





The Sumter County Development Authority actively works to identify and support the creation of job opportunities for the Americus area and would appreciate the opportunity to explore options with you. The following document highlights the resources and amenities making our community an attractive environment for expanding and locating businesses.

Located in Southwest Georgia, Sumter County is home to many industries, ranging from plastics and metal fabrication to food processing, cold storage, an iron foundry, contact centers and more. A variety of entities call Sumter County home, including Habitat for Humanity International, Eaton's Cooper Lighting, Old Biscayne Designs, TSG, Resolute of TN, Caravelle Boats, Woodgrain Millworks, and more.

With substantial water, sewer, natural gas, road and rail services, and a regional airport facility, many industries in the area find the community supportive of their infrastructure and logistical needs. Situated along US Highway 19, which stretches from Florida at the southern terminus to Pennsylvania at the northern terminus, as well as east west corridor US Highway 280, many major metropolitan areas and markets are easily accessible for product distribution.

Locally, the Authority partners with the City of Americus, Sumter County Board of Commissioners, Georgia Southwestern State University, and South Georgia Technical College to provide an array of resources. Along with the college and university, public, private and charter system options are available for k12 education and workforce preparation. All educational institutions partner to develop a motivated and highly skilled workforce for the community. SGTC focuses on providing an array of specialized training and workforce development services for manufacturing industries, including job fairs, assistance with applicant screening, and many other individualized tasks to make the transition of location and setup an easy process for your business.

Additionally, Sumter County offers "freeport" and "energy" tax incentives as a means to reduce operating costs for industry. Along with the local tax incentives, Sumter County is designated as "tier-one" county with the State of Georgia, allowing for up to \$4,000 of state tax credits for each new job created in many industries. The State of Georgia has various programs which address additional tax incentives related to additional aspects such as research and development and equipment acquisition, as well as financial partnerships through the EDGE and EQUITY funds, all of which our community actively participates with.

As you consider options for expansion, Sumter County is ready to meet most any need you might have, in a confidential manner, and looks forward to developing a partnership with you and our community.

Thank you again and please do not hesitate to contact me if I or the Authority might be of assistance. I can be reached via phone at (229) 924-7007, or e-mail at bgrogan@sumtercountychamber.com.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Grogan

Barbara D. Grogan
Executive Director
Sumter County Development Authority

Sumter County Resources & Services

The Sumter County Development Authority offers many resources and services, creating an environment that is conducive to the development of new and existing private sector companies. These resources are available through local partnerships, forming a cohesive, one stop shop to address industry needs.

Payroll Development Authority Resources & Services

- Close proximity to major southeastern markets with efficient by-pass routings for trucks connecting with US 19 and GA Route 49 to nearby interstate connections.
- Two fully developed industrial parks offering both short and long-term leases in various industrial facilities; excellent rail service provided as well.
- Substantial allocation of natural gas, water and sewer capacity as provided by the City of Americus.
- Speculative building available to be tailored to the needs of a business looking to locate or expand.
- Industrial and commercial property for warehousing, distribution, manufacturing, and contact centers.
- Both taxable and non-taxable revenue bonds for qualified applicants.
- Efficient, full air service at Jimmy Carter Regional Airport for corporate aircraft.
- Acclaimed “Quick Start” workforce training for new or expanding industry is provided by South Georgia Technical College. The John M. Pope Industrial Technology Center offers splendid facilities for business seminars, workshops and community events. The college boasts a 99% job placement record and is one of the few institutions of its kind to offer on-campus housing.
- Providing tailored site identification services, customized research, business incentives, financing programs, permitting and regulatory assistance, and strategic labor recruitment.

Sumter County Tax Incentives

- As a “tier-one” State of Georgia designated county, state job tax credits allow for up to \$4,000 in tax credits for new jobs created.
- “Freeport” tax exemptions provide 100% ad valorem tax exemptions on certain inventories.
- “Energy” tax exemptions provide for sales tax exemptions on the energy used in manufacturing. Along with State of Georgia energy tax exemptions, Sumter County is phasing out the tax as well to reduce the burden on processors and manufacturers.

South Georgia Technical College: Commitment to Industry

- Identify and recruit potential labor pool from student database.
- Host job fairs on campus to assist in recruiting new employees.
- Facilitate Quick Start training for initial labor force per Quick Start qualifiers.
- Develop a co-partnership with industry to insure a continuous source of available labor.
- Provide start-up as well as continuing education facility space in the Business Expansion Center.



Industrial Site Infrastructure

Water & Sewer

Ch2MHill manages the water and sewer plants for the City of Americus. Ch2MHill is responsible for the treatment and distribution of water and sewer processing for the residents. This includes the operation of a 7 million gallons per day Water Plant and a 4.4 million gallons per day Sewage Treatment Facility. With significant capacity for future growth needs, Ch2MHill is ready to meet your needs with the City of Americus water and sewer facilities.

Natural Gas

A member of the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia, the City of Americus owns and operates its own natural gas distribution system, providing services for all commercial and industrial residents of the City. With two pressure systems to serve customers, one system is at 20 pounds for residential customers and small businesses, and the second system is at 150 pounds for large commercial and industrial customers. Additionally, the Natural Gas Department has the ability to meet requirements of interruptible customers as well. Over 103 miles of main lines comprise the system, with 2,672 MCF per day dedicated for customers, and additional expansion capacity.

Telecommunications

Multiple providers, including Georgia Public Webb, AT&T, Mediacom, and Citizens Telephone Services supply high speed broadband capabilities to Sumter County. Each will develop a network to meet needs of individual users.

Electric Power

Georgia Power Company and Sumter EMC provide all electrical services in Sumter County. Both offer rebates and incentives to customers, and will gladly assist you in determining the best option for your business.

Sumter County Logistics and Connectivity

Sumter County is home to the Jimmy Carter Regional Airport, which includes a 6,000+ foot runway and hangars for tenant use. Additionally, Sumter County is well situated to meet many road way and rail freight needs, with north/south and east/west highways and CSX and NS rail lines providing for unlimited access for inbound and out-bound freight.

Major Routes

US Highway 19: A north–south long-haul route connecting the Gulf of Mexico with Lake Erie, the highway's southern terminus is at Memphis, Florida, which is just south of St. Petersburg at an intersection with U.S. Route 41. Its northern terminus is in Erie, Pennsylvania, at an intersection with U.S. Route 20 about two miles from the shores of Lake Erie. The length of the highway is 1,438 miles, including both U.S. Route 19E/U.S. Route 19W paths through North Carolina and Tennessee.

U.S. Route 280: A spur of U.S. Highway 80, it currently runs for 392 miles from Blitchton, Georgia at U.S. Highway 80 to Birmingham, Alabama at I-20/I-59.

Interstate 75 (I-75): A major north–south Interstate Highway in the Great Lakes and Southeastern regions of the US, I-75 is located 35 miles east of Sumter County. It travels from northwest of Miami, Florida to Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, at the Ontario border. Interstate 75 is the seventh longest interstate highway, and passes through six different states: Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Michigan.

Rail Access: Sumter County is served by CSX and Norfolk Southern rail lines. Short rail service includes the Heart of Georgia and Georgia Southwestern lines.

Cordele Intermodal Services: CIS, located just east of Sumter County, offers overnight rail access, three times weekly, to the Georgia Ports Authority in Savannah, Georgia. CIS provides cost savings, traffic mitigation, reductions in CO2 output, and additional operational service offerings to benefit shippers, trucking companies, and steamship lines. CIS is situated within a market that includes the Southwest quadrant of Georgia, the southern half of Alabama, and the Florida Panhandle. CIS is served by the Heart of Georgia RR and Georgia Central RR, with access to both Class I RR's in the region (CSX & NS).