



BOOK 4: APPENDIX



Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Documentation of Community Involvement

1. Overview of Participation Programming Strategy
2. Public Hearing 1 – Kick Off Meeting
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Presentation Deck
 - c. Photos
 - d. Sign in Sheet
3. Stakeholder Focus Groups and Open House
 - a. Schedule/Agenda
 - b. Discussion Notes
 - c. Photos
 - d. Sign in Sheets
4. Public Hearing 2 – Final Presentation
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Presentation Deck
 - c. Sign in Sheet
5. Records of Promotional Efforts
 - a. Notices for Public Hearings
 - b. Press Releases
 - c. News Coverage
 - d. Screenshot of Social Media Promotion
 - e. Screenshot of Comprehensive Plan webpage
6. Community Survey
 - a. SurveyMonkey Form
 - b. Summary of Survey Results
 - c. Responses to Open-Ended Questions

Comp Plan Update – Overview of Participation Programming Strategy

Events

First Public Hearing

- **Thursday, February 16th (Zoom at noon; municipal building at 5:30pm)**
 - Introduction to the CPU process

Stakeholder Focus Groups + Open House

- **Tuesday, March 2nd (municipal building throughout day)**
 - Invite focus groups during the day (similar to PRMP) for feedback sessions
 - Host open house for general public to see status updates & provide comments

Final Public Hearing

- **Tuesday, May 16th (municipal building at 5:30pm)**
 - Present overview of final draft to be submitted for approval

Online Tools

- Comprehensive Plan webpage on the City's website (www.thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan)
- Online Survey (with unique links for the City's website, social media, and QR Code)
- Create feedback email (for comments to be checked regularly)

Promotion of Events + Survey

- Public Calendars – add hearings & open house events to City and Community Calendars
- Social Media – push events on City's Facebook, listserv, etc.
- CNS—notices posted on the community scroll
- City Website—press releases; news feed; link to survey; regular updates on Comp Plan page
- Thomasville Times Enterprise – run notices for required public hearings
- Print Collateral—rack cards, posters with QR code for survey & event dates
- Stakeholders—email blast to key stakeholders to share with their networks

Advisory Committee Meetings¹

- February 7th: preliminary meeting; discuss planning process and schedule
- March 7th: recap of events & findings to date
- April 4th: status update; overview of key priorities
- May 2nd: discuss final draft to be submitted for review
- June 6th: recap of final hearing; final meeting prior to adoption by Council

¹ City of Thomasville's Planning Committee served as the advisory committee for the Comprehensive Plan 5-Year update. The Comp Plan update was added to the agenda for their standing monthly meeting. The committee consists of two City Council members (elected), the chair and vice chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission (appointed), Planning Department staff, and the Assistant City Manager.



**Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan
Five Year Update
144 East Jackson Street
Thursday, February 16, 2023
5:30 PM**

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Schedule of Events
- Overview of the Comprehensive Plan Process
- How to Get Involved



1

Today's Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Overview of the Process
- Schedule of Events
- Discussion

2

What is the Comprehensive Plan?

The Guiding document to direct capital improvements, evaluate development projects, guide public policy, and ensure that Thomasville is *the city that its residents want it to be*



3

What is the Comprehensive Plan?

The Guiding document to direct capital improvements, evaluate development projects, guide public policy, and ensure that Thomasville is *the city that its residents want it to be*



4

What is the Comprehensive Plan?

The Guiding document to direct capital improvements, evaluate development projects, guide public policy, and ensure that Thomasville is *the city that its residents want it to be*



5

What is a 5-year update?

Local governments must update their comprehensive plans every five years to Report five-year accomplishments and Re-engage the community to update the projects and recommendations



6

What is a 5-year update?

Local governments must report comp plan accomplishments to date and re-engage the community to verify existing priorities and recommendations

- Review Future Character Area Map. Has anything changed?
- Are there any new needs or opportunities that have come up over the past 5 years that were not captured in the Blueprint 2028?
- Progress report of our Work Program Matrix. What have we completed?

7

Land Use

Review the Future Character Area Map to confirm that character areas have not changed

8

Needs and Opportunities

Poll the Community to confirm our needs and opportunities are still relevant

9

Community Work Program: Status Update

Update the Community Work Program to reflect current status.

- Provide status update for all activities
- Identify work that has been completed and remove from the work program
- Modify and Prioritize remaining Work Program activities to make them more actionable

10

project timeline

11

We need your help!

- Take the Online Survey
- Attend a Focus Group Session
- Participate in the Open House

We hope to see you on March 2nd
Bring a friend!

thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan

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Thank you!

If you have questions or comments, send us an email at planning@thomasville.org

To find out more information about the 5-year plan update, check out our website at thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan



Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update
COMMUNITY SURVEY



Please complete by March 10th

Save the Date
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, March 2, 2023
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Municipal Building Reception Room
144 East Jackson Street

To learn more about Thomasville's
Comprehensive Plan and Update visit:
www.thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

5-YEAR UPDATE

Public Hearing | Thursday, February 16, 2023

"Introduction the Update Process"

1. Ruby bloyd purposes@outlook.com - @803-507-5242

2. M. Krier mak@vose.net

3. Nancy Tillughast nancyt@vose.net

4. Melanie Cromartie

5. Adriaus Wood

6. CRAIG CLARK cclark1988@live.com

7. Emily Bragg ebragg09@gmail.com

8. _____

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Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update
**STAKEHOLDER
FOCUS GROUPS**

Thursday, March 2, 2023

Municipal Building Reception Room
144 East Jackson Street

Economic Development

Session at 11:30 AM

Housing & Neighborhoods

Session at 1:30 PM

Local Culture & Character

Session at 3:00 PM

Open House to Follow

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM



**Open House for the Comprehensive Plan
Five Year Update
144 East Jackson Street
Thursday, March 2, 2023
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

AGENDA*

- Welcome and Introductions
- Schedule of Events
- Overview of the Comprehensive Plan Process
- Overview of Progress to Date

*Agenda for Presentation to Public; Presentations at 5:30PM and 6:30PM

CPU | Stakeholder Focus Group Sessions

Economic Development | March 2, 2023, 11:00AM

Attendees

- Andrea Collins, Director, Chamber of Commerce
- Lucinda Brown, P&Z Vice Chair, Community Leader
- Bonnie Hayes, Tourism (COT)
- Andy Godwin, Business Development (COT)
- Brandy Avery, Main Street (COT)
- Chris White, Asst. City Manager (COT)
- Sheryl Sealy, Asst. City Manager (COT)
- April Norton, Marketing (COT)
- Kenny Thompson, Planning (COT)
- Anna Day, Planning (COT)

Discussion Notes

- More than half of the attendees indicated that they use/reference the Comp Plan fairly regularly
- Generally, consensus among stakeholders is that Economic Development isn't what it used to be; there's been a recent shift in focus to quality of life as key to recruiting businesses

How do you feel about the ED element of the plan?

- Chamber POV
 - ED is evolving;
 - They're discussing who is the right person to lead various initiatives
 - Workforce Development is a key issue – lots of local efforts/overlaps
 - Will provide staff with an update of how their initiatives align with CWP action items

How Do you feel about the economy?

- Chamber's Board feels that Thomasville is insulated compared to other rural communities; we aren't feeling the same effects as recession/inflation
- City uses sales tax as a metric—things are stronger (caveat: must account for inflation); DCA reports this is across the state
- Hotel/motel tax is another metric used by the City that indicates the same state of the economy
- Downtown businesses did a good job pivoting during pandemic (online presence) – most jobs were preserved, no businesses closed, and businesses seem stronger on the other side

What's been the biggest impact of the Pandemic?

- City and Chamber felt they did a good job of dividing and conquering response efforts
 - Disseminating information/resources
 - Noted that Peers/Partners in other communities were looking out for each other
- AVAILABLE WORKFORCE

- New working model (WFH) is drastically different from traditional business models
- Wages: the range of responsibility for the same value (franchise retail v local business)
 - How do we stay competitive?
- Appealing to younger generations is forcing local institutions to evaluate their existing recruitment models
- COMMUNICATION is still a challenge
 - How do we reach the folks we were already struggling to reach?
- CHILD CARE issues were/are crippling
 - Again, old model doesn't work
 - Again, lots of similar agencies dedicated to this issue; but we're still feeling pinch points
- "MASS" RETIREMENT was also impactful
 - Some agencies/businesses lost a lot institutional knowledge
 - Some services are no longer available (like child care)

Four Concerns that were ID'd in 2018:

- Need a more Skilled Workforce (humans)
- Loss of Younger Generation (what jobs do they want?)
- Limited jobs to keep/attract
- City services & assistance – licensing & permitting

Where are we now:

- Chamber's Study reiterated the importance of early childhood development in preparing the labor force and providing a workforce that meets for future economic needs
- There are LOTS OF (UNFILLED) JOBS; but people don't seem to know that they're there
 - Contrast to a perception that there are no jobs
 - What are the jobs that available workforce want/expect?
 - No one wants shift work; they want flexibility (gig economy)
 - RESULT: we're seeing industries are shifting to automation
- WORKFORCE DEFICIT in literally every industry & sector
 - Chamber/SRTC offers a pipeline to secondary education
 - certificate credentials (tech school) – welder, nurses, etc.
- KIDS NEED RESOURCES NOW – it's not just workforce ready aged that need them
 - under-resourced kids are behind (systemic issue)
 - pandemic kids are behind; under-resourced pandemic kids are in worse shape
- we also have to focus resource to FAMILIES to build better support for kids
 - people are facing SO MANY BARRIERS (child care, etc.)
 - how do better align our wrap-around services???
 - Case management infrastructure
 - DFACS used to have really successful programming; we need something like that
 - Peach program (Welfare to Work)
 - Clinton Admin initiative

Are we heading in the right direction?

- Good work being done in good faith
 - But there is misalignment with local leadership—they aren't participating in the convo; public investments could/should consider and include better support
- The Comp Plan process built good will throughout the community
 - It appears that the City has not done a good job following through because there hasn't been enough follow up (status updates, etc.)
 - There is a real and perceived equity issue
 - The City needs to be clearer about what's going on
 - Work with neighborhood leaders to share information throughout implementation – not just at the kick-off
 - “Public projects are an iceberg” -- a lot going on under the surface
 - People understand things take time, but they still deserve to be in the loop
- There is a lot of distrust - especially in the AA community
 - Investing in healthier neighborhoods builds trust and a workforce that trusts the system are best foundation for business community
 - We need to meet people where they are (ex: conduct “radical walks” at night, not while people are at work)
 - Repairing systemic distrust has to be a priority regardless of leadership changes
 - People who aren't in/from neighborhoods have more influence with seemingly little consideration for the affected residents (“this is what we think is best for you”)
- Follow Up meeting with Chamber/PDA on City-Business Relations
 - Need a deeper dive to discuss Roles & Responsibilities
 - Who could/should realistically take the tasks
 - Try to align with their upcoming strategic planning

Housing + Neighborhoods | March 2, 2023, 1:30PM

Attendees

- Keysha MacIntyre, Community Advocate
- Sharon Edwards, COTC
- Nate Tyler, BGCA
- Lucinda Brown, P&Z Vice Chair, Community Leader
- Sam Fink, P&Z Chair
- Michael Jones, TCDC
- Melvin Hugans, CRA Officer, Thomasville National Bank
- Katie Chastain, Consultant, Williams Family Foundation
- Stan Reecy, URA consultant, KB Advisory Group
- Sheryl Sealy, Assistant City Manager, COT
- Chris White, Assistant City Manager, COT
- Kenny Thompson, Planning, COT
- Anna Day, Planning, COT

Discussion Notes

- Most of the attendees at this meeting are familiar/active users of the Comp Plan

Current State of Housing– COTC/Sharon’s POV

- 1800 units in development countywide, but not affordable
- More folks are getting evicted; multiple families are stacking/sharing SF units
- Sees GICH team as an intricate part of meeting affordability needs (especially with LIHTC tools)
- Average rent at Housing Authority in increasing (estimated +300→800/m)
 - MH Parks at \$1000/m
- People on fixed incomes are struggling
- CAN WE MOVE AHEAD FASTER WITH HOUSING????
 - Lots of needs; but this foundation for families is TOP priority for her clients/community
- Lots of different loan tools/resources are available for potential homeowners that our local banks aren’t using it right now (ex. FHA 203K program)
 - NCRC is a good national resource that streamlines these programs
 - USDA, FHA, etc. → agency-based funding sources
 - We’re also missing out as a non-entitlement area
- COTC sees a lot of potential in focusing on heir property resolution

Affordability is collaborative effort – there is consensus that GICH has been good at maintaining/facilitating those conversations

Ongoing Neighborhoods Improvements – BGCA/Nate’s POV

- We’re doing better; City efforts have been in line with the plan
- We’ve got to do a better job getting updates out in the community
 - People are getting used to/comfortable with the plan
 - They WANT to know where we are with projects/initiatives

- City is aware of the housing problem, but it's not the City's responsibility to line up the funding
- The bigger issue is property owners/developers → they control the prices and affordability

Our Goal is better prioritize what was already in the plan

- Example of CWP Activity: Adaptive reuse of Housing Authority units
 - HA units are well maintained, but they're really old and we need MORE
 - Who is supposed to lead these kinds of projects?
 - A lot of actions the City CAN NOT do; OUT of the City's purview; we CAN be a resource
- We want to delegate CWP → GOALS/ACTIVITIES
 - Assign to TCDC, HA, Chamber as appropriate
 - We have to be careful about technical v perceived messaging surrounding those actions

HOMELESSNESS

- How would we address this? Do the Comp Plan goals shift?
 - Wraparound services for homeless/precariously housed

Homeless Shelter service providers POV (Fountain of Life)

- Only available 4 days a week; we don't have consistent shelter service
- We need to better understand the different tiers and needs of homeless
 - Balancing their autonomy with available/limited services
- We've finally admitted it IS a problem; but it's growing
 - Could this issue be rolled into emergency response strategies (storms, freeze, heatwaves)?
- Local Groups are working together better
 - Thomasville Street Church, Fountain of Life, Spence Lot
 - Churches are really leaning in; but it's still informal
- Requirements for State resources are getting more and more narrow
 - Homeless Counts are not consistent or accurate due to State's scope
 - there is local infrastructure handling a lot of this; the City can/should be supportive
 - ex. TPD/Sherriff used to be part of the count events
- We need an HMIS database system (share info with and among service providers)
 - Data will help secure funding from state
 - Cloud-based/shared resource for case management
 - City/Countywide scope → would tie into statewide system
 - **Still unclear WHO would initiate and maintain the HMIS locally**

NEIGHBORHOODS/HOUSING

Planning is working on a URA for infill in traditional neighborhoods character areas. Thoughts?

- We need stronger codes and better code enforcement if any of it is going to work
 - there's no teeth to hold developers/landlords accountability
 - need legal muster
 - Impact fees; mitigation measures
 - Context sensitive design

- Affordability means something different to everyone → income-driven requirements need to be in place
- Be mindful to keep existing homeowners/residents in place/don't get displaced
- WE NEED TO ADOPT A VERY CLEAR/CONSISTENT VERNACULAR
 - Affordable is NOT low-income
 - Income driven is NOT low-income
- Some stakeholders feel that URA policy/program benefits should only go towards homeownership, not to landlords
 - others acknowledge that safe, affordable rental is necessary in that pipeline
 - there is agreement that homeownership is the priority and end goal
 - Not everyone can afford a mortgage for what homes costs now
 - There are subsidies for helping offset mortgages – but is that sustainable?
 - We need to shift expectations of what homeownership looks like
 - Unlikely to repeat Victoria Park (NSFR for \$150K)
 - Building wealth (and equity) have many different shapes (missing middle)

Local Culture & Character | March 2, 2023 3:00PM

Attendees

- Bill Edwards, Landmarks/Downtown business owner
- Nancy Tinker, Landmarks
- Anne McCudden, History Center
- Lucinda Brown, P&Z Vice-Chair, Community Leader
- Angela Kiminas, HOTC
- Roger Hawkes, Hubs & Hops/Downtown business owner
- Mike Owens, Parks & Rec, COT
- April Norton, Marketing, COT
- Kenny Thompson, Planning, COT
- Anna Day, Planning, COT

Discussion Notes

Food Security + Accessibility

- Local Markets (bricks and mortar; mobile)
- People are not supporting the existing FM, despite “want” for it
- Wholesome Wave – double your snap dollars
- Need Banks to finance services/businesses in underserved Neighborhoods
- We have to be mindful of viability of the successful
- MOST of our neighborhoods are technically food deserts; we have an ACCESS issue
 - We need to focus on addressing the NH with access issues
 - RUBBER TIRE transit service is a well supported idea

Fostering businesses/services/economic development at Neighborhood level

- Have we effectively asked what people want/need generally?
 - Ex. who is the community trail actually for?
- How do we better support small businesses from within the community (not recruit outside)?
- Why aren't we helping neighborhoods CONTINUE their festivals/celebrations?

STAFF: How do we help neighborhood nodes find their identity like Downtown?

- “It’s there; we just need to find it” Landmarks and History Center are great resources for the research to find the unique character
- We have to incentivize those areas of revitalization; extend Downtown liaisons to promote the other nodes; we also need to streamline development/business services generally
- Consensus that we have a unique network of sherpas that can walk folks through the process; everyone wants to see our residents and neighborhoods succeed

Open House | March 2, 2023, 5:00PM to 7:00PM

See Sign-in Sheet for attendees (all participated in the discussion)

Equity Concerns – how do we address systemic distrust?

- There is a general consensus that traditional neighborhoods have not seen investment the way other areas (Downtown) have experienced
- There isn't transparency about the budget or how things are prioritized
 - It feels like Council/City Management are selectively responsive
 - Aren't following up with concerns
- Traditional Neighborhood residents feel neglected/forgotten/overlooked
 - Balfour Park would be a really good win on the Southside
 - Concern about folks (especially children) on West Side safely getting to/from home
 - Sidewalks underway; extended lighting on major corridors
 - Is there a process residential streetlight requests?
- What is the pipeline neighborhood need → community support/advocacy → city leadership
 - Property owners are the most vested in their neighborhoods and the most logical leaders/representatives to advocate for their needs

Housing Concerns – how do we address LIVING conditions

- Owner occupied units are in good shape; we REALLY need a way to deal with landlord
 - How do we hold landlords accountable?
 - What can the City LEGALLY do?
 - Can we treat them like a business? Enforce a Registry?
- How do we better respond to actual needs (not perceived/assumed needs) and invest in solutions that are impactful (not insulting/ineffective)?





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

5-YEAR UPDATE

Stakeholder Sessions | Thursday, March 2, 2023

Economic Development Focus Group

Name | Email Address

1. Bonnie Hayes _____
2. Brandy Aveny brandy.aveny@thomasville.org
3. Andrea Collins andrea@imagine-thomasville.org
4. Andy Goodwin Andrew.Goodwin@thomasville.org
5. Sherry Sealy sherryse@thomasville.org
6. Lucinda Brown lucinda_j82008@hotmail.com
7. April Nertow apriln@thomasville.org
8. Chris White _____
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12. _____
13. _____



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

5-YEAR UPDATE

Stakeholder Sessions | Thursday, March 2, 2023

Housing + Neighborhoods Focus Group

Name | Email Address

1. Kate Chastain | katie@tsbtzsk.org

2. Sherry Sealy

3. Melvin Hugues - | melvin@fwhan.com

4. Michael Jones - | trillecdc@rose.net

5. Sharon D. Edwards / sedwards.cotz@gmail.com

6. Keysha McEntyre / moldingminds2@gmail.com

7. Nate Tyler / nate.tyler.nt@gmail.com

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

5-YEAR UPDATE

Stakeholder Sessions | Thursday, March 2, 2023

Local Culture + Character
~~Housing + Neighborhoods~~ Focus Group

14. Angela Kiminas / HOTC
15. MIKE OWENS - COT - PARKS / REC.
16. Roger Hawkes Hubs + Hops / TVELO
17. Apein Norton
18. Bill Edwardsy . Downtown Business + Landmarks
19. Anne McCudden + History Center
20. Karey Juntus Landmarks
21. Lucinda Brun GICH.
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 5-YEAR UPDATE

Open House | Thursday, March 2, 2023

PLEASE SIGN IN!!!!

Name | Email Address

1. Ruby Wloyd - galileedeap@gmail.com
2. Emily Bragg - EBRAGG09@GMAIL.COM
3. Andy Goodwin - Andrew.Goodwin@Thomasville.org
4. Eddie Welch - waldrepservicecleaners@gmail.com
5. Brandy Aveny - brandy.aveny@thomasville.org
6. April Darrow - apriln@thomasville.org
7. Ashley Jackson - jackson@bellsouth.net
8. Jacob Welch - seniordesigner@adelecreative.com
9. Lucinda Braun - lucindaj82008@hotmail.com
10. Ucher Dent - ucher.dent@gmail.com
11. _____
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**Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan
Five Year Update
144 East Jackson Street
Tuesday, May 16, 2023
5:30 PM**

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of the 5-Year Update Results
- Next Steps



1

Today's Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Overview of the 5-year update Results
- Next Steps

2

What is the Comprehensive Plan?

The Guiding document to direct capital improvements, evaluate development projects, guide public policy, and ensure that Thomasville is *the city that its residents want it to be*




BOOK 1: BUILDING PLACE

3

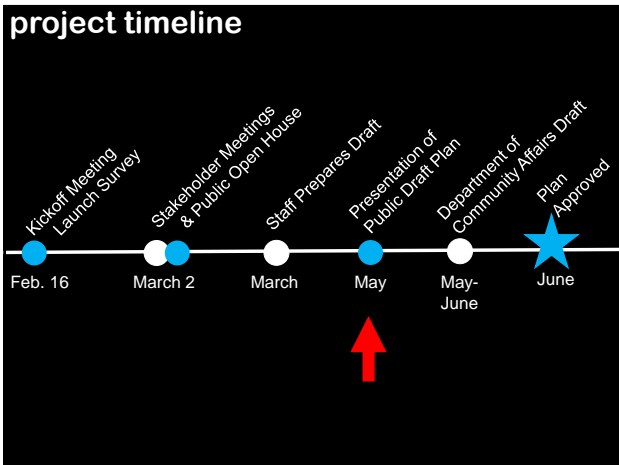
What is a 5-year update?

Local governments must report comp plan accomplishments to date and re-engage the community to verify existing priorities and recommendations




BOOK 1: BUILDING PLACE

4



5

Exercises

5-YEAR UPDATE ACTIVITIES

Overview: The City of Thomasville is currently in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. The process involves a series of public meetings and surveys to gather input from the community. The plan will be updated every five years to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

Engagement Activities: Public Meetings, Community Survey, Stakeholder Meetings, and Public Open House.


Community Survey: The City of Thomasville is currently in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. The process involves a series of public meetings and surveys to gather input from the community. The plan will be updated every five years to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

Final Review

After review and approval by the public, the plan will be adopted by the City Council. The plan will be updated every five years to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

Advisory Committee: The City of Thomasville is currently in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. The process involves a series of public meetings and surveys to gather input from the community. The plan will be updated every five years to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

Promotions: The City of Thomasville is currently in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. The process involves a series of public meetings and surveys to gather input from the community. The plan will be updated every five years to ensure it remains relevant and effective.



6

Exercises

ONE WORD that comes to mind when you think about Thomasville NOW:



ONE WORD that comes to mind when you envision Thomasville IN THE FUTURE:



7

Exercises

What do you LIKE MOST about living in Thomasville?



What do you LIKE LEAST about living in Thomasville?



8

Exercises

What would you LIKE TO SEE MORE of in Thomasville?



What would you LIKE TO SEE LESS of in Thomasville?



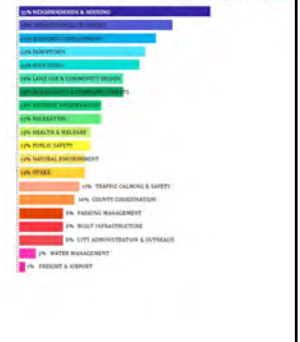
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Exercises

WHAT ARE THE TOPICS THAT YOU FEEL ARE IMPORTANT?



WHAT FOCUS AREAS NEED THE MOST ATTENTION IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS?



10

Community Work Program

THOMASVILLE RESIDENT AND COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN
COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM MATRIX

Activity ID	Activity Name	Priority	Start Date	End Date	Status
1
...
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CWP included 189 activities of which 127 are Actionable.

Of our total Actionable Activities in the Community Work Program:

- Over half (57%) of the Activities are either complete or currently underway
- But we still have a long way to go!

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Planning Department Initiatives: Smart Growth



- Build Walkable Communities
- Invest in Existing Neighborhoods
- Create Transportation Choices
- Preserve Rural Heritage and Rural Economy
- Protect a Network of Greenspace
- Ensure Affordable Living
- Promote Regional Cooperation
- Build Disaster-Resilient Communities

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Planning Department Initiatives: Neighborhood Planning



TN-URA Redevelopment Goals

- Revitalize Commercial Corridors
- Recruit and Nurture Small Businesses
- Adaptive Reuse
- Rehabilitate Older Homes
- Compatible Infill Development

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Planning Department Initiatives: Neighborhood Planning

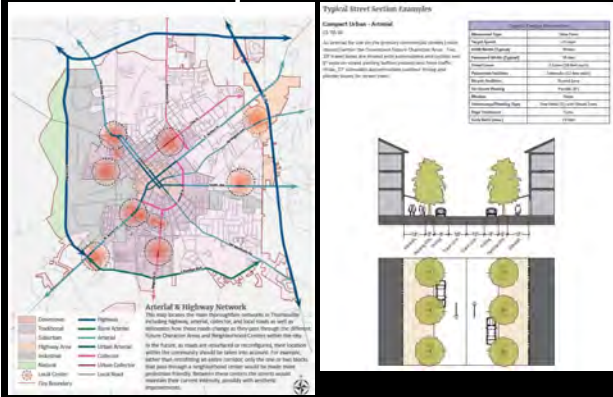


TN-URA Redevelopment Goals

- Revitalize Commercial Corridors
- Recruit and Nurture Small Businesses
- Adaptive Reuse
- Rehabilitate Older Homes
- Compatible Infill Development

14

Planning Department Initiatives: Multimodal Transportation Plan



15

Planning Department Initiatives: Zoning Code Overhaul



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Planning Department Initiatives: Missing Middle Housing



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Planning Department Initiatives: Parks and Stormwater Master Plan Implementation



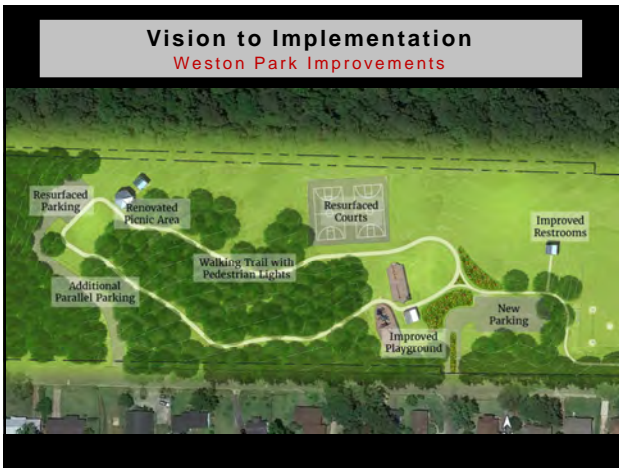
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What have we accomplished so far?

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Vision to Implementation
 The Bottom: Creative District and Vision Plan



Amphitheater
 Trailhead
 Stevens St. Multi-use Trail
 Jefferson St. Streetscape
 West Jackson Streetscape
 South Trail Extension
 On and Off Street Parking

25

Vision to Implementation
 Downtown Marriott Hotel



26

Vision to Implementation
 Downtown Marriott Hotel



27

Vision to Implementation
 Clay Street Bike Lanes



28

Vision to Implementation
 Clay Street Bike Lanes



29

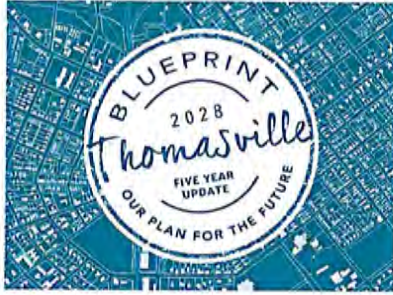
Plus many more...

- Create a 5 year sidewalk master plan
- Remington Avenue Streetscape Design
- Community HOME Investment Program
- Mallette Heights Local Historic District
- Paradise Park Master Plan
- Adopt a New Sign Ordinance
- Adopt the International Existing Building Code (IEBC)
- Housing and Economic Analysis Study
- Cottage Court Text Amendment
- Revive the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) Team
- Create a City Internship Program

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Plus many more...

- **Parks Master Plan (underway)**
- **Downtown Code (underway)**
- **Comprehensive Zoning Overhaul (underway)**
- **Multimodal Transportation Plan (underway)**
- **Stevens Street Historic Resource Survey (underway)**
- **Work with Neighborhoods to create neighborhood plans (underway)**
- **Identify incentives to promote neighborhood investment (underway)**
- **Implement Paradise Park improvements (underway)**
- **Promote temporary uses (underway)**
- **Create an urban tree canopy strategy (underway)**
- **Create a stormwater master plan (underway)**



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 5-YEAR UPDATE

Public Hearing | Tuesday, May 16, 2023

"Final Presentation of Comp Plan Update"

1. Nancy Tillinghast - Mary Krier
2. Adriane Wood
3. William Moten
4. Wanda Warren
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____

the Blues" and many other publications. His latest book, which he co-wrote with Marina Bokelman, "Going up the Country: Adventures in Blues Fieldwork in the 1960s," details his research trips to the South 1966 and 1967. Evans has produced 50 albums and studio recordings. He has performed in more than 70 international tours across 23 countries and recorded six CDs. Evans said he looks forward to his second

University of California-Los Angeles, and his bachelor's degree from Harvard University. Evans explained that while others his age were listening to more trendy tunes, he preferred the blues. "I got interested in the blues in the 1960s. This was the golden age of rock and roll," he said. "Blues has a history of more than 100 years, and it's still a very viable genre." Prior to Friday's performance, he will visit

support from its partner agency, the National Endowment for the Arts. This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information regarding Fridays at Noon performances, as well as other ACTU events, please visit the ACTU Facebook page at www.facebook.com/actu31792, call (229) 227-6964 or email actu@thomasu.edu.

Foundation for Agriculture offers \$70,000 in AG scholarships

agriculture or an ag-related field of study, such as welding, mechanics, culinary arts, or commercial truck driving. The GFA will award four scholarships of \$1,500 each. The top two ranked applicants will be eligible for an additional \$500. Visit <https://gfb.ag/gfatechscholarshipmajors> for a list of eligible schools and majors.

Rising College Junior/Senior Scholarship for Agriculture - This scholarship is for college students who have at least two semesters of college remaining to receive an undergraduate degree from a unit of The University System of Georgia, Berry College, Emmanuel College or any accredited college/university in Georgia with an ag program. Applicants must be majoring in agriculture and environmental sciences, family and consumer sciences or an ag-related field. The GFA will award ten scholarships of \$2,000 each.

UGA College of Veterinary Medicine Scholarship - This scholarship is for students currently enrolled in the UGA Veterinary Medicine program specializing in large animal/food animal practice. The GFA will award two \$5,000 scholarships. "I encourage any student who qualifies for one of the Georgia Foundation for Agri-

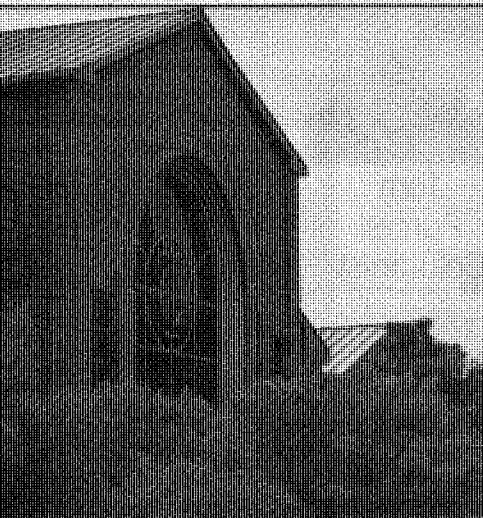
culture scholarships to apply," said Hurst. "Agriculture offers many exciting career opportunities. Both farmers and consumers depend on the many jobs agriculture creates such as mechanics, large animal veterinarians and food scientists."

Visit www.gafoundationag.org/scholarships for a list of eligible majors/schools for all scholarships, applications, and instructions to apply. All applications must be submitted online by March 1, 2023. Transcripts and letters of recommendation must be submitted online with the application.

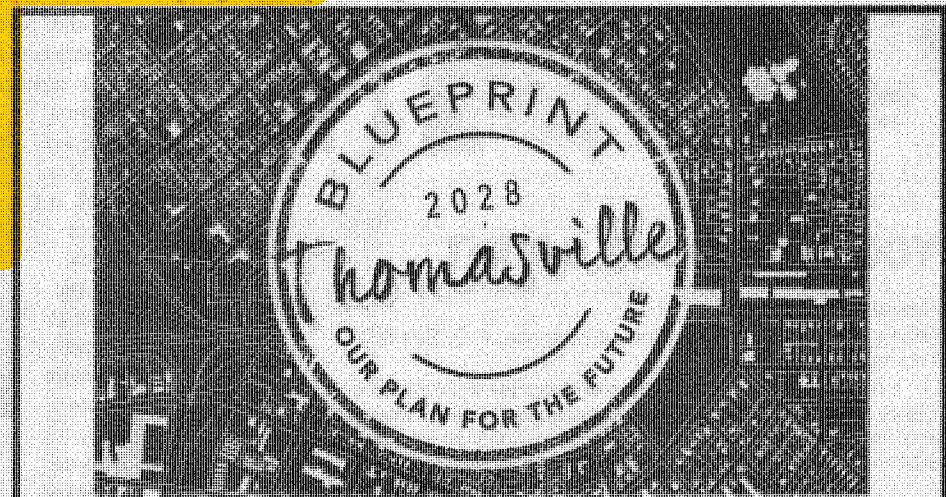
The scholarship recipients will be announced in spring of 2023. Scholarship checks will be sent to the qualifying college/university the recipient is attending and placed in their school account upon verification the student has met all qualifications for the scholarship. Scholarships awarded to graduating high school seniors will be distributed for spring 2024 upon receipt of

first semester college transcript indicating the recipient is pursuing an ag-related course of study and has at least a 3.0 GPA.

The GFA is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to preparing the next generation of leaders for success in Georgia agriculture. The GFA works with Georgia Farm Bureau and other Georgia agricultural and educational organizations to achieve its mission. The foundation offers scholarships to students pursuing agricultural careers, funds leadership development programs and projects that increase the public's understanding of agriculture. It coordinates the Georgia Ag Experience, a mobile classroom that introduces third through fifth graders to Georgia's top crops. To make a tax-deductible donation or learn more about the foundation, visit www.gafoundationag.org or contact GFA Executive Director Lily Baucom at 478-405-3461 or info@gafoundationag.org.



next step in their journey. Offering in Arts degree to a state university tracks, as well as different degree and certificate programs that encompass a variety of fields, TCC has a wide range of educational pathways for students from all walks of life.



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 5-YEAR UPDATE PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, February 16th at 5:30 PM Municipal Building Reception Room 144 East Jackson Street



To learn more about Thomasville's Comprehensive Plan and Update visit www.thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan

Recital for TEF takes on a special family meaning

Crans, who cancelled the Thursday night opera rehearsal so a group of his students could experience Bridges' classical recital. The FSU contingent had the opportunity to speak with the TEF artists during a post-concert meet-and-greet.

Winner of Marian Anderson Award, Leontyne Price Foundation Competition, Sphinx Competition Medal of Excellence, Richard Tucker Career Grant and two Grammy Awards, Bridges is at home on the world's great opera and concert stages. During the 2019-20 season, she made her Metropolitan Opera debut in a highly acclaimed and sold-out run as Nefertiti in Philip Glass' opera, Akhnaten, and her Washington National Opera debut as Dalila in Samson et Dalila.

The TEF concert was Bridges' first performance in the State of Georgia.

TEF's performance series continues February 28 with the Boston-based string orchestra, A Far Cry, followed by an appearance by the UK gospel ensemble The Kingdom Choir March 14 and a cabaret concert version of the Broadway musical, Ain't Misbehavin,' on April 11.

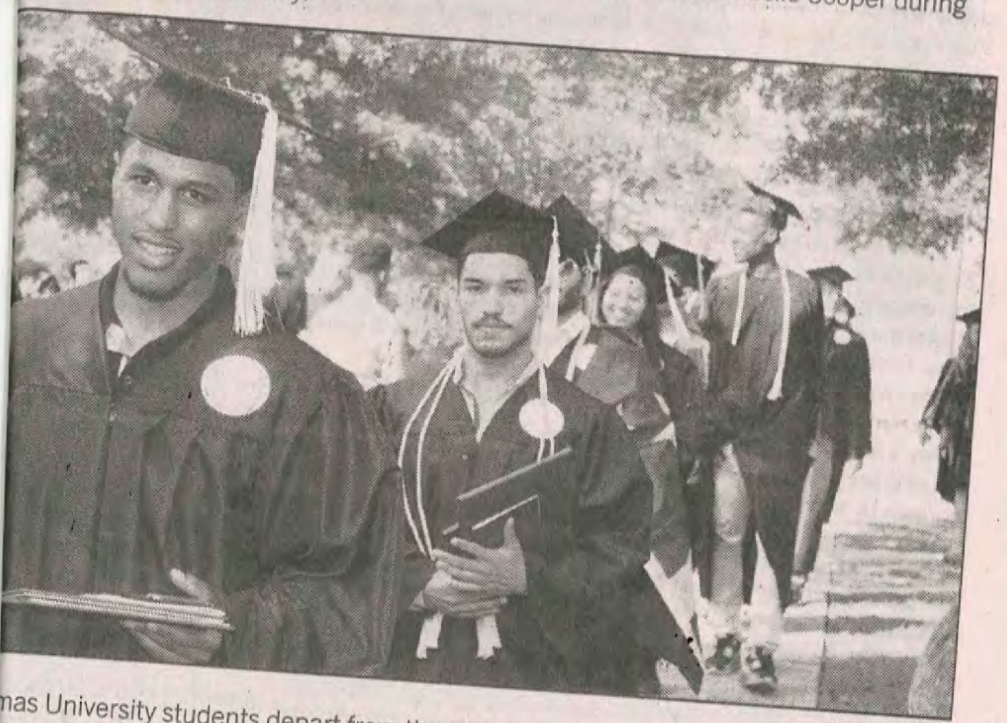
For more information, visit the TEF website at www.TEFconcerts.com or call the office at 229-226-7404.



Clare Times Photography

CELEBRATING BRIDGES' RETURN TO THOMASVILLE: Above, 102-year-old Thomasville native Marion Gatlin Crawford was honored and welcomed home with an official proclamation by Thomasville Mayor Jay Flowers. Below, Acclaimed mezzo-soprano J'Nai Bridges performed in recital as part of Thomasville Entertainment Foundation's milestone 85th concert series.





Thomas University students depart from the commencement ceremony.

Payton Fletcher

understated, but it is not the end for those receiving their degrees.

"You have now reached a milestone in your life called graduation," he said. "You can go ahead and check that box off on your bucket list or you can come to the realization that your education is really just beginning. This spring, what I want to share with you today, is just three words that I hope you will carry with you as you leave this ceremony: success, imagination and ideas."

To perceive success as a journey, he said, would lead them to making waves in the world around them. He advised them to not simply believe opportunities would come to them, but to stand up and create them with their own hands.

"Opportunities don't just happen," Bohman said. "You create them."

Dr. John Meis then led the presentation of candidates, with Sheppard authorizing the issuing of diplomas and conferring them on each student as Meis led announcements.

Afterward, Dr. Karl Bar-

ton, professor of music, led the attending crowd in the Thomas University alma mater, with Rainey handling the concluding benediction as the ceremony came to an end.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
5-YEAR UPDATE
PUBLIC HEARING**

Tuesday, May 16th at 5:30 PM
Municipal Building Reception Room
144 East Jackson Street

To learn more about Thomasville's
Comprehensive Plan and Update visit:
www.thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan

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Local News

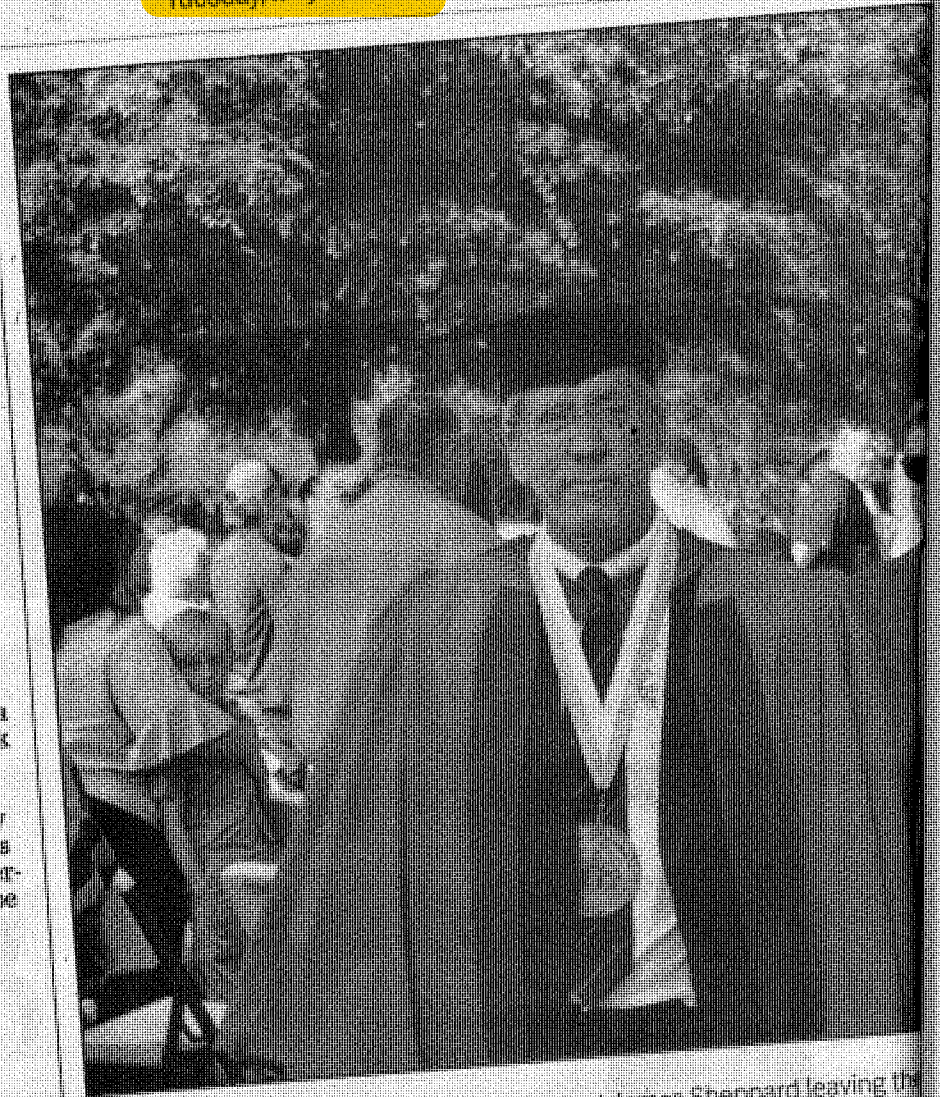
Tuesday, May 9, 2023

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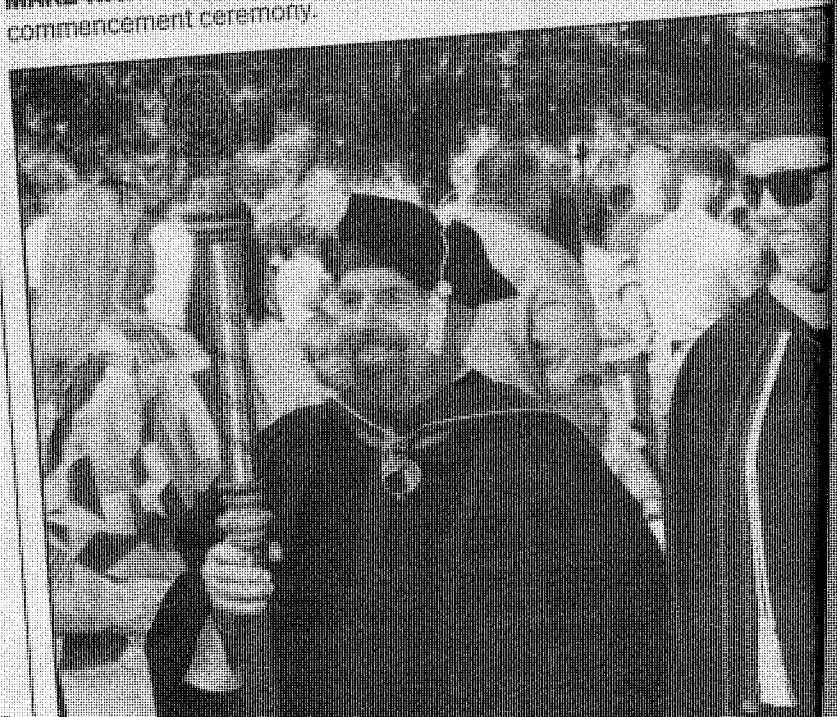
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Purvis Funeral
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MAKE WAY FOR THE PRESIDENT: President James Sheppard leaving the commencement ceremony.



Taylor Evans works at...
 ...Animal Hospital,
 Dixon works at Clann
 ...Hodges Veteri
 ...Hospital in Thomasville,
 ...works at North
 ...Animal Hospital in
 ...Leigha Sapp works
 ...Animal Hospital,
 ...works at Bassham
 ...Hospital in Quit

...a six-semester se
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 prepare students for careers in
 the field of veterinary technol
 ogy.

General education, basic
 science and program-specific
 learning opportunities develop
 the knowledge and skills re
 quired for job acquisition, re
 tention, and advancement.

The program is accredited

...the veterinary technology pro
 gram at Southern Regional,
 contact Dr. Jennifer Mason, at
 jmason@southernregional.edu
 or Sharon Poitevint at spoite
 vint@southernregional.edu.

Honor grads

Tyson Allen, Zack
 Kaden Giles, Simon
 Taylor Huffman, Ab
 mphries, Christopher
 roline Miller, Tori
 Jackson Vaughn, and
 idener.

Laude graduates are
 who have maintained
 um of a 3.33 grade
 rage. This year's hon
 Hendley Bryan, Tyler
 Mac Duck, Cam
 in, Katie Knifer, Isaac
 n, Spencer Richard



Submitted Photo

HIGH ACHIEVERS:

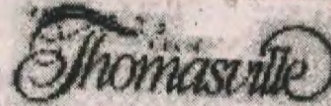
Brookwood School's
 Class of 2023 Valedicto
 rian Anna Ryan, left, and
 Salutatorian Peggy Boltja,
 right.

wood's graduation
 will take place on Sat
 y 20th in the Joe and
 rly Athletic Center
 be broadcasted on
 n for those unable to



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 5-YEAR UPDATE PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 16th at 5:30 PM
 Municipal Building Reception Room
 144 East Jackson Street



To learn more about Thomasville's
 Comprehensive Plan and Update visit:
www.thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan



Annual Shareholders Meeting
 Thomasville Bancshares, Inc.

May 16, 2023

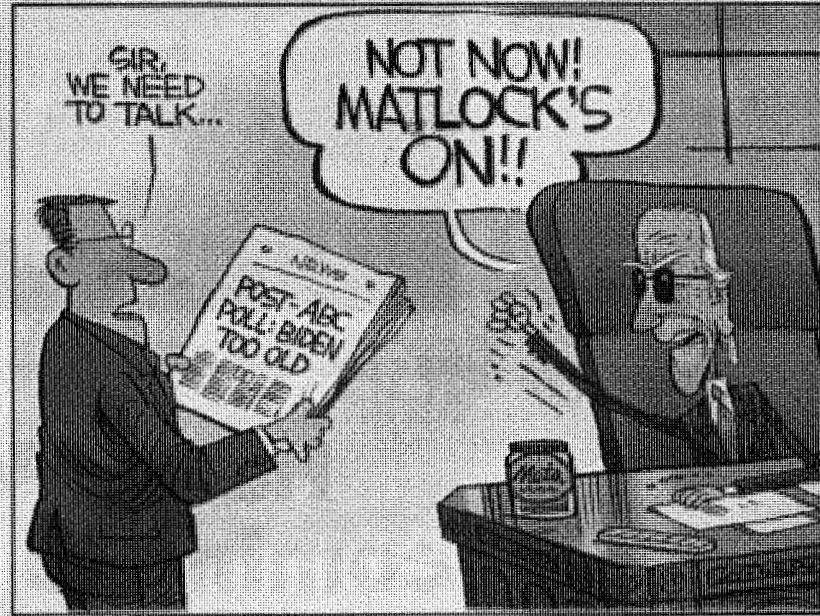
Viewpoints & Opinion

Saturday, May 13, 2023

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

ON History could all

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Revised texts are either
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their government works.



THEIR OPINION

To our seniors: keep yo

As you are reading this, our seniors are finishing up their last days as high school students, preparing for graduation and their first steps into adulthood. I always try to offer up some words of wisdom for our seniors, but today, instead of serving up a veritable potpourri of insights, I'd like to focus on a singular theme of acuity.

First
off, con-
gratu-
lations



plan is constructed, or b) all the result of an accident. It cannot be some of both.
That means everything that has been, is, or will be is either part of that plan, or all is manifested within random chaos and pure chance. I don't know about you, but given the incredible complexity of even a single human cell - much less the universe as a whole - I have a hard time accepting the latter.
Your choices and decisions have a profound impact on the path of your



P.O. Box 1540 • Thomasville, GA 31799 • 229-227-7001 • www.thomasville.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE PLANNED FOR THOMASVILLE’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FIVE-YEAR UPDATE

THOMASVILLE, GA – February 20, 2023 – The City of Thomasville invites the community to a Public Open House for the Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update on March 2 from 5-7 pm at the Municipal Building, 144 East Jackson Street. City staff will review the Comprehensive Plan's implementation since its adoption in 2018, and attendees will have an opportunity to provide feedback that will influence the Plan's priorities for the next five years.

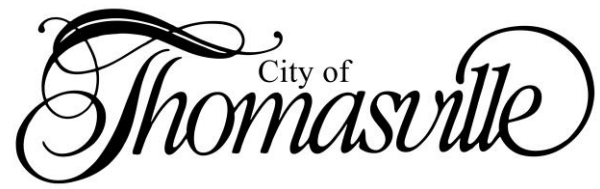
In addition to the Open House, other scheduled events for community feedback include focus group sessions and a community survey. Session topics include economic development, housing and neighborhoods, and local culture and character. The community survey is open until March 10 to gather feedback and confirm community expectations for the next five years. The survey link and schedule of focus group sessions can be found on the City of Thomasville's website at thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan.

For additional information, contact the City of Thomasville’s Planning Department at (229) 227-7001.



###

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FINAL PUBLIC HEARING SET FOR CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FIVE-YEAR UPDATE

THOMASVILLE, GA – May 10, 2023 – The City of Thomasville invites the community to attend the final public hearing for the Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update on Tuesday, May 16 at 5:30 pm in the Thomasville Municipal Building, located at 144 East Jackson Street.

The upcoming public hearing will be a presentation of the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update. Staff will present highlights from the final draft reflecting on the community's priorities for the next five years of plan implementation before submitting it to the state for review.

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 was adopted in 2018 as the city's Comprehensive Plan. The plan provides a long-range vision for the city's growth and development. Jurisdictions within Georgia must also provide a minor plan update to the Department of Community Affairs every five years, and this year, Thomasville Blueprint 2028 is due for its five-year update.

For more information, please contact the City of Thomasville's Planning Department at (229) 227-7001, or view additional information on the City of Thomasville's website at thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan.



###

Public hearings set for city's comprehensive plan 5-year update

BY CHRISTY OWENS
City of Thomasville

THOMASVILLE- The City of Thomasville invites the community to attend a public hearing for the Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February

16 at 5:30 pm in the Thomasville Municipal Building located at 144 East Jackson Street.

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 was adopted in 2018 as the city's Comprehensive Plan. The plan provides a long-range vision for the city's growth and development and requires a major update ev-



www.pcswga.org

Primary Care and Behavioral Health for all ages

Thomasville Office



Michael Schmidt, M.D. James Brown, M.D.



Greg Dodson, PA-C Gabriele Gardner, FNP

Thomas County Middle School -- School-Based Health Center



Open Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4:00 pm (summer hours may vary)

Rachel Lackey, FNP
Primary Care services provided to Students, Staff, and Faculty of the Thomas County School System ONLY

- Annual Wellness Visits/Physicals
- Sports Physicals
- Sick Visits (Strep, Flu, Ear Infections, and more)
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- Chronic Care (ADHD, Asthma, Allergies)

229-227-2936

4681 US Hwy 84 Bypass, Thomasville, GA

Women's Health Center



Melanie Hattnik, FNP-C Amanda Castellow, CNP

Open Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

229-226-3377

916 S. Broad Street • Thomasville, GA

Services provided by appointment, walk-in or same day appointments. Available at both our Smith Avenue and Broad Street locations!

We accept Private Insurance/Medicare/Medicaid/Tricare. Discounts for patients who are income eligible. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. M, W, F and Tues. & Thurs. 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

454 Smith Ave., | Thomasville, GA | 229-227-5510

Hours: 8a.m.-5p.m. Monday - Friday

916 S. Broad Street, | Thomasville, GA | 229-226-3377

ery ten years. Jurisdictions within Georgia must also provide a minor plan update to the Department of Community Affairs every five years, and this year, Thomasville Blueprint 2028 is due for its five-year update.

The five-year update will review Thomasville's progress and accomplishments to date and encourage a community conversation about the next five years of plan implementation.

The upcoming public hearing is the first of several public engagement opportunities planned as part of the 2023 Comprehensive Plan Five Year Update process for Thomasville Blueprint 2028. For those unable to attend the public hearing, a virtual meeting via Zoom is also planned.

Both meeting options are listed below:

- 2023 Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, February 16 at Noon
Join Zoom Meeting at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89278820685>

Meeting ID: 892 7882 0685

- 2023 Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update Public Hearing at the Municipal Building

Thursday, February 16 at 5:30 PM
Reception Room at the Municipal Building
144 East Jackson Street

For more information, please contact the City of Thomasville's Planning Department at (229) 227-7001

With so many pets near a highway, McDonald said that they are worried about the problems that could brew if too many were taken out at one time.

"Let's just say we had 50 cars pop up at one time and everyone starts taking their dogs out," McDonald said. "It could make for a bad situation."

ganizations have collaborated to supply the Sheriff's Office with microchip readers and infrared temperature guns, which can be used to accurately check the temperature of a car from a distance.

"We have provided the Sheriff's Office with microchip readers," Ellis said.

Please see **CLINIC**, page 3A

what Thomasville has accomplished through strategic partnerships with artists, arts organizations, local businesses, and the city. Twelve cities across Georgia will bring a team of three representatives to Thomasville to participate in a crash course in creative placemaking and public art, addressing community challenges to encourage economic growth.

The cities to join Thomasville in

Managing Director of Marketing and Communications. "Thomasville is proud to offer creative placemaking projects, and we are truly fortunate to have an arts organization like Thomasville Center for the Arts that brings creative visions to life in Downtown Thomasville."

Thomasville Center for the Arts has been pushing creativity with outstanding and interactive public art

support in this conference and future creative placemaking initiatives."

Thomasville Center for the Arts is a key partner with the City of Thomasville in activating Downtown Thomasville with creative and cultural art experiences, encouraging placemaking initiatives quarterly. The partnership created

Please see **MURALS**, page 3A

City planner, Kenny Thompson updates city on five-year plan



Payton Fletcher — Thomasville Times-Enterprise

SHARING WITH THE PUBLIC: Kenny Thompson invited everyone in attendance to fill out the survey that would help with the city's plans for the next five years.

BY PAYTON FLETCHER
payton.fletcher@gafnews.com

THOMASVILLE- Last Thursday, the City of Thomasville held a kick-off public hearing for the launch of their recent survey in regard to their upcoming update to Thomasville's 5-year comprehensive plan.

Kenny Thomason, city planner, said that the meeting was an initial hearing to educate attendees on what the comprehensive plan was, the events they'd have leading up to the update, and how the community could get involved.

"What I want to do is really just go through the agenda of what a 5-year update is for a comprehensive plan, kind of

what the events that we have scheduled for, how you can get involved, and then just open it up for any kind of questions, discussions, that we have," he said.

He said a comprehensive plan was effectively the guiding light for city officials, detailing what kind of projects to develop and public policies to pursue.

"You may be asking, 'what is a comprehensive plan?' Thompson said. "So the simplest way to put it is the comprehensive plan is the guidance document for directing the city's capital improvements, for evaluating development projects and proposals, it guides public policy, but really, the reason we do the public input that we do is to ensure that

Thomasville is or is becoming the city that its residents want it to be."

The original plan, which they are now updating, was the result of a collaborative effort between the city and the community back in 2018, according to Thompson.

"This whole thing, this plan has been a collaborative effort, within the city but with our community partners as well," he said.

Through workshops and open houses, he said, the comprehensive plan was to be used as a cornerstone for hashing out the future goals of the city with people throughout the local area.

"We kinda opened the

Please see **PLAN**, page 3A

TODAY'S WEATHER



PARTLY SUNNY

HIGH 61 **LOW 40**

Local, state, regional forecast, 2A


INSIDE

Advice.....2B Opinion.....4A
Classifieds.....6B Sports.....1B
Obituaries.....3A

THEIR OPINION — More on page 4A

Parents should be doing everything and anything necessary to insure long term success for their children - right?




ALLEN & ALLEN
 Funeral Home and Crematory

Funeral Home
 Sunset Crematory
 Sunset Memorial Gardens
 229-226-6331

Eleanor Nesbitt Hand Lilly

Eleanor Nesbitt Hand Lilly born in Bedford, Ohio on April 12, 1948 to the late Mr. Lawrence Milton Hand and Nell Atkinson Hammond Hand. Services will be held Saturday, February 18, 2023, at 2 PM at All Saints Episcopal Church. During her childhood the family lived primarily in Cochocton, yet spent a considerable amount of time in Thomasville visiting her mother's family. On May 12, 1979, Eleanor married the late Judge Roy M. Lilly, Jr. who she was married to for the next 42 years until his untimely death in 2021. Eleanor graduated from Cochocton High School then attended Ohio Wesleyan University where she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority, graduating with her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education in 1970. Shortly after graduation, Eleanor accepted a teaching position in First Grade at Jerger Elementary School in Thomasville. Over the



course of her life, she was a devoted teacher and a loving mother. She is survived by her son, Roy M. Lilly, III, and her daughter, Rhonda Lilly. She is also

survived by her grandchildren, Nicholas and Elizabeth Lilly, and her great-grandchildren, Nicholas and Elizabeth Lilly. She is also survived by her nieces, Nancy and Susan Hand, and her nephews, Lawrence and Robert Hand. She is also survived by her great-nephews, Lawrence and Robert Hand. She is also survived by her great-nephews, Lawrence and Robert Hand. She is also survived by her great-nephews, Lawrence and Robert Hand.

FALL 2022 DEAN'S LIST AT GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

To be eligible for the Dean's List, degree-seeking students must have earned a GPA of at least 3.5 for a

minimum of nine semester hours of academic credit taken at Georgia State during the fall or spring term with no incompletes for the semester. Eligible students must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 for all classes taken at Georgia

State.

Students on the Fall 2022 Dean's List from your coverage area include:

LaTaryana Hadley of Thomasville (31757)

PLAN

From Page 1A

door up on getting together the community for the plan and by the end of it we had over 1000 people that either attended the studios, came to the meetings, attended the lectures, and were hands-on participants in all of this," he said. "In a town of 18,000, that's a really good number."

Thompson said that work won't be going to waste with the upcoming update, explaining the City isn't seeking to make a new comprehensive plan, but rather go through the steps of reevaluating it so that it is up to date for the next few years.

"We are not trying to repeat that process," Thompson said. "The plan that we got was so well-received, it had such great community input that we really want to continue with the plan that we have, but we do have to do it every 5-years, we have to reevaluate and make updates to the plan."

The criteria for their update, Thompson continued, actually boiled down to three main concerns.

"What those updates really boil down to is three main criteria," he said. "The first one, is that we have to review our future character area maps. So, the maps were created to show the different parts of downtown, we have to see, you know, have they changed, are these character

areas still relevant, do the boundaries still make sense, do they need to change, do they need to be modified."

The second aspect that Thompson said that the update was concerned about was identifying new needs and opportunities that have developed through the years.

"The second element of this is that we also want to identify if there are any new needs or opportunities that have come up over the past 5-years," he said. "The world is not the same place in 2023 as it was in 2018, are there any new needs or opportunities that have arisen that need to be introduced or put into the plan."

Finally, he said, the last aspect covered by the update was reporting work done to achieve goals set by the comprehensive plan in 2018 and presenting the successful findings to the community.

"The final one, which is the most fun, is that we get to do a progress report of our work program matrix," Thompson said. "So we get to kind of present to the community and to the Department of Community Affairs that we are following our plan, look at all the things that we have done, look at all the work we have completed that was consistent with the comprehensive plan, and it also helps us set the tone for where we're going for the next 5 years at best."

Thompson said that on March

which will be a Public Open House in the Municipal Building Reception Room on 144 East Jackson Street at 5:00 p.m to 7:00 p.m.

"The next step that we'll have in this is we'll have a Public Open House on March 2," he said. "We'll have a series of stakeholder meetings during the day, but really that meeting, it'll be here in the same room that we're in on March 2, will be that public open house. That's when we'll have the activities, we'll have a presentation that goes through all the the new draft and where we're at with our accomplishments and everything else."

With feedback from the stakeholders, the open house and the survey, Thompson said that they'll be using that to make changes to the comprehensive plan during March and have a meeting in April to present the public draft of the plan.

"Fill out the information on the survey and it will help to guide us to ensure that the plan, if there are any needs or opportunities that are new, we're able to capture those and incorporate them into the plan as well," he said.

Community members interested in learning more can go to www.thomasville.org/comprehensive-plan and take the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/c/6WYP5G8>.

The survey will end on March 10.



City of Thomasville, GA - Government



4d · 🌐

City Planner Kenny Thompson discusses an upcoming public hearing concerning the City's Comprehensive Plan Five Year Update. Hear it on our weekly... See more



👍 7

3 shares

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Thomasville City Council to host comprehensive plan five-year update



The Thomasville City Council is continuing with their plans to grow and develop the city.



By: Kendall Brandt

Posted at 6:10 PM, Feb 13, 2023 and last updated 6:10 PM, Feb 13, 2023

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FIVE-YEAR UPDATE

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, March 2, 2023 • 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Reception Room at the Municipal Building,
144 E. Jackson Street

The community is invited to a Public Open House for the Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update. Attendees will have an opportunity to learn how the Comprehensive Plan has been implemented since its adoption in 2018 and provide feedback that will influence the plan's priorities for the next five years of implementation. Public input is encouraged.



SCAN HERE

to complete a
quick survey.
Your participation
is appreciated.



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... See City of Thomasville, GA - Government's About Info

Featured

Upcoming event



THIS THURSDAY AT 5:30 PM

Public Hearing for Comprehen...

By City of Thomasville, GA - Govern...

4 Going · 1 Interested



[See more events](#)



City of Thomasville, GA - Government

4h ·

The [Thomasville Police Department](#) will perform road checks this week throughout Thomasville. If you're behind the wheel, make sure you're buckled... See more



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City of Thomasville, GA - Government created an event.



4d ·



THIS THURSDAY AT 5:30 PM

Public Hearing for Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Update

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City of Thomasville, GA - Government



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Potential travel delays may occur next week due to road work on Bartow Street. Read more about it below.



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Thomasville Comprehensive Plan

5-Year Update for Thomasville Blueprint 2028

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 was adopted in 2018 as the City's Comprehensive Plan. The plan provides a long-range vision for our community and requires a major update every ten years. However, jurisdictions in the state of Georgia must also provide a minor update every five years in accordance with statutory requirements (see overview below). This year, 2023, Thomasville Blueprint 2028 is due for its five-year update. The five-year update will look at our progress and accomplishments to date and encourage a community conversation about the next five years of plan implementation.

Ways to Participate in the 5-Year Update

Introduction to the Comp Plan Update | Thursday, February 16th

The community is invited to a public hearing to learn about the Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update process, what to expect, and how to get involved. This public hearing is the first public engagement opportunity planned in 2023 as part of the Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update process for Thomasville Blueprint 2028.

- *Virtual Meeting via Zoom*
Thursday, February 16th at 12:00 PM
Join Zoom Meeting at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89278820685>
Meeting ID: 892 7882 0685
- *Public Hearing at the Municipal Building*
Thursday, February 16th at 5:30 PM
Reception Room at the Municipal Building
144 East Jackson Street

Complete the Online Survey | February 16th - March 10th

A lot has changed since 2018. This survey will be critical in helping us confirm the community's needs and help us prioritize during the next five years of plan implementation. Please note that March 10th is the cutoff date for the public to respond to the online survey. **You'll find the survey here!**

Join a Stakeholder Focus Group Session | Thursday, March 2nd

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Your feedback is important.

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 is the City's official comprehensive plan. The plan was adopted in 2018 to provide a long-range vision for our community. In compliance with state requirements, Thomasville Blueprint 2028 is getting a minor update this year to ensure the plan is still on the right track. This survey will help us confirm whether the plan is still in sync with the community's needs. A few notes before we get started:

- **Please complete by Friday, March 10th**
- **Individuals will not be identified in this survey**
- **Feel free to pass along the link to this online survey to other residents**

Thank you for participating!

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Let's get started!

*** Do you live within the city limits of Thomasville?**

- Yes No Don't know

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

If you live in Thomasville...

*** How long have you lived in Thomasville?**

- 1-5 years 6-10 years 11-20 years 20+ years

In the next five years, how likely are you to move out of Thomasville?

- Very Likely Somewhat Likely Not too likely Not likely at all Don't know

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

If you don't live in Thomasville...

*** Where do you live?**

- In Thomas County (including Barwick, Boston, Coolidge, Meigs, Ochlocknee, Pavo and unincorporated areas)
- In a surrounding Georgia county (Brooks, Colquitt, Grady, or Mitchell)
- Other (please specify)

In the next five years, how likely are you to move into Thomasville?

- Very Likely Somewhat Likely Not too likely Not likely at all Don't know

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Let's see how familiar you are with the current comprehensive plan...

*** Did you attend any events or participate in any activities related to Thomasville Blueprint 2028 (i.e. the current comp plan) when it was created back in 2017-2018?**

- Yes No Not sure

*** Have you ever reviewed or referenced Thomasville Blueprint 2028 since it was adopted in 2018?**

- Yes No Not sure

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Nice! Now it's time to share your thoughts...

The following questions are open-ended to help us understand what you care about in our community. There are no right or wrong answers, so feel free to rant, rave, or even wax poetically. We just want your honest opinion.

*** ONE WORD that comes to mind when you think about Thomasville NOW:**

*** ONE WORD that comes to mind when you envision Thomasville IN THE FUTURE:**

*** What do you LIKE MOST about living in Thomasville?**

*** What do you LIKE LEAST about living in Thomasville?**

*** What would you LIKE TO SEE MORE OF in Thomasville?**

*** What would you LIKE TO SEE LESS OF in Thomasville?**

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

You're doing great! Now we need your help confirming our community's needs and opportunities....

The following community needs and opportunities were identified during the comprehensive planning process in 2018. We'd like to know if you think these community concerns are still important today.

*** Please select the topics that you feel are important.**

- Continue to focus on Downtown and enhance its existing assets.
- Support new cultural amenities like public art in the Downtown area.
- Expand the success of Downtown to other areas of town.
- Encourage revitalization in traditional and historic neighborhoods.
- Attract commercial investment and services to neighborhood centers.
- Address lack of housing choices and constraints to affordable housing.
- Identify solutions for vacant properties and dilapidated housing.
- Maintain historic districts and preserve historic assets.
- Replicate local historic development patterns when possible.
- Require context sensitive design to enhance existing neighborhoods.
- Encourage infill development that reduces infrastructure expenses.
- Expand non-vehicular mobility options and improve connectivity.
- Increase comfort and safety for pedestrian and cyclist.
- Improve major roadway corridors and gateways into the city.
- Celebrate local culture, art, and history.
- Foster a better sense of community and inclusiveness throughout town.
- Encourage diversity in local government organizations and programming.
- Encourage services for systemic issues like homelessness and access to healthy foods.
- Improve network of open spaces and recreational facilities.
- Protect natural resources and preserve surrounding natural areas.
- Encourage natural biodiversity and tree planting strategies.
- Create a well-rounded economic environment to accommodate a variety of businesses.
- Invest in workforce development to attract businesses with quality job opportunities.
- Improve the City's business development services and processes.
- Encourage City operations and capital improvements that set a sustainable example.
- None of the above

Is there anything you feel is missing from the list?

Please share any thoughts you have about the community's needs and opportunities.

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

You're almost done! Just a few more questions...

*** Please check the three (3) focus areas that you feel need the most attention and/or priority during the next five years of comp plan implementation:**

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use & Community Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Welfare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Freight & Airport | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown | <input type="checkbox"/> Built Infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhoods & Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant Parcels & Blight | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walkability & Complete Streets | <input type="checkbox"/> County Coordination | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Calming & Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> City Administration & Outreach | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | | |

*** Last chance to share your thoughts: What would you say is the most important issue facing the City of Thomasville today?**

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

You nailed it! Let's wrap things up.

We have a few questions of fact to help us gauge how well the survey responses reflect local demographics. Please remember, no individuals will be identified in this survey.

*** Your household size (including yourself):**

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6+
- Prefer not to answer

*** Your annual household income category (thousands):**

- \$10K-\$40K
- \$41K-\$70K
- \$71K-\$100K
- \$101K-\$130K
- \$130K+
- Don't know
- Prefer not to answer

*** Your racial/ethnic background:**

- African American or Black
- Asian
- Arab, Middle Eastern, or South Asian
- Other (please specify)
- Caucasian or White
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native American
- Pacific Islander
- Prefer not to answer

*** Your age category:**

- Under 18 years
- 18- 30 Years
- 31-45 Years
- 46-65 Years
- 66-80 Years
- Over 80 Years
- Prefer not to answer

*** Your Gender:**

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to answer



Thank you so much!

We really appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey. Your feedback helps up us understand what is most important to the community we serve.

If you want to stay in the loop and receive updates about the Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update, just enter your email below.

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Survey Results

Questions 2-3 were specific to Thomasville residents

Questions 4-5 were specific to non-residents

Questions 8-9 were intended to create word clouds

Questions highlighted in red have open ended responses in a separate tab

Questions highlighted in blue were collected to get a sense of who responded (19-23)

Q1. Do you live within the city limits of Thomasville?

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
Yes	168	73.04%
No	62	26.96%
Don't know	0	0.0%
	230 Answered	
	0 Skipped	

Q2. How long have you lived in Thomasville?

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
1-5 years	42	25.0%
6-10 years	19	11.31%
11-20 years	27	16.07%
20+ years	80	47.62%
	168 Answered	
	62 Skipped	

Q3. In the next five years, how likely are you to move out of Thomasville?

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
Very Likely	6	3.59%
Somewhat Likely	17	10.18%
Not too likely	45	26.95%
Not likely at all	93	55.69%
Don't know	6	3.59%
	167 Answered	
	63 Skipped	

Q4. Where do you live?

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
In Thomas County (including Barwick, Boston, Coolidge, Meigs, Ochlocknee, Pavo and unincorporated areas)	44	70.97%
In a surrounding Georgia county (Brooks, Colquitt, Grady, or Mitchell)	10	16.13%
Other (please specify)	8	12.9%
	62 Answered	
	168 Skipped	

Q5. In the next five years, how likely are you to move into Thomasville?

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
Very Likely	6	10.34%
Somewhat Likely	11	18.97%
Not too likely	13	22.41%
Not likely at all	24	41.38%
Don't know	4	6.9%
	58	Answered
	172	Skipped

Q6. Did you attend any events or participate in any activities related to Thomasville Blueprint 2028 (i.e. the current comp plan) when it was created back in 2017-2018?

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
Yes	44	20.75%
No	135	63.68%
Not sure	33	15.57%
	212	Answered
	18	Skipped

Q7. Have you ever reviewed or referenced Thomasville Blueprint 2028 since it was adopted in 2018?

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
Yes	62	29.25%
No	128	60.38%
Not sure	22	10.38%
	212	Answered
	18	Skipped

Q8. ONE WORD that comes to mind when you think about Thomasville NOW:

Answered	119
Skipped	111

Q9. ONE WORD that comes to mind when you envision Thomasville IN THE FUTURE:

Answered	119
Skipped	111

Q10. What do you LIKE MOST about living in Thomasville?

Answered	123
Skipped	107

Q11. What do you LIKE LEAST about living in Thomasville?

Answered	123
----------	-----

Skipped 107

Q12. What would you LIKE TO SEE MORE OF in Thomasville?

Answered 123

Skipped 107

Q13. What would you LIKE TO SEE LESS OF in Thomasville?

Answered 123

Skipped 107

Q14. Please select the topics that you feel are important.

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
Identify solutions for vacant properties and dilapidated housing.	87	74.36%
Encourage revitalization in traditional and historic neighborhoods.	67	57.26%
Address lack of housing choices and constraints to affordable housing.	66	56.41%
Expand the success of Downtown to other areas of town.	64	54.7%
Maintain historic districts and preserve historic assets.	63	53.85%
Continue to focus on Downtown and enhance its existing assets.	61	52.14%
Encourage services for systemic issues like homelessness and access to healthy foods.	58	49.57%
Create a well-rounded economic environment to accommodate a variety of businesses.	58	49.57%
Protect natural resources and preserve surrounding natural areas.	56	47.86%
Invest in workforce development to attract businesses with quality job opportunities.	56	47.86%
Improve major roadway corridors and gateways into the city.	52	44.44%
Foster a better sense of community and inclusiveness throughout town.	52	44.44%
Increase comfort and safety for pedestrian and cyclist.	49	41.88%
Improve network of open spaces and recreational facilities.	49	41.88%
Expand non-vehicular mobility options and improve connectivity.	47	40.17%
Replicate local historic development patterns when possible.	44	37.61%
Attract commercial investment and services to neighborhood centers.	40	34.19%
Celebrate local culture, art, and history.	40	34.19%
Encourage diversity in local government organizations and programming.	38	32.48%
Encourage natural biodiversity and tree planting strategies.	38	32.48%
Support new cultural amenities like public art in the Downtown area.	32	27.35%
Improve the City's business development services and processes.	31	26.5%
Encourage City operations and capital improvements that set a sustainable example.	30	25.64%
Require context sensitive design to enhance existing neighborhoods.	29	24.79%
Encourage infill development that reduces infrastructure expenses.	29	24.79%
None of the above	0	0.0%
	117	Answered
	113	Skipped

Q15. Is there anything you feel is missing from the list?

Answered	46
Skipped	184

Q16. Please share any thoughts you have about the community's needs and opportunities.

Answered	42
Skipped	188

Q17. Please check the three (3) focus areas that you feel need the most attention and/or priority during the next five years of comp plan implementation:

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
Neighborhoods & Housing	39	34.82%
Vacant Parcels & Blight	31	27.68%
Economic Development	28	25.0%
Downtown	26	23.21%
Education	24	21.43%
Land Use & Community Design	21	18.75%
Walkability & Complete Streets	21	18.75%
Historic Preservation	17	15.18%
Recreation	17	15.18%
Health & Welfare	15	13.39%
Public Safety	15	13.39%
Natural Environment	14	12.5%
Other (please specify)	14	12.5%
Traffic Calming & Safety	13	11.61%
County Coordination	10	8.93%
Parking Management	9	8.04%
Built Infrastructure	9	8.04%
City Administration & Outreach	9	8.04%
Water Management	3	2.68%
Freight & Airport	1	0.89%
	112	Answered
	118	Skipped

Q18. Last chance to share your thoughts: What would you say is the most important issue facing the City of Thomasville today?

Answered	112
Skipped	118

Q19. Your household size (including yourself):

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
1	16	14.29%
2	41	36.61%
3	12	10.71%
4	23	20.54%

5	4 3.57%
6+	5 4.46%
Prefer not to answer	11 9.82%
	112 Answered
	118 Skipped

Q20. Your annual household income category (thousands):

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
\$10K-\$40K	14	12.5%
\$41K-\$70K	16	14.29%
\$71K-\$100K	24	21.43%
\$101K-\$130K	11	9.82%
\$130K+	28	25.0%
Don't know	0	0.0%
Prefer not to answer	19	16.96%
	112 Answered	
	118 Skipped	

Q21. Your racial/ethnic background:

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
African American or Black	9	8.04%
Asian	0	0.0%
Arab, Middle Eastern, or South Asian	0	0.0%
Caucasian or White	79	70.54%
Hispanic or Latino	0	0.0%
Native American	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	0	0.0%
Prefer not to answer	24	21.43%
Other (please specify)	0	0.0%
	112 Answered	
	118 Skipped	

Q22. Your age category:

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
Under 18 years	0	0.0%
18- 30 Years	8	7.14%
31-45 Years	26	23.21%
46-65 Years	42	37.5%
66-80 Years	24	21.43%
Over 80 Years	1	0.89%
Prefer not to answer	11	9.82%
	112 Answered	
	118 Skipped	

Q23. Your Gender:

Answer Choices	Responses	Response Percent
----------------	-----------	------------------

Male	30 26.79%
Female	66 58.93%
Prefer not to answer	16 14.29%
	112 Answered
	118 Skipped

Q24. If you want to stay in the loop and receive updates about the Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update, just enter your email below.

Answered	42
Skipped	188

Thomasville Blueprint 2028 | Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Open Ended Community Survey Responses

ONE WORD that comes to mind when you think about Thomasville NOW.

- Lack
- Active
- Amazing
- beautifl
- Beautiful
- Beautiful
- Beautiful
- Behind
- Bias
- Boring
- Bricks
- Charming
- charming
- Charming
- comfortable
- Community
- Community
- Community
- Concerned
- Confused
- congested
- Country
- Cozy
- Crowded
- Cute/quaint
- Declining
- Declining
- Diverse
- Divided
- Downtown
- Downtown
- Downtown
- Downtown
- Expensive
- Family
- Family
- Fantastic
- Fantastic
- Friendly
- Bad streets in need of resurfacing
- Friendly
- Friendly
- Frustrating
- Fun
- good
- Great
- Growing
- Growing
- Growing
- Hallmark Town
- High prices
- Historic
- Historic
- Historic
- Historic
- Historic
- Historic
- Historic
- Home
- Home
- Home
- Hometown
- Homie
- Improving
- Jobs
- Lacking
- Limited
- Livable
- Livable
- Lovely
- Money hungry
- Nice
- Nice
- Old
- Old
- One-sided
- Ordained
- OUTDATED
- Peaceful
- Peaceful
- pleasant
- pleasant
- Potential
- Pretty
- Progressing
- Progressing
- Progressive
- Quaint
- Quaint
- Quaint
- quaint
- Racially segregated
- Scholars
- Segregated
- Slow
- Slow
- Small
- Small town
- Sneaky
- southern
- Special
- Special
- Spectacular
- Stable
- Thriving
- Thriving.
- Traditional
- Traditional
- Traditional
- Traditions
- Unfair
- Unique
- Unique
- Uppity
- Very nice city
- Wonderful

- I feel like the first thing we need to do is finish what we said we were going to do years ago. We wanted a 8 to 10 ft wide multi-purpose trail 10 mi throughout Thomasville.
- Too many people are moving here . Can't get anywhere on Friday to eat without waiting forever.

ONE WORD that comes to mind when you envision Thomasville IN THE FUTURE.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| • Renovate | • Friendly | • Progression |
| • Accommodating | • Fun | • Progressive |
| • Amazing | • Great | • Progressive |
| • Artsy | • Great | • Progressive |
| • Beautiful | • Greatness | • Progressive |
| • Behind | • Growing | • Progressive |
| • better | • Growing | • Prosperous |
| • Better roads | • growing | • Quaint |
| • Bigger | • Growing | • Quiet |
| • Bigger | • growing | • Renewal |
| • bike-friendly | • Growing | • Retirement |
| • Bricks | • Growing | • Revival |
| • Bright | • Growing | • Sad |
| • Change | • Grown | • Safe |
| • Children | • Growth | • Safe-haven |
| • Clean | • Growth | • same |
| • Comfortable | • Growth | • Stable |
| • Comfortable | • Growth | • Thriving |
| • Community | • Hallmark | • Thriving |
| • Community | • Handicapped | • Thriving |
| • Community | • High | • timeless |
| • Community | • Historic | • Tradition |
| • Community | • Hometown | • Traditional |
| • Concerned | • Hopeful | • Traffic |
| • Conservative | • Hopeful | • Trail |
| • Continuing | • Hopeful | • Trendy |
| • Control | • Inclusivity | • Trying |
| • Cool small town | • Livable | • Unfair |
| • Crime | • Lousy | • Unity |
| • Crowded | • opportunities | • Unsure |
| • Crowded | • Opportunity | • Vibrant |
| • Dated | • overpopulated | • Vibrant |
| • Division | • parks | • Vibrant. |
| • Excitement | • Peaceful | • Walkable |
| • Exciting | • Peaceful | • A Racially United Thomasville. |
| • Fair | • Picturesque | • More people , more crime |
| • Family Friendly | • pleasant | • Nothing being done to improve the streets |
| • Family Oriented | • possibilities | |
| • Fantastic | • Preservation | |
| • Flourishing | • Preserved | |
| • Forward | • Progress | |

What do you LIKE MOST about living in Thomasville?

- Safe
- Small town atmosphere
- T'ville native..travelled extensively in business and lived in eight other locations. Thomasville has a great smaller city/town environment that has a lot of history and people who are willing to work together to preserve that history but are progressive enough to advocate for what Thomasville needs to be going forward.
- The ability to find out about activities and meetings concerning things going on in Thomasville.
- Connectivity
- People
- The size of town
- Small town life
- Small town feel
- We like small town living and the friendliness of the people
- Town, parks, friendly folks
- Downtown
- Riding my golf cart all over town to handle my business and enjoy my personal life.
- Small town atmosphere, beautiful .
- Quiet
- Small town
- Quiet
- It's a small place for my parents to retire
- Dont live in Thomasville
- Close knit community
- Small town
- Ease of getting from one place to another without battling traffic.
- Schools, downtown, activities
- Small town
- Safe
- Not Near A Major City
- Culture, small town feel.
- Convenient
- Hometown Feeling
- Small community with amenities
- Small town.
- friendly, easy going atmosphere
- The people
- Large number of organizations, nonprofits, and groups that host a variety of events year-round.
- Small town with people I know
- Community
- Small town but not boring
- It's home
- Slow
- The connivence of the town
- Small churchy southern atmosphere
- Being with family who live there
- Traffic
- The downtown area and community
- People
- friendly people, good restaurants, convenient shopping.
- Small town feel, beautiful downtown and parks
- Very pretty
- Lots of fun city events!
- Small town with unique shops and family values
- Our wonderful history.
- I don't live in Thomasville.
- Downtown
- Flowers bakery
- Quiet, Laidback, Easy to get around, Peaceful
- Small town
- We live outside but visit daily, your downtown area is beautiful and your hospital gives exceptional care.
- Big small town. Has access to most everything will still a small town thing
- I grew up here and love the culture and the historical aspects along with the people it's beautiful
- We live outside the city proper, and love the city.
- Being able to walk everywhere
- Idk
- "Family friendly community.
- Reliable internet service. "
- Small town feel.
- Small town feel with exciting activities going on during year.
- It's so outdated, that when new things are being built, it's exciting to guess what it will be
- The friendliness of people.
- Easy to get around
- Slow pace
- Weather

- How close knit the community is. How when someone is in need of help the community rallies together.
- The places (whether land or shops)
- cost of living
- Family friendly
- Diverse types of people and ways to be involved. Beautiful, vibrant downtown area
- Convenience of going to stores in a reasonable amount of time.
- Small town, easy to get around, friendly people, nice stores and restaurants
- The people
- Convenience
- The people and it's a city of prayer
- The strong sense of community and their desire to improve the city.
- The downtown
- The activities downtown throughout the year.
- The vibrant downtown area and events offered in the area through downtown
- I love the close knit community and that downtown is growing allowing for more family activities
- The people, the community, the small town feel with some big town perks
- Restaurants
- The roses and historic buildings
- Small easy living small town
- "Atmosphere
- Historical aspect
- Community involvement"
- Community Pride
- not a whole lot
- Safety
- Low crime
- Over the years our infrastructure has grown ahead of our needs and we have a dedicated and vibrant Downtown
- Convenience of services
- Quiet, easy to get around
- Small-town atmosphere
- friendly people
- Cost of living
- Small town community
- Its home
- Its home
- friendly people
- Thomasville is still a small town in terms of neighbors and friends, ease of mobility, friendliness, yet has a lovely artistic vibe and a pretty progressive vibe for a small town in Georgia.
- The downtown
- Comprehensive learning for young people while having fun.
- Small Town Atmosphere
- Small town environment
- Friendly people
- Personal safety and not having to deal with the traffic of a big city.
- low crime
- friendly people
- Small town
- small town atmosphere with friendly people
- Community
- Sense of community
- Great sense of community
- Relax Atmosphere
- the oaks, roses and how clean the town is
- Smalltown charm with lots of amenities
- Trees, pace, hometown

What do you LIKE LEAST about living in Thomasville?

- Jobs
- Downtown
- Again, I have been fortunate enough to have spent time in every state bit Alaska and Hawaii plus some in Europe. The really good areas take a lot of pride in keeping their towns and cities clean and orderly. We do not do enough to encourage or demand we keep the place clean.
- Littering and trash in so areas is unbelievable. Especially on the main entrances to the city.
- The unfair treatment of certain individuals.
- The disruption at the city school.
- Snobs
- All the trash I see when walking!!! Hansell, Smith Ave, Jackson St for starters
- Sometimes not a lot to do

- City public school system
- Not enough variety of stores to pick from we have to go to Tallahassee for everything
- Traffic on 19
- Feeling of being unsafe. Everywhere I walk people driving poorly blasting loud music, running red lights. There seems to be zero enforcement of traffic laws or noise ordinances. I even see law enforcement speeding. The police spend more time trying to be social workers than enforcement.
- Not getting projects done and the poor road surfaces.
- Cost of houses
- Few jobs for the youth and others
- No balanced opportunities/excessive rentals, segregated
- "Not a lot to do.
- Doesn't like change
- Dont live in Thomasville
- Not enough restaurant choices
- Limited shopping and restaurant options
- The agendas from groups that are being brought into our schools, libraries & churches
- Living in the city limits while being between the county schools. Don't like my neighborhood being annexed and having to pay city and county taxez
- Horrible softball fields at the park for tournament!
- Nothing
- Becoming too crowded
- Nothing yet...
- Crowed restaurants
- Nightlife
- Not enough franchise/small business restaurants
- Taxes. The city limits make no sense other than to get a larger tax base.
- lack of parking downtown and more streets need to be resurfaced
- Very little things to do
- The County Commission (I realize this is not the city) is making it a worse place to live by ruining animal control services. It is more dangerous to live in Thomasville now due to the county.
- Getting too touristy
- Not enough public bathrooms in public areas.
- Nothing
- Again , too many people . Growing too much and too fast
- Need more food places
- Not enough family restaurants and events and not enough variety
- The current situation with no animal control and the amount of homeless people we have everywhere
- Racial division, too conservative, not diverse enough in terms of demographics.
- No teen activities
- Bumps in the road
- Pollen
- the Thomasville Walmart
- Traffic. Terrible roads with potholes and patches. People can't drive.
- Having to go out of county/state to shop/eat with more verity
- Not enough money put into the parks. We NEED restrooms at the parks, public splash pads, more public trails. Kid-friendly spaces would be huge for families! Would also LOVE to see a children's museum downtown.
- Parts of town that are run down
- Unsure.
- I don't live in Thomasville.
- Unfriendly downtown business owners/employees
- Nothing for families
- Old vacant buildings and homes. It makes the city look rundown.
- No Target or Home Depot
- Real estate prices are higher than surrounding areas.
- Not open to new ideas/not much effort into having people want to stay in Thomasville after High School
- I enjoy the improvements downtown more would be nice with more variety in more of the main parts of town
- We live outside the city, but would like to see the roads repaved.
- A lack of a continuous bike trail
- There's not much to do
- Not sure of opportunities for the next generation.

- Everything downtown closes early and not open on Mondays.
- Need more attention to Green space and clean up outside of Downtown.
- Crowded
- The lack of shopping options
- Limited choices in dining and shopping
- Lack of activities
- Tax
- The lack of kid oriented places for entertainment.
- Occasionally getting stuck behind trains
- crime
- Options for young adults for going out and having a night life.
- Beautiful old homes of all sizes allowed to fall into ruin because of some of the property laws. There is a need for more lower income/ good rental housing in all price ranges. Also, it is hard for some older people to find a place to park downtown. I used to work and live downtown and know that some people park outside of the stores and don't move their cars all day. Also, people on the walking tours would do the same. I don't think that we need meters but I miss someone checking on this (what we used to call meter maids). I can walk several blocks if necessary to pick up food or run in a store but not everyone can.
- The recent decision by the Thomas County Mgr. and Board regarding the Humane Society and their decision to spend at least \$900,000 to build a new facility that will not offer adoptions, animal control or lost pets.
- Too small, not enough good shopping and good/different type restaurants. Everyone knows everybody's business.
- The alcohol events & HUGE potholes in the roads!!!
- Closeness to large airport
- We need a target or hobby lobby. More big shopping:)
- While the community is quite diverse, there is still a significant division between the races.
- Not enough support for ALL small businesses
- How hard you make it for businesses to come downtown.
- Doesn't offer all stores you need - have to go to Tallahassee
- I dislike the amount of outdoor things to do.
- All the bureaucracy we are starting to experience. One simple example, to hold an event, we had to go through 8 (!) different people, not to mention the fees now associated for park reservations (used to be free) and permits.
- Park trail still unfinished
- The downtown area caters to stay at home moms and wealthy out-of-towners. Most store owners act like they are too good to speak to customers who don't enter wearing designer clothes
- Lack of public transportation
- Movie sets
- Taxes
- too many people, not enough space, too much traffic
- Rules
- Have to go across town for everything
- Traffic lights need to be timed better 😞
- Costly
- Increasing traffic
- Feral cats encouraged to roam neighborhoods spreading pests and disease and killing native birds
- very expensive to live here
- Unfairness
- Small town community
- Too large a divide between socio-economic strata, with seeming lack of awareness
- Seems to be too much division between economic levels, with little awareness by many at the top of those at lower end of spectrum
- mosquitoes
- Not much - it's great living here. The drainage in my neighborhood after heavy rains is terrible, but I understand that is being addressed.
- No bike trails that we were promised with the 2012 Obama stimulus money
- Can sometimes be too small.
- Political Friction (Schools and Local Government).
- Dangerous drivers
- Health insurance costs, aging infrastructure, lack of housing options,

- "The local politics. Our local government seems very corrupt. Commissioners make decisions that citizens very clearly do not want - like the situation with the Humane Society, which has put us back in the dark ages in regard to the welfare of innocent animals.
- ~Also, the city seems to want to promote a glossy, wealthy image, but there is so much poverty in certain areas, houses that need to be torn down if they can't be rehabbed.
- ~Lack of public transportation - Thomas County Transit is not enough. We need a city bus. This would help people gain and maintain employment, as well as have access to doctor's offices, shopping, etc.
- lack of quality restaurants
- nothing changes
- Negative citizens
- The roads are in terrible shape, we are now known as The City of Potholes, not City of Roses.
- No growth
- Nothing to complain about
- Parking
- Restaurant hours
- the roads
- Lack of inclusion
- Not a lot to do if you don't have kids

What would you LIKE TO SEE MORE OF in Thomasville?

- Diversity In medical Patient care.
- More places to go and relax for the black community
- Keep working on the basic programs already in place...but get serious about the eyesore buildings and trash. And this includes the county, big time.
- Lighted streets. Some neighborhoods are too dark.
- Inclusivity
- Things to do
- SIDEWALKS!!! Buried utilities within city limits. Clean streets!!
- Trails, outdoor activities, downtown parking
- Restaurants that aren't Mexican or chains
- The paving and redoing of roads for instance Cassidy road from 84 truck route to North boulevard it's highly traveled
- Olive Garden, nice high end steakhouse house
- More police patrols and much more enforcement. Better schools. I don't think the city school system works. We pay exorbitant school tax. It is ridiculous. The school tax and crime may influence me to move to a safer place.
- I would like to see more 25 mph signs closer to the downtown area to slow down traffic
- Grocery stores
- Revitalization of neighborhoods of older homes
- Balanced opportunities/competitive wages and housing
- More good places to eat. Seven days a week.
- More places for youth and homes purchases with community really in mind not self gain
- Inclusion, fairness, focus on poor and disadvantaged.
- Restaurants
- Shopping and restaurants
- Local restaurants
- Downtown events and activities
- Fixing up abandoned houses and buildings
- Sky zone for the kids
- Restaurants
- Small businesses
- Variety of places for recreation.
- Networking Event/5K Races
- "Retail stores
- Restaurants
- Target
- Super Walmart"
- Handicap parking downtown.
- more antique, art and gift shops to browse and shop for gifts
- places to go have a good time
- More (any) action by the city to improve animal control - and the city realizing that they entered the LOST agreement renewal with the county in November for certain services that the city is not getting. City still paying towards animal control, but the county is not delivering. Wake up, City of Thomasville.
- Diverse restaurants

- More extended sidewalks on main thoroughfares.
- Options
- Nice seafood restaurants
- Restaurant
- More variety in restaurants
- Humane animal control
- Good jobs to get more people to move to T'ville to halo the city thrive economically
- Family activities and singles hanging out meeting new people
- Events and gatherings
- Events
- Parks and strictly pedestrian areas in town.
- Shopping. Sit down restaurants, nightlife, interesting hangouts for adults or families
- Sit down restaurants. Things to do on the weekend
- More money put into the parks.
- Parks and outdoor recreation
- Unsure.
- Cultural activities for families and date night activities for adults.
- A variety of restaurants - sushi, etc
- More family oriented things
- Grocery outlets, paved streets, variety of restaurants, Shopping outlets, etc
- More growth in downtown - more events to draw people to town
- Church involvement in the community
- Things for people 10-20 to do. Places for teens/college students to hang out
- Variety in shopping (target etc) and restaurants
- Chinese restaurants
- Walking and bike friendly paths
- Fun stuff
- "Affordable housing.
- Economic development.
- Career opportunities. "
- More emphasis on public safety.
- Stores like Target and other like stores .
- More bars, more things for kids and teens to do
- Fresh produce market stands, splash pad for kids, bathrooms at parks.
- Better retail and dining establishments
- Community parks
- Roses
- Public water park. Somewhere safe and entertaining for teenagers. More places for date nights. Festivals. Food trucks.
- Bike connections between neighborhoods
- people
- Cohesion between downtown and outside of downtown.
- Improved neighborhoods everywhere. More quality development on 319 south of town. Some has started but more is needed. We get so many visitors from Tallahassee or those passing through. It would be nice to have that area more appealing. More activities in the parks. More plants for pollinators. Possibly community gardens.
- City and county officials listening to the people they are supposed to represent.
- More/unique kinds of non-chain restaurants and better/boutique retailers/shopping. For example, we need more stores like a Trader Joe's here. And a chipotle. Instead of 10 Mexican restaurants in 10 barbecue places. We need a little more / better selection of restaurants and stores in my opinion. ALSO: NEED to pave and resurface many terrible roads here! Please ensure we attain budget to do this. The roads in this town are terrible, tearing up our tires & cars!!
- Family activities for smaller groups of people (like the frisbee golf course & park type activities)
- Affordable single family housing
- Bigger businesses
- Greater participation of all folks within the city (from all backgrounds) at various cultural events; as opposed to just sporting events.
- More support for the small businesses downtown that aren't located on Broad
- Target, Sam's or Costco.
- Expansion of downtown historical buildings, brick streets, etc. more underground power lines
- I would like the bike trail to be completed
- More art, outdoor activity, historic character, friendliness, lower utilities
- Trails and sidewalks
- BETTER PAYING JOBS for people with degrees, Craft stores/chains, GOOD bbq restaurants, or

any new restaurants besides Mexican, affordable gift shops, better dog park, places teens can go after 8pm on the weekends

- More info/activities for seniors
- Restoration and reconstruction of her parks as discussed and "promised" 5 years or so back
- Thai restaurant
- parking, better roads and road planning to ease traffic, an actual gun shop, gunsmith
- More for teens
- Restaurants near baytree more affordable housing and equity for all to enjoy Thomasville
- Times Enterprise go back to 6 days a week local news is very important
- Affordable housing
- Good acts at ampitheater
- More transparency from City Council
- housing options, master planned communities, age restricted communities, retirement homes, other health systems to compete with Archbold, less expensive options for health insurance, enhanced parks, a real bike trail in safe area, water features, iconic public art, independent doctors, a new medical office building not owned by Archbold
- Fairness
- Progressive attitudes and pleasant streets
- Concerted blight removal and expansion of recycling efforts
- Blight removal, attention to dilapidated housing; city-wide development standards to cover new construction/rehabs to encourage compatibility with their neighboring buildings- this is an economic development issue.
- roses
- More sidewalks. Finish the Thomasville Trail. Do the Remington St. upgrade with sidewalks. More renovation, rehab, and help to owners of older properties particularly in the historic Black neighborhoods in town. More small businesses (although I think Thomasville is doing great with encouraging small business now, don't let this fall by the wayside). More small business development on the West Jackson St entry into town. Finish rehabbing the Imperial Hotel and open it as the Jack Hadley museum. Keep Thomasville's historic flavor but don't make it into an ersatz, whitewashed version of history.

Keep neighborhoods intact, DO NOT encourage stand alone AirBnBs. Owner occupied AirBnBs only. Also, entrepreneurs downtown trying to save and renovate historic commercial buildings - help them succeed.

- Bike/walking trails
- Commercial Aircraft.
- Affordable Housing Options and Restaraunts.
- Safe driving
- Health system competition, infrastructure repair projects, enhanced park system, finish or start over with bike path, start over with Cherokee Park enhancements using experienced design professionals, enhance golf course, pocket parks around City, valet parking downtown during Christmas
- "~Efforts to promote animal welfare - I especially want to thank the Sheriff's Department because they have really stepped up to help with our current situation. And they are trying to come up with solutions, like offering the free microchipping event.
- ~The local government needs to actually listen to citizens.
- ~Fixing up or tearing down the many distressed buildings and houses.
- ~Public transportation - a bus system, not just the Transit.
- ~Fixing our streets - so many potholes."
- trails
- residential development, doctors who aren't owned by Archbold or private equity groups, building tradespeople, amenities within parks, repaved roads,
- Opportunities
- infrastructure improvements, enhanced parks, more sidewalks, new master planned single family residential development, more retirement (assisted) living options, competition for Archbold, improvements to Golf Course, more building contractors and subcontractors
- More things to do
- Quality restaurants, walking trail
- Parking spaces
- Unity
- reasonably priced clothing
- Equity and Diversity
- Trails/bike lanes, farmers market, diversity

What would you LIKE TO SEE LESS OF in Thomasville?

- Discrimination
- Liquor stores or establishments.
- One more timeâ€¦ trash, junky buildings and litter.
- Not sure.
- Exclusivity
- Rude rich people
- Utility poles and trash!!!!
- Donâ€™t have an answer
- Pollen
- Boomboxes and loud vehicles also Mexican restaurants
- Mexican restaurants
- Community social programs at my expense.
- Long-lasting traffic lights
- Gas stations, vape stores
- Crime
- Antique shops
- Crime.
- The city not treating everyone the same way across the board
- Less
- Incompetency
- Big city people moving in trying to change things
- Movies. Our town has different morals & values than the people who are part of the industry. Also, our town doesnâ€™t have the infrastructure to support
- Canâ€™t think of anything for this answer
- Abandoned houses and buildings
- Nothing
- Traffic
- Traffic!
- Stray cats
- Nothing
- Mexican restaurants/coffee shops
- Apartment complexes.
- I am happy with Thomasville of course would like to see less crime and drugs, etc that every other city has problems with
- Polices
- Patchy, uneven roads.
- Homeless people
- Less abandoned and delaminated houses
- Homeless
- Traffic and people
- Mexican restaurant
- Mexican restaurants and apartment complexes coming up everywhere
- Less stray animals and less homeless people
- Run down neighborhoods
- Thrift stores
- Homeless people
- Traffic
- crime
- Mexican restaurants, traffic, potholes, taxes, fried chicken restaurants
- Mexican Restaurants. Fast food. Pot holes/bad roads
- Parks without restrooms :)
- Bumpy, narrow streets
- Mexican restaurants, there are far too many.
- Crime
- Panhandlers
- Chicken coffee and Mexican
- Dollar generals, mexican resturants
- ?
- Homeless, itâ€™s only going to get worse with our economy so temporary housing would be a blessing.
- Prententiousness/ small mindedness towards new ideas
- Less Mexican restaurants and coffee shops
- Better oversight over the health inspections in current restaurants
- Racial tensions
- Mexican resturants
- Economic disparity
- Less crime and homeless people panhandling.
- Crime.
- Mexican restaurants
- Coffee shops and Mexican restaurants
- Traffic
- Less private businesses
- Bars
- The income to rent ratio here is insane. People are having to choose between feeding their family or paying their rent.
- Car centric design on streets like West Jackson
- crime
- N/A

- Closed storefronts; falling down buildings, overgrown yards, food deserts for people and fauna.
- The lack of interest in what the citizens would like to see done.
- Less BBQ & Mexican restaurants, no more coffee shops, no more pizza joints, no more dollar stores.
- Less Family activities that have alcohol available for adults
- Thrift stores
- Not sure
- Less single family homes. More nice two family, cottage courts, and multi family.
- Crime
- Turnover in Public Safety.
- Modern stores and franchises coming into the downtown area
- I would like something to help those without homes in the community
- Bureaucracy, fees, acting like a big city rather than what we are and have been successful at
- Speeding sheriff deputies
- Dollar stores, homeless people and the trash they leave behind
- No answer
- "The homelessness of people
- Aid and housing for them"
- Drugs
- densely packed areas and businesses that make it hard to travel
- traffic backed up due to trains
- Divide
- Abandoned houses
- Boutiques
- Victorian Christmas
- Use of traffic cameras instead on in-person policing
- potholes in streets, street beggars, homeless, deserted old homes, residences which have endless amount of vehicles in their yards, aging infrastructure,
- Unfairnessâ€™s
- Highways and vacant houses
- Dilapidated housing
- Run-down/dilapidated housing and vacant, run-down buildings
- mosquitoes
- Less sprawl like on Hwy 19. If a major chain wants to open in our historic districts, make them adhere to rules in place. Don't roll over to the almighty dollar.
- Run down housing, loitering
- currently too much competition between local police & Sherriff dept.
- Political Friction
- Drivers speeding in neighborhoods (Warren Avenue)
- City vehicles, potholes, street beggars, homeless, empty parks
- "~Abandoned/abused/neglected animals with nowhere to go. They are innocent and we have failed them. We have to do better, and this town has the money.
- ~Abandoned, derelict buildings and houses.
- ~Potholes."
- don't have an answer for this
- potholes, homeless, billboards, houses with their front yards cluttered with stuff, franchise stores downtown,
- Negativity
- billboards, signs for businesses that haven't existed for years, less vehicles(boats, contractor trailers, automobiles, golf carts, riding lawn mowers) parked in yards of single family neighborhoods, barking dogs. Homes that no one lives in just sitting empty and decaying
- Mexican restaurants, less division
- Thrift shops
- Boxes on the sidewalk
- Division
- dollars stores and liquor stores.
- Focus on downtown; we need to allocate resources more equitably to benefit all residents.

Is there anything you feel is missing from the list [of important community concerns]?

- No
- Quality educational opportunities from kindergarten through college or trade school.
- Included but more attention to vacant and dilapidated house's within city limits.
- STOP FOCUSING ON DOWNTOWN!
- More factories and industrial jobs. Renewable energy. advanced, recycling facilities.
- Lower rent and housing prices so the working class can afford to live.
- Ways to promote these goals and educate people as to ways they can help with the goals that are important to them.
- Fixing the roads!! Please!!! We've busted the ball bearings on my husbands 4x4 truck twice because of how deep the potholes are!! He's not mud bogging... just driving to work ... under the speed limit at that.
- No
- Reduce the regulations in the designated neighborhood centers in order to promote the type of investment that is desired.
- No
- No
- Promote churches in general (not specific ones). A moral people is easier to govern. Less crime, less burden on law enforcement and prisons, increased sense of community.
- better infrastructure upkeep and development upgrade and expansion, water power and roads especially
- Buses and bus stops for kids and markers near main drop off areas
- A workable solution to animal control
- definitely need to fix all the roads-the 5 year resurfacing program is not being followed and Public Works never responds to comments and questions on their City website-City not user friendly any more
- Opportunities for more joint city-county programs
- None
- The list is comprehensive.
- Speeding enforcement
- I would like to hear the Mayor lay out his vision for the City and how we are going to get there. Are we going to have to get new taxes to fix all the streets and parks. If so, Mayor should be selling this. Someone needs to be telling us what is going to happen or what is not going to happen. A lot is studies being done, for what? To be put on shelf. I would like to see an independent Pavement Management Study.
- Animal welfare - At the time this list was developed, we had a working relationship between the Humane Society and the County, but sadly this is no longer the case.
- Improve the roadway systems with new paving
- Not at this time

Please share any thoughts you have about the community's needs and opportunities.

- Thomasville does not take into consideration that the elderly black citizens can not pay all these increases the city have put on their backs.
- The list above is pretty comprehensive. I think we have the people, sense of community and general resources available to handle any of these issues.
- Thomasville is very slow at completing projects, i. e. more sidewalks!! Remington Ave is a major artery with a LOT of neighborhoods that feed off of it. I've lived here 18 years and every council has made empty promises for sidewalks and more affordable housing. Get it done!! You don't have a problem collecting taxes, a bit greedy I'd say, but please get it done.
- We need an updated movie theater and craft stores like Michaels home goods and hobby lobby's
- We do a lot for Thomasville citizens as far as first Friday. We add beauty and don't take care of it. We have a wonderful Cherokee Lake and the roads are terrible. Porta toilets should be at McIntyre Park and Paradise Park. There should

be more swing sets for grown ups. The city should have hookups for dogs.

- Manufacturing jobs and healthy food places to eat seven days a week.
- Need daycare. Need different restaurants. Need better shopping options.
- Our town does not need to implement a sustainable plan endorsed or suggested by the United Nations. Thomasville needs to remain independent & make the decisions that are applicable to our town & our people
- My Main issue with The City of Thomasville in the 12 years I've lived here is the rigid archaic bill payment policy for Electric Consumers. Within one day of being late on a Electric bill you're threatened with a disruption in service and within 5 days services are being cut off. Most Electric companies have a 30 day policy before disruption. In this time of economic crisis I feel it is Irrational to hold consumers to such constraints when so many are struggling just to put food on the table
- Can we stop the crazy between the Humane Society and current administration.
- would like to see a better public transportation at some point for older or handicapped people and because downtown parking is so limited
- The old Winn Dixie building behind Arbys is empty . Homeless people hang around there . Make it a homeless shelter for those less fortunate
- The community is in desperate need of animal control and jobs jobs would help the homeless get out of the streets and humane animal control would help with the amount of strays we have running around Thomasville
- Tville needs more growth in the city as opposed to in the county or in surrounding counties who shop and commute to T'ville.
- Fix the bumps on the roads and fix the traffic lights that make you sit there for a long time for no reason
- Roads need paving. Litter is a problem
- The purple streetlights MUST GO! I was told it was an error. It's terrible! Makes certain parts of the city feel depressing and dirty as soon as the sun goes down. Would love to drive around Thomasville at night and see consistent white

lighting throughout our neighborhood and town.

- Ignoring the economic disparity is not a good look. Some parts of town are run-down and people are homeless.
- Thomasville has the resources to solve many of the existing social problems by supporting local non-profit organizations.
- I personally feel that the city is heading in the right direction.
- More attention to cleaning up in city surroundings.
- The kids and teens need things to do. More than the outdated roll-a-rink. The roads need more attention, rent is stupid high. Thomasville boundaries need to be pushed out or something because it's getting too crowded. Stop adhering to the older generation. There are too many young people that live here too, with NOTHING to do
- Would love more opportunities for seminars etc of how to live off the land, homestead, garden on small acreage...
- Excited to see how deliberate and future-aware planning here is
- There are too many barriers for businesses trying to open in the City.
- Teaching people how they can help with each goal and not leave it up to a committee or just a few people. The more ownership people feel, the more they respond and care. We have great resources and people with knowledge that could help if asked.
- Love this town
- Second and third story living in downtown would be great, as well as more types of residential in neighborhood centers.
- I love this city...let's not ruin it.
- There are very few jobs available that pay well. Educated residents should not have to drive to Tallahassee to make over \$15/hr.
- Appreciate you folks planning ahead!
- overpopulation is a concern packing so many people into a smaller area causes issues
- Public pool and cool zones in parks and around town more things towards Tallahassee and Cairo to accommodate the close range neighborhoods and travels

- need another health care system to compete with Archbold to bring better service which allows more options for health insurance. need city government with visionary leaders-seems like all we get is the same people doing the same things. CNS has become just another government bureaucracy-not user friendly any more. We need a better option for yard trash pickup other than that claw which digs holes in your pretty yards-we have become the City of Holes and Potholes instead of City of Roses. City needs to enforce their zoning rules on existing single family areas-too much stuff in peoples front yards-boats, trailers, tractors, lawnmowers, bikes, cars, etc. We either need more experience in Engineering, Public Works and Planning Departments or a lot of this work should be contracted out to consultants with experience. The bike path, conditions of the roads and Cherokee Park improvements are prime examples of reason why.
- The list above sums it up. Strong focus on diversity and serving the entire community.
- The list is comprehensive. It is impossible to complete all aspects of the list. However...There are several strong initiatives that are manageable.
- We need a visionary plan to fix up Thomasville's aging infrastructure and someone to sell it.
- Hold property owners accountable. Some of the worst places in town are owned by wealthy people. A couple of examples: the building on the corner of E. Clay St. and Mitchell St. and the house at the corner of Euclid and E. Washington St.
- Put all of these surveys, master plans in to service, don't just put on a shelf somewhere.
- Don't let this just be an update that goes on a shelf - make sure the City follows through on this as well as the Parks Master Plan and Stormwater Master Plan.
- Public art shouldn't be limited to downtown

Last chance to share your thoughts: What would you say is the most important issue facing the City of Thomasville today?

-
- Social justice !
 - Community involvement and support.
 - Some neighborhoods are too dark. It is a safety issue.
 - Race relations, building trust.
 - Infrastructure but would like to study, hear about what actually is our most important issue according to city officials.
 - Lack of trust from minorities in local government
 - Poor education system. Kids graduating and not being able to read at a 3rd grade level.
 - Upkeep of housing developments we live at Grove pointe when we moved here for years ago they cut vacant lots the grass they've built a lot of houses in the small cul-de-sac development they need to pay the roads patrol officers for high-speeding vehicles in a 20 mph zone
 - Citizen safety and feeling of safety
 - All the streets need paving and better lineage.
 - Old building and lots not being used for business ,
 - Too few jobs with livable wages
 - To educate our children and make sure our children are safe and protected at these schools.
 - Lack of home ownership, affordable housing, diverse in upper management in city operations
 - I think they don't lie change
 - Bad school and city council management. We should not be forced into WOKE agendas and policies. We are a quiet quaint town. Let's keep it that way.
 - Since SWSH has closed, we've seen more people needing mental health services living on the street. Something needs to be done about the homeless population living in the woods. This population will only increase if something isn't done.
 - Low income households not having access to healthy foods and healthcare
 - "Softball fields; Pot holes "

- My Main issue with The City of Thomasville in the 12 years I've lived here is the rigid archaic bill payment policy for Electric Consumers. Within one day of being late on a Electric bill you're threatened with a disruption in service and within 5 days services are being cut off. Most Electric companies have a 30 day policy before disruption. In this time of economic crisis I feel it is Irrational to hold consumers to such constraints when so many are struggling just to put food on the table
- Loving place
- Expanding to quickly
- The Demands of sustainable, safe and growing thriving community in today's divided and argumentative environment.
- Inclusive growth
- We need better big box stores Target and Renovated super Walmart
- Protection of historical landmarks.
- economic issues; trying to get the things that need and have to be done on limited budget. People need to accept that utility increases will have to be made and some council members need to accept that as well
- The city will be overrun with feral cats and stray dogs under the county's lack of responsible animal control services. Plus, city residents' pets are in danger due to the county's actions.
- The city school system is so bad!
- The revitalization of neighborhoods in the downtown core area.
- The blending of the old small town feel with the growing population
- Lack of affordable housing . Not everyone can afford "luxury" housing
- At the moment it would be the lack of restaurant variety in town. I read this multiple times a day on social media platforms.
- Once again we are seriously dealing with the issue of strays being all over Thomasville I believe we need a humane solution to this problem we don't need another brick road or another painted wall downtown we need real solutions to real problems not pretty cover-ups there are so many strays all over Thomasville and it's even worse now that we don't have animal control not to mention the homeless situation they are homeless people everywhere they need support and help getting jobs and getting on their feet but they also should not be allowed to trash places like the Walmart parking lot and the Dollar tree parking lot
- Economic Development
- Diversity
- Doing what we can for our youth. Providing recreation, learning & work opportunities to help them grow to be positive & productive adults.
- Homeless population is growing. Too many people moving into town.
- Lack of affordable housing
- Run down and not working plans for the future
- My biggest desire is to see more effort to improve our beautiful parks. Vandalism and broken equipment is an issue. Would LOVE to see a splash pad for our children as well as restrooms at Macintyre Park and Paradise Park!
- Racism and division.
- Preserving and maintaining our wonderful history.
- Disparity between haves and have nots
- Homeless & mental illness
- Pay grade and cost of living
- Vacant buildings and lots
- Not sure
- Diversity and positive developments and improvements
- Complete association within the city, the merchants , and the citizens of the city and county.
- An inability to hire a competent school superintendent
- This space intentionally left blank
- Future lack of funds to keep the City alive and thriving.
- Continue growth while keeping downtown free of chain stores.
- Putting way too much time and money into preserving buildings that no one goes to. There are not enough tourists to care. Focus more on the residents here and realize how behind Thomasville is. It's like going back in time, and not in a good way.
- More sidewalks to make it easier and more convenient to walk and bike throughout the city

- Quality housing for everyone. Revamping the abandoned shopping centers.
- Non affordable housing
- Housing. Kid and teen entertainment. Income ratio.
- Growing and improving while maintaining character
- Increase and sustain efforts to improve and promote downtown
- Ease of opening a business in the city limits.
- Ways to work beside people of all walks of life on those things that matter most to them without having to join government. Community grows from connecting and understanding.
- Stop building on every piece of land that doesn't have a home or business on it. We are destroying so much habitat that is home to different species of animals and birds. I've lived here for over 50 years, and we've displaced so much of the natural habitat of many creatures. There is constant building on almost every piece of land, and someday there will be no land left. If not for the plantations, there would be nothing but homes, businesses and buildings of various sorts from Thomasville all the way to Tallahassee.
- Fix all the MANY potholes and broken / torn up roads around Thomasville! I realize there is only so much budget each year to accomplish repaving. However, half the roads in this town are terrible and it seems that many of the really bad roads are not getting paved or at least patched up where there are bad potholes. Some of the roads needed fixing years ago and they are still terrible and getting worse! Tired of driving my car on these terrible roads and ruining my tires and alignment! Please consider, thank you.
- If the pot holes in the roads are not fixed, people will not want to live here, no matter how great the people or activities are. We drove round trip to Ohio from Thomasville & our roads were by far than the roads we drove on on SC, NC, VA, WV, OH, KY, TN!! (We weren't just on highways either.) Many of the huge holes were created by people repairing water lines or other problems & just weren't fixed properly. The City of Thomasville seems to just cut holes in the asphalt & not repair them fully, or even leave them open in some areas! The new roads around Thomasville are great!! I love the new roundabout!! The landscaping in its center could use some TLC ;)
- Lack of housing and city leaders not wanting growth
- When this comp plan was written the City was enacting one positive program after another; often across a variety of areas, from new sidewalks and trails, to park improvements and on street parking, to new zoning overlay areas with a mix of affordable and market rate housing. There were a lot of accomplishments! While the city's priorities may change somewhat, please keep up the same level of intensity and effort!
- Downtown parking
- Bring big business in.
- To stay true to its local and historical roots without letting big companies or outsiders come in and change a good thing
- I think getting the bike trail complete would really help those who rely on biking as well as offering something outdoors to do within the city limits
- Trying to be bigger than we are, or should be
- Please finish the trail linking the parks.
- I think this is more of a county issue, but the lack of animal control needs to be addressed ASAP
- City manager- unwillingness to coordinate public parking with businesses and churches as well
- Godlessness
- too much focus on non essential things like concerts and other venues, not enough on actual issues like traffic etc
- Divide and nothing on the for the youth to do and after school/ summer jobs
- That we maintain our steady progress,keep our industries diverse and our infrastructure out ahead of our growth
- Street maintenance and affordable housing
- Enforce the laws regarding keeping cats under control of a person, not letting them run loose.
- Maintain small town feel with great infrastructure with no dedicated funding source.
- Collaboration

- How to focus on being a great place to live, not just a great place to visit.
- Maintaining overall attractiveness to ensure continued retail and tourist expenditures that support future economic growth which provide sustainable revenues
- Animal control
- Balancing the cost of everything to the needs of the community. Keeping Thomasville livable for everyone no matter where they are on the socio economic scale.
- Acclimating to the demands of the changing demands of a small town.
- Traffic/pedestrian safety education.
- Not having a dedicated funding source for aging infrastructure repairs. Not having visionary leaders in City government.
- Disconnect between local government and citizens.
- lack of housing
- lack of money to maintain existing infrastructure and enhance parks
- Infrastructure
- Retaining its current character while growing.
- Growth
- Homelessness
- Parking in the growing downtown area.
- Unity
- workforce housing for any new company moving to town
- Lack of opportunity for citizen input.
- Trust.