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Cathy Barr, Ashe County Director of Economic Development, is pleased to announce the release of three new Web applications on the Ashe County Government website. The applications include a “Civic Public App,” an “Art, Cultural & Recreational App” and an “Environmental & Infrastructure App.” The new applications were developed to better serve the citizens of Ashe County, business community and visitors in locating important information across the entire County, and its municipalities. With the launch of these applications, you will have access to information such as land parcels, municipal zoning, scenic byways, public parks and community points of interest. Finding the information you need has never been easier because you can access it through your computer, smart phone or tablet anytime, anywhere.

The Web applications were created by the High Country Council of Governments (HCCOG) by using geographic information system (GIS) data. GIS is computer software that links geographic information (where things are) with descriptive information (what things are). The software can be used for decision-making by creating maps and overlaying types of information that may not normally be linked. Depending upon the application, it can connect people to their work or a nature enthusiast to the next great hiking trail or canoe trip.

The Web apps can be accessed by simply going to www.ashecountygov.com and clicking on the GIS/Apps icon. The HCCOG has developed similar local government apps for the towns of North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro. However, this project was the first of its kind in the region due to the geographic scope. These apps are a “one-stop shop” for data pertaining to the County and the jurisdictions of Lansing, Jefferson, and West Jefferson.