Blueprint: Thomasville 2028 Comprehensive Plan Update

Thomasville: Blueprint 2028 is a comprehensive plan for the city that sets the tone for growth and development for the next ten to twenty years. Last fall, more than 600 Thomasville citizens took part in the comprehensive planning process by participating in a series of community design workshops that were focused on topics that included community design and character, mobility and health, housing, the Roses site, civic services, and more. Participation in these workshops allowed citizens to share their input and offer feedback on what will become Thomasville's new comprehensive plan.

Since the fall, the information and feedback that were shared during the fall workshops have been reviewed, analyzed and tabulated to formulate a draft comprehensive plan. Beginning this spring, the final step in the outreach and engagement process will begin, allowing even more input from our community before the final plan is presented to City Council.

The public unveiling of the draft comprehensive plan will be held Tuesday, March 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 144 E. Jackson Street. The evening will begin with a presentation before moving into a Q & A session and then an open house workshop that will allow for additional feedback. The following day, Wednesday, March 21st, will offer more opportunities for citizen participation through targeted meetings on specific plan elements. This meeting will be held from 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. at the Thomas County Public Library.

Additional information is available on Thomasville.org and BlueprintThomasville.org. You may also contact Lauren Radford, Director of Outreach and Engagement at 229-227-4015.

Easter Extravaganza
The City of Thomasville's Community Relations team expects hundreds of children to pack Paradise Park for the annual Easter Eggstravaganza to be held on Saturday, March 31st from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This year's activities will include inflatable games, bounce houses, inflatable slides, face painting and much more. Participants will also have the opportunity to have their photo taken with the Easter Bunny.

The main event, however, is the annual Easter egg hunt where 5,000 eggs will be hidden away for kids to hunt. This activity is separated into age groups, so there is plenty of fun for all. Plus, six lucky kids will find special eggs with twenty-five dollar gift cards in them.

The event is free to the public, with a small charge for food. All proceeds are used to support the Thomasville Police Department's various youth programs. For more information, call (229) 227-7001 or click here.
March is Natural Gas Appreciation Month

The City of Thomasville's Natural Gas Department is dedicated to serving the citizens of Thomasville by providing safe, efficient and clean-burning natural gas for both residential and commercial customers. This month, we celebrate the benefits of natural gas, as March is Natural Gas Appreciation Month. The demand for natural gas in the United States continues to grow, and today, nearly half of the homes in the United States use natural gas. Why do so many put their confidence in natural gas? Check out a few of these facts about this important fuel source:

- Natural gas is energy efficient; it achieves about 92% energy efficiency.
- Outages with natural gas are rare, as the system that supplies natural gas is located underground.
- Natural gas is good for the economy! About one-fourth of all primary energy used in the U.S. is comprised of natural gas. The natural gas industry supports the employment of nearly 3 million Americans in all 50 states.

There are many benefits to choosing natural gas as your home's energy source. Click here to learn more.

Source: Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia

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On-Bill Financing

The On-Bill Financing Program is a revolving funding program designed to improve energy efficiency in the State of Georgia. It provides low-cost funding to residential homeowners for the purchase and installation of energy efficient equipment and home energy efficiency improvements. The On-Bill Financing Program can be used to supplement current rebate programs or special promotions. Funds are available for residential homeowners that receive electric service from the City of Thomasville. Funding is available for the following:

- Purchase and installation of EnergyStar qualified appliances
- Purchase and installation of EnergyStar qualified central heating and air conditioning equipment and systems
- Home weatherization services

For more information, please click here.
Get Involved with Your Local Government

We all shape the city we live in, and one of the best ways you can take part in your community is by getting involved. Participation in government is a privilege that all citizens share in a democracy. Almost anyone can participate in the operations of local government. Taking an active role in your community's local government is a form of service to others, and you can get involved in a variety of ways. Here are just a few ways you can truly engage:

- **Vote:** Click [here](#) for information on how to register.
- **Attend:** The best way to be informed is to attend meetings. Click [here](#) to access a full meeting calendar.
- **Serve:** Click [here](#) for information on the City's various citizen boards, commissions and authorities.
- **Volunteer:** Share your skills with our community. Click [here](#) for details.
- **Connect:** Use [Thomasville.org](http://www.thomasville.org) and our social media sites to stay informed.

[Click here](#) to learn more about ways you can become involved with your municipal government.

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**Did You Know?**

How much do you know about your local government? Test your knowledge here!

- City staff worked to secure a Community Development Block Grant that will allow infrastructure upgrades to the Fletcherville neighborhood.
- Thomasville was designated a PlanFIRSTcommunity, which recognizes excellence in community planning. This distinction can help secure additional CDBG funding opportunities.
- More than 9,500 sidewalk trip hazards have been addressed since 2012.
- 2012 SPLOST funds have allowed for 35,091 linear feet of streets to be paved or resurfaced.

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**Public Meetings & Events Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/14</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Utilities Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/14</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Architectural Review &amp; Zoning Appeals Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/14</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Public Safety Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/15</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Solid Waste Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/20</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Public Unveiling of Draft Comprehensive Plan</td>
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3/21:  7:30 a.m. - Thomasville Blueprint Discussion
3/21:  4:00 p.m. - City Council Workshop
3/26:  8:30 a.m. - Payroll Development Authority
3/26:  11:00 a.m. - Planning Committee
3/26:  6:00 p.m. - City Council Workshop
3/26:  7:00 p.m. - City Council Meeting
3/28:  8:30 a.m. - Utilities Committee Meeting
3/31:  11:00 a.m. - Easter Eggstravaganza
4/3:   9:00 a.m. - Main Street Advisory
4/4:   10:00 a.m. - Land Bank Authority
4/4:   4:00 p.m. - City Council Workshop
4/5:   2:00 p.m. - Public Works Meeting

A full meeting calendar is available here.

City of Thomasville | (229) 227-7001 | www.thomasville.org