help to keep the momentum going.

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Downtown Macon is on the move... Signs of progress are everywhere.

### **NewTown Macon is Growing Jobs**

Vision: A complimentary mix of thriving businesses reclaims historic buildings and adds new jobs.

The **Transitional Property Fund** has enabled NewTown to purchase and improve strategic properties resulting in more desirable businesses, new jobs and an expanded tax base:

- Cox Capitol Theatre: NewTown's investment leveraged \$1.4 million for restoration. The annual net benefit for our community will be almost \$700,000.
- 571 Cherry Street: Renovation is underway to add commercial and residential space.

This year we added a new and very effective tool – a **Business Incentive Grant** program. Over eight months, grants totaling \$85,000 opened or expanded 12 businesses, prompted entrepreneurs to invest

more than \$300,000 in their businesses and created 76 jobs.



NewTown Macon now serves as a one-stop-shop for developers and entrepreneurs. From locating property, accessing historic tax credits, developing a business plan and exploring financing options, our goal is to make conducting business downtown easy.

#### On the Horizon:

- Fascade Improvement Grant Program
- · New businesses opening restaurants, coffee shop, medical offices, apparel boutique, graphics and production shops.

### **NewTown Macon is Increasing Residents**

Vision: Thousands of citizens choose to live downtown in a safe, diverse and vibrant neighborhood.

Downtown has seen a 500 percent increase in the number of housing units since 1999. Today, people want to live in communities where they can walk from their homes to work, shop or dine. NewTown is re-making downtown as a neighborhood by encouraging, supporting and marketing residential developments. In 2005 and 2006, our partners restored and opened:

- 7 lofts at Aiden's on Second Street
- 34 apartments at The Terraces on Mulberry Street
- 1 loft on First Street

#### On the Horizon:

- Cherry Street Lane parking facility
- 78 apartments in the 400 block of Poplar Street
- Upscale condominiums at 167 Riverside Drive
- 70-unit apartment complex on New Street
- 10 condominiums in the Telephone Exchange building





## **NewTown Macon is Creating a Sense of Place**

Vision: The city's central core is the heart of activity and celebrates Macon's unique history and culture.

The Ocmulgee Heritage Trail welcomed an estimated 75,000 visitors this year, and is often described as "one of the best things to happen to Macon." Water Works Park received a \$6.1 million federal grant. Maintaining the natural beauty of the Trail also received a significant boost with the successful launch of **Friends** of the Trail. New phases of the Trail constructed this year:

- Five miles of walking trails within the Ocmulgee National
- Charles H. Jones Gateway Park south to Central City Park and north to GEICO overlook
- Glenridge Drive to Jackson Springs Park

To put more feet on the street downtown this year NewTown:

- Hosted a design charrette to improve alleyways
- Provided funding for Convention and Visitors' Bureau and Tubman Museum expansions
- Improved the Cherry Street streetscape
- Assisted Georgia College & State University to locate graduate programs downtown

#### On the Horizon:

- Construction of Cherry Street Plaza
- Drainage improvements, lighting and murals for Cherry Street Lane and Third Street Alley
- Trail through Riverside Cemetery
- Construction in Water Works Park
- Panhandling ordinance

#### **New Businesses in Downtown**

Invitation Only Gift Baskets Indigo Publishing

Red Eye Tavern & Grill

Cock & Bull restaurant

**Busy Corner** 

Karen Collier, CPA

The Hummingbird Stage & Tap Room

Cocoon

Muddy Water Tours

Second Street Pizza

Ginger Michelle at Home expansion

Fasteners Plus



### NewTown Macon's Board of Directors

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Of counsel: Ed Sell, III

\*Executive Committee member



### **NewTown Macon is Winning Awards**

Honors shared with community partners.

On June 25, 2006 the Georgia Cities Foundation announced NewTown Macon as the 2006 Renaissance Award recipient. The prestigious award recognizes an individual or organization that demonstrates passion for vibrant downtowns, leads innovative approaches to re-investment, partners with stakeholders to build community consensus and commits significant resources to stimulate quality development. "NewTown shares this award with our community partners - the developers, small business owners, foundations, corporate leaders and elected officials who are making

significant investments in our downtown," said Kirby Godsey, chairman of NewTown.

We were also honored by recognition from our partner in restoration, the Macon Heritage Foundation.

- 2006 Renaissance Award Georgia Cities Foundation
- 2006 Urban Enhancement Award Macon Heritage Foundation

#### OcmulgeeHeritageTrail.com



NewTownMacon.com

#### **Financial Review**

#### Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2006

7100210		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	202,646
Unconditional promises to give, current		176,600
Accounts receivable, net		40,351
Government grants & performance contracts receivable		507,862
Prepaid expenses		18,323
Total Current Assets		945,782
OTHER ASSETS		
Cash restricted for long-term purposes		35,420
Beneficial interest in Community Foundation Funds	4	1,344,894

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Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	
Of \$266,007 and \$249,167, respectively	2,064,396
Unconditional promises to give, net of current	9,523
Utility deposits	55
Total Other Assets	6,454,288
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 7,400,070

TOTAL ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

COTALLY ELIBERTIES		
Accounts payable	\$	22,312
Accrued salaries and benefits		10,671
Deferred Revenue		25,936
Total Current Liabilities		58,919
TOTAL LIABILITIES		58,919
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Undesignated	5,	,742,222
Designated		405,135
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	6,	147,357
Temporarily restricted	1,	,193,794
Total Net Assets	7,	,341,151
Total Net Assets	7,	341,





#### Statement of Activity Year Ended June 30, 2006 UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

1,043,572

\$ 2,483,836

UNRESTRICTED REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	
Contributions	
Capital campaign	\$ 1,364
Donated facilities and services	54,600
Membership fees	137,500
Program Services	
County bond reimbursement	950,026
Investment return, net	146,839
Rental income and other	149,935
Total Unrestricted Revenues, Gains and Other Support	1,440,264
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	

Restrictions satisfied by payments TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUES, GAINS

AND OTHER SUPPORT

EXPENSES AND LOSSES

Program Services		
Urban Design Center	\$	655,180
Ocmulgee Heritage Trail		758,807
Friends of the Trail		8,294
Riverfront development, including Rotary Park		251,572
Cherry Street Plaza		2,236
Cherry Street Lane		869,272
Transitional property		258,317
Trolleys		83,834
		2,887,512
Supporting Services		
Management and general		138,826
Fundraising		237,412
		376,238
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ :	3,263,750

Losses

Loss on disposal of assets Total Losses	\$ 46,391 46,391
Total Expenses and Losses	3,310,141
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(826,305)
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS Contributions- capital campaign Contributions- Rotary Park Special Events Investment return, net	2,028,617 5,757 107,398 1,937
Net assets released from restrictions by payment INCREASE (DECREASE) IN TEMPORARILY	(1,043,572)
RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	1,100,137
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	273,832
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	7,067,319
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 7,341,151



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