

CANTON

2040

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

cantonga.gov

CITY OF CANTON, GEORGIA
RESOLUTION 2019-7

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
CANTON 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
10 YEAR UPDATE

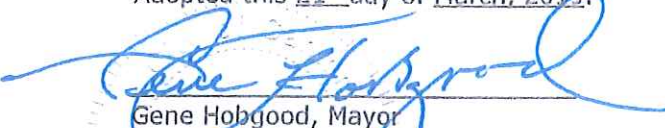
WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of Canton, Georgia has completed the 10 Year Update of the City of Canton's Comprehensive Plan (Canton 2040); and

WHEREAS, these documents were prepared according to the Standards and Procedures for local Comprehensive Planning effective October 1, 2018 and established by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989, and required public hearing was held on November 1, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the City of Canton, City Hall, 110 Academy Street, Canton, Georgia;

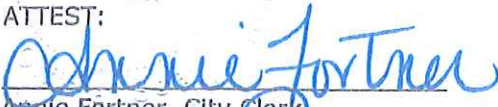
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the City of Canton, Georgia certify that the minimum public participation and other procedural requirements, as identified in the Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning, have been met or exceeded in preparing the 10 Year Update to Canton's Comprehensive Plan (Canton 2040); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of Canton, Georgia hereby does adopt the 10 Year Update to Canton's Comprehensive Plan (Canton 2040).

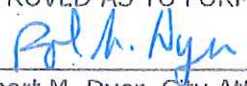
Adopted this 21st day of March, 2019.


Gene Hobgood, Mayor
City of Canton, Georgia

ATTEST:


Annie Fortner, City Clerk
City of Canton, Georgia

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:


Robert M. Dyer, City Attorney
City of Canton, Georgia

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1. OVERVIEW	4
1.2. INCORPORATING RELATED PLANS	8
1.3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	9
2. PLAN ELEMENTS	12
2.1. DEMOGRAPHICS	12
2.2. HOUSING	16
2.3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	22
2.4. NATURAL RESOURCES	25
2.5. HISTORIC & CULTURAL RESOURCES	33
2.6. COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES	35
2.7. TRANSPORTATION	47
2.8. LAND USE	52
2.9 BROADBAND SERVICES	91
2.10. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ELEMENT	92
3. COMMUNITY GOALS	93
3.1. VISION STATEMENT	93
3.2. COMMUNITY GOALS & POLICIES	94
4. NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES	100
4.1. HOUSING	100
4.2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	101
4.3. HISTORIC, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES	101
4.4. COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES	102
4.5. TRANSPORTATION	103
4.6. LAND USE	103
4.7. VOCATIONAL / EDUCATIONAL	104
4.8. CONSIDERATION OF DCA QUALITY COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES	105
5. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	109
5.1. REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS	109
5.2. COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM	114
APPENDICES	
A. PROPOSED EXTENSION OF NORTHSIDE CHEROKEE BOULEVARD MAP	A1
B. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMUNITY SURVEY & SURVEY RESULTS	B1
C. FIRST FRIDAY COMMUNITY SURVEY & SURVEY RESULTS	C1
D. STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE MEETING FLYER	D1
E. PUBLIC WORKSHOP MEETING FLYER	E1
F. PUBLIC NOTICES	F1
G. WORKSHOP AND PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARIES & SIGN-IN SHEETS	G1
H. COMMISSION ON CANTON'S FUTURE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS	H1

1. Introduction

The City of Canton’s Comprehensive Plan serves as a guide for the local government officials and community leaders in decision making supporting the community’s stated vision. With input from the public and the Stakeholders Committee, the plan identifies needs and opportunities for the community along with goals for the City’s future and policies that offer guidance and direction for obtaining these goals.

The mission of a Comprehensive Plan for a local community in Georgia is to provide the identification and assessment of existing conditions and future needs, and to consider the anticipated growth and changes that will affect the health, safety, and welfare of present and future community residents, workers, and visitors. The Plan also should address and advance the coordination of land use with sustainable economic development, transportation and community infrastructure planning, and protection of natural and cultural resources, including the provision of adequate housing for the entire community.

In Georgia, a local community must adopt a Comprehensive Plan meeting the State’s standards and update the plan on a regular basis to maintain Qualified Local Government (QLG) status and remain eligible for a wide range of State grants, assistance and permitting programs. Planning requirements for the preparation and adoption of Comprehensive Plans are adopted by the State’s Board of Community Affairs according to the Georgia Planning Act and administered and supplemented by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

The City of Canton’s current update is required by the end of February 2019 while Cherokee County and its other cities’ current update is required by October 2018. This update is characterized as the “tenth-year” update by the State, and the complete re-evaluation, reorganization and rewrite of the Plan elements are required by the State to address the significant changes that have occurred in Canton over the past decade and satisfy the planning standards adopted by the State. The City of Canton desires to meet and exceed the State’s standards for planning required for an Urban, Tier-One community.

1.1. Overview

The discovery of gold in 1829 at Dahlonega created a rush into northern Georgia and the demise of the Cherokee Nation as Georgia created Cherokee County in December 1831. The modern Cherokee County was first surveyed in 1832 and the county seat, originally named Etowah, was established in 1833. When it was determined that there was no gold on many of the 40-acre lots created by the survey, a silk production venture came to the area, and the county seat was renamed Canton in 1834.



Cherokee County Historic Courthouse

When silk production proved a failure, cotton and tobacco become the primary crops for the area until the railroad was extended to Canton from Marietta and Atlanta in 1879. The advent of rail access allowed cotton and the small but thriving marble industry to ship their goods south to Atlanta and Marietta in the 1880s, and Canton was transformed into an industrial city with R.T. Jones and other investors established the Canton Cotton Mill in 1899. The mill quickly became the largest employer in the county and the center of economic and social life in the City. The mill built two villages to house its employees, established schools, sponsored festivals, operated a store and built a church. In 1924, Canton Cotton Mill No. 2 was constructed, and Canton became a major center for the manufacture of denim cloth. The City became famous worldwide for the high-quality denim produced by Canton Cotton Mills.

By the middle of the twentieth century, chicken production replaced cotton as the number one agricultural product in the area. Along with the cotton mills and the marble finishing business near Ball Ground, residents were employed at the Bell Bomber Plant, now Lockheed-Martin in Marietta. In 1963, workers at the Canton Cotton Mills voted in a labor union for the first time, and the mills began a slow decline with years of conflict between the workers and the mill owners (still led by members of the Jones family as majority stockholders). This conflict and other changes in society quickly eroded the familial tradition of the mill community, and the Canton Cotton Mill closed in 1981.

Canton, as well Cherokee County, continued to grow and thrive as the county became a bedroom community for the Atlanta Region. The City of Canton has been able to capture a significant amount of growth in Cherokee County by providing a center for government finance, business, health care, education, and local cultural resources. The construction of Interstate 575 provided easy, albeit at some peak times congested, accessibility to the rest of the Atlanta Region. Today Canton offers a combination of accessible and attractive employment opportunities, small-town charm, and family-oriented services that spurred very rapid growth and development.

The City of Canton and Cherokee County are rich with natural resources. The Etowah River and Little River supply water to Lake Allatoona in the southwest corner of the country. This lake is operated by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for flood control, power generation, water supply and recreation. Lake Arrowhead, west of Waleska, is a private lake within the Lake Arrowhead master planned development. The northwest corner of Cherokee County is the most mountainous with several recognized peaks above 2,200 feet. The Etowah River intersects the City of Canton from the northeast to the southwest as it flows to Lake Allatoona.

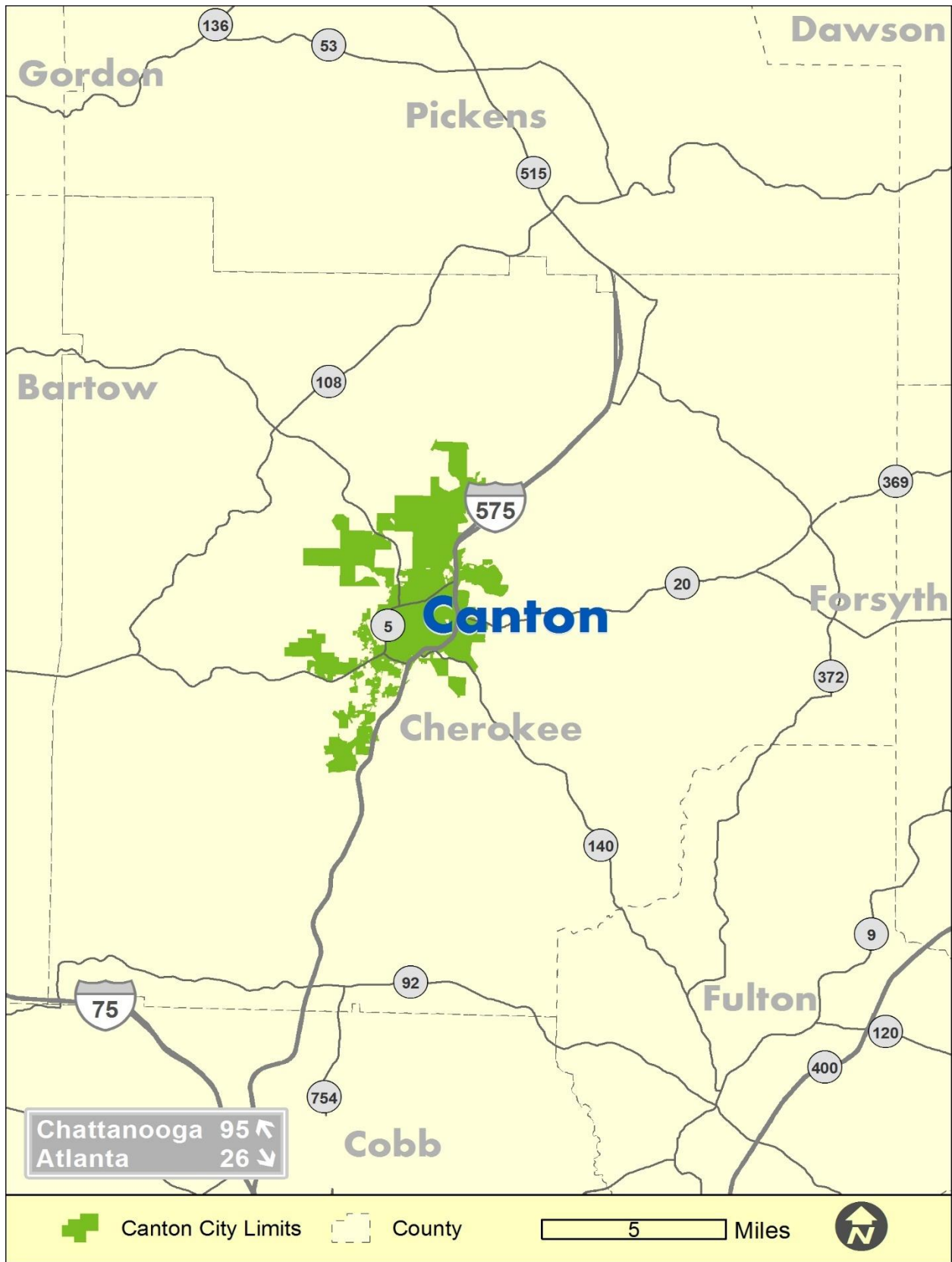


Figure 1-1: City of Canton Location Map

1.2. Incorporating Related Plans

To make the most of the Comprehensive Plan, it is imperative to be aligned with other initiatives in the City. These plans are important in shaping the City by providing goals and strategies that supports the comprehensive plan in reaching those goals.

Capital Improvement Element (CIE)

The City of Canton utilizes Impact Fees to assist in funding the construction of fire safety, police services, parks and recreation, and road improvements. The CIE is a detailed study of the City's existing facilities, needed facilities, and the costs to maintain the current levels of service in the specified areas. The CIE is expected to be adopted by February 2019.

Water and Wastewater Master Plans

The City of Canton expects Water and Wastewater Master Plans to be completed during the fourth quarter of 2018. The plans include population and flow projections, hydraulic modeling, and development of capital improvement projects.

Central City Urban Redevelopment Plan

Canton's Central City Urban Redevelopment Plan is intended to address areas in the City's historic, social, and cultural center that is in need of redevelopment. The City envisions a thriving community where the rural heritage is preserved. Central City hopes to offer business opportunities such as retail services, office, limited industrial and community amenities within a walkable and livable setting to its residents. Only ten parcels in Canton's downtown area was approved with the objective to that the job tax credit would encourage small business creation.

Technology Ridge Urban Redevelopment Plan

This plan provides the background, goals, and strategies for redevelopment of what would become Cherokee County's second Opportunity Zone- Technology Ridge which sits along Interstate 575 and reaches from Canton to the southern portion of Ball Ground.

A primary goal of the plan includes designating Technology Ridge as an Opportunity Zone that would make potential employers eligible for tax benefits for setting up in the area. Other strategies include supporting the development of a variety of commercial uses to encourage activity and employment while encouraging businesses to utilize existing structures to house uses that are compatible with the surrounding character areas.

Solid Waste Management Plan

The Cherokee County Solid Waste Management Plan provides an overview and goals for the County's waste disposal policies along with Ball Ground, Canton, Holly Springs, Waleska, and Woodstock. The plan addresses waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, and education and public involvement. The County's population growth warrants efficient waste disposal procedures that keep the County clean, but also highlights the need for waste reduction in the form of reuse, recycling, and waste preventative measures.

Comprehensive Transportation Plan

The 2016 Cherokee County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) addresses multi-modal transportation issues through 2040. The final prioritized list of projects was developed from the ground up with input from citizens, business owners, elected officials then evaluated for effectiveness. The seven groups of projects include Roadways, Safety, Bridges, Bicycle-Pedestrian-Trails, Transit, Freight, and Aviation.

1.3. Public Participation

The leadership for the City of Canton emphasized the importance of public involvement and participation in the comprehensive planning process to support the development of usable procedures for future decision making.

Effective outreach provides the appropriate opportunity for citizens to be involved in the planning process. Citizens are educated on the purpose of the planning effort and the significant role they play in developing the plan.

As part of Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan, stakeholders were engaged in numerous ways throughout the planning process and were encouraged to provide their views on Canton's future.

Participation Techniques

Public Hearings

As required by DCA's Local Planning Requirements, a Public Hearing was conducted on June 1, 2017 to begin the planning process. During the public hearing, staff informed the community on the process per the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) standards to develop the plan, broadcast opportunities for public participation in the development of the plan, and to obtain input on the proposed planning process.

A second hearing was held on November 1, 2018 to present the draft to the public before official review by DCA. During the public hearing, staff provided an executive summary of the Comprehensive Plan to City Council. Comments were solicited from the City Council as well as the public. After the public hearing closed, the City Council approved the plan to be submitted to DCA for review before the adoption of the plan.

Stakeholders Committee

Preparation of this plan involved an informed and active group of citizens, the Stakeholders Committee. Years before this comprehensive plan update, Mayor and City Council appointed 21 members to the Commission on Canton's Future. This group met several times to discuss the City's future surrounding sustainability, community development, culture, economy, transportation, and governance. Many of those members were reappointed by City Council to serve as the stakeholder group for the comprehensive planning process, and their ideas were integrated into this comprehensive plan update. Reports from the Commission of Canton's Future are in the Appendix.

Both groups represented a broad cross-section of Canton’s people, from many geographic, economic, and social perspectives. Through the dedicated efforts of this capable committee, every policy statement considered for this plan was reviewed and discussed, approved, disapproved, or amended. The Stakeholders Committee met monthly from August 2017 to May 2018. The Committee played an essential role in conveying the community needs to Staff and communicating ways to increase planning efforts to the public. The committee held several meetings for the Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan process as listed below. All meetings were open to the public.

- Meeting 1: Project kick off - August 22, 2017
- Meeting 2: Needs and opportunities (SWOT) - September 19, 2017
- Meeting 3: Need, opportunities, and strategies identification – November 14, 2017
- Meeting 4: Visioning and goal setting – December 5, 2017
- Meeting 5: Visioning and goal setting Pt2 – January 9, 2018
- Meeting 6: Community work program review – February 6, 2018
- Meeting 7: Community work program review Pt2 – March 6, 2018
- Meeting 8: Transportation and land use component – April 3, 2018
- Meeting 9: Economic development and housing component – May 1, 2018
- Meeting 10: Community work program review Pt3 – June 5, 2018
- Meeting 11: Draft comprehensive plan update – July 31, 2018



Stakeholders Committee from left to right: Leon Stafford II, Roy Taylor, Brandon Young, Charles Barnes, Nadine Yawn, Irene Stout, Mike Morgan, Jeff Adams, Jim Fleming, & Patricia Tanner. Not pictured: Ari Durham, Stefanie Jones, Joe Sellers, Tim McCratic, Bob Reilly, Clint Weatherby

Staff

Billy Peppers, City Manager

Ken Patton, Community Development Director

Brittany Anderson, Planner (Project Manager)

Meetings with the Community

Public participation in the planning process afforded staff an opportunity to consult with the real experts of the community while tapping into their daily experiences of living and working in the City. The public brought a variety of issues to the attention of staff, the Steering Committee, the Planning Commission, and City Council throughout the public workshops. Gaining input from the residents was a vital component throughout the planning process. Meetings were held for primary topics of the plan. The meetings were open to the community members and stakeholders. The following meetings were held with the community:

- Public Hearing #1: Kick off with City Council – June 1, 2017
- Meeting 1: Needs and strategies workshop – October 12, 2017
- Meeting 2: Community visioning workshop – December 19, 2017
- Meeting 3: Transportation and land use (booth at First Friday) – May 4, 2018
- Open House – May 24, 2018
- Draft Comp Plan update with Planning Commission (Work Session) – August 7, 2018
- Draft Comp Plan update with City Council (Special Called Work Session) – August 14, 2018
- Final Open House – September 13, 2018
- Final Comp Plan update with Planning Commission – September 17, 2018
- Public Hearing #2: Comp Plan update with City Council – November 1, 2018
- Comp Plan update with City Council (Regular Meeting) – November 15, 2018
- Comp Plan update with City Council (Special Called Work Session) – November 28, 2018
- Comp Plan update with City Council (Work Session) – December 6, 2018
- Comp Plan update with City Council (Regular Meeting) – December 20, 2018

Community Survey

A community survey was designed to obtain input regarding the vision for the City of Canton. The survey asked for comments and opinions regarding general satisfaction with local services and which issues are most important to the community. The survey was available through the City's website, publicized through local media outlets including the Tribune and social media including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. The survey was available online from November 22, 2017 to February 2, 2018. The results of the community survey are in the Appendix.

Website Portal

The City of Canton developed a webpage on the City's website to keep the public informed about upcoming meetings and events. All information relative to the comprehensive plan can be found at www.cantonga.gov/gov/departments/community/canton_2040.htm.

2. Plan Elements

2.1. Demographics

Canton, Georgia began as a part of an Indian trade route for the Cherokee Nation. The Canton area was once known as “Etowah,” and was incorporated by the State Legislature in 1833. The founding fathers wanted the town to become a Silk center similar to the world-famous City of Canton, China, and (in 1834) the name was changed from Etowah to Canton. Canton quickly became the “capital” city of Cherokee County, with its varied economic opportunities, its role as a social center, and educational facilities. The denim industry was massive in Canton, with the textile mills employing over 1,200 persons at its peak. The last mill closed in 1981.

Historic and Existing Population

Canton is one of the fastest growing areas in the metropolitan Atlanta area. The City grew to an estimated population of 22,958 in 2010. Between 1980 and 1990, the population increased fairly slowly from 3,601 persons to 4,817, a change of 34 percent. Between 1990 and 2000, the population increased by 3,655 persons to 8,472, an increase of 76 percent. Between 2000 and 2010, the population increased by 14,486, an increase of 171 percent.

Table 2.1: Historic and Existing Population: Canton and Other Cherokee County Cities 1980-2010

Jurisdiction	1980	1990	2000	2010
Cherokee County	51,669	90,204	143,811	214,346
Canton	3,601	4,817	8,472	22,958
Ball Ground	640	899	730	1,433
Holly Springs	687	2,684	3,195	9,189
Mt. Park (pt)	n/a	15	13	547
Nelson (pt)	n/a	65	288	1,314
Waleska	450	635	616	644
Woodstock	2,699	4,749	10,342	23,896
State of Georgia	5,463,105	6,475,216	8,186,453	9,687,653

Source: Cherokee County Comprehensive Plan, DCA DataViews - 2000 Census STF-3, Canton’s Horizon 2030 Comprehensive Plan, Dataset - 2010 Census Demographic Profile SF

Population Growth in Adjacent Jurisdictions

Canton’s population growth within Cherokee County between 1980 and 2010 has been significant. Its population growth is only exceeded proportionally by the City of Woodstock. Overall, Canton’s growth rate exceeds the overall growth rate for the incorporated cities in the county, inclusive of Canton, Woodstock, Holly Springs, Waleska, and Ball Ground. In Cherokee County, Canton, and Woodstock experienced significant growth between 1980 to 2010, as well as moderate growth in Holly Springs, while the other jurisdictions had did experience as rapid growth over the same 30-year period.

Projected Population

To demonstrate population projections, Table 2-2 lists projections from multiple sources which includes the straight-line method conducted by staff using the 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates and linear trend projections conducted by Ross and Associates. Black and Veatch have recently completed a water master plan for the City, the current water customer population is 19,525, and it is projected to be 41,349 in 2040.

Table 2-2: Population Projections

	Straight Line Method	Ross & Associates
2016	25,022	26,340
2020	27,287	30,574
2025	30,275	35,867
2030	33,590	41,159
2035	37,268	46,452
2040	41,349	51,745

Household Size

Canton's average household size is 2.6, compared to the metro Atlanta average household size of 2.82 and state average of 2.76. Nearing half (41.8 percent) of Canton households include children under 18, compared to 36.3 percent of metro households and 34.8 percent of Georgia households.

Age Distribution

Canton's largest age group is between the age of 0-14, 24.7 percent compared to the Atlanta metropolitan area 21.2 at percent and the state at 20.7 percent. Residents between the age of 45 and 64 comprise the second largest age group in the City, but it is less than the metro area and the state at 25.7 percent and 25.6 percent respectively. People 65 and older are the smallest age group for Canton, the Atlanta metro area, and the State, 11.2 percent, 10.3 percent, and 11.9 percent respectively.

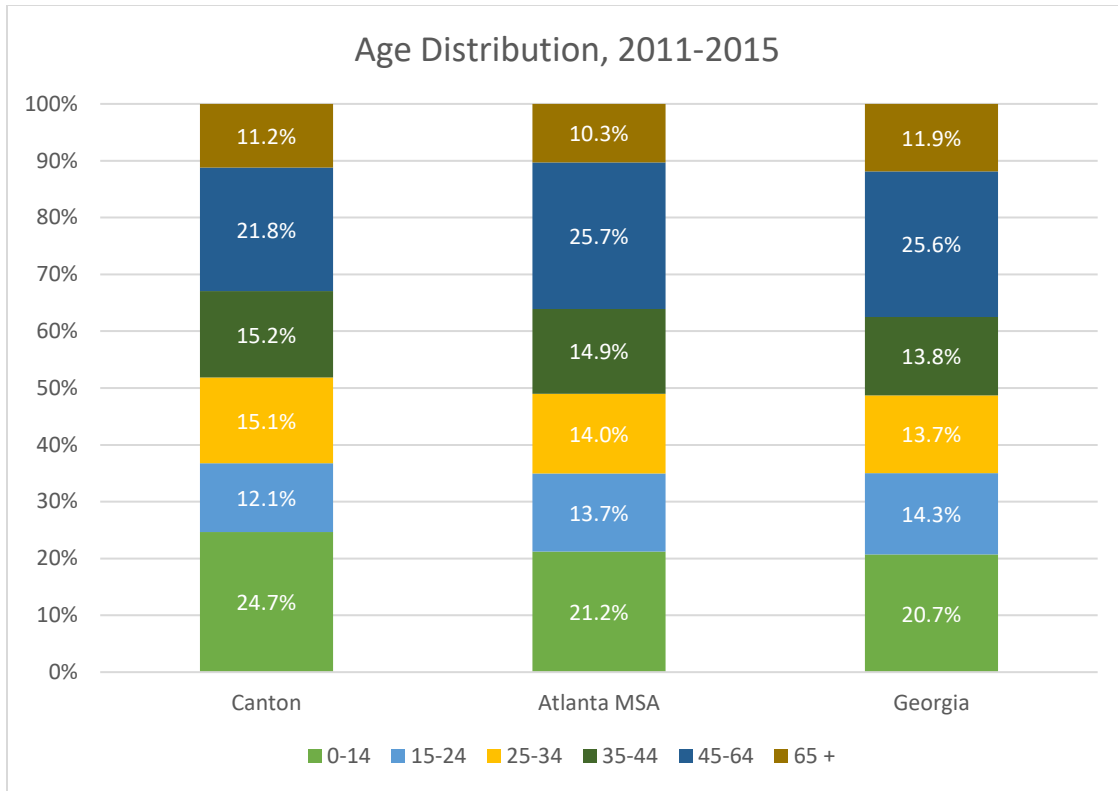


Figure 2-1: Age Distribution, 2011-2015
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Racial/Ethnic Composition

According to the U.S. Census, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the population for non-Hispanic, White in Canton is 61.3 percent compared to 49.4 percent of the metro-wide population and 54.6 percent of the statewide population. The Hispanic or Latino population in Canton is 25.2 percent compared to 10.5 percent for the metro area and 9.1 percent statewide. Approximately 9.8 percent of Canton’s population is Black while 30.5 percent of the state and 37.5 percent of the metro area is Black. The Indian population in Canton is 0.1 percent which is slightly less than the state and metro area at 0.2 percent. The Asian population in the City is 1.3 percent and the remaining 2.3 percent belongs to other race and two or more race.

Educational Attainment

Canton is just as competitive with the State and metro area for population with associate degrees – 6.9 percent of Canton’s residents have an associate degree, 7.1 percent of the state’s population, and 7.2 of the metro area. The greatest difference in education is no high school diploma whereas Canton has more residents without a high school diploma. 22.9 percent of Canton’s population does not have a high school diploma while 11.8 percent of the state’s population and 14.6 percent of the metro area population does not have a high school diploma.

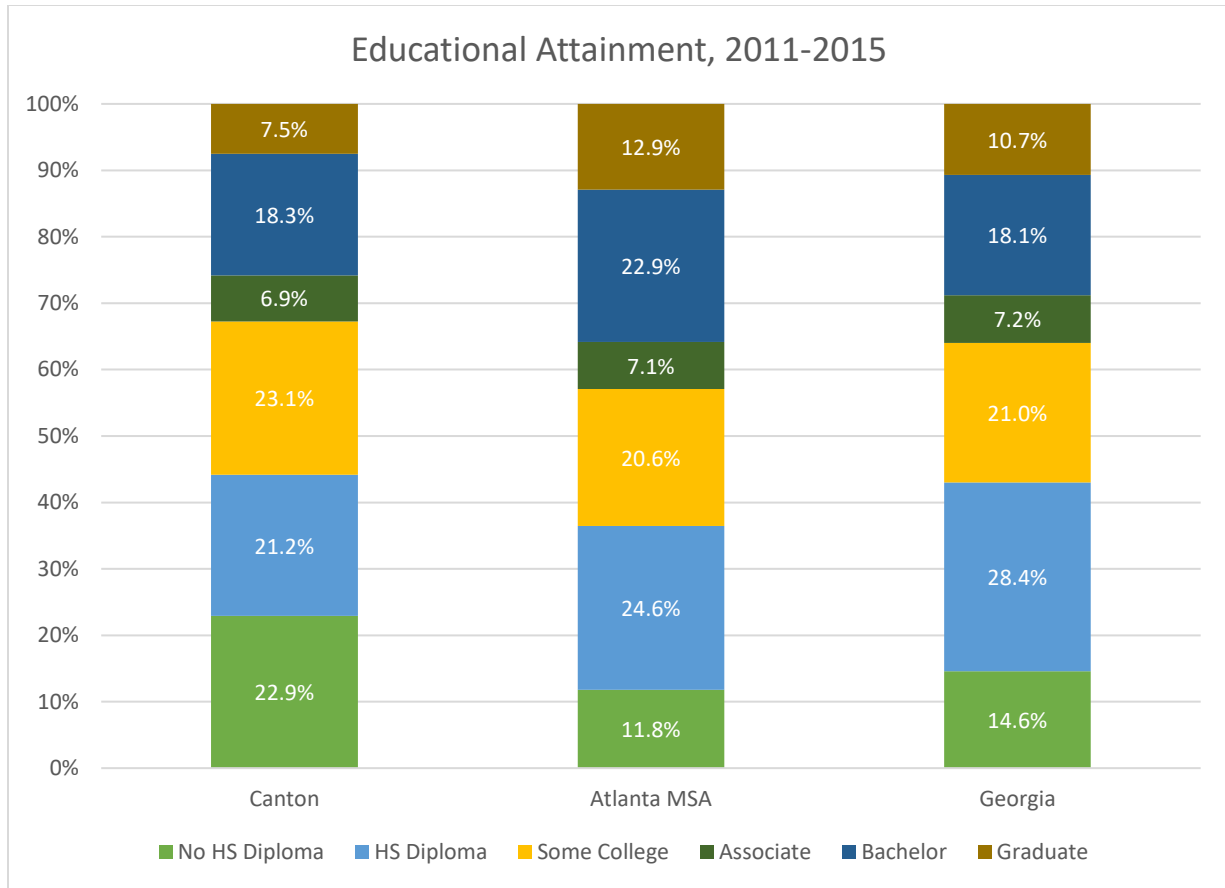


Figure 2-2: Educational Attainment, 2011-2015
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Household Income

Communities with high levels of educational attainment normally have high-income levels also. Between 2011 and 2015, 49.8 percent of households in Canton had incomes of \$50,000 and greater, compared to 56 percent of the metro Atlanta and 51 percent for the state of Georgia. This proportion has seen a very small increase since 2000, 49.3 percent. Over the time period, the percentage of households with incomes greater than \$100,000 increased by 1.6 percent and the percentage of households with incomes greater than \$200,000 increased by 0.7 percent.

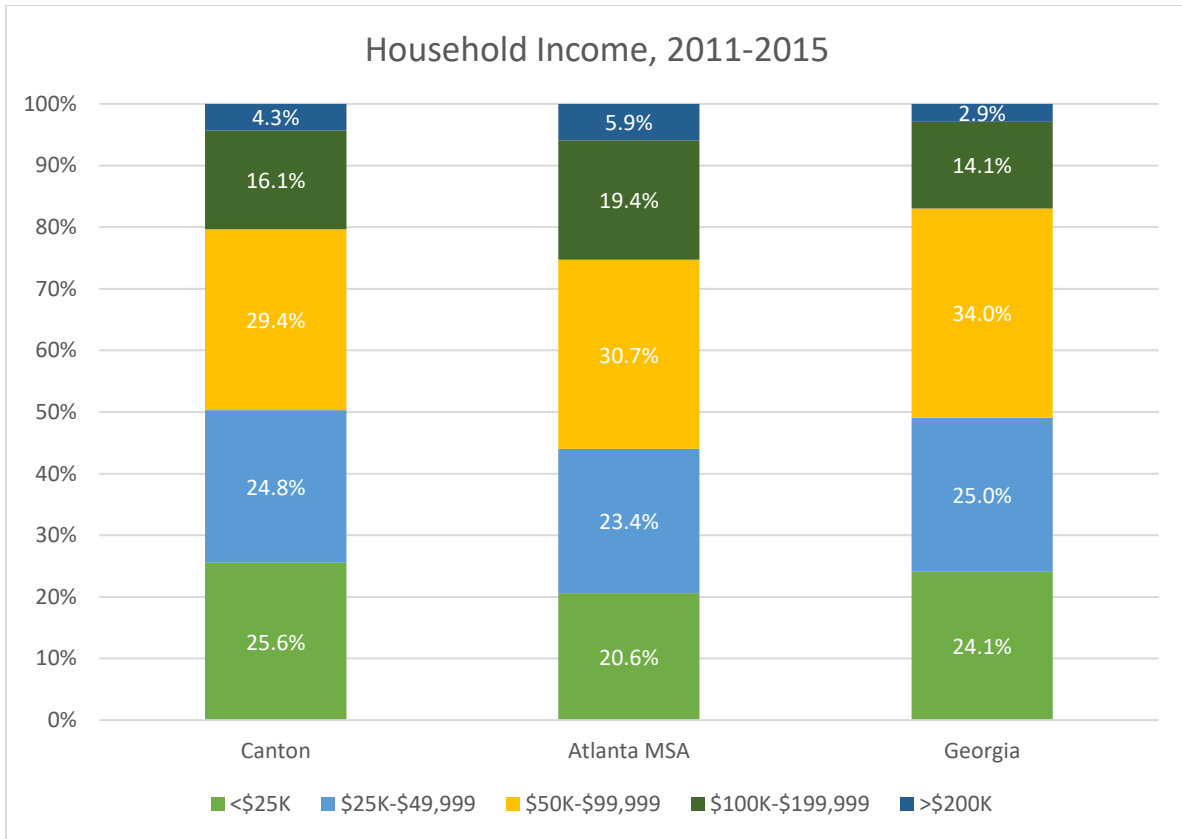


Figure 2-3: Household Income, 2011-2015
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

2.2. Housing

A balanced inventory of housing in terms of unit type, cost, tenure, and style promotes a range of housing options that are necessary to support an economically and socially diverse community. While the current Comprehensive Plan promotes managed growth within Canton, it is not to occur at the expense of the unique quality of life and community character that the City of Canton embodies. It is not the intent to promote exclusivity in housing character, but to support a growing cultural, point in life, and economic diversity, as well as to maintain existing affordable housing stock and foster new lower and moderately priced housing opportunities in selected growth areas.

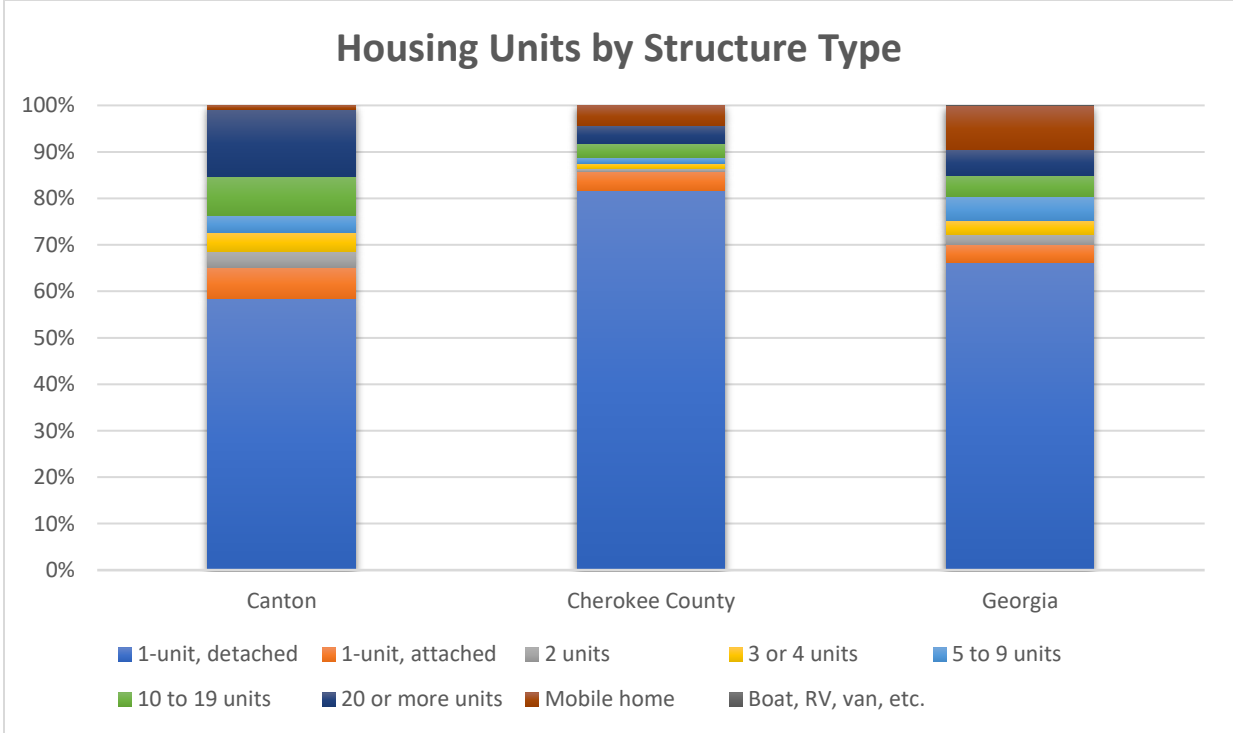


Figure 2-4: Housing Units by Structure Type, 2011-2015
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

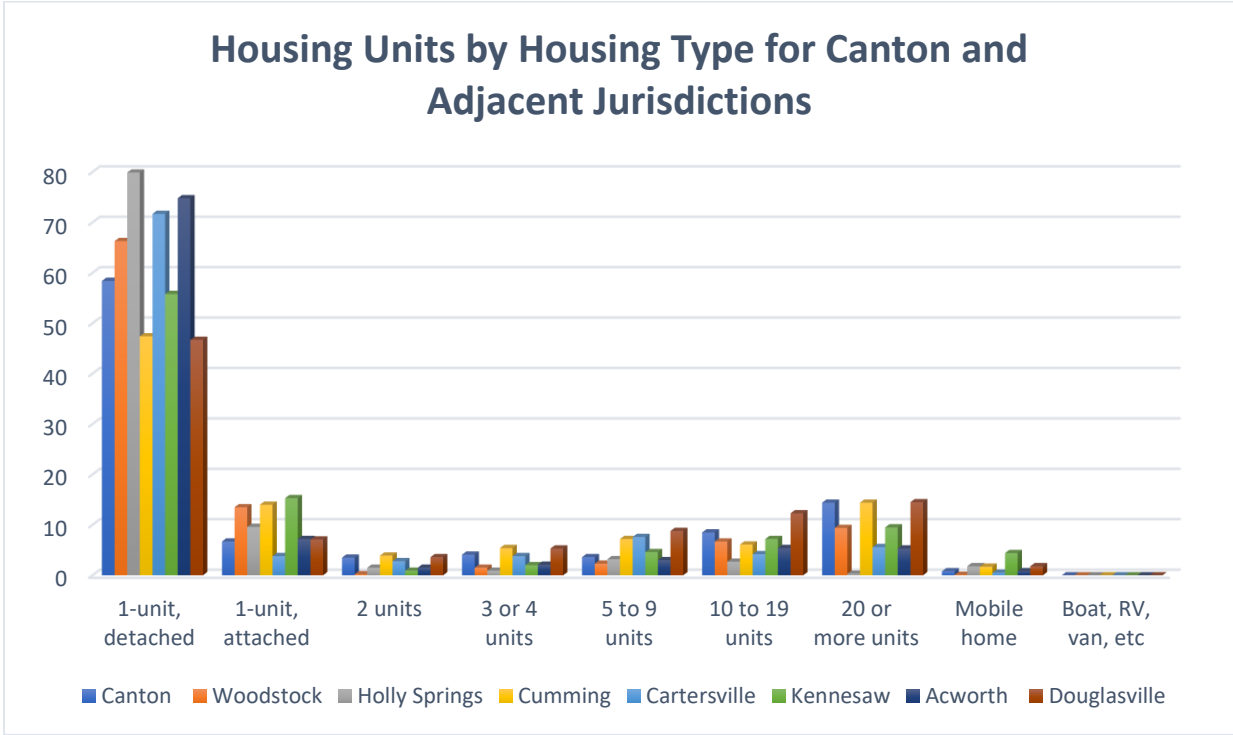


Figure 2-5: Housing Units by Structure Type for Canton and Adjacent Jurisdiction, 2011-2015
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Occupancy

The City has a higher housing vacancy rate (5.6 percent) compared to the County (2.3 percent) and the state of Georgia (2.7 percent), per the 2011-2015 American Community Survey. An estimated 91.9 percent of Canton's occupied housing units are owner-occupied, compared to a 93.5 percent owner-occupancy rate in Cherokee County and 86.5 percent occupancy rate in the state of Georgia.

Age

Majority of the single-family housing stock in Canton was built in the 1990s or later with the most housing units being built between 2000 and 2009 alone, a total of 5,565. A smaller portion of the City's housing stock was constructed between the 1930s and the 1980s, a total of 1,916 housing units.

Cost of Housing

The cost of single-family housing in Canton is median priced: only 15 percent of owner-occupied housing units in the City are valued at \$300,000 or more; this is noticeably lower than average cost in Cherokee County and the state of Georgia. Approximately 30.2 percent of renters in Canton are paying more than 30 percent of household income on housing which is only 0.2 percent higher than recommended by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department.

Canton Housing Authority

Canton Housing Authority is a public agency that provides affordable housing for families, the elderly and those with disabilities. It is governed by a local board, which hires and oversees the operation of three public housing apartment complexes totaling 143 units in Canton. The agency is funded and overseen by the federal U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and is not part of city government.

Maintenance, Enhancement and Rehabilitation Programs

The City does not offer its own housing programs for rehabilitation, maintenance, or enhancement. However, as a member of the Georgia Urban County Consortium (GUCC,) the County receives an annual allocation of HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, which are administered through the Cobb County Community Block Grant Program Division.

The GUCC was formed in 1992 to administer funds received from the Home Investment Partnerships Act (HOME), a formula grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Cobb County serves as the lead agency for the consortium which includes Cobb County, Clayton County, Cherokee County (and its cities) and the City of Marietta. Residents of the county, its cities, developers, and non-profit organizations rely on the assistance programs of the GUCC and the State Department of Community Affairs. Most of the programs offered by the GUCC and State are funded by HUD resources.

The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners voted to redirect its HOME funds to all the cities and residents of the county. HOME funds would continue to be used for the Single-

Family Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation program and would specifically target the elderly population. The program would be administered by the Cherokee County Community Services Agency which serves as a conduit for public service for the residents of Cherokee County, providing programs and services that meet the needs of the residents of Cherokee County.

The Cherokee County Home Repair Program provides 5-year forgivable grants of up to \$25,000 for housing rehabilitation repairs and improvements to qualified homeowners. The program is income-restricted to persons aged 62 and above with 80% or below the MSA median. Funds must be used to fix dangerous health and safety problems around the house as required by current HUD standards. The recipient must agree to live in the home for five years after the repair is made, unless the recipient passes away or is relocated to an assisted care facility. Residents of Canton potentially qualifying for rehabilitation assistance are referred to the County program.

HUD regulations require that 15% of the HOME grant funds be set aside for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) activities.

Job-Housing Balance

Jobs-housing balance is a planning tool that can be used by local governments to determine if there is a healthy ratio of housing and jobs in a community. A good ratio of roughly 1.0 allows 1) for residents to have a choice to work in the same community and 2) for a community's workers to also have a choice to live in that community. The jobs-housing balance can be measured by comparing the number of jobs against the number of households within a community since not all household members work or need to work.

Canton has 9,525 households and has roughly 9,505 jobs. When these numbers are compared there are roughly 1.0 jobs per every household in Canton. It is not a perfect measure, but the number suggests that Canton residents are not well positioned to access jobs within the City and may have to access jobs in the County or the surrounding metro Atlanta area.

A survey of representative apartment complexes in the City reveals a range of rental options at many sizes and price points. Out of surveyed complexes, less than one-fourth of the existing resources offered rental units with income restriction, primarily associated with tax credit financing. There were also several complexes which, although the units were not income restricted, offered units generally within the financial realm of the workforce population.

Based on these limited samples as identified in Table 2-3, and the inventory of apartment complexes there are several rental opportunities within the City. There also appears to be a range of unit sizes, from studios to four-bedrooms, although only one complex inventoried had four-bedroom units.

Table 2-3: Representative Apartment Complexes and Rent in Canton

Complex	#of Units	Bedrooms	Rent Range 2008	Income Limits 2008	Rent Range 2018	Income Limits 2018
Alexander Ridge Apts	272	1, 2, & 3	\$545 - \$775	Yes	\$545 - \$1,145	Yes
Aster Place	351	1, 2, & 3	\$799 - \$1,299	No	Unknown	Unknown
Blue Ridge Hill Apts	73	Studio, 1 & 2	\$384 - \$625	No	\$529 - \$800	No
Brookside Townhomes	12	2	\$800	No	*Does not offer rentals	
Brown Street Apts	29	1 & 2	\$495 - \$580	No	\$600 - \$700	Yes
Canterbury Ridge	212	1, 2, & 3	\$605 - \$805	Yes	\$900 - \$1,350	No
Canton Mill Lofts	315	Studio, 1 & 2	\$515 - \$779	Yes	\$875 - \$1,215	No
Cherokee North Apts	28	1 & 2	\$475 - \$620	No	\$595 - \$800	No
Cottonwood Creek Townhomes	Unknown	2 & 3	\$1,100	No	*Does not offer rentals	No
Eagle Ridge Apts	25	1 & 2	\$450 - \$550	Yes	\$615 - \$750	No
Hearthstone Landing	57	2, 3, & 4	\$366 - \$853	Yes	\$415 - \$1,014	Yes
Heritage at Riverstone	240	1, 2, & 3	\$679 - \$999	No	\$910 - \$1,335	No
Herndon Apts	90	1 & 2	\$450 - \$625	Yes	\$500 - \$800	No
Hickory Knoll	144	1, 2, & 3	\$550 - \$750	Yes	\$900 - \$1,300	No
J & J Apartments	9	2	\$325 - \$625	No	Unknown	Unknown
John Pettit Apts	14	2	\$650 - \$710	No	\$900 - \$1,400	No

Complex	#of Units	Bedrooms	Rent Range 2008	Income Limits 2008	Rent Range 2018	Income Limits 2018
Lake View Apts	40	1 & 2	\$340 - \$610	Yes	\$470 - \$789	Yes
Laurel at Greenwood Apts	174	2 & 3	\$599 - \$615	Yes	\$762 - \$1,250	Yes
Latimer Rental Units	131	2, 3, & 4	\$775 - \$885	No	\$750 - \$1,150	No
Laurel Canyon Apts	344	1, 2, & 3	Unknown	Unknown	\$950 - \$1,600	No
Northwood Apts	52	1, 2, & 3	\$500 - \$780	Yes	\$690 - \$1,300	No
River Ridge at Canton Apts	356	1, 2, & 3	\$599 - \$720	Yes	\$675 - \$965	Yes
Riverstone (Master Plan)	667	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Riverview Apts	138	1, 2, & 3	\$784 - \$1,500	No	\$999 - \$1,885	No
Walden Crossing Apts	N/A	1, 2, & 3	\$650 - \$930	No	\$945 - \$1,375	No

2.3. Economic Development

Located at the northern portion of the Atlanta metropolitan area, Canton provides a quality place to live, work and do business. The City of Canton has established itself as a viable part of the Atlanta metro area while maintaining its heritage and a strong sense of community. As Canton moves forward in the beginning of a new century, the heritage of the City is clearly reflected in the progress now taking place.

With a broad selection of shopping, dining and entertainment opportunities, Canton attracts consumers from all over north Georgia in addition to residents. New commercial development at the Interstate 575 interchanges has positioned Canton as a regional trade and employment center. The historic core of the City has welcomed new specialty retail shops and businesses that complement the existing downtown government activity.

The existing business community is embracing the activity generated by new developments, which continues to grow throughout the City bringing new businesses and jobs into Canton. These people are working side by side with long-established businesses that are reinvesting in the City through renovation and restoration of existing properties, particularly in the downtown area. Pride in the City is clearly reflected as newcomers and long-time residents alike invest in the growth and development of the City.

Local Labor Force Characteristics

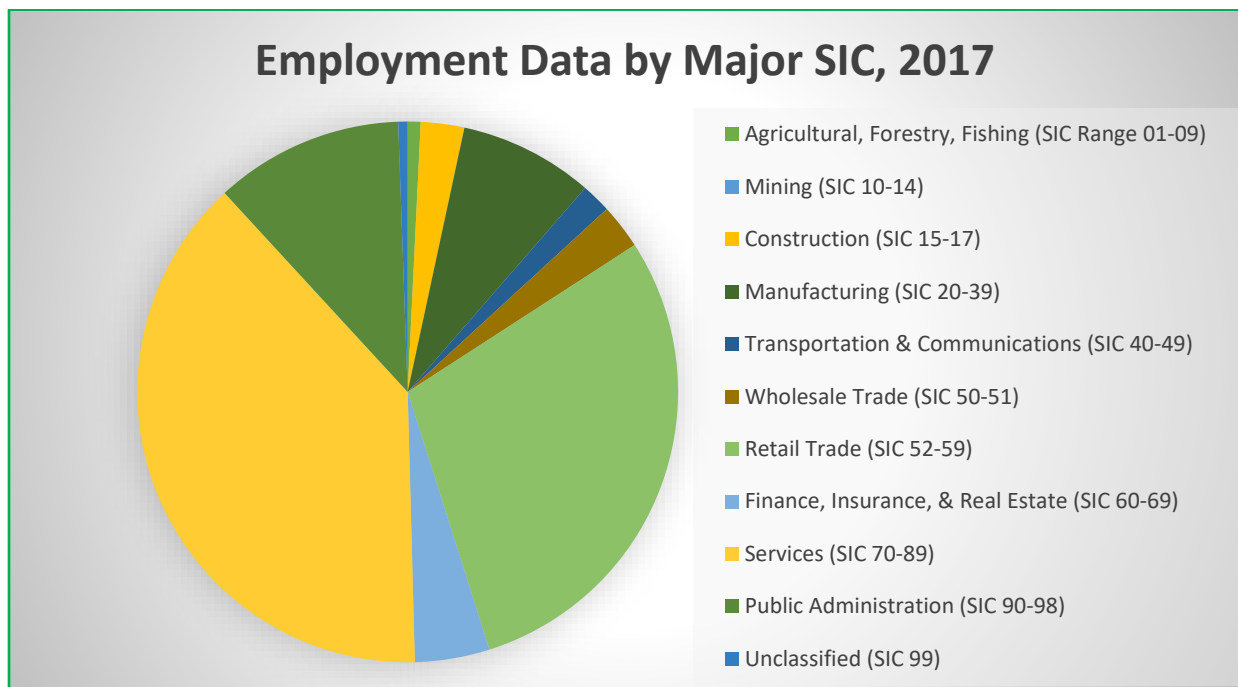


Figure 2-6: Employment Data by Major SIC, 2017
Source: Cherokee Office of Economic Development

Residents are employed in a variety of sectors, with the majority of the residents employed in one of five business sectors:

1. Services (38.59 percent)
2. Retail Trade (29.25 percent)
3. Public Administration (11.28 percent)
4. Manufacturing (8.03 percent)
5. Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (4.47 percent)

The residential labor pool is educated, comparable to the Metro Atlanta region and the state. Residents with at least a bachelor's degree (over the age of 25):

- Canton – 18.3 percent
- Metro Atlanta Region – 22.9 percent
- Georgia – 18.1 percent

Organizations and Tools Available to the City

The City's economic development strategy is to build on existing environmental, human and technology resources. Emphasis is on corporate, professional, and technical job creation, in conjunction with the redevelopment of the CBD to a central activity core.

Canton Economic Development

The City of Canton's Economic Development function seeks to improve and expand the economic base of the City through the retention and expansion of existing businesses and attraction of new businesses and investment. The City aims to utilize all available services, resources, and tools to ensure that Canton remains a favorable and vibrant city for businesses and residents.

To accomplish this mission, the City of Canton assist with site selection, due diligence, tax incentives, permit assistance, financing, and other programs that assists small, mid-sized, and large businesses.

Economic Development Partners & Resources



Matthew Thomas, Former Economic Development Manager, Rebecca Johnston, DDA Chair; Zach Kell, Board Member; networking at Canton's Downtown Developers Day.

Economic development does not happen in a vacuum and therefore requires, partnerships and collaboration to ensure success.

In addition to working with the Canton Downtown Development Authority (DDA), the Canton Development Authority, and the Canton Housing Authority. The office also works with partners such as:

- The Cherokee Office of Economic Development
- The Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce
- The Canton Main Street Program
- Canton Tourism, Inc.
- The Cherokee County School District
- Reinhardt University
- Chattahoochee Technical College
- Georgia Power
- The Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce
- The Georgia Department of Economic Development
- Atlanta Regional Commission
- The Georgia Department of Community Affairs
- Georgia Economic Developers Association

Canton's economic base is rooted in the healthcare and public sectors. As of recent, the economic impact of commercial businesses has supported larger numbers of jobs, due to the City's growing population. Industrial firms and blue-collar jobs also abound within the City.

Largest Employers:

- Northside Hospital-Cherokee- 1,682
- Cherokee Co. Board of Commissioners- 1,595
- Cherokee Co. School District-899
- Publix (3 Locations)- 315
- Walmart Associates, Inc.- 269
- Universal Alloy Corp.- 269
- Piolax Corp.- 226
- Target- 172
- Lowe's- 129
- Playnation Play Systems- 85
- Morrison Products- 75



Matthew Thomas, Former Economic Development Manager, providing on the economic development's efforts to bring new businesses to the City and retain local businesses to the stakeholders committee.

2.4. Natural Resources

The City of Canton's natural environment is one of its greatest assets. Situated on the banks of the Etowah River and at the base of the mountains of North Georgia, Canton is home to beautiful landscapes which provide its citizens and others with an enjoyable and healthy community. Because its natural resources are such an important asset to the community, it is important that the community strive to protect them.

Water Supply Watersheds

The Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Chapter, 391-3-16-.01, Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria for Water Supply Watersheds are aimed at the protection of public water resources. Because of the importance of water supply watersheds for the health and well-being of the community, it is imperative that the City ensures the health of this resource according to the rules.

There is a public water supply intake point on the Etowah River within the City of Canton. Because this watershed is larger than 100 square miles, minimum criteria for large water supply watersheds must be met. The criteria for large water supply watersheds require that all tributaries within a seven-mile radius of the intake point maintain each of the following: a one-hundred-foot buffer along streambeds, no impervious surfaces constructed within 150 feet from streambeds, and prohibition of septic tanks or septic fields within 150 feet of streambeds. Any facilities which handle hazardous materials within the seven-mile radius must have in place safeguards for the prevention of spills as detailed within the Rules for Environmental Planning.

Hickory Log Creek Reservoir

The City of Canton and the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) formed their partnership in the year 2000 to meet the long-term water supply needs of the region. The Hickory Log Creek Reservoir supplements the City of Canton's existing raw water supply, the Etowah River, and the CCMWA's numerous wholesale customers via Lake Allatoona. All costs of the project are split between the City and CCMWA 25 percent and 75 percent, respectively.

Currently, the City of Canton serves approximately 8,800 customers and CCMWA, which is a regional wholesale water purveyor provides water 830,000 people in five counties. Hickory Log Creek Reservoir will help the City of Canton continue to meet its water supply needs through 2040.

Construction of the Reservoir and Dam began in 2005 and was completed in 2008. Full pool was attained in April 2011. Completion of the reservoir and dam assures the citizens of Canton and CCMWA customers reliable high quality and affordable wholesale drinking water for many years into the future.

Hickory Log Creek Reservoir is a pumped storage, steam augmentation reservoir. Water is released from the Reservoir during low flow conditions in the Etowah River to make up for the withdrawals by the City's water treatment plant on the Etowah River near Heritage Park. The Reservoir got its first use during the fall of 2016 when the water supply releases had to be made to supplement the low flows in the Etowah River. During the periods of higher flows in the Etowah River, the Reservoir can be filled by pumping water from the river back into the reservoir to maintain as much storage as possible.

Raw Water Supply

The Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Chapter, 391-3-16-.01, Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria for Water Supply Watersheds are aimed at the protection of public water resources. Because of the

importance of water supply watersheds for the health and well-being of the community, it is imperative that the City ensures the health of this resource according to the rules.

Currently, all raw water is withdrawn from the Etowah River in a run-of-the-river type intake without storage. The City is permitted to withdraw 18.7-mgd (monthly average) and 23.0-mgd (maximum day) from the Etowah River. However, the plant is only permitted to produce 5.45-mgd. The higher withdrawal rate is based on the City's ability to release water from the Hickory Log Creek Reservoir to supplement flow in the Etowah River. Water production at the plant is based on limitations of the treatment process and equipment. Most recently (2015 through 2017), the average water production discharged to the system ranged between 2.5-mgd and 4.0-mgd with a maximum month of 3.4-mgd and a maximum single-day of 4.2-mgd.

In 2000, the City partnered with the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) and initiated the Hickory Log Creek Reservoir and Dam Project to provide an additional source of water for the area. The dam spans nearly 1,000-ft across Hickory Log Creek and is 180 feet high, making it one of the largest dams in the state not built by the Corps of Engineers or Georgia Power. At full pool elevation (1,060-ft MSL) the reservoir covers 411 acres and has a capacity of nearly 6 billion gallons of water. This reservoir will supplement the City's existing raw water supply from the Etowah River and will allow the City to meet projected water demands through 2040.

As part of the project, an intake and pump station were constructed on the Etowah River, near the I-575 Overpass, along with 1.5 miles of pipeline to transport raw water between the river and the reservoir. The City is permitted to withdraw up to 39-mgd from the Etowah River for filling the Hickory Log Creek Reservoir.

Wetlands

Wetlands are another critical aspect of the City's ecosystems. These areas include open water (ponds, lakes, reservoirs, etc.), non-forested emergent wetlands (freshwater marshes), scrub/shrub wetlands (non-forested areas dominated by vegetation averaging less than twenty feet in height), forested wetlands (natural or planted), and altered wetlands.

According to the Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Chapter, 391-3-16-.03, Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria for Wetlands Protection, the City should identify a minimum size for the designation of wetlands, though this minimum cannot exceed five (5) acres. All wetlands meeting or exceeding this minimum threshold should be identified and mapped to protect these critical ecosystems.

There are eighteen areas of wetlands in Canton totaling approximately 28 acres, most of them adjacent to the Etowah River or its tributaries. The City should take measures to protect these areas.

Groundwater Recharge Areas

According to the Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Chapter, 391-3-16-.02, Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria for Groundwater Recharge Areas, the City of Canton must protect its groundwater recharge areas. Groundwater recharge areas in Canton are located primarily south of Bells Ferry Road and Univeter Road in the southern extremes of the City. These are areas in which groundwater is captured in underground aquifers which can be tapped into for public consumption. Because most of the groundwater aquifers in Cherokee County have a low storage capacity, the bulk of the public water supply must be captured from areas with surface water, such as surface streams, rivers, reservoirs, or lakes. Because they are a source of drinking water for the public and are limited within the City, precautions should be taken to protect groundwater recharge areas.

Protected Rivers

According to the Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Chapter, 391-3-16-.04, Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria for River Corridor Protection, a “protected river” means any perennial river or watercourse with an average annual flow of at least 400 cubic feet per second as determined by U.S. Geological Survey documents.”

Under this legislation, local governments are required to develop River Corridor Protection Plans to delimit permissible uses along protected rivers or river corridors and provide safeguards for the protection of the river, including a natural vegetative buffer of at least one hundred feet on each side of the river. The Etowah River, which flows through Canton, qualifies as a protected river according to the Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria.

Etowah River Corridor

The Etowah River is a major resource to the City of Canton and the region as a whole because of its importance as a source of public water as well as the recreational and aesthetic benefits to the community. Because Canton has limited groundwater recharge areas, the city must rely on surface water to fulfill its demands. The Etowah River flows into the Lake Allatoona Reservoir, which is a major water source for both Cherokee County and the Atlanta Region. Cherokee County has adopted a Stream Buffer Protection which provides for a 150-foot buffer along the Etowah River to ensure it is maintained as a clean water source for residents and habitat for wildlife.

The City of Canton values the Etowah River as one of its chief resources and has set aside land along the corridor for conservation and passive recreation purposes. The City hopes to expand these lands as it develops the Emerald Trail, a network of trails following the natural land adjacent to the Etowah River and its tributaries.

Protected Mountains

According to the Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division Chapter, 391-3-16-.05, Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria for Mountain Protection, there are no protected mountains within the City of Canton.

Consideration of Regional Water Plan

The City of Canton lies within the area of Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District. The District updated their Water Resource Management Plan in 2017.

The District includes 15 counties (Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale) as well as 93 municipalities partially or fully within these counties. The District also has seven authorities that currently provide water, wastewater and/or stormwater services. The District's plans and policies work to protect water resources in the Chattahoochee, Coosa/Etowah, Flint, Ocmulgee, Oconee, and Tallapoosa River Basins.

The plan update process was driven by the District's policy goals which were initially developed and adopted in 2002 and refined for the plan update process based on input from the stakeholders. The following policy goals guides decision making for the District and help ensure consistency of purpose for the plan:

- *Protect water quality and public water supplies*
- *Support conservation and/or demand management*
- *Support economic growth and development*
- *Equitably distribute benefits and costs*
- *Promote public education and awareness*
- *Facilitate implementation*
- *Improve resiliency*

In addition to the policy goals, a key area of focus in the Plan Update process was the integration of the water, wastewater, and watershed management plans in this update. An integrated planning approach was adopted to support consideration of the inter-relationships among management strategies and their impacts.

While the policy goals and the focus on integration drove decision making overall, more specific principles helped to guide the design and selection of Action Items. Some of these planning principles apply broadly, while others are specific to sections of the Plan, as noted below:

- **Maximize the use of existing sources and facilities:** Water supply sources and water and wastewater treatment facilities are major investments for local jurisdictions. Using existing sources and facilities is cost-effective and generally has the least adverse environmental impact.
- **Increase water conservation and efficiency:** The need for additional future water supply and treatment capacity can be reduced by increasing efficiency and reducing waste and loss. Demand management and supply efficiency are often more cost-effective than developing new water supplies.
- **Best Practices for non-potable reuse:** The District discourages non-potable reuse when its application increases net water use. However, the District recognizes a number of best practices for non-potable reuse that can help extend the life of water supplies.

- **Consider return flows:** Local wastewater providers should consider the need for returns of highly treated wastewater to local water bodies within the basin of origin as well as opportunities to enhance available water supplies through indirect potable reuse and the generation of “made inflows” to federal reservoirs (see box at right). GAEPD’s planning guidance for this Plan further states that returning highly treated wastewater to Lake Lanier and Allatoona Lake (and their watersheds) and to the Upper Flint River Basin shall be encouraged, where feasible, to support long-term sustainable water use from these basins.
- **Make appropriate use of reclaimed water:** The use of highly treated wastewater for indirect potable reuse and non-potable reuse plays an important role in sustaining the District’s potable water supplies. Maximizing return flows to local water supply sources is encouraged when feasible. This Plan has a strong focus on indirect potable reuse returns to the river basins and lakes that provide the District's water supplies.
- **Continue to protect water quality:** Water quality protection is essential to ensuring the quality and availability of existing and future drinking water supplies, in-stream aquatic health, recreational opportunities, and availability of wastewater assimilative capacity.
- **Support adoption of advanced treatment technologies:** New technologies will advance our abilities to augment water supplies, ensure safe drinking water and reduce pollutant loadings to our waterbodies.
- **Promote maintenance of decentralized wastewater systems:** Recognizing the need to promote return flows and reuse, land application systems (LASs) can offer a viable wastewater treatment method in certain local jurisdictions in the District. Septic systems are also viable wastewater treatment methods across the District. In both instances, however, long-term maintenance of these facilities must be adequate to ensure the protection of water quality.
- **Reduce wastewater treatment facility influent variability:** Dramatic changes in wastewater influent can cause difficulties for treatment facilities, especially smaller facilities. Practices that reduce variabilities, such as pre-treatment, septage disposal planning and fats, rags, oils, and grease control programs help to protect wastewater treatment facility operations and water quality.
- **Enhance reliability of wastewater pumping stations:** Consistent and uninterrupted performance of wastewater pumping stations is critical to protecting water quality. Appropriate measures should be taken to ensure reliability and redundancy, to avoid and minimize overflows and discharges of untreated and partially treated wastewater.
- **Promote green infrastructure approaches:** Green infrastructure approaches use networks of vegetated, open lands and engineered structures to promote infiltration of rainfall and runoff. The benefits of a green infrastructure approach can include water quality, air quality, flood risk reduction, property value improvement,

economic growth, public health, recreation, community revitalization, quality of life, urban heat island reduction and urban agriculture opportunities.

- **Ensure consistency with existing regulatory programs:** To facilitate implementation, the Action Items should be designed to promote consistency of this Plan with the requirements of existing regulatory programs.

Other Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Steep Slopes

Areas with a grade of 25 percent or greater are classified as significant steep slopes because of the threat of erosion and difficulty of development. Runoff from hazardous materials or waste is more likely in areas of steep slopes, leading to contamination concerns in addition to any erosion issues which may already be at hand. Because of these issues and others, it is important to give special consideration to areas with significantly steep topography and protect them to keep erosion and runoff problems to a minimum and protect these unique habitats.

Coastal Resources

There are no coastlines within the City of Canton.

Floodplains

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the National Flood Insurance Program and classifies floodplains based on 100- and 500-year flood classifications. The designation of floodplains is intended to minimize public and private loss due to flooding within these designated areas by developing regulations as to the types of uses which are permitted within them. While 100-year floodplains are unsuitable for most types of development, uses such as recreational uses are often appropriate. Because the Etowah River flows directly through Canton, there is a great deal of floodplain land within the City, primarily adjacent to the river and its tributaries.

Soils

According to the U.S. Natural Resources Service, Cherokee County has ten major soil associations. Soil associations are a landscape of distinctive proportional patterns of soils and normally contains one or more major soils and at least one minor soil. The ten soil associations are described below:

- *Chewacla-Cartecay-Toccoa association* – Somewhat poorly drained to well-drained, nearly level soils that formed in alluvium
- *Wickham-Masada-Hiawassee association* – Well-drained soils that have a yellowish-brown to dusky red, loamy and clayey subsoil; on terraces
- *Hayesville-Madison association* - Well-drained soils that have a yellowish-red and red, clayey, and loamy subsoil; on narrow ridgetops of uplands
- *Gwinnett-Hayesville-Madison association* – Well-drained soils that have mainly a dark-red to red clay and clay loam subsoil; on fairly broad interstream divides

- *Hayesville-Gwinnett-Musella association* – Chiefly moderately steep soils that have a dark-red to red clayey and loamy subsoil; on uplands
- *Tallapoosa-Madison-Hayesville association* – Chiefly steep to very steep, soils that have a yellowish-red to red, loamy, and clayey subsoil; on upland hillsides
- *Talladega-Tallapoosa association* – Chiefly steep and very steep, shallow, channery and cobbly soils that have a yellowish-red, loamy subsoil; on hills and low mountains
- *Dekalb association* – Chiefly steep, stony, and flaggy soils that have a yellowish-brown and reddish-yellow, loamy subsoil; on Pine Log and Henderson Mountains
- *Asheville-Edneyville-Tusquitee association* – Mainly steep, stony soils that have a yellowish-brown to dark yellowish-brown, loamy subsoil; on mountain ridgetops, in cove, and at the base of slopes
- *Hayesville-Madison association* – Mostly steep soils that have a yellowish-red and red clay and clay loam subsoil; on narrow ridgetops and irregular hillsides.

Each association has its own characteristics which in turn affect an area’s potential for development. Soil limitation determinations are defined by the Conservation Service as follows:

- Slight Limitations – Soil properties are generally favorable for the rated use: i.e., limitations are minor and easily overcome or modified by specialized planning and/or design.
- Moderate Limitations – Soil properties are such that they should be recognized, but limitations are such that they can be overcome or corrected by practical means.
- Severe Limitations – Soil properties are so unfavorable and so difficult to correct or overcome major soil reclamations, special design, and/or intensive maintenance are required.

Plant and Animal Habitats

Plant and animal habitats include areas that support rare and/or endangered plants and animals. Protected species are species of plants and animal life that the Georgia Department of Natural Resources designated and made subject to the “Wildlife Preservation Act” and the “Endangered Species Act.”

Significant Natural Resources

Scenic Areas

Canton’s dynamic topography lends itself to many scenic views which are important assets to the community because of their aesthetic qualities. Scenic views are spread throughout the City but are especially abundant in the more mountainous northern and eastern areas of Canton. These areas can be seen on the Areas Requiring Special Attention map in Volume 1, Section 3.

Agricultural Land

There is no remaining agricultural land in the City of Canton.

Forest Land

Trees and forests are important to the City of Canton within its urban and natural areas. In urban areas, trees provide shade for sidewalks, parking lots, parks, and other areas as well as improving air quality and appearance. A healthy stock of trees will improve the environment within a City greatly, so it is imperative that Canton maintains the stock of trees it has within its borders. These benefits, plus improved soil quality, erosion mitigation, and other effects are tangible benefits to the City.

In natural areas, the conservation of forests will provide habitats for other plants and wildlife and serve to diminish the negative impacts of adjacent urban areas on the overall health of the City. Forested areas can serve as areas for recreation for residents, a source of income if carefully-managed tree harvesting is appropriate and environmental assets. Canton must ensure that, as vacant land area decreases, there are safeguards in place to preserve forested lands.

Conservation Areas

- *Etowah River*

The City launched the Etowah River Greenway, a \$25 million project headed by Jordan, Jones, & Goulding and aimed at creating an environmentally-friendly area for recreation incorporating the Etowah River as a more integral part of city life in 2001. This project was in line with Cherokee County's efforts to develop an interconnected network of trails and green spaces based on the former Governor's Greenspace Program. The proposed trails along Etowah River today are estimated to cost \$26.5 million.

- *Etowah Basin Habitat Conservation Plan*

The Etowah Basin Habitat Conservation Plan was put in place to ensure the continuing health of species within the Etowah River Basin which warranted protection under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The Act serves as a means for listing and protecting species which are threatened or critically endangered through the development of a Habitat Conservation Plan, which is a study of the critical habitat of the species. Many environmental groups, local governments, and other agencies and entities coordinated efforts to develop this plan, which seeks to protect the endangered darter fish within the Etowah River Basin.

2.5. Historic and Cultural Resources

Canton lies in territory that was occupied by the Cherokee nation until the 19th century. When the land was handed over to the federal government in 1802, little was done to remove the Cherokee from the area, but when gold was discovered near Dahlonega in 1829, prospectors with gold fever could not deny the urge to seek a fortune in the area despite its reputation as "Indian Country". With the influx of settlers, the Cherokee were pushed to the west, where most tribes had been forced to move in recent decades.

Historic and Cultural Landmarks

Table 2-4: Properties on National Register of Historic Places in Canton

Name	Location	Date Listed	Other Listings
Canton Cotton Mills No. 2	200 Ball Ground Highway (Old) 550 Riverstone Parkway (Current)	4/1/2002	
Canton Historic District	Roughly centered on Main Street between Etowah River and Jeanette Street		
Cherokee County Courthouse	100 North Street	5/28/1981	Georgia County Courthouses TR
Canton Commercial Historic District	Roughly bounded by Main, Church, and Marietta Streets	1/12/1984	
Crescent Farm	658 & 687 Marietta Highway	11/27/1989	
Canton Wholesale Company Building	109 Railroad Street	11/13/1997	

Source: National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service

Table 2-5: Properties on Cherokee County Historical Society Database in Canton

Name	Location	Date of Construction
Canton High School	110 Academy Street	1914
Grammar School Building	115 Academy Street	1914
Coker Hospital (Bryan Center)	150 Hospital Circle	1934
First Baptist Church (Old Canton City Hall)	151 Elizabeth Street	1925
Edgar M. McCanless House	1030 & 1070 East Main Street	1929
Grisham-Galt House	390 East Marietta Street	Ca. 1838
Don & Sharon Stafford House	1210 East Main Street	1938
Odian W. Putnam House	260 East Marietta Street	Ca. 1880s

Source: Cherokee County Historical Society

Cherokee County Historical Society

The non-profit Cherokee County Historical Society was formed in 1975 with the goal of protecting and creating awareness of Cherokee County's historical and cultural landmarks. According to the society's website, its membership is currently over 500. The society maintains a list of historical sites within Cherokee County, including the City of Canton.

Archaeological Landmarks and Sites Identified by the Georgia DNR

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources maintains data regarding known archaeological sites throughout the state. The University of Georgia keeps information on these sites in the Georgia Archaeological Site File. According to Cherokee County, there are over one thousand archaeological sites within Cherokee County, many of which are within the City of Canton. Specific information on a site by site basis can be requested from the University of Georgia with permission from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

2.6. Community Facilities and Services

The efficient and rational provision of certain public services is the responsibility of the elected government of the City. While some services, such as wastewater treatment, may be privatized in some cases, others cannot, such as police or fire protection. In this section the services provided by the City to its residents will be examined, with a focus on the facilities and personnel required to provide these services. Three areas where public services are provided by an entity other than the City—libraries, education, and fire protection—are also included in this section to provide a full picture of the services available to Canton residents.

General Government

The City of Canton administers government-provided services through an elected body made up of the Mayor and six City Council members. All seven elected positions have a four-year term. The City is divided into three wards, with two City Council members elected from each ward.

The administration of the City is directed by the Council and conducted by the City Manager, City Clerk, and Administrative Assistants. The City Manager, appointed by the City Council, manages the day-to-day operations of the various city departments, including public safety, finance, public works, parks, and water & sewer. The City Manager's office is located at City Hall; several city departments have their administrative offices at other locations.

Water

The City of Canton utilizes surface water from the Etowah River as its sole source of supply. Water is treated at the Canton Water Treatment Plant located at 150 Bobby E. Bishop Drive and water is distributed to the system with high service pumps located at the plant. The City has interconnections with the Cherokee County Water and Sewerage Authority (CCWSA) and the City of Waleska, from which it can either purchase or sell drinking water.

The City of Canton expects Water and Wastewater Master Plans to be completed during the fourth quarter of 2018. The plans include population and flow projects, hydraulic modeling, and development of capital improvement projects.

Raw Water Supply

Currently, all raw water is withdrawn from the Etowah River in a run-of-the-river type intake without storage. The City is permitted to withdraw 18.7-mgd (monthly average) and 23.0-mgd (maximum day) from the Etowah River. However, the plant is only permitted to produce

5.45-mgd. The higher withdrawal rate is based on the City's ability to release water from the Hickory Log Creek Reservoir to supplement flow in the Etowah River. Water production at the plant is based on limitations of the treatment process and equipment. Most recently (2015 through 2017), the average water production discharged to the system ranged between 2.5-mgd and 4.0-mgd with a maximum month of 3.4-mgd and a maximum single-day of 4.2-mgd.

In 2000, the City partnered with the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) and initiated the Hickory Log Creek Reservoir and Dam Project to provide an additional source of water for the area. The dam spans nearly 1,000-ft across Hickory Log Creek and is 180 feet high, making it one of the largest dams in the state not built by the Corps of Engineers or Georgia Power. At full pool elevation (1,060-ft MSL) the reservoir covers 411 acres and has a capacity of nearly 6 billion gallons of water. This reservoir will supplement the City's existing raw water supply from the Etowah River and will allow the City to meet projected water demands through 2040.

As part of the project, an intake and pump station were constructed on the Etowah River, near the I-575 Overpass, along with 1.5 miles of pipeline to transport raw water between the river and the reservoir. The City is permitted to withdraw up to 39-mgd from the Etowah River for filling the Hickory Log Creek Reservoir.

Water Treatment

The Canton Water Treatment Plant was originally constructed in the 1920s with most of the plant built in the mid-1950s. The most recent upgrades were completed in the mid-1990s. Raw water withdrawn from the Etowah River and is treated and filtered to remove several contaminants, chlorinated to disinfect against viruses and pathogens, fluoride is added to enhance dental protection, and polyphosphate is added to reduce internal pipe scaling and corrosion. Finished water is distributed to the system with a high service pumping facility located at the plant.

Since the existing water treatment plant site does not have any available land for expansion and most of the plant is over 70 years old, the City is currently evaluating potential sites for a new water treatment plant.



Canton Water Treatment Plant

Storage and Distribution

The City provides water service to approximately 8,500 residential, commercial, and industrial customers in the City of Canton and Cherokee County. The water distribution system utilizes three pressure zones and covers approximately 28 square miles. It consists of a 0.5-MG clearwell and high service pumps at the plant, two (2) elevated storage tanks, three (3) ground storage tanks totaling 3.5 MG of system storage, six (6) booster pump stations, and approximately 145 miles of service lines that range in size from 4" to 20" in diameter.

Wastewater

The City of Canton's wastewater system currently serves approximately 6,300 retail customers and two wholesale customers. Canton owns and operates one wastewater treatment facility, which is currently permitted to discharge 4.0 million gallons per day (MGD) to the Etowah River and 0.5-mgd of Urban Re-Use water to the Fairways of Canton Golf Course for irrigation. In 2017, the average flow through the plant was 2.92-mgd with a maximum daily flow of 3.89-mgd.

The City of Canton expects Water and Wastewater Master Plans to be completed during the fourth quarter of 2018. The plans include population and flow projects, hydraulic modeling, and development of capital improvement projects.

In April, 2017, the City received a Waste Load Allocation from EPD to increase its discharge limit to 8.0-mgd. A Design Development Report to expand the plant to 8.0-mgd has been completed and a review engineering proposal is ongoing to select the firm to design the plant expansion.

Wastewater Treatment

The City of Canton's wastewater plant is located at 1078 Marietta Highway, behind Cherokee High School, was constructed in the 1960's with expansions and modifications occurring in the 1990's and mid 2000's. Recent improvements to the plant were completed in 2017 which included a new headworks facility, a new SBR basin, filter improvements, and new chemical feed systems. Treated effluent is discharged under the current NPDES permit number GA0025674 and the following table summarizes the allowable discharge limits within the permit.



Canton Wastewater Treatment Plant

Table 2-6: Canton WRF Current NPDES Permit Parameters

Discharge to Etowah River		
Parameter	Monthly Average	Weekly Average
Flow, MGD	4.0	5.0
Biochemical Oxygen Demand, mg/L	14	21
Suspended Solids, mg/L	20	30
Ammonia (as N), mg/L	8.2	12.3
Total Phosphorus, mg/L	0.23	0.35
Fecal Coliform, per 100 mL	200	400
Total Recoverable Chlorine, mg/L	0.46	0.46
pH shall not be less than 6.0, nor greater than 9.0. Effluent Dissolved Oxygen shall not be than 5.0 mg/L.		
<i>MGD – Million Gallons per Day</i> <i>Mg/L – milligrams per liter</i>		

Collection and Conveyance

The City’s collection and conveyance system is comprised of approximately 110 miles of sewer lines ranging in size from 8-inches to 30-inches in diameter, 26 miles of force main including 10 miles of low-pressure sewers, and 33 lift stations. All flow to the plant is pumped through three main stations (Harmon Field LS, Culwell LS, and River Green No. 8) pump the flow to the treatment plant.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater management in the City of Canton is provided by the Public Works Department, headquartered at 2525 Ridge Road. At present, stormwater is handled through a combination of required on-site detention and/or retention facilities that serve individual developments, as well as drainage swales and pipes maintained by the Department.

Solid Waste Management

Solid waste management in the City of Canton is provided by the Waste Management Company, through a contract with the City. Curbside trash pickup is available by fee throughout the City, and backdoor pickup is available at a higher fee. Through the agreement with Waste Management, customers may recycle newspapers, magazines, tin cans, aluminum cans, plastic soda bottles, and milk jugs. Telephone books, cardboard, glass, batteries, paper, metals, and motor oil can be recycled at the Cherokee County Recycling Center (CCRC),

located at 470 Blalock Road in Canton. Cans, paper, plastic, and glass products can be recycled without the need to separate the recyclables. The CCRC also has several drop-off locations in the City, including the North Canton fire station on State Route 140.

The City participates in the Cherokee County Waste Management Plan, which will be updated in concert with this Comprehensive Plan Update.

Police and Public Safety



Canton Police Department

Primary law enforcement is provided in the City of Canton by the City Police Department. The Department also participates in a mutual aid agreement with the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office to provide back-up and investigatory services to the City. The County provides incarceration at the county jail. Located in a 9,964 square-foot headquarters facility at 221 East Marietta Street, the Department employs 53 total personnel. Effective January 1, 2018, Canton Police Department will relocate to 151 Elizabeth Street; a 25,500 square-foot headquarters facility. A breakdown of these employees is shown in Table 2-7.

Table 2-7: Police Department Personnel

Position	No.
Chief	1
Deputy Chief	1
Lieutenant (uniform division)	2
Uniformed Patrolmen	34
Training Officer	1
Community Relations/Public Information Officer	1
Certification Officer	1
Officer of Professional Standards	1
Lieutenant (detectives)	1
Captain (detectives)	1
Sergeant (detectives)	1
Detectives	4
Administrative Assistants	2
Records Clerks	2

Fire Protection

The City of Canton Fire Department consolidated with Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services and is under contract to provide fire suppression, emergency medical services (EMS), hazardous material response, and technical rescues to the City. Cherokee County operates out of 23 stations and four additional stations, staffed by volunteer response only. Of those stations, four are first due stations that are responsible for providing coverage and an additional four stations within the County are second due stations providing coverage in the City. The ISO rating of the County is a three, with a response time average of six minutes, two seconds.

Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services is headquartered at the Cherokee County Public Safety Building located at 150 Chattin Drive. The Department employs a Fire Chief, Assistant Fire/Training Chief, Field Operations Chief, Support Services Chief, Community Risk Reduction Chief, and 329 certified firefighters assigned to field operations. The Department operates 38 engines, 22 squads (ambulances), four aerial ladder trucks, six rescues, six tenders, one utility, one technical rescue, three Hazmat units (to include five Hazmat trailers: Hazmat trailer, special operations, decontamination trailer, foam trailer, back-up Hazmat trailer), one dive operations truck, two rescue/dive boats, six logistics vehicles, and 39 Chief Officer/administrative. vehicles

Library

Library services are provided most directly to the City of Canton through the R. T. Jones Memorial Library, located at 116 Brown Industrial Parkway. This library is not owned or operated by the City but is, in fact, one of six public libraries operated by the Cherokee County Library System, itself a part of the Sequoyah Regional Library System. The City makes a financial contribution towards the operation of the library.

Sequoyah Regional Library System connects community members of all ages with free access to a world of information, instills a love of reading, supports lifelong learning, fuels curiosity and discovery, and inspires innovation through convenient, purposeful, and engaging educational experiences. The library provides public spaces and opportunities to explore, learn, create, and collaborate. Their vision is to serve as the hub of education and collaboration in our community.

Canton residents have access to all the libraries in the county system, which are:

Table 2-8: County Libraries

Facility	Location	Square Footage	Total Materials	Circulation
R.T. Jones Library	116 Brown Industrial Parkway	31, 100	74,007	228,676
Ball Ground Library	435 Old Canton Road	9,000	32,663	38,872
Woodstock Library	7735 Main Street	22,000	54,584	247,779
Hickory Flat Library	2740 East Cherokee Drive	10,000	39,493	138,576
Rose Creek Library	4476 Towne Lake Parkway	10,000	38,202	144,597
Cherokee County Law Library	90 North Street	1,848	1,503	N/A

Parks and Recreation

City Parks

Local parks and recreation services are provided in the City of Canton through six city parks, with a combined total of 182 acres. Other recreation opportunities are available at county parks and facilities, discussed below. The following table presents an inventory of city park locations and size. The City is also served by the Etowah River Greenway.



Cannon Park

A variety of recreation facilities is available to City residents through the ten city parks listed in Table 2-9. The following table presents an inventory of those facilities.

Table 2-9: City Parks and Recreational Facilities

Park or Facility	Address	Acres	Classification	Amphitheater	Baseball / Softball Diamond(s)	Basketball Court (Outdoor)	Canoe Launch	Concession Stand (s)	Field Space	Gazebo	Indoor Facility	Pedestrian Trail (paved; miles)	Pedestrian Trail (soft; miles)	Picnic Area / Pavilion(s)	Playground	Racquetball Court(s)	Restrooms (set); M = multiple	Tennis Court(s)	Utility Field Space / Soccer / Lacrosse
Boling Park	1200 Marietta Highway	20	Community Park	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	4	2	4	3
Brown Park	251 East Marietta Street	1	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Burge Park	Burge Street	0.9	Neighborhood Park	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Cannon Park	130 East Main Street	0.8	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Etowah River Park	600 Brown Industrial Parkway	58	Community Park	1	-	-	1	-	4	-	1	0.5	-	2	2	-	1	-	4
Etowah River Park Extension	Future Park Expansion	44.9	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harmon Park	161 Harmon Circle	3	Complex	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Heritage Park	508 Riverstone Parkway	48.3	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	4
Juniper Dog Park	309 Birch Street	2.7	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
McCanless Park	Muriel Street	2	Neighborhood Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
				1	5	2	1	1	6	2	2	0.5	1	4	7	4	5	4	11

County Parks

In addition to the City’s parks, other recreation opportunities are available throughout the county to City residents through the auspices of the Cherokee Recreation and Parks Agency (CRPA).

Public Recreation at Cherokee County School Facilities

Generally, the use of school recreation facilities is negotiated individually with each school principal through a verbal agreement. Almost all gymnasiums, are the primary facilities used for basketball leagues throughout the county. Playgrounds are generally available on elementary school properties, other facilities like ball fields and tennis courts are limited to middle and high schools.

Table 2-10: Cherokee County Parks and Recreational Facilities

Park or Facility	Address	City	ZIP	Acres	Classification	Aerobics / Fitness Room	Athletic Field(s) - Rectangular	Banquet Hall	Baseball / Softball Diamond(s)	Basketball Court (Outdoor)	Bathing Cages	Boat Ramp	Concessions/Kitchen	Dog Park	Disc Golf Course	Event Lawn	Equestrian Trails (miles)	Gymnasium	Horseshoe Pit(s)	Meeting Room(s)	Mountain Bike Trails (miles)	Outdoor Classroom	Pedestrian Trail (paved, miles)	Pedestrian Trail (soft, miles)	Picnic Area / Pavilion(s)	Playground	Poo or Splash Pad	Restrooms (set); M = multiple	Skating Venue	Tennis Courts (Hard)	Volleyball Court (Outdoor)
Badger Creek Park	464 Blalock Road	Woodstock, GA	30188	151	Sports Complex	-	14	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Barnett Park	10795 Bells Ferry Road	Canton, GA	30114	25	Neighborhood Park	-	-	9	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Blankets Creek Bike Trails	2125 Sixes Road	Canton, GA	30114	364	Special Use - Bike Trails	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Buffington Park & Gym	4600 Cumming Highway	Canton, GA	30115	5	Neighborhood Park	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cherokee County Aquatic Center	1200 Gresham Mill Parkway	Holly Springs, GA	30114	38	Special Use - Aquatic Center	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	M	-	-	-	
Cherokee Mills Park	6900 Bells Ferry Road	Woodstock, GA	30189	40	Special Use - Boat Ramp	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	
Cherokee Veterans Park	7261 Cumming Highway	Canton, GA	30114	149	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cline Park	704 Bartow Street	Waleska, GA	30183	12	Neighborhood Park	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	0.3	1	1	1	2	-	2	-	
Dwight Terry Park	13395 East Cherokee Drive	Ball Ground, GA	30107	30	Neighborhood Park	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
Field's Landing Park	600 Fields Landing Drive	Canton, GA	30114	280	Neighborhood Park	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	
Garland Mt. Horse / Hike Trails	1411 Garland Mountain Way	Waleska, GA	30183	544	Regional Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Hickory Trails Park	3860 Hickory Road	Canton, GA	30115	24	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.8	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	
Hobgood Park	6688 Bells Ferry Road	Woodstock, GA	30189	60	Community Park	-	1	-	10	-	6	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-	4	1	-	6	-	4	-	
J.J. Biello Park		Woodstock, GA	30188	470	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cherokee Tennis Center	155 Brooke Boulevard	Woodstock, GA	30188	N/A		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	10	-	-	
The Valley Playground & Pavilion	175 Brooke Boulevard	Woodstock, GA	30188	N/A		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	
Twin Creeks Softball Complex	250 Brooke Boulevard	Woodstock, GA	30188	N/A		-	-	5	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	
Riverside Athletic Complex	610 Drew Cameron Drive	Woodstock, GA	30188	N/A		-	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	
Kenney Askwew Park	1080 Univeter Road	Canton, GA	30115	9	Community Park	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	4	-	-	
Hunkey Mauldin Baseball Complex	1260 Univeter Road	Canton, GA	30115	51		-	-	5	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Lewis Park	200 East Bells Ferry Road	Woodstock, GA	30189	57	Community Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1.5	2	1	-	1	-	-	
Patriots Park	1485 Kellogg Creek Road	Woodstock, GA	30189	33	Neighborhood Park	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	
Recreation Center	7545 Main Street	Woodstock, GA	30188	14	Neighborhood Park	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	0.4	-	1	1	-	M	1	-	-	
Riverchase Park	150 River Glen Drive	Woodstock, GA	30188	10	Neighborhood Park	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	
Sequoyah Park	7000 Vaughn Road	Canton, GA	30115	39	Community Park	-	1	-	4	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	
Union Hill Community Center	1780 AJ Land Road	Canton, GA	30115	3	Special Use - Banquet Hall	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	
Waleska Park	150 Ballfield Road	Waleska, GA	30183	18	Community Park	-	-	3	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	
Weatherby Park	100 Worley Road	Canton, GA	30114	17	Community Park	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	
2443						1	27	1	40	2	30	2	17	2	1	5	12	2	1	5	15	1	4.5	7.3	33	18	4	36	2	24	0

Public Health and Services

The primary source of medical care is provided by the Northside Hospital-Cherokee who recently opened their new state of the art facility at 450 Northside Cherokee Boulevard in Canton. Northside Cherokee currently employs 2,000 and is one of Cherokee County’s largest private sector employers. Northside physicians and other health care professionals provide a full range of care. Specialties and services include:

- 24-Hour Adult & Pediatric Emergency Services
- Advanced Center for GI Therapeutics
- Bariatric Surgery
- Behavioral Health
- Breast Care Program
- Cancer Institute / Radiation Oncology

- Cardiac Catheterization and PCI
- Cardiology
- Clinical Trials
- Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services
- Critical Care
- Diabetes and Nutrition
- Diagnostic & Interventional Radiology (Imaging)
- Dermatology
- Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) Specialties
- Gynecology
- Heart & Vascular Institute
- Infusion Services
- Inpatient & Outpatient Surgical Services
- Interventional Pain Treatment
- Laboratory Services
- Maternity & Newborn Services
- Neurology / Teleneurology for Stroke
- Neurosurgery
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedics
- Plastic Surgery
- Pulmonology/Respiratory Services
- Rehabilitation Services
- Robotic Surgery
- Sleep Disorders Center
- Spine Center
- Sports Medicine Program
- Urodiagnostics
- Urology
- Wound Care

All medical services are provided and managed by the private sector and/or the State of Georgia. Neither Canton nor Cherokee County is involved in private services; thus, any addition or expansion is determined by the evaluation of the parties within the private sector.

The main office of the County's Public Health Department is currently located on Univeter Road across from Kenny Askew Park. The facility was built on 1992 with grant funds. The services offered are community-oriented, rather than field-oriented as they were in the past. The services are provided where it is most convenient and beneficial for the client. There are services offered in the schools, homes, and community, in addition to the clinic itself. Public Health and Human Services Facilities for Cherokee County are listed in Table 2-11.

Table 2-11: Cherokee County Public Health and Human Services Facilities

Facility	Location
Cherokee County Health Department (Woodstock)	7545 North Main Street, Suite 100
Cherokee County Health Department	1219 Univeter Road
Georgia Highlands Center for Mental Health	191 Lamar Haley Parkway
Cherokee County Senior Center	1001 Univeter Road
Cherokee County Department for Family & Children Services	105 Lamar Haley Parkway
Northside Hospital - Cherokee	450 Northside Cherokee Boulevard

Canton Theater

The Historic Canton Theatre brings Broadway productions to the City, providing a unique cultural resource to the area. The Theatre is located at 171 East Main Street. Opening in 1911, the theatre operated until the 1970s. Over the years a variety of live productions and films appeared at the Theatre. In 1994, the Theatre was purchased by an individual for restoration; the City subsequently acquired the property in 1997 and later deeded it to the DDA for the completion of restoration and continued operation. The DDA cleared all remaining debt and deeded it to the City in 2015. Today, the Theatre shows classic movies, hosts previews for indie films, and offers summer movie series for kids.

Schools

Public Schools

The City of Canton does not operate a separate school system but is instead served by the Cherokee County School District (CCSD). CCSD has consistently ranked among the top school districts in the State of Georgia. The district opened their new headquarters in Canton in 2017 located at 1205 Bluffs Parkway. The following table presents a list of the Cherokee County public schools that serve the City of Canton.

Table 2-12: Public Schools and Centers Serving Canton

School	Location
R.M. Moore Elementary School STEM Academy	1375 Puckett Road, Waleska
Hasty Elementary Fine Art Academy	205 Brown Industrial Parkway
Knox Elementary School	151 River Bend Way
Teasley Middle School	151 Hickory Log Drive
Cherokee High School	930 Marietta Highway
ACE Academy	8871 Knox Bridge Hwy
Ralph Bunche Center	400 Belletta Drive

Private Schools

In addition to the public schools listed above, several private schools also serve City residents. Concerning advanced education, there are numerous colleges and universities in the Atlanta metropolitan area as well as Chattahoochee Technical College Canton and Reinhardt University in nearby Waleska, Georgia.

2.7. Transportation

Transportation infrastructure and investments should be consistent with local land uses and development patterns and should be appropriate to the urban, suburban, or rural design parameters through which they pass. Although transportation systems are both created by and create their regional and local environments, local contexts may not be consistent with regional purposes, creating challenges affecting the type, size, capacity, accessibility, and other attributes of the system.

The City of Canton works with Cherokee County in transportation efforts and hereby incorporates the Cherokee County Comprehensive Transportation Plan analysis for Canton's transportation planning process. There are several components regarding transportation present in the Cherokee County Comprehensive Transportation Plan that will be summarized in this element of the Comprehensive Plan. These components include roadways, freight, air travel, alternative transportation, and transit.

Roadways

The roadway network includes all paved and unpaved public roads, alleys, and rights of way that provide circulation, access, and mobility for residents, businesses, and visitors to the City of Canton and central Cherokee County. These include roadways that may meet a diverse array of urban and rural roadway design criteria and some older roads that may have been inherited from the 19th Century before the advent of private automobiles created more stringent criteria for road and highway design.

Interstate 575 (I-575) runs north to south through Cherokee County and serves as the County's principal traffic channel, facilitating access to other major arterials such as State Route 92, State Route 20, State Route 140, and Towne Lake Parkway. I-575 is also the main route to Interstate 75 and the region's core employment areas to the south.

State Route 5 / Riverstone Parkway, State Route 20, Waleska Road, and State Route 140 are classified as minor arterials. Collector streets include Fate Conn Road, Bluffs Parkway, Riverstone Boulevard, Hickory Flat Highway, Marietta Road, Dr. John T. Pettit Street, Prominence Point Parkway, River Bend Way, Univeter Road, Bells Ferry Road, River Green Avenue / Cumming Highway, Marietta Street, and Main Street.

Functional Classification

The City uses the Cherokee County roadway classification system which is based on the Federal functional classification system. The Federal system defines a roadway based on its accessibility and mobility. Expressways or interstates provide the greatest mobility but the least accessibility and are at one extreme of the classification system. Local roads that provide

the greatest accessibility, but the least mobility is at the other extreme. This system allows analysis and evaluation of roadway effectiveness within the County-wide system.

The City of Canton roadway system by major functional classification category is described below. Figure 2-6 illustrates the functional classifications and roadway jurisdiction.

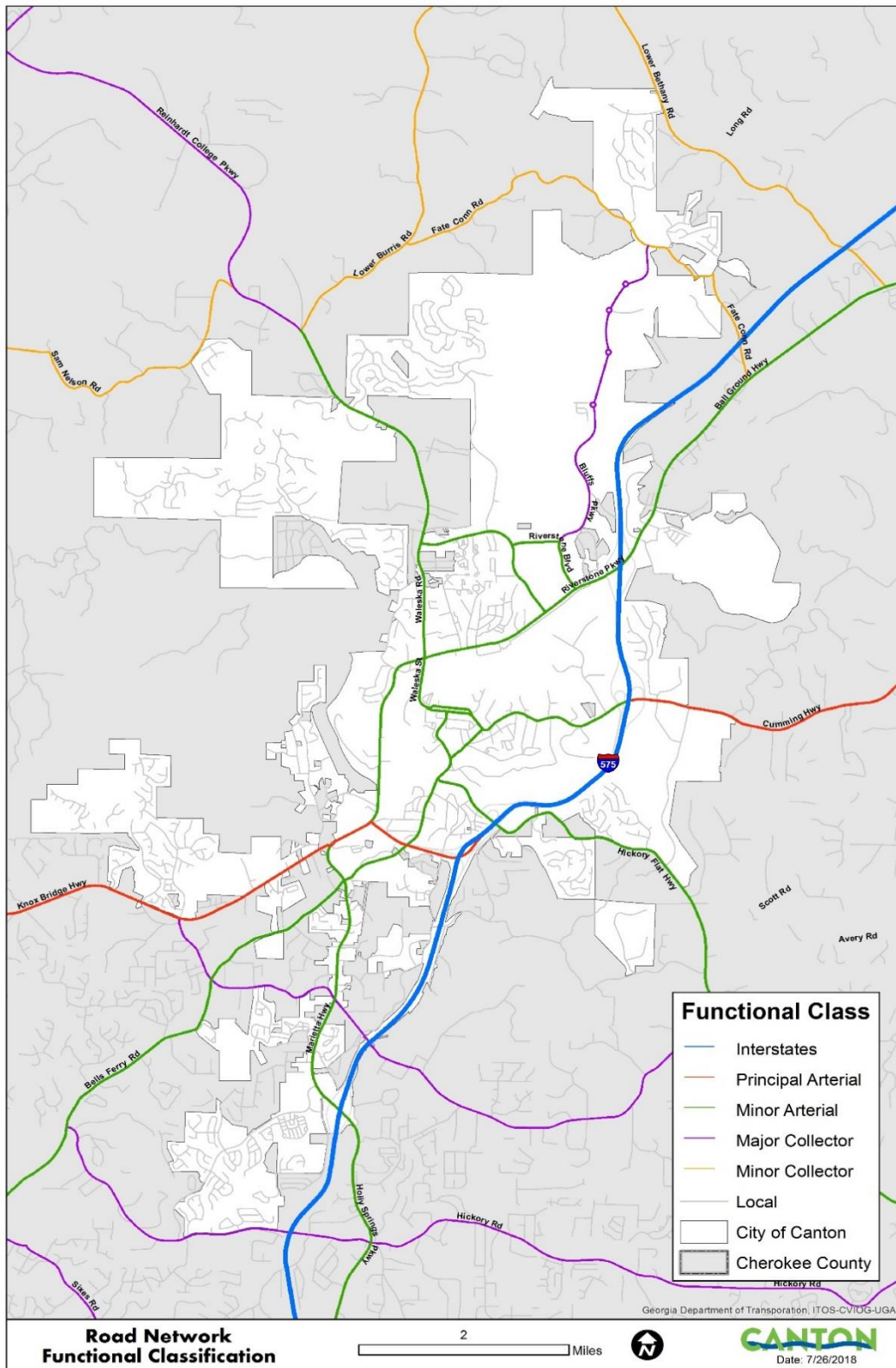


Figure 2-7: Road Network Classification Map

Transit

The Cherokee Area Transit System (CATS) is operated by Cherokee County within the City of Canton. CATS currently offer limited transits service in the form of countywide service to specific locations, two (2) fixed routes in and around downtown Canton, paratransit service to eligible patrons, and vanpool service for those interested commuters.

An Express Bus Service is also provided in the City of Canton by Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA). GRTA also serves Cherokee County with two routes into downtown Atlanta (Route 490) and Midtown Atlanta (Route 491) with morning and evening service. Cherokee County Senior Services also provides pre-scheduled transportation services for seniors to the Senior Services Center in Canton via a 32-passenger bus equipped with a lift and wheelchair assistance.

GDOT Park and Ride Lots

GDOT provides a park-and-ride lot at 1358 Marietta Highway (State Route 140) in Canton with 173 spaces. The park and ride lot is located at Boling Park.

Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails

Successful community transportation network includes interconnecting bicycle and pedestrian pathways which allow free movement between greenway corridors, neighborhoods, institutions, and commercial areas. The City of Canton requires sidewalks on both sides of the street within city limits. The City also requires that all sidewalks in all subdivisions are repaired or added to increase connectivity and pedestrian safety. The City of Canton has received approval from the Community Development Block Grant program for the 2018 capital project application period. The funding received is to construct a concrete sidewalk along the east side of Brown Industrial Parkway, an addition to one of the City's latest park. There are pedestrian trails throughout Canton via the City and County's park and recreational facilities. Parks and trails along the River within the city limits as identified in the Etowah Master Plan are still a work in progress.

The City has not provided any dedicated facilities such as bike lanes and grade-separated cycle tracks for bicyclists. While bicyclists are legally entitled to ride within any given roadway, the lack of visual reminders for drivers such as sharrows and "Share the Road" signs are not favorable for a safe, multi-modal environment.

Railroads

Cherokee County has one Class III rail provider, the Georgia Northeastern Railroad (GNRR), which traverses the county from south to north, passing through Woodstock, Holly Springs, Canton, and Ball Ground. The GNRR operates 59 rail crossings, of which 37 are public at-grade crossings. Canton has eight (8) public, at-grade rail crossings.

There is currently no access to commuter rail within the City (or in Cherokee County).

Airports

The Cherokee County Regional Airport is owned and operated by Cherokee County Airport Authority. There is a single public airport, two private airports, and three heliports in Cherokee County. The Cherokee County Regional Airport is located six (6) miles northeast of downtown Canton and just southwest of Ball Ground and sits on a 160-acre site. Runway 5/23 expands approximately 5,000 feet in length and 75 feet in width and its surface has been rated in good condition by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Planned Transportation Projects

Table 2-13: Road Improvement Projects

Project Description	Start Date	Completion Date	Estimated Project Cost
SR Business 5 Intersection Improvements	2019	2023	\$1,647,000
Heard Road Extension	2019	2025	\$1,525,736
Business Highway 5 – Marietta Highway	2021	2027	\$10,000,000
Prominence Boulevard – Keeter Road	2019	2021	\$3,661,632
Eastside Connector	2020	2025	\$8,928,930
Main & North Street 2-Way Conversions	2024	2025	\$3,000,000
Canton Transportation Plan	2019	2020	\$150,000
Reinhardt College Parkway (SR20) Study	2019	2019	\$130,000

As part of its transportation element of Canton’s Comprehensive Plan, the City of Canton proposes to work in cooperation with Cherokee County to develop the proposed East Side connection of the Northside Cherokee Boulevard which includes adjacent trails. A Canton East Side Parkway will help fulfill several transportation goals: relieve community traffic on state highways by providing a local alternative; connect new and established parts of the community; encourage development and redevelopment; and provide a course for walkways, trails, and bicycle paths that connect City and County parks. The map of the proposed extension of Northside Cherokee Boulevard project can be found as Appendix A.

Land Use/Transportation Connection

The City of Canton understands the connections between land use and transportation facilities and is prepared to work with USDOT, GDOT, ARC, GRTA, Cherokee County, and other cities to integrate transportation planning into the update of the Comprehensive Plan. Canton has also worked to develop Overlay Zone Community Standards that coordinate land development regulations with transportation and stormwater management recommendations. These Overlay Standards strive to balance land use acceptability with transportation accessibility, mobility, utility, and cost within the context of useful design and engineering practices.

2.8. Land Use

The land use element is an account of existing land use patterns and trends. It serves as a guide to direct future patterns of growth based on community needs and desires and goals, policies, and strategies for future land use development that supports all elements of the comprehensive plan.

The existing land use map identifies types of land uses including woodlands and open fields that were not developed (herein classified as vacant land) Table 2-14 illustrates the breakout of the various land uses by the number of parcels and the acreage of each type of use. For more details, see the Existing Land Use Map as shown in Figure 2-8.

Table 2-14 Existing Land Uses

Land Use	Total Parcels	Percentage of Total Parcels	Total Acres	Percentage of Total Acres	Average Acres / Parcel
Commercial	288	2.6%	655.992	5.8%	2.28
Government	104	0.9%	919.42	8.1%	8.84
Industrial	29	0.2%	189.52	1.6%	6.54
Institutional	35	0.3%	200.75	1.7%	5.715
Multi-Family	1,053	9.8%	229.019	2.0%	0.217
Natural / Open Space	236	2.2%	1,692.91	15.0%	7.63
Office	146	1.3%	120.55	1.0%	0.83
Single Family Attached	956	8.9%	159.17	1.4%	0.17
Single Family Detached	6,108	59.9%	2,455.36	21.8%	0.40
Vacant	1,763	16.4%	3,935.55	35%	2.23
TCU	-		678.039	6.0%	-
County	179	1.6%	371.95	3.3%	2.08
Total (Not including county)	10,718	-	11,236.28	-	-
Total Annexed since 2008	11	-	129.43		1.065

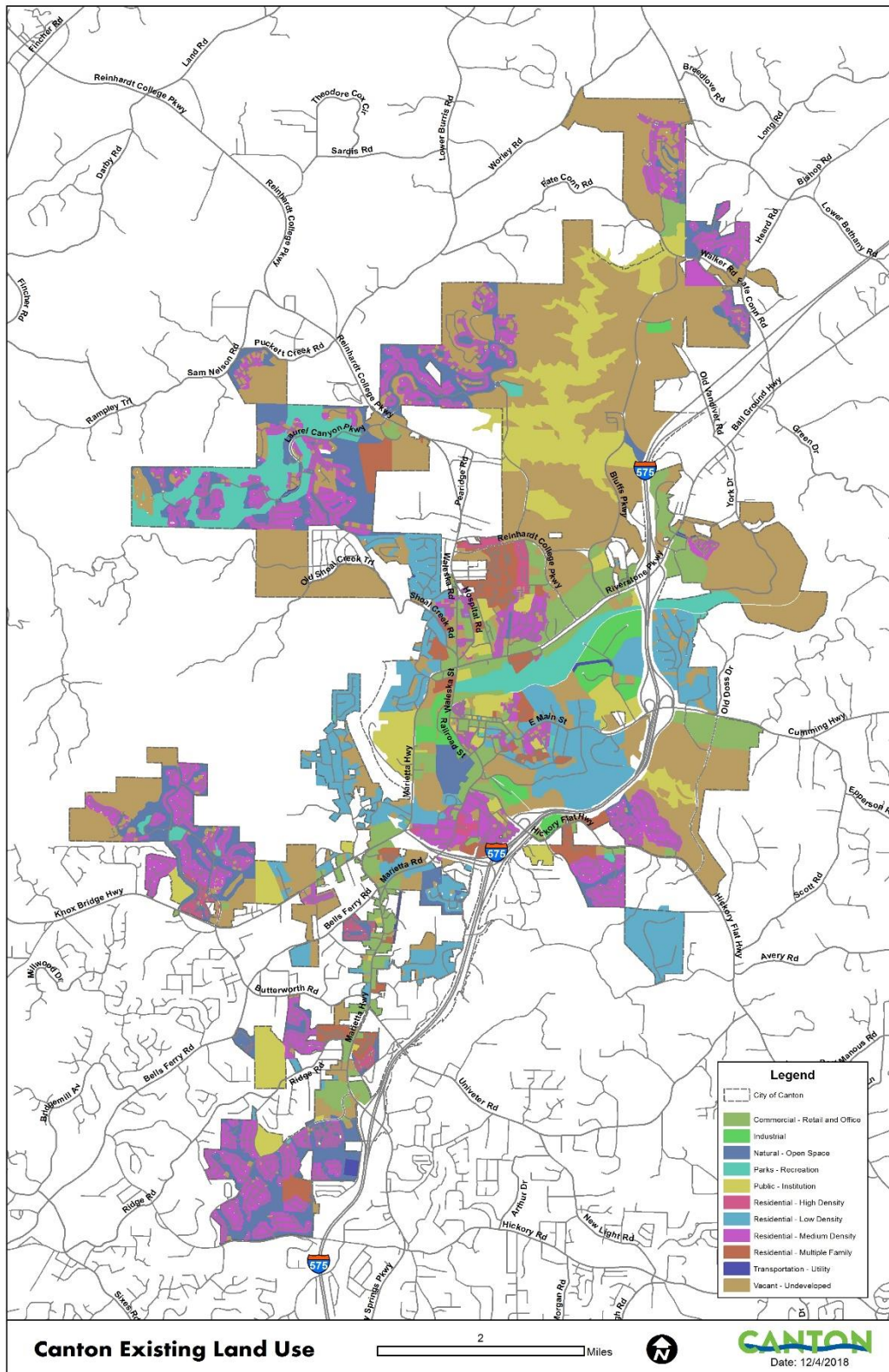


Figure 2-8: Canton Existing Land Use Map

Character Areas

Character areas identify distinct areas which make up the larger community. By examining the aesthetic and functional characteristics of these areas, planners and officials can gain an understanding of how each area of the community serves to promote a cohesive, healthy community. The Future Development Map divides the City of Canton among ten (10) unique character areas as shown in Figure 2-9.

Natural Area

The Emerald Trail Natural Area is located primarily along the Etowah River and its tributaries and is largely made up of the floodplains and buffers along the river. This linear green space along the river should remain as protected open space to provide conservation and recreation, and to limit the impacts of flooding along the corridor and sedimentation and erosion into the river. The Emerald Trail provides a setting for leisure activities along the river corridor and is expected to provide bicycle and pedestrian trails or other types of linear recreation suited to a natural area.

Development Strategies:

- Allow no new development.
- Promote conservation easements and covenants.
- Develop opportunities for recreation within these areas in order to provide an amenity to residents and visitors.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Passive Recreation
- Greenspace
- Conservation Areas

Preferred Implementation Measures:

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton's natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological, or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.

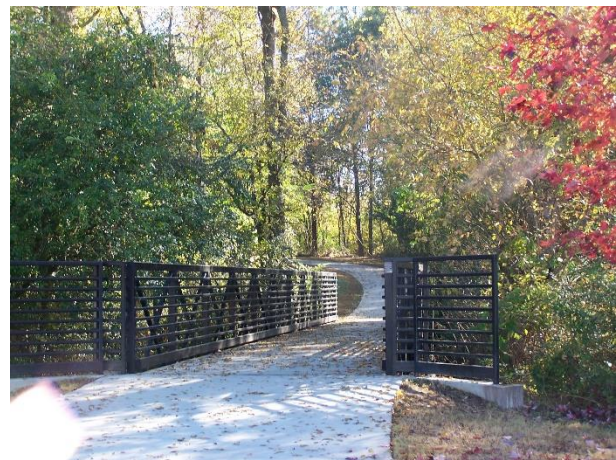
Facilities and Services

- Invest in parks and open space to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.

Land Use

- Provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive “green space” as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.

Natural Areas examples



Employment Center

Employment Centers include light industrial and mixed office and smaller commercial uses, or campus environments that accommodate employment. The three Employment Centers in the City are Technology Bluffs on the north side of the Etowah River, Technology Center on the south side of the river, and Canton Place on SR 20. These three areas are located with access to I-575 and the major highways that provide access for people and goods.

Employment Centers primarily provide light industrial uses in low-intensity manufacturing, wholesale trade, and distribution activities that do not generate excessive noise, particulate matter, vibration, smoke, dust, gas, fumes, odors, radiation, or other nuisance characteristics.

Development Strategies:

- Develop strict guidelines for signage, lighting, site development, and landscaping standards in order to ensure quality development within employment areas.
- Separate more intense uses from incompatible adjacent uses with buffers, landscaping, traffic mitigation, and other means in order to minimize negative impacts.
- Encourage some mixing of uses to reduce the need for workers to use their cars while within Employment Center areas.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Mixed-use commercial
- Office
- Institutional
- Light industrial
- Industrial office
- Distribution/warehousing
- Other clean light industrial uses

Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Support programs for retention, expansion and creation of businesses that are a good fit for our community's economy in terms of job skill requirements and linkages to existing businesses.
- Carefully consider costs and benefits in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.
- Target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) "greenfield" areas of our community.
- Seek to balance the supply of housing and employment in our community and consider their location in relation to each other.
- Consider access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.
- Consider the employment needs and skill levels of our existing population in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton's natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.

- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.
- Factor potential impacts on noise and air quality into decisions regarding new development and we will support spatial and design efforts that reduce negative impacts on air quality and/or noise levels beyond acceptable standards.
- Encourage new development be in urban areas and corridors in the City of Canton to help redirect development pressure away from agricultural farms and equestrian estates in Cherokee County.
- Promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.
- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City's residents and employers
- Encourage the use of planned infrastructure expansion and sequential, phased extension of utilities and services to encourage rational expansion in areas immediately contiguous to already developed areas of the community and with areas identified in the comprehensive plan as suitable for such development.
- Seek ways for new growth to pay for itself through impact fees, community improvement districts, and other methods to achieve investment in infrastructure and services to support the development to the maximum extent possible.

Land Use

- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton's character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.

- Encourage the improvement of our gateways and corridors to create a “positive” sense of place for our community and improve the direct and indirect effects of these areas on adjacent areas or the City as a whole.
- Commit to redeveloping and enhancing existing (and planned) commercial and industrial areas within our community in preference to new development in previously undeveloped “Greenfield” areas of the community.
- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.
- Encourage development of a rational network of commercial nodes, including crossroads, neighborhood, community, and regional activity centers, and employment centers that meet the service needs of citizens while avoiding unattractive and inefficient strip development along major roadways.

Transportation

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Intergovernmental Coordination

- Pursue joint processes for collaborative planning and decision-making with neighboring jurisdictions (and specifically with Cherokee County).

Employment Center examples



Downtown / Urban Center

Canton's Central City Character Area includes the historic commercial and institutional downtown, close-in residential, and industrial-related land uses along the railroad corridor, all nestled in a bend of the Etowah River. The Central City Character Area includes the greatest mixture of diverse land uses within any one-character area type in the Horizon 2030 Plan. The historic downtown core area of Canton is configured in a loose grid system with Main Street and North Street as a one-way pair providing east/west circulation along a ridge line through the urban core. Steep slopes provide a transition between the center of the City on top of a hill and the industrial and recreation uses along the river. Access is limited by the river to the north and west, Canton Creek to the south, and the narrow, but very scenic and East Main residential corridor to the east. This character of the area is dominated by the downtown commercial and local government (City and County functions) in the core, and industrial-related land to the west along the river corridor.

Development Strategies:

- Ensure a diversity of uses in order to attract activity in the urban core not only during business hours but also in the evening and on the weekends.
- Improve accessibility in order to allow a broader range of visitors to downtown and to allow them to easily move around (especially on foot) once they are there.
- Encourage on-street parking, landscaping, and other buffers to create a more pedestrian-friendly downtown and provide connections to adjacent areas and uses which could benefit from the amenities provided downtown.
- Place parking lots behind buildings in order to allow human scale, pedestrian-oriented building façades along the sidewalk.
- Promote infill development in order to provide a compact urban core.
- Promote the small-town feel of downtown and use its character to attract businesses, residents, and visitors.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Downtown commercial
- Townhomes
- Lofts/condos
- Institutional
- Parks, recreation, and other gathering areas
- Mixed use development

Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Carefully consider costs and benefits in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.
- Support programs for retention, expansion and creation of businesses that are a good fit for our community's economy in terms of job skill requirements and linkages to existing businesses.

- Target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) “greenfield” areas of our community.
- Seek to balance the supply of housing and employment in our community and consider their location in relation to each other.
- Consider access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton’s natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.
- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City’s residents and employers.
- Coordinate the timing in providing public facilities and services with the ability to program and pay for concurrent land use development and capital facilities.
- Encourage the use of planned infrastructure expansion and sequential, phased extension of utilities and services to encourage rational expansion in areas immediately contiguous to already developed areas of the community and with areas identified in the comprehensive plan as suitable for such development.
- Seek ways for new growth to pay for itself through impact fees, community impact districts, and other methods to achieve investment in infrastructure and services to support the development to the maximum extent possible.

Housing

- Encourage development of housing that enable residents to live closer to their places of employment and replace or rehabilitate substandard or dilapidated housing in Canton without eliminating housing opportunities for the poorest segments of the community.

Land Use

- Encourage development of a rational network of commercial nodes, including crossroads, neighborhood, community, and regional activity centers, and employment centers that

meet the service needs of citizens while avoiding unattractive and inefficient strip development along major roadways.

- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.
- Support increases in residential density in areas where community design standards, environmental constraints and available infrastructure capacities can satisfactorily accommodate the increased density.
- Encourage mixed-use developments that are human-scale and less auto-oriented.
- Support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.
- Commit to redeveloping and enhancing existing (and planned) commercial and industrial areas within our community in preference to new development in previously undeveloped "Greenfield" areas of the community.
- Provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive "green space" as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- Commit to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car
- Encourage the development of the "Downtown Canton central business district" as a vibrant center of the community in order to improve overall attractiveness and local quality of life with improved access to parking.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton's character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.

Transportation

- Coordinate with the City to encourage rail access to and from Canton via the railroad corridor.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.

Intergovernmental Coordination

- Consult with Cherokee County, the City of Holly Springs and other neighboring jurisdictions when making decisions that are likely to impact both parties and work together to seek opportunities to share services and facilities to address shared regional issues such as growth management, watershed protection, major parks, etc.
- Pursue joint processes for collaborative planning and decision-making with neighboring jurisdictions (and specifically with Cherokee County).
- Engage in cooperative planning between the City of Canton and other public entities such as the Cherokee County Public Schools System to address issues that are likely to have an impact on our community or our plans for future development.

Downtown/Urban Center examples



Community Level Mixed Use / Retail Center

The Riverstone Character Area includes the State Route Business 5 Corridor (Riverstone Parkway and Ball Ground Highway) east of Reinhardt College Parkway and including the I-575 interchange. The Character Area provides the site for major auto-oriented retail centers and similar commercial facilities serving the business needs of Canton's north side. Most of the area was developed within the last few years and appears to be heavily vested in automobile access. The Riverstone Character Area also includes the primary access point for the Bluffs Technology Center. Some higher density residential facilities are located nearby and may present opportunities for providing more diverse uses in the future.

Development Strategies:

- Consider including a greater diversity of uses and public facilities including relatively high residential density, mixed uses, offices, employment, and institutional uses to attract more local activities outside normal business hours and to serve a wider market area.
- Improve vehicular accessibility and provide non-vehicle pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities throughout the character area to allow residents and visitors to easily move around without using an automobile for every trip once they are there.
- Encourage sidewalks, landscaping, shade trees, buffers, and other amenities to create a more pedestrian-friendly area and provide connections to adjacent areas and uses which could benefit from the amenities provided.
- Anchor facilities should not exceed 50,000 SF and the entire center should not exceed 200,000 SF unless the design provides exceptional amenities.
- Clearly define parking and separations between the street and the adjacent activity center activities. This extends to way-finding signage and amenities.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Mixed use development
- Townhomes
- Lofts/condos
- Institutional
- Retail commercial
- Office/professional commercial

Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Support programs for retention, expansion and creation of businesses that are a good fit for our community's economy in terms of job skill requirements and linkages to existing businesses.
- Carefully consider costs and benefits in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.
- Target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) "greenfield" areas of our community.
- Consider access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.

- Consider the employment needs and skill levels of our existing population in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton’s natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.
- Factor potential impacts on noise and air quality into decisions regarding new development and we will support spatial and design efforts that reduce negative impacts on air quality and/or noise levels beyond acceptable standards.
- Promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.
- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City’s residents and employers.
- Coordinate the timing in providing public facilities and services with the ability to program and pay for concurrent land use development and capital facilities.
- Encourage the use of planned infrastructure expansion and sequential, phased extension of utilities and services to encourage rational expansion in areas immediately contiguous to already developed areas of the community and with areas identified in the comprehensive plan as suitable for such development.
- Invest in parks and open space to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
 - Work with the Cherokee County School System to encourage school location decisions that support the community’s overall growth and development plans.

Housing

- Encourage development of housing that enable residents to live closer to their places of employment and replace or rehabilitate substandard or dilapidated housing in Canton without eliminating housing opportunities for the poorest segments of the community.
- Accommodate our diverse population by encouraging a compatible mixture of housing types and costs.

Land Use

- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton’s character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- Encourage the improvement of our gateways and corridors to create a “positive” sense of place for our community and improve the direct and indirect effects of these areas on adjacent areas or the City as a whole.
- Commit to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car.
- Provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive “green space” as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- Commit to redeveloping and enhancing existing (and planned) commercial and industrial areas within our community in preference to new development in previously undeveloped “Greenfield” areas of the community.
- Support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.
- Encourage mixed-use developments that are human-scale and less auto-oriented.
- Support increases in residential density in areas where community design standards, environmental constraints and available infrastructure capacities can satisfactorily accommodate the increased density.
- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.
- Encourage development of a rational network of commercial nodes, including crossroads, neighborhood, community, and regional activity centers, and employment centers that meet the service needs of citizens while avoiding unattractive and inefficient strip development along major roadways.

Transportation

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).

- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Community Level Mixed Use / Retail Center examples



Major Highway Corridor / In-Town Corridor

The Major Highway Corridor in the City of Canton is located primarily along Business Highway 5 and is bisected at the Etowah River crossing. The Crescent Ridge Corridor includes the land on both sides of Business Highway 5 (Marietta Highway and Riverstone Parkway) north of the Etowah River to Reinhardt College Parkway. The South Crescent Ridge Corridor extends south from the Etowah River toward the I-575 corridor and includes the I-575 interchange. These areas are primarily auto-oriented and experience high traffic volumes, making them well-suited for relatively larger-scale commercial uses (such as strip development) compared to the downtown core. These auto-oriented uses rely on capturing the high volumes of traffic passing by, and they typically include large parking lots and setbacks to accommodate this traffic.

Development Strategies:

- Develop strict guidelines for signage, building design, lighting, site development, and landscaping standards in order to ensure quality development along these corridors.
- Promote connections to adjacent neighborhoods in order to allow access and egress at multiple points.
- Provide accessibility for means of transportation other than automobile by incorporating transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure wherever possible.
- In areas that are automobile-focused, provide clear signage, slow traffic speeds, and landscaping to establish areas that are both safe and attractive for visitors.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Retail commercial
- Office/professional
- Other commercial
- Institutional
- Limited mixed-use development that can accommodate the proximity of vehicle movements

Preferred Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
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- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton's natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic,

archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.

- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.
- Factor potential impacts on noise and air quality into decisions regarding new development and we will support spatial and design efforts that reduce negative impacts on air quality and/or noise levels beyond acceptable standards.
- Promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.
- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City's residents and employers.
- Encourage the use of planned infrastructure expansion and sequential, phased extension of utilities and services to encourage rational expansion in areas immediately contiguous to already developed areas of the community and with areas identified in the comprehensive plan as suitable for such development.
- Seek ways for new growth to pay for itself through impact fees, community impact districts, and other methods to achieve investment in infrastructure and services to support the development to the maximum extent possible.

Land Use

- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton's character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- Encourage the improvement of our gateways and corridors to create a "positive" sense of place for our community and improve the direct and indirect effects of these areas on adjacent areas or the City as a whole.
- Commit to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car.
- Commit to redeveloping and enhancing existing (and planned) commercial and industrial areas within our community in preference to new development in previously undeveloped "Greenfield" areas of the community.
- Support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.

- Encourage mixed-use developments that are human-scale and less auto-oriented.
- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.
- Encourage development of a rational network of commercial nodes, including crossroads, neighborhood, community, and regional activity centers, and employment centers that meet the service needs of citizens while avoiding unattractive and inefficient strip development along major roadways.

Transportation

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
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- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Major Highway Corridor/In-Town Corridor examples



Historic Area / Traditional Neighborhood Stable

Traditional and Stable Neighborhood Areas describes areas which have a well-established and maintained stock of housing, a sense of neighborhood identity which may be drawn from architectural style or lot and street design. The Historic Canton Character Area is a relatively stable area of neighborhoods and should be able to thrive based on its location near employment centers and the proximity of the area to the Central City Character Area.

Development Strategies:

- Protect historic structures and promote renovation of any properties which begin to show signs of decline. Encourage the placement of properties on the National Register of Historic Places in order to make them eligible for tax incentives in order to maintain them.
- Promote infill development which blends into the neighborhood in terms of scale and design in order to maintain the historic character of the area.
- Provide parks and pedestrian infrastructure in order to allow mobility throughout the area in order to allow residents to enjoy and gain an appreciation for the area.
- Ensure future stability through the encouragement of home ownership and maintenance of historic properties.

- Establish a neighborhood center in order to provide residents with a place to shop, enjoy entertainment, and gather.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Medium density residential (4-6 u/a)
- Traditional Neighborhood Development
- Senior housing
- Parks, recreation, and greenspace
- Institutional

Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) “greenfield” areas of our community.
- Seek to balance the supply of housing and employment in our community and consider their location in relation to each other.
- Consider access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton’s natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.
- Factor potential impacts on noise and air quality into decisions regarding new development and we will support spatial and design efforts that reduce negative impacts on air quality and/or noise levels beyond acceptable standards.
- We will promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.
- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City’s residents and employers.

- Invest in parks and open space to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
- Work with the Cherokee County School System to encourage school location decisions that support the community's overall growth and development plans.

Housing

- Encourage development of housing that enable residents to live closer to their places of employment and replace or rehabilitate substandard or dilapidated housing in Canton without eliminating housing opportunities for the poorest segments of the community.
- Stimulate infill housing development in existing neighborhoods.
- Accommodate our diverse population by encouraging a compatible mixture of housing types and costs.
- Support dispersion of assisted housing throughout the community in order to diversify neighborhoods, eliminate pockets of poverty, and to prevent the growth of larger areas of disinvestment.

Land Use

- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton's character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- Commit to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car.
- Provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive "green space" as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- Support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.
- Support increases in residential density in areas where community design standards, environmental constraints and available infrastructure capacities can satisfactorily accommodate the increased density.
- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.

Transportation

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.

- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Historic Area/Traditional Neighborhood Stable examples



Neighborhood Living Area

The two Neighborhood Living areas within the City of Canton are Oakdale and Ridge Pine. Both are in South Canton. These areas are comprised of neighborhoods which are somewhat denser than rural housing but less dense than the areas directly surrounding the urban core. Residences in the Neighborhood Living character areas are likely to be in relatively good repair and have a somewhat continuous architectural style throughout each neighborhood.

Development Strategies:

- Permit redevelopment in appropriate areas in order to allow for denser housing types and smaller lot sizes.
- Encourage the development of homes near public transportation and shopping areas in order to reduce automobile trips.
- Allow new types of development which have been successfully implemented in other communities in order to promote an attractive and livable community.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Medium density residential (4-6 u/a)
- Traditional Neighborhood Development
- Senior housing
- Parks, recreation, and greenspace
- Institutional

Preferred Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) "greenfield" areas of our community.
- Seek to balance the supply of housing and employment in our community and consider their location in relation to each other.
- Consider access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton's natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.
- Factor potential impacts on noise and air quality into decisions regarding new development and we will support spatial and design efforts that reduce negative impacts on air quality and/or noise levels beyond acceptable standards.
- Promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and

protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.

- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City's residents and employers.
- Invest in parks and open space to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
- Work with the Cherokee County School System to encourage school location decisions that support the community's overall growth and development plans.

Housing

- Encourage development of housing that enable residents to live closer to their places of employment and replace or rehabilitate substandard or dilapidated housing in Canton without eliminating housing opportunities for the poorest segments of the community.
- Stimulate infill housing development in existing neighborhoods.
- Accommodate our diverse population by encouraging a compatible mixture of housing types and costs.
- Support dispersion of assisted housing throughout the community in order to diversify neighborhoods, eliminate pockets of poverty, and to prevent the growth of larger areas of disinvestment.

Land Use

- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton's character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- Commit to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car.
- Provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive "green space" as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- Support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.
- Support increases in residential density in areas where community design standards, environmental constraints and available infrastructure capacities can satisfactorily accommodate the increased density.
- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.

Transportation

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.

- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Neighborhood Living examples



Suburban Developing Areas

These areas were also referred to as New Canton during the planning process, and they are located at the edges of Canton. These areas experienced rapid growth, especially those to the north, are classified as Suburban Development Areas, and include Hickory Log, Great Sky, Laurel Canyon, Canton West, Knox Bridge, Prominence, Prominence Point Ridge, Mountain Vista Overlook, Governor's Walk, Etowah Shoals, and the Pea Ridge County Pocket. A distinction between Prominence and Prominence Point Ridge was made to emphasize the small variations between the two areas. South of Ridge Road, the Prominence Character Area was developed with smaller lots as part of a much larger development. Most of the Prominence Point Ridge Character Area to the north of Ridge Road was developed on larger lots representing some differences between the two areas.

These areas are developing as relatively low-density residential developments with no connections to transit. Pedestrian accessibility and other street amenities are dependent on project requirements specified in the planning, zoning, and permitting process. In Canton, many of these areas have steep topography, making building a challenge and threatening some of the scenic vistas which are a great asset to the City.

Although the Pea Ridge County Pocket is an unincorporated area surrounded by the City on all sides, the City wanted to record that this area had the opportunity to grow in a positive manner consistent with the City's comprehensive plan and should be developed with similar suburban area character as the surrounding character areas of the City.

Development Strategies:

- Encourage Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) with smaller lot sizes, interconnected streets, and pedestrian infrastructure.
- Incorporate traffic calming measures into design in order to slow automobile traffic and encourage bike and pedestrian activity.
- Provide ample greenspace and recreational opportunities to serve residents and connect these areas to each other through a network of paths, trails, and sidewalks.
- Require master plans for communities which provide for connectivity and good design in terms of architectural style, street- and landscapes, and other elements such as signage where appropriate.
- Encourage neighborhood-level commercial to serve the population in neighborhoods directly adjacent to these areas to reduce the need to make automobile trips in order to purchase goods and services.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Low-density single family detached residential (1-3 u/a)
- Institutional
- Parks, recreation, and greenspace
- Neighborhood level commercial or mixed use

Preferred Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) “greenfield” areas of our community.
- Seek to balance the supply of housing and employment in our community and consider their location in relation to each other.
- Consider access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton’s natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.
- Factor potential impacts on noise and air quality into decisions regarding new development and we will support spatial and design efforts that reduce negative impacts on air quality and/or noise levels beyond acceptable standards.
- Promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.
- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City’s residents and employers.
- Coordinate the timing in providing public facilities and services with the ability to program and pay for concurrent land use development and capital facilities.
- Encourage the use of planned infrastructure expansion and sequential, phased extension of utilities and services to encourage rational expansion in areas immediately contiguous to already developed areas of the community and with areas identified in the comprehensive plan as suitable for such development.

- Seek ways for new growth to pay for itself through impact fees, community impact districts, and other methods to achieve investment in infrastructure and services to support the development to the maximum extent possible.
- Invest in parks and open space to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
- Work with the Cherokee County School System to encourage school location decisions that support the community's overall growth and development plans.

Housing

- Encourage development of housing that enable residents to live closer to their places of employment and replace or rehabilitate substandard or dilapidated housing in Canton without eliminating housing opportunities for the poorest segments of the community.
- Stimulate infill housing development in existing neighborhoods.
- Accommodate our diverse population by encouraging a compatible mixture of housing types and costs.
- Support dispersion of assisted housing throughout the community in order to diversify neighborhoods, eliminate pockets of poverty, and to prevent the growth of larger areas of disinvestment.

Land Use

- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton's character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- Commit to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car.
- Provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive "green space" as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- Support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.
- Support increases in residential density in areas where community design standards, environmental constraints and available infrastructure capacities can satisfactorily accommodate the increased density.
- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.

Transportation

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.

- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Intergovernmental Coordination

- Engage in cooperative planning between the City of Canton and other public entities such as the Cherokee County Public Schools System to address issues that are likely to have an impact on our community or our plans for future development.

Suburban Development Area examples



Suburban Estates Area

The Rolling Hills Character Area is in South Canton and is located between Interstate 575 and the South Crescent Ridge Corridor along State Route 5. The area is comprised of a mixture of small homes on small lots, small homes on large lots, and large homes on large lots, residential flag lots, small estates with horse corrals and amenities, and wooded lots. Multiple small creeks and ridges create a varied topography and power transmission lines slice through the area as well. The neighborhoods are somewhat denser than rural housing but less dense than other areas directly surrounding the urban core. Access is limited to local streets intersecting with State Route 5. A field survey of the character area found that many of the homes are in relatively good repair. The area has a variety of architectural styles including 50's ranch style, traditional and modern one and two-story examples. Suburban Estates Character Areas containing residential neighborhoods with potential infill and redevelopment opportunities mixed with areas of low-intensity land uses with single-family housing on larger lots. This area contains local public facilities such as local-service roads, public water and public sewer are available or accessible for expansion within the area.

Development Strategies:

- Permit redevelopment and infill in areas appropriate for such uses in order to allow for denser housing types and smaller lot sizes where feasible, but not in portions of the Character Area where environmental constraints or limitations to access and egress would significantly reduce the quality of life of current and/or future residents.
- Encourage the development of new homes adjacent to the South Crescent Ridge Corridor closer to public transportation and shopping areas in order to reduce automobile trips.
- Allow new types of development which have been successfully implemented in other communities in order to promote an attractive and livable community.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Medium density residential (up to 1 unit/acre) Note that environmental constraints such as stream buffers, set back limits, steep slopes, etc. may limit density even more.
- Traditional Neighborhood Development
- Senior housing
- Parks, recreation, and greenspace
- Institutional

Preferred Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) "greenfield" areas of our community.
- Seek to balance the supply of housing and employment in our community and consider their location in relation to each other.
- Consider access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton’s natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.
- Factor potential impacts on noise and air quality into decisions regarding new development and we will support spatial and design efforts that reduce negative impacts on air quality and/or noise levels beyond acceptable standards.
- Promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.
- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City’s residents and employers.
- Invest in parks and open space to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
- Work with the Cherokee County School System to encourage school location decisions that support the community’s overall growth and development plans.

Housing

- Encourage development of housing that enable residents to live closer to their places of employment and replace or rehabilitate substandard or dilapidated housing in Canton without eliminating housing opportunities for the poorest segments of the community.
- Stimulate infill housing development in existing neighborhoods.
- Accommodate our diverse population by encouraging a compatible mixture of housing types and costs.
- Support dispersion of assisted housing throughout the community in order to diversify neighborhoods, eliminate pockets of poverty, and to prevent the growth of larger areas of disinvestment.

Land Use

- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton’s character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- Commit to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car.
- Provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive “green space” as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- Support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.
- Support increases in residential density in areas where community design standards, environmental constraints and available infrastructure capacities can satisfactorily accommodate the increased density.
- Support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.

Transportation

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Suburban Estates examples



Traditional Neighborhood Redevelopment Area

The **New Town** area north of the Crescent Ridge Corridor and including the area around the existing hospital is comprised of older neighborhoods which have a moderate density and include older houses and community facilities that may need revitalization. The **Sunnyside** Character Area located south of the Etowah River has similar characteristics including older shopping centers and retail shops with underutilized parking. These areas are designated as Traditional Neighborhood Redevelopment Areas and represent older neighborhoods with a significant stock of older, somewhat dilapidated homes and other structures that have declined due to lack of investment. Some of the building stock is in poor condition, and there may be large areas of vacant land or deteriorating, unoccupied structures.

Development Strategies:

- Encourage Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) with smaller lot sizes, interconnected streets, and pedestrian infrastructure.
- Encourage neighborhood-level commercial to serve the population in neighborhoods directly adjacent to these areas to reduce the need to make automobile trips in order to purchase goods and services.
- Incorporate traffic calming measures into design in order to slow automobile traffic and encourage bike and pedestrian activity.
- Provide ample greenspace and recreational opportunities to serve residents and connect these areas to each other through a network of paths, trails, and sidewalks.
- Provide incentives for preserving and rehabilitating recoverable structures in order to create an attractive neighborhood with a blend of historic and new housing.

Compatible Land Uses:

- Medium density residential (4-6 u/a)
- Traditional Neighborhood Development
- Senior housing
- Parks, recreation, and greenspace
- Institutional
- Neighborhood-level commercial

Preferred Implementation Measures:

Economic Development

- Carefully consider costs and benefits in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.
- Target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) “greenfield” areas of our community.
- Seek to balance the supply of housing and employment in our community and consider their location in relation to each other.
- Consider access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Consider the protection and conservation of Canton’s natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- Encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of the new development.
- Promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- Promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- Encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for costlier new/expanded facilities and services.
- Support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City’s residents and employers.
- Seek ways for new growth to pay for itself through impact fees, community impact districts, and other methods to achieve investment in infrastructure and services to support the development to the maximum extent possible.
- Invest in parks and open space to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
- Work with the Cherokee County School System to encourage school location decisions that support the community’s overall growth and development plans.

Housing

- Encourage development of housing that enable residents to live closer to their places of employment and replace or rehabilitate substandard or dilapidated housing in Canton without eliminating housing opportunities for the poorest segments of the community.
- Stimulate infill housing development in existing neighborhoods.
- Accommodate our diverse population by encouraging a compatible mixture of housing types and costs.
- Support dispersion of assisted housing throughout the community in order to diversify neighborhoods, eliminate pockets of poverty, and to prevent the growth of larger areas of disinvestment.

Land Use

- Support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton's character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- Commit to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car.
- Provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive "green space" as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- Support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.
- Support increases in residential density in areas where community design standards, environmental constraints and available infrastructure capacities can satisfactorily accommodate the increased density.

Transportation

- Encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
- Target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- New and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- Promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).

- Encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- Encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- Encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Traditional Neighborhood Redevelopment Area examples



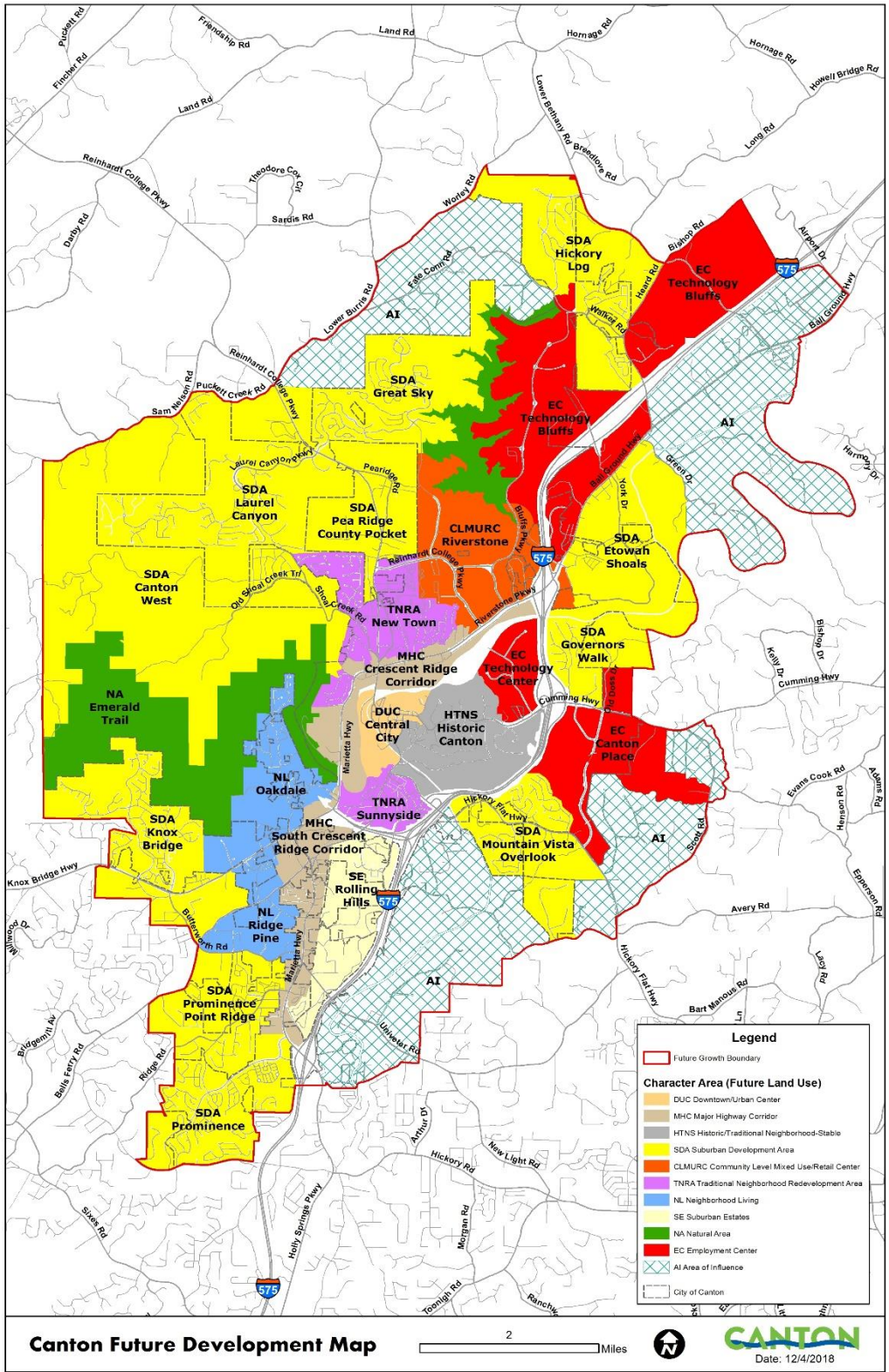


Figure 2-9: Canton Future Development Map

Twenty-five sub-character areas are reflected on the Future Development Map for the City of Canton shown above and are contained within the character areas mentioned above, and each are implemented by individual zoning districts as indicated in Table 2-15 below.

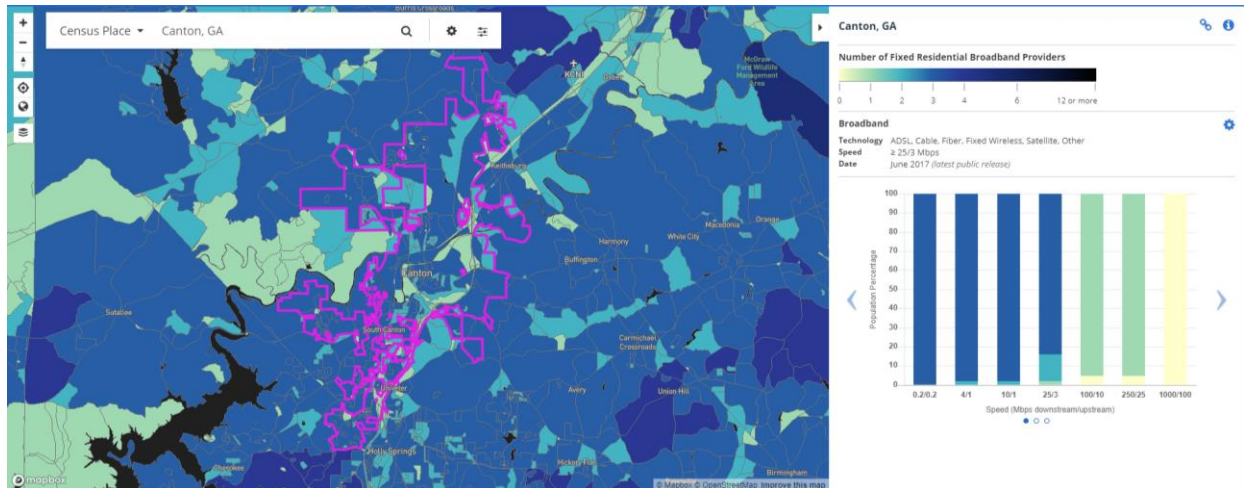
Table 2-15 Potential Zoning Districts

CHARACTER AREA		R-40	R-20	R-15	R-12	R-10	R-4	RA-6	RA-8	MHP	RM-15	PD	NC	GC	CBD	O-RT	O-I	L-I	SU
Type	Name																		
Natural Area	Emerald Trail																		
Suburban Estates	Rolling Hills	✓	✓	✓															✓
Suburban Development Area	Canton West	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
	Etowah Shoals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
	Governors Walk	✓	✓	✓														✓	✓
	Great Sky											✓						✓	✓
	Hickory Log		✓	✓	✓	✓						✓						✓	✓
	Knox Bridge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
	Laurel Canyon												✓					✓	✓
	Mountain Vista Overlook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
	Pea Ridge County Pocket	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Prominence												✓	✓	✓				✓
Neighborhood Living	Prominence Point Ridge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
	Oakdale	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓
	Ridge Pine	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓				✓	✓
Traditional Neighborhood Redevelopment Area	New Town	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
	Sunnyside	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Historic/ Traditional Neighborhood Stable	Historic Canton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓												✓
Downtown/ Urban Center	Central City			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Level Mixed Use/Retail Center	Riverstone									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Major Highway Corridor	Crescent Ridge Corridor									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	South Crescent Ridge Corridor									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Employment Center	Canton Place									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
	Technology Bluffs											✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
	Technology Center												✓	✓	✓			✓	✓

2.9. Broadband Services

Senate Bill 402, known as the ACE Act (Achieving Connectivity Everywhere), directs local communities to address broadband availability in local comprehensive plans. The local government must make an objective determination of whether it is served by broadband service. Appropriate follow-up steps must be identified based on the community's determination of whether it is served by broadband.

The following map identifies broadband services in the City of Canton:



Area Summary Map and Fixed Residential Broadband Providers

As used in this section: "Broadband services" means a wired or wireless terrestrial service that consists of the capability to transmit at a rate of not less than 25 megabits per second in the downstream direction and at least 3 megabits per second in the upstream direction to end users and in combination with such service provides:

- Access to the Internet; or
- Computer processing, information storage, or protocol conversion.

And "Broadband services provider" means any provider of broadband services or a public utility or any other person or entity that builds or owns a broadband network project.

Metro Atlanta, Cherokee County, and the City of Canton, generally enjoy widespread access to broadband technology from at least one or two service providers. As the market for broadband technology continues to expand and improve throughout the region and the State, Canton seems positioned to ensure that access to the technology will be available in their market.

The City of Canton currently has an agreement with Mobilitie for broadband expansion in the right-of-way. The City is having conversations with a second company to expand broadband and data services utilizing the City's right-of-way and buildings. Canton also have a franchise agreement with Comcast to provide broadband services to all city residents and property inside of the city limits and the City offers free WiFi in the downtown area.

2.10. Capital Improvements Element

See the City of Canton's Capital Improvement Element dated October 19, 2018.

3. Community Goals

3.1. Vision Statement

The City’s vision statement provides a general statement and image of what Canton desires to become in the future, with a complete description of development patterns to be encouraged in the community. The vision was developed and refined through citizens and the Stakeholders Committee’s input.



Downtown Canton

"WE'RE A VIBRANT COMMUNITY THAT OFFERS A WELCOMING BLEND OF CHARM, PROGRESSIVE SPIRIT AND ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.

IN CANTON, YOU'LL FIND EXCITING AND NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR GROWTH WITHIN AN AUTHENTIC, INVITING COMMUNITY THAT DEEPLY CARES ABOUT THE CITY'S FUTURE AND UNRIVALED QUALITY OF LIFE. CONVENIENTLY BETWEEN ATLANTA AND THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS, WE OFFER SCENIC VIEWS OF FOOTHILLS AND THE ETOWAH RIVER, FLOWING THROUGH OUR CITY. WE HAVE GREAT SHOPPING, DINING, EVENTS, ARTS AND EXCEPTIONAL PARKS. WE BELIEVE CANTON HOLDS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE."

3.2. Community Goals and Policies

During the development of the vision statement, participants discussed various key goals and policies that are necessary to achieve the vision of the community. The purpose of community goals and policies element is to provide a roadmap for the community's future as they identify the direction the community desires and are intended to generate local pride and enthusiasm about the future. The goals and policies below are a consensus list that resulted from discussions and should serve as a reference to community leaders as the community works toward achieving the desired future of Canton.

Housing

Goal #1 – *Development planning should be based on density, infrastructure, services, and rehabilitation of existing housing.*

- Conduct a residential housing study which includes demographic unit availability.
- Collaborative planning with county and city governments on new development pertaining to density, infrastructure, services and schools.
- Encourage nodular communities to reduce traffic and enhance walkability.
- Encourage diversity, density, housing type and cost in communities.
- Review of zoning classification to assure that diversity of residential housing types and sizes are available for development as part of overall masterplans and development projects.
- Establish a housing vision that seeks to ensure diverse housing options are available to the community, including options for low-income housing, workforce housing, senior housing, and transitional housing.
 - Encourage the Canton Housing Authority to aggressively pursue the efficient delivery of low-income housing programs that utilize the entire spectrum of state and federal programs to meet local needs. The City will meet annually with the Canton Housing Authority to assure that it is actively pursuing housing programs that benefit the citizens of Canton and the City Manager will assign a staff member to attend all meetings of the Canton Housing Authority and report back to the City all activities.
- Enforce code compliance and partner with landlord to revamp blighted residential land commercial properties
 - Encourage the renovation of affordable housing
- Encourage a compatible mixture of housing in our downtown area.
- Stimulate infill housing development in existing neighborhoods.
- Support the dispersion of diversity of housing in neighborhoods to eliminate pockets of poverty and prevent the growth of disinvestment.
- Connect and establish a relationship with local churches and non-profit organization to help with the indigent population.
 - City provides budgetary financing to help nonprofit / churches provide shelter.
 - Non-profit / churches integrate population back into society by providing education and other resources (help citizens become independent)

Economic Development

Goal #1 – *Encourage a diverse mix of light industry, small business, medical, entertainment, and technical expansions.*

- Provide resources for small business start-ups that fit with future planning (tax fees, leasing, grants).
 - Entrepreneurial work site.
 - Encourage educational paths by partnering with The Circuit, Chattahoochee Tech, and others
- Ensure a mix of residential, commercial, class A office and industrial development.
- Promote sustainable agricultural businesses such as community gardens and rooftop gardens.
- Consider impact on traffic congestion with development.
- Ensure accessibility to businesses and communities through connectivity.
- Streamline and expedite permitting process.
- Expand City employee “Customer Service” training programs.
- Utilize single point contact to advertise for development.

Goal #2 – *Target redevelopment, educational paths and maximizing current assets.*

- Target infill redevelopment to utilize current infrastructure.
- Balance residential development with job locations.
- Consider the impact on increased student populations with development.
- Encourage educational paths of students to align with needed job skill levels.
- Ensure current infrastructure improvements are completed.
- Maximize and build on current assets (Etowah River, Jones Building, Mill Site, Bluffs, Reservoir, land Value, Diverse Population, Country Seat, etc.)

Historic and Cultural Resources

Goal #1 – *Preserve and reclaim historical and natural sites.*

- Protect and expand greenspaces, agricultural lands, and equestrian estates by utilizing indigenous flora and water conservation techniques in future development.
- Establish a narrative of Native American history in conjunction with Reinhardt University.
- Encourage recycling, pollution reduction and green development to sustain our environment.

Goal #2 – *Develop Community Centers to encourage a “Sense of Community” and “Identity.”*

- Promote Art Center with diverse programs designed for specific Community Centers and Schools.
- Promote the concept of an Artistic Center in the downtown area (shops, galleries, marketplace etc.)

- Establish a Visitor Center and Kiosk in the downtown area.
- Utilize Artistic Center to create diverse cultural events.
- Establish community gateways such as signage indicating you are part of your City.
- Establish an Ambassador Program overseen by a designated City employee to enhance communication with the City and citizens.
- Review current ward boundaries to assure that wards are correctly balanced to assure equal populations. Create a policy to have this process routinely completed after each U.S. Census cycle.
- Review existing methodology and procedures for the election of Council Members and determine if the current process should be replaced with another variation, such as elected by ward, the creation of more wards, and/or at-large seats.

Community Facilities

Goal #1: - *Work with the Sequoyah Regional Library System to serve as the hub of education and collaboration within the community.*

- Communicate and promote the library’s story, impact, and what the library does.
- Incorporate user-centered design in our planning and practice to achieve convenient, intuitive, purposeful, and engaging library experiences for our community.
- Develop strategies and resources to meet and engage with the community outside of library walls.
- Sustain a high performing organization that strives for excellence in operational and fiscal management.

Transportation

Goal #1 - *Establish a regional and transportation hub.*

- Station hub near Northside Hospital
- Provide transportation for our citizens by expanding CATS.
- Enhance local transportation to connect communities with the City, with Atlanta and Jackson / Hartsfield airport.
- Install charging stations for electric vehicles.
- Establish plans for automatous transportation
 - On-demand service transportation system; for example, Uber & Lift
- Possible Multi-Transit Station such as Marta or Carta
- Work with State and local governments to ensure we have access to railroad right away.
 - Providing train rides to Woodstock & Marietta or vice-versa

Goal #2 – *Create pathways and roadways for connectivity throughout the City.*

- Create multi-use pathways, sidewalks, and bike lanes to connect the City to communities and points of interest
- Connect roadways from the Bluffs to the regional airport.

- Ensure future development has adequate tie-ins with existing roadways and transit especially major state and interstate highways.
- Improve connectivity of highways 140 and 20 to reduce traffic congestion.
- Continue improvements to Marietta highway.

Goal #3 – *Improve and increase parking in all public areas especially downtown.*

- Provide parking deck in downtown.
- Create more parking in Heritage, Boling and Etowah Park.

Goal #4 - *As part of its transportation element of Canton’s Comprehensive Plan, the City of Canton proposes to work in cooperation with Cherokee County to develop the proposed East Side connection of the Northside Cherokee Boulevard which includes adjacent trails. A Canton East Side Parkway will help fulfill several transportation goals: relieve community traffic on state highways by providing a local alternative; connect new and established parts of the community; encourage development and redevelopment; and provide a course for walkways, trails, and bicycle paths that connect City and County parks.*

Land Use

Goal #1 *Create a master plan for all parks and the Etowah River Corridor.*

- Establish a relationship with Cherokee County Trail Advisory Board and the City of Canton to work together on future projects.
- Construct boat ramps east and west of the City to encourage kayaks and canoes.
- Establish design, landscape, signage, connectivity, and scale guidelines in development.
- Increase available parking in Downtown
- Connect all major parks and complete current paths.
- Survey the Etowah River for development to ensure its full potential
 - Develop environmentally sensitive ways to make the Etowah river more accessible and attractive.
 - Investigate and develop engineering standards that encourage restaurants, retail shops, and recreation facilities along the Etowah River.
 - Develop a bike/walk path along the river with historical information along the path.
 - Create architectural engineered boardwalk, so when river overflows it will go underneath that way we can put a restaurant on the river, i.e. Ray’s on the River.

Goal #2 - *Ensure walkability and reduce traffic by establishing multi-use pathways through the City.*

- Establish gateways to the City
- Connect Reservoir Nature Trail to Great Sky
- Northside Hospital to Etowah Park
- Great Sky to Laurel Canyon

- Reinhardt College Parkway to Great Sky / Laurel Canyon
- Bluffs to Reservoir Nature Trail
- Connect Heritage Park to Boling, to Blankets, to Rope Mill

Goal #3 - *To preserve historical heritage and expand our natural resources.*

- Maintain and expand agricultural development (agrarian history).
- Preserve and expand parks and green space.

Goal #4 - *Utilize zoning measures.*

- Utilize zoning measures to control density levels and sprawls.
- Utilize zoning measures to control buffer areas around the river and historical sites.
- Utilize commercial/residential nodes versus strip mall development.
- Encourage infill development.
- Ensure diverse neighborhoods with a range of affordable housing.

Goal #5 - *Canton move into sustainability which includes cleaner air, waste reduction, water use reduction, renewable energy technologies, high-performance building LEED Cert. or Earth Craft Cert., better agriculture management, transportation alternatives, community walkability, and abundant green space.*

- The key component of the sustainability vision is to educate both businesses and citizens. Constantly improving on core ideals of sustainability and innovative ideas that could escalate and propel the City forward.
- Implement incentives for building green through Tax incentives, expedited permitting (permit/zone reductions), grant/loans, technical and design rebates and discounts, leasing assistance
- Recommend the City Manager utilize existing staff or private consultants to review sustainability measures and create goals for energy conservation.

Capital Improvement

Goal #1 - *Support development in areas efficiently serviced by existing infrastructure.*

- Work with county government to ensure growth and development plans can be supported by infrastructure, especially schools, police, and fire services.
- Support hospital expansion and upgrades.
- Ensure future planning is compatible and sustainable with predictable technological advances.
- Ensure road and bridge infrastructure is maintained and future planning will include sidewalks, multi-use paths, bicycle lanes, and stormwater catchment systems.

Goal #2 - *Encourage infill development by utilizing impact fees and community improvement districts.*

- Encourage infill redevelopment for the efficient use of current infrastructure.

- Use tap fees and community improvement districts to fund expansions for water, sewer, roads, etc.

Goal #3 – *Continue investment in green space to improve quality of life.*

- Ensure planned improvements to parks and recreation facilities are completed.
- Support indigent care programs with local nonprofits and churches.
- Create a position to disseminate information about city governmental issues to encourage participation of citizens (ambassador program).



Residents enjoying family time and outdoors

4. Needs and Opportunities

To achieve Canton's vision and goals for the future, the comprehensive plan must identify and provide feasible strategies for addressing the needs and opportunities facing the community. A need is defined as a condition that is required or wanted, while an opportunity is a chance for progress or improvement.

The needs and opportunities presented are divided into seven categories: Community Facilities, Economic Development, Housing, Land Use, Natural and Cultural Resources, Transportation, and Vocational / Educational. The list represents the final locally agreed upon items of needs and opportunities gathered from the Stakeholders Committee and the community members when asked to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of Canton.



Stakeholders committee members brainstorming on Needs and Opportunities

Housing

Needs:

- Attract housing development downtown.
- Enforce code compliance and partner with landlords to revamp blighted residential and commercial properties.
- Conduct a housing study to prevent overbuilding of residential housing in the City.

Opportunities:

- Increase connectivity of subdivisions through pedestrian sidewalks, bicycle lanes and accessibility trails to link current communities together.
- Redevelop aging and blighted properties to prevent issues from becoming worse.
- Incorporate mixed-use housing in downtown Canton to provide a live, work, play environment.

Economic Development

Needs:

- Provide a Welcome Center and kiosk for tourists and new residents as the City becomes more of a destination place.
- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to “Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory” section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement.
- Seek ways to provide a variety of job opportunities (retail, small businesses, and corporate, etc.) to support future growth.
- Research and implement methods to maintain and increase the ability to provide water and sewer for current and future development.
- Consider making main level space available in downtown Canton for shops and restaurants.

Opportunities:

- Provide the opportunity for more retail and professional business throughout the City to provide more job opportunities.
- Develop riverfront with boardwalk (cycling and walking path) to include retail, restaurants, commercial and residential space.
- Consider the Jones building to become retail space at main level such as Ponce or Krog
- Build relations through means of a tourism facility as it is part of Canton’s charm.
- Focus on “Riverfront” development and marketing to provide a vibrant city and appeal to future businesses and residents.
- Incentivize existing attorneys to relocate upstairs to free up prime retail space on sidewalk level.
- Establish a small business incentive program to attract new businesses.
- Encourage the Film Industry to consider Canton as a location to film by showcasing prior work conducted in the City.
- Seek champions to promote and host historic home tours in the City and host airshows at the airport.

Historic, Natural and Cultural Resources

Needs:

- Find methods that will help residents in the community connect with and feel a part of the City.

- Connect the River to the City by linking the river to the parks, incorporating the historic fish traps and Indian heritage.
- Preserve the River, Reservoir (Hickory Log) and Lake (Allatoona) as natural land features attract business through quality of life.
- Establish Canton’s street and boundary character to prevent encroachment from surrounding communities and cities.
- Preserve and enhance parks and recreation to meet all needs of the community.
- Continue usage of Etowah River Master Plan to attract future businesses and meet the needs of the community.

Opportunities:

- Host concerts in Etowah Park to bring residents and non-residents together for entertainment.
- Become a Green City to become and remain a cleaner, healthier, and more economically viable Canton.
- Focus on developing the area along the river as it has the potential to become a riverfront with entertainment and restaurant opportunities.
- Study methods to showcase Native American heritage as a historical attraction.
- Create youth programs oriented towards youth development through recreation, life skill training, education, and coaching.
- Add modern and contemporary arts and other variety of arts to the existing arts in the City

Community Facilities and Services

Needs:

- Connect and establish relationships with local churches such as MUST Ministries, YMCA, and other organizations to help with the homeless population when needed. Partner with local non-profits and agencies to explore the needs of the local homeless population.
- Explore the possibility of a new water treatment facility that is expandable to facilitate future growth and come up with a way to eliminate the odor.
- Determine additional location for a Water Treatment Plant to accommodate future population increases.
- Increase the capacity for sanitary sewer and potable water to appeal to prospective businesses and homeowners.

Opportunities:

- Expand City’s Trail System outward from Etowah River Trail to other areas within the City and link to other communities’ trail system.
- Increase pedestrian and bicycle accessibility trails to link current communities together with access to our trail system.

- Provide Educational/Minority Outreach/Awareness/Overall community involvement through the Cultural Center.

Transportation

Needs:

- Connect sidewalk along Hwy 140 heading towards Waleska.
- Add bicycle signage throughout the Bluffs and downtown Canton and along Riverstone Parkway and Reinhardt College Parkway.
- Install wayfinding signage – directional signs, welcome signs, and monument signs throughout the City to allow for easy navigation.
- Increase connectivity of Canton and subdivisions through pedestrian sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and accessibility trails to link current communities together.
- Install additional signage for identifying City’s gateway, parking areas, and sight distance.
- Provide additional transit options to benefit the community and allow other modes of transportation.
- Research methods to reduce traffic congestion and lack of traffic control to improve the flow of traffic.
- Construct new parking facility and additional spaces downtown. Develop programs to improve parking efficiency and enforcement.

Opportunities:

- Improve and maintain streetscape along Highway 140, Hickory Flat Highway, Railroad Street, Marietta Road, Waleska Highway, Marietta Highway, and throughout north and south Canton.
- Preserve and enhance routes/gateway to North Georgia Mountains as natural land features attract businesses and people through quality of life.
- Seek to incorporate a bike share program in Canton.
- Utilize the current transportation plan as a method to interest prospective businesses as the City sees future growth.

Land Use

Needs:

- Focus on expanding land for industrial, manufacturing, and technology by potentially annexing additional land.
- Communicate with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and other governing agencies involved with the expansion of HWY 20.
- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to “Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory” section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement.
- Seek ways to provide a variety of job opportunities (retail, small businesses, and corporate, etc.) to support future growth.

- Establish Canton’s street and boundary character to prevent encroachment from surrounding communities and cities.

Opportunities:

- Undeveloped land along the river has the potential to become a riverfront as an entertainment/restaurant venue.
- Utilize infill development in downtown for housing.
- Acquire green space in the City by annexing additional property or develop green space within vacant City property.
- Incorporate the use of historic Fish Traps along with potential river development.

Vocational / Educational

Needs:

- Connect and establish relationships with local churches such as MUST Ministries, YMCA, and other organizations to help with the homeless population when needed.
- Be proactive in determining methods to preventing an increase in crime.

Opportunities:

- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to “Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory” section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement and as Canton becomes a destination place.
- Provide opportunities for more retail and professional business throughout the City to provide more job opportunities.



Ken Patton, Community Development Director discussing current conditions of Canton with residents.

Consideration of DCA Quality Community Objectives

DCA Quality Community Objectives and Best Practices

1. Economic Prosperity

Encourage development or expansion of businesses and industries that are suitable for the community. Factors to consider when determining suitability include job skills required; long-term suitability; linkages to other economic activities in the region; impact on the resources of the area; or prospects for creating job opportunities that meet the needs of a diverse local workforce.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Research and create a sourcebook to identify technical and financial assistance available for local businesses from regional, state, and federal sources and make it available to local businesses.
- Track business needs of existing businesses to help with business retention.
- Tailor training programs to provide workforce skills needed by local businesses.
- Develop incentives program for downtown retail to make street-level retail more attractive than office use.
- Create a new industrial park.

2. Resource Management

Promote the efficient use of natural resources and identify and protect environmentally sensitive areas of the community. This may be achieved by promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy generation; encouraging green building construction and renovation; utilizing appropriate waste management techniques; fostering water conservation and reuse; or setting environmentally sensitive areas aside as green space or conservation reserves.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Update current inventory of environmentally sensitive areas such as groundwater recharge areas, river corridors, and wetlands, as a first step to create a local strategy for minimizing negative impacts on water quality and quantity.
- Prepare a Sustainability Plan for the City of Canton.
- Update Unified Development Code to incorporate sustainability-green code regulations.

3. Efficient Land Use

Maximize the use of existing infrastructure and minimize the costly conversion of undeveloped land at the periphery of the community. This may be achieved by encouraging development or redevelopment of sites closer to the traditional core of the community; designing new development to minimize the amount of land consumed; carefully planning expansion of public infrastructure; or maintaining open space in agricultural, forestry, or conservation uses.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Create incentives or regulatory tool to encourage property owners to maintain properties or rehabilitate underutilized or vacant structures.
- Consider adopting a rehabilitation code in addition to a new construction code to help keep costs down thereby encouraging rehabilitation of properties.
- Update codes to encourage nodular development patterns.
- Develop incentives program for infill development and redevelopment opportunities with blighted property.

4. Local Preparedness

Identify and put in place the prerequisites for the type of future the community seeks to achieve. These prerequisites might include infrastructure (roads, water, sewer) to support or direct new growth; ordinances and regulations to manage growth as desired; leadership and staff capable of responding to opportunities and managing new challenges; or undertaking an all-hazards approach to disaster preparedness and response.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Ensure consistency of Cherokee County and the City of Canton's ordinances with the adopted comprehensive plan.
- Pursue CDBG grants to implement needed infrastructure projects.
- Continue implementation of a Service Delivery Strategy.
- Update codes to encourage nodular development patterns.
- Develop incentives program for infill development and redevelopment opportunities with blighted property.

5. Sense of Place

Protect and enhance the community's unique qualities. This may be achieved by maintaining the downtown as focal point of the community; fostering compact, walkable, mixed-use development; protecting and revitalizing historic areas of the community; encouraging new development that is compatible with the traditional features of the community; or protecting scenic and natural features that are important to defining the community's character.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) was established to oversee downtown commercial development of the Historic District. Create guidelines to include residential development in the Historic District.
- Target smaller infill development.
- Implement the work plan contained in the Canton Forward Plan.
- Develop design guidelines for residential properties within the Historic District, seek public input in matching HPC boundaries with existing National Register District boundaries.

6. Regional Cooperation

Cooperate with neighboring authority to address shared needs. This may be achieved by actively participating in regional organizations; identifying joint projects that will result in greater efficiency and less cost to the taxpayer; or developing collaborative solutions for regional issues such as protection of shared natural resources, development of the transportation network, or creation of a tourism plan.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Meet regularly with ARC staff to discuss local priorities and projects and explore opportunities for assistance and coordination with regional efforts.
- Meet regularly with local government staff to discuss local priorities and projects and explore opportunities for assistance and coordination with local government efforts.

7. Housing Options

Promote an adequate range of safe, affordable, inclusive, and resource efficient housing in the community. This may be achieved by encouraging development of a variety of housing types, sizes, costs, and densities in each neighborhood; promoting programs to provide housing for residents of all socioeconomic backgrounds; including affordable mortgage finance options; instituting programs to address homelessness issues in the community; or coordinating with local economic development programs to ensure availability of adequate workforce housing in the community.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Encourage Canton Housing Authority to be proactive instead of reactive regarding housing programs and projects to improve housing conditions and affordability.
- Consider creating an ordinance to allow cottage zoning to allow very small single-family homes to fill the need for affordable housing and utilize vacant properties.
- Provide education on home loan assistance to foster rehabilitation and revitalization.
- City of Canton amended zoning to allow accessory dwelling units in all single-family zoning districts.

8. Transportation Options

Address the transportation needs, challenges, and opportunities of all community residents. This may be achieved by fostering alternatives to transportation by automobile, including walking, cycling, and transit; employing traffic calming measures throughout the community; requiring adequate connectivity between adjoining developments; or coordinating transportation and land use decision-making within the community.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Create a continuous, well-maintained sidewalk network, especially around schools.
- Ensure safe, adequate, and well-designed facilities for bicyclists.
- Develop a priority list for bicycle and pedestrian improvement projects.

- Encourage and expand alternative transportation methods – express bus service and commuter rail.

9. Educational Opportunities

Make educational and training opportunities readily available to enable all community residents to improve their skills, adapt to technological advances, manage their finances, or pursue life ambitions. This can be achieved by expanding and improving local educational institutions or programs; providing access to other institutions in the regions; instituting programs to improve local graduation rates; expanding vocational education programs; or coordinating with local economic development programs to ensure an adequately trained and skilled workforce.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Ensure that all schools and libraries have adequate and efficient access to the internet to provide sufficient opportunities for online education.

10. Community Health

Ensure that all community residents, regardless of age, ability, or income, have access to critical goods and services, safe and clean neighborhoods, and good work opportunities. This may be achieved by providing services to support the basic needs of disadvantaged residents, including the disabled; instituting programs to improve public safety; promoting programs that foster better health and fitness; or otherwise providing all residents the opportunity to improve their circumstances in life and to fully participate in the community.

Best Practices recommended for the City of Canton

- Develop a comprehensive listing of health services and assistance resources for local citizens.
- Coordinate with ARC to participate in the GDOT 5311 program to provide public transportation to the nearest available public health facility.

5. Implementation Strategy

The Implementation Program is the overall strategy for achieving the Community Vision and for addressing each of the Community Needs and Opportunities. It identifies specific measures, both short and long-term, that must be undertaken by the community in order to realize the community's goals. Identifying these items helps the community organize their actions to follow.

Community Planning Three-Step Process

1. Develop and adopt a Comprehensive Plan
2. Use the Comprehensive Plan to evaluate proposals for rezoning and other approvals
3. Establish regulatory measures necessary to protect and enhance the character of our communities

Report of Accomplishments

This is the review of the Short Term Work Program (STWP) from the previous five years from the Horizon 2030 Comprehensive Plan. As a new STWP is produced every five years, the items within the previous STWP must be identified for their status as either complete, in progress, pending, or dropped. Those items that have been postponed or are in progress must be shown in the next STWP where appropriate, while those items that have been postponed or canceled must also include a reason for their status.

Report of Accomplishments from STWP, City of Canton Comprehensive Plan					
Project Description	Completed	Ongoing	Pending	Dropped	Status/Comments
<i>Economic Development</i>					
Create and Implement a City-wide Tourism Plan			X		City dealing with budget constraints
Update and maintain a "Downtown Historic Sites Walking Tour"	X				Completed; should be updated annually
Develop an Action Plan to support Industry Recruitment & Business Retention		X			Cherokee Office of Economic Development has an Action Plan used for Canton businesses – City has hired Economic Development Coordinator
Develop and Update Promotional Materials for a City-wide Recruitment, Retention & Marketing Plan		X			Cherokee Office of Economic Development has promotional materials used for Canton businesses – City has hired Economic Development Coordinator
Prepare Redevelopment Plan for State Business Hwy. 5			X		Staff directed to work on Technology Ridge and Central City Urban Redevelopment Plans – Technology Ridge completed in 2012 and Central City ongoing
Prepare Redevelopment Plan for Central City (Downtown)	X				Completed in 2016; Canton Forward
<i>Housing</i>					
Create & Codify a New Unified Code TND and TOD Zoning Classifications		X			TND completed in 2014
<i>Natural & Historic Resources</i>					
Adopt Way-finding Signage Plan & Install Signs		X			Draft Plan is complete – City is reviewing alternative designs
Etowah River Greenway Land Acquisition		X			Projects are ongoing – City dealing with budget constraints
Etowah River Greenway Phase 1A (I-575 to Mill No. 2)	X				Completed in 2016
Etowah River Greenway Phase 2 (Multi-Use)		X			Under construction
Etowah River Greenway Phase 3 (Mill #2 to Waleska Street)		X			Under construction
Etowah River Greenway Phase 4 (Waleska Street to Marietta Hwy)		X			In design and engineering phase
Etowah River Greenway Phase 5 (Marietta Hwy to Harmon Field)		X			In design and engineering phase

Report of Accomplishments from STWP, City of Canton Comprehensive Plan					
Project Description	Completed	Ongoing	Pending	Dropped	Status/Comments
<i>Natural & Historic Resources</i>					
Etowah River Greenway Other Costs & Contingency		X			Projects are ongoing – City dealing with budget constraints
Tree City USA		X			Projects are ongoing – City dealing with budget constraints
<i>Community Facilities</i>					
Hire nine (9) additional Firefighters/Year				X	Consolidated with Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services
Add North District Station 3 (Laurel Canyon) – Land (3.2 acres) & Building				X	Consolidated with Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services
Add North District Station 4 (Bluffs) – Land & Building				X	Consolidated with Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services
Add North District Station 5 (Canton Place) – Land, Building & Platform Truck				X	Consolidated with Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services
Police Department Facility Expansion		X			Projects are ongoing – City dealing with budget constraints
Expand and Relocate Hospital Services Facility		X			Phase 1 completed, project is still ongoing
Construct New Middle School	X				Completed in 2016, Teasley Middle School
Create Additional CIDs		X			City Staff has met with businesses in various areas regarding creation of CIDs and business were not interested in creating CIDs
Establish a City Recreation & Leisure Services Department	X				City hired a Recreation Director, Director left employment with the City, City created Recreation Advisory Committee
Upgrade and Expand Existing Wastewater Treatment Plant		X			Work-in-progress - In design and engineering phase
Monitor Solid Waste and Recycling Needs		X			Projects are ongoing – City dealing with budget constraints

Report of Accomplishments from STWP, City of Canton Comprehensive Plan					
Project Description	Completed	Ongoing	Pending	Dropped	Status/Comments
<i>Community Facilities</i>					
Develop City-wide Greenspace Master Plan for Parks and Recreation			X		City dealing with budget constraints
Golf Course	X				Construction complete – City paid off their portion of the project in 2017
Boling Park On-going Improvements		X			Projects are ongoing – City dealing with budget constraints
Marietta Road Bridge Improvements	X				Completed in 2016
Waleska Street Bridge Stormwater Improvements		X			Lack of adequate funding
Elmwood Street Stormwater Improvements	X				Removed debris
Center Street Stormwater Improvements	X				Completed in 2015
Magnolia Drive Stormwater Improvements		X			Contractor hired to upgrade storm drainage
Oakdale Court Stormwater Improvements			X		Waiting for funding approval
Great Sky Trench Drain Stormwater Improvements			X		Waiting for funding approval
<i>Land Use</i>					
Create & Codify a New Unified Code TND and TOD Zoning Classifications		X			TND completed in 2014
Update Growth Boundary Plan for the City		X			Current growth boundary plan has no expiration date
<i>Transportation</i>					
Develop Priority List for Local Road, Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements		X			Completed local road priority list in 2017

Report of Accomplishments from STWP, City of Canton Comprehensive Plan					
Project Description	Completed	Ongoing	Pending	Dropped	Status/Comments
<i>Transportation</i>					
Implement Local Road, Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvement Projects		X			Road capital improvements list complete – working on bicycle and pedestrian component
Heard Road Extension/Bluffs Parkway			X		City dealing with budget constraints
Design and Construct Canton Place Parkway	X				Completed in 2015 and 2016, respectively
Business Hwy. 5 Road Improvements		X			Preliminary engineering work is in process
Intersection Upgrades		X			Projects are ongoing – City dealing with budget constraints
Hickory Flat Road / Marietta Road Intersection	X				Completed in 2015
SR Business 5 Intersection		X			Projects are ongoing – City dealing with budget constraints
Marietta Road	X				Completed in 2016
Hickory Flat Road	X				Completed in 2016
Waleska Street	X				Completed in 2015
Main Street Extension Corridor	X				Completed in 2016
East Main Street	X				Completed in 2016
Downtown Parking Analysis	X				Completed in 2015

Community Work Program (CWP)

The Community Work Program is a key implementation tool that reflects those activities and strategies that the City of Canton has chosen to undertake in the current five-year period (2019-2023). The CWP will be extended one year into the future to maintain a full five years of future activity. Any changes appropriate to the other years will be included.

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Economic Development									
Create and Implement a City-wide Tourism Plan	X	X	X	X	X	Canton Tourism, Inc.	\$60,000	State Grants, Hotel/Motel Tax	Review and update annually
Update and maintain a "Downtown Historic Sites WalkingTour"	X	X	X	X	X	Canton Tourism, Inc. & Historical Society	\$10,000	Hotel/Motel Tax	Update annually
Develop an Action Plan to support Industry Recruitment & Business Retention	X	X	X	X	X	Economic Development	\$10,000	Hotel/Motel Tax	Review and update annually
Develop and Update Promotional Materials for a City-wide Recruitment, Retention & Marketing Plan	X	X	X	X	X	Economic Development	\$50,000	Hotel/Motel Tax	Review and update annually
Prepare Redevelopment Plan for Marietta Highway	X	X	X	X	X	Community Development & Economic Development	\$50,000	City General Fund and Grants	
Develop incentive program for downtown retail	X	X	X	X	X	Community Development & Economic Development	Staff Time	N/A	Review and update annually
Create new industrial park	X	X	X			Community Development & Economic Development	TBD	Private Sector, Cherokee Office of Economic Development, Cherokee Industrial Authority, City General Fund, Grants, & Bonds	

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Economic Development									
Provide resources for small business start ups	X	X	X	X	X	Economic Development	Staff Time	N/A	Review and update annually
Create entrepreneurial work site	X	X				Economic Development	Staff Time	N/A	Site proposed with Canton Mill Redevelopment
Downtown Welcome Center	X	X				City of Canton	TBD	City General Fund & Grants	
Informational Kiosk	X	X				City of Canton	\$10,000	General Fund	
Adopt Way-finding Signage Plan & Install Signs	X	X	X			City of Canton	\$10,000	City General Fund	Draft Plan is complete - City is reviewing alternative designs
Completion of Jones Building & other downtown project providing retail/food markets on street level floors	X	X	X			City of Canton	\$9,700,000	General Fund & SPLOST	At completion of exterior building façade contract, reassess project for all available options including selling the building
Prepare report & study for available jobs & workforce opportunities	X	X	X			Community Development	Staff Time	N/A	
Housing									
Create comprehensive housing plan consisting of density, infrastructure, & diversity		X	X	X		Community Development	\$80,000	City General Fund & Grants	
Research & implement affordable housing best practices	X	X	X			Community Development	Staff Time	N/A	Utilize comprehensive housing plan
Improve blighted properties & stimulate downtown infill development	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton & Community Development	Staff Time	N/A	Review and update annually

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Housing									
Encourage nodular communities to reduce traffic, enhance walkability, & connectivity	X	X	X	X	X	Community Development	Staff Time	N/A	
Develop incentives to ensure workforce housing needs are provided		X	X			City of Canton	Staff Time	N/A	
Natural & Historical Resources									
Etowah River Park Trail Extension	X	X				City of Canton	\$6,500,000	LWCF, General Fund, SPLOST, & Impact Fees	
Etowah River Trail Phase 1 (Heritage Park to Cherokee High)	X	X	X			City of Canton	\$2,250,000	LWCF, General Fund, SPLOST, & Impact Fees	
Etowah River Trail Phase 2 (Cherokee High to Boling Park)		X	X			City of Canton	\$750,000	SPLOST & Impact Fees	
Etowah River Trail Phase III - Boling Park Trailhead Facility			X	X		City of Canton	\$2,500,000	LWCF, General Fund, SPLOST, & Impact Fees	
Etowah River Trail Phase 4A - Etowah Bridge Crossing & Trail Connections to Downtown				X	X	City of Canton	\$11,225,000	LWCF, General Fund, SPLOST, & Impact Fees	
Etowah River Trail Phase 4B - Pedestrian Crossing to Downtown	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton	\$850,000	LWCF, General Fund, SPLOST, & Impact Fees	

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Natural & Historical Resources									
Etowah River Trail Phase 5 - Trail Connection to Boling Park along the Etowah River					X	City of Canton	\$1,100,000	LWCF, General Fund, SPLOST, & Impact Fees	
Etowah River Trail Phase 6 - Harmon Field Park Trail Connection					X	City of Canton	\$850,000	LWCF, General Fund, SPLOST, & Impact Fees	
Etowah River Trail Phase 7 - Etowah River Educational / Wildlife Trail					X	City of Canton	\$2,000,000	LWCF, General Fund, SPLOST, & Impact Fees	
Tree City USA	X	X	X	X	X	Community Development	\$5,000	City Funds	Renew Membership Annually
Identify important historical sites to preserve Canton's heritage	X	X	X	X	X	Canton Tourism, Inc. & Historical Society	Staff Time	N/A	Review and update annually
Heritage Park Trail	X					City of Canton	\$120,000	Impact Fees & SPLOST	
Heritage Park Outdoor Gym		X				City of Canton	\$115,000	Impact Fees, General Fund, & SPLOST	
Heritage Park Playground		X				City of Canton	\$150,000	Impact Fees, General Fund, & SPLOST	
Heritage Park Splash Pad			X			City of Canton	\$500,000	Impact Fees, General Fund, & SPLOST	
Heritage Park Restrooms			X			City of Canton	\$75,000	Impact Fees, General Fund, & SPLOST	

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Natural & Historical Resources									
Heritage Park Community Pavilion				X		City of Canton	\$250,000	Impact Fees, General Fund, & SPLOST	
Community Facilities									
Public Safety Department Grant Activities	X	X	X	X	X	Police Department	\$5,000	City General Fund	Ongoing Annual Activity
Expand and Relocate Hospital Services Facility	X	X	X	X	X	Northside Hospital	\$180,000,000	Northside Hospital	To be accomplished in six phases
Create additional special tax districts	X	X	X			Community Development	\$25,000	City General Fund	Dependent upon business interest
Work with Canton Recreation Advisory Committee on all recreation & leisure service projects	X	X	X	X		City Manager	Staff Time	City General Fund	To be accomplished by existing City personnel to accomplish specific tasks related to parks and recreation
Upgrade and Expand Existing Wastewater Treatment Plant	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton, Utilities, Engineering, Consultant	\$40,000,000	City Water & Sewer Fund & Bonds	Engineering & Design
Monitor Solid Waste and Recycling Needs	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton	\$2,500	User Fees	
Develop City-wide Greenspace Master Plan for Parks and Recreation	X	X	X			Recreation & Leisure Services and Community Development	\$80,000	City General Fund	
Continuation of Park & Recreation Initiative	X	X	X	X	X	City Manager	TBD	General Fund, Impact Fees, Grants, & SPLOST	Review and update annually

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Community Facilities									
Upgrade and Expand Existing Water Treatment Plant	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton, Utilities, Engineering, Consultant	\$40,000,000	City Water & Sewer Fund & Bonds	
Establish community center(s)	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton	TBD	Private Fund, General Fund, SPLOST, & Grants	Original Public Safety Plan included five fire stations/police precincts with community space
Cooperation between City & Georgia Power to conduct wellness checks during power outages	X	X				City of Canton	Staff Time	N/A	
Waleska Street Bridge Stormwater Improvements	X					City of Canton Public Works	\$75,000	SPLOST, LMIG & General Fund	
Magnolia Drive Stormwater Improvements	X					City of Canton Public Works	\$14,000	Stormwater Fund	
Oakdale Court Stormwater Improvements	X					City of Canton Public Works	\$3,500	Stormwater Fund	
Great Sky Trench Drain Stormwater Improvements	X					City of Canton Public Works	\$11,200	Stormwater Fund	
Fire Station 9	X					Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services	\$3,382,000	Impact Fees	
Pumper Truck	X					Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services	\$470,000	Impact Fees	

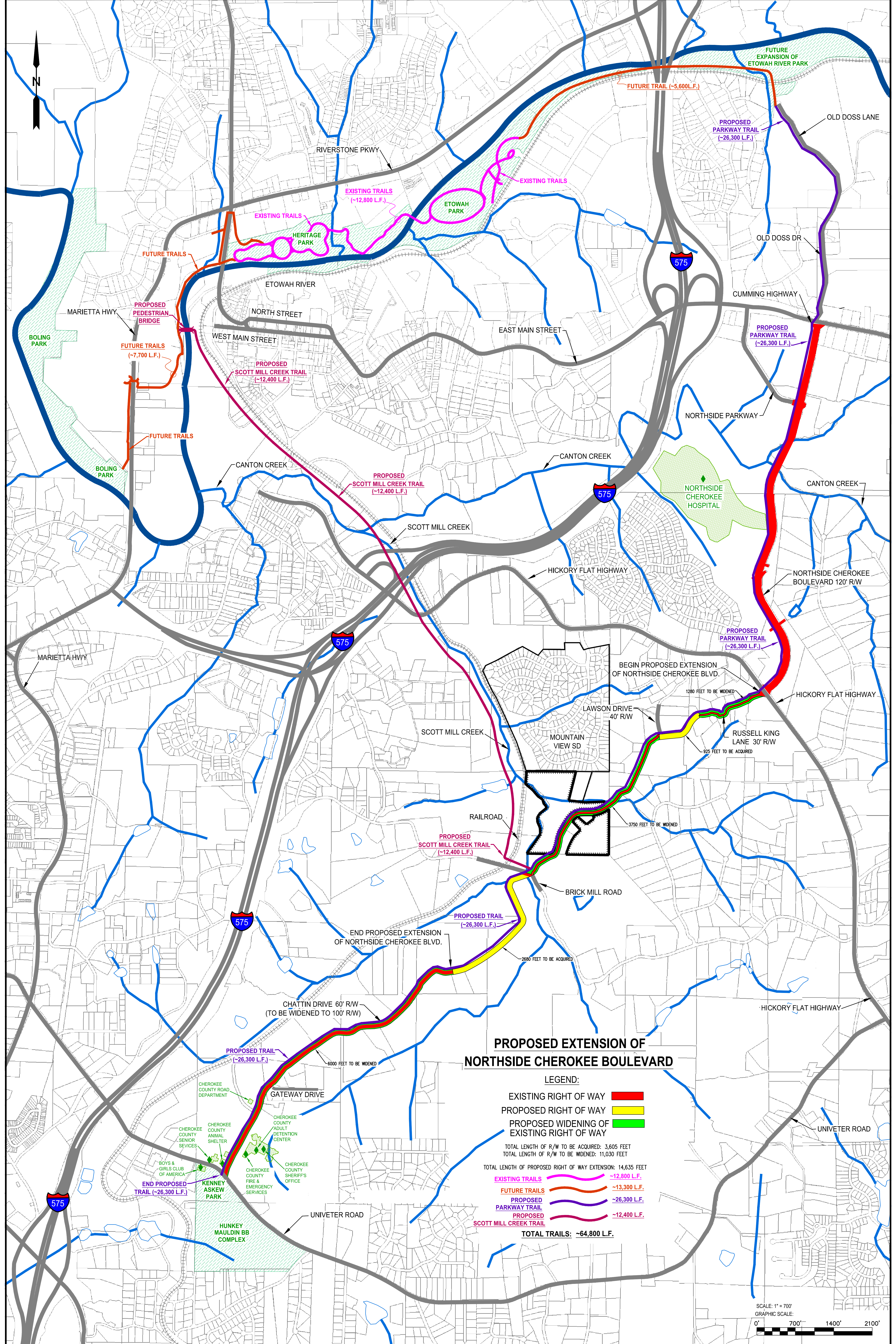
Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Community Facilities									
Fire Station 16		X				Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services	\$3,500,000	Impact Fees	
Pumper Truck		X				Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services	\$470,000	Impact Fees	
Aerial Truck		X				Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services	\$1,200,000	Impact Fees	
Ambulance		X				Cherokee County Fire & Emergency Services	\$225,000	Impact Fees	
Police Department Construction	X					Canton Police Department	\$1,519,608	Impact Fees & SPLOST	
Pursuit Management System (two units)	X					Canton Police Department	\$12,000	Impact Fees	
Pursuit Management System (one unit)		X				Canton Police Department	\$6,000	Impact Fee & City General Fund	
Mobile Command Vehicle			X			Canton Police Department	\$350,000	Impact Fees	

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Land Use									
Create & Codify a New Unified Code TOD Zoning Classifications	X	X	X			Planning and Zoning	\$75,000	City General Fund	Provides reorganized zoning and development code with overlay districts, TND and TOD capabilities, and support for LCI, CID, IDD and other tools to leverage local funding for desired infrastructure improvements
Update Growth Boundary Plan for the City	X	X	X	X	X	Community Development	Staff Time	City General Fund	To be accomplished through maintaining existing processes
Revise Etowah River Corridor Master Plan to include additional parks & ensure connectivity to future development, Mill #1, & downtown Canton	X	X				City Council, Community Development, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board	Staff Time	N/A	
Establish multi-use pathways to ensure walkability & traffic reduction	X	X	X	X	X	City Council, Community Development, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board	\$1,000,000 per mile		
Create zoning codes to promote maintenance & expansion of agricultural development & greenspace, encourage infill development & increase in downtown housing	X	X				Planning and Zoning	Staff Time	N/A	
Prepare subarea master plan for Sunnyside (Marietta Road)	X	X	X			Community Development	\$125,000	General Funds & Grants	
Prepare sustainability plan		X	X	X		Community Development	TBD	N/A	Amend UDC to incorporate sustainability / green code requirements

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Transportation									
Provide status report of five-year STWP to Planning Commission & City Council	X	X	X	X	X	Community Development	Staff Time	N/A	Provide update annually
Develop Priority List for Local Road, Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvement Projects	X	X	X	X	X	Public Works & Community Development	\$5,000	City General Fund	Update annually
Implement Local Road, Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvement Projects	X	X	X	X	X	Public Works & Community Development	\$3,000,000	City General Fund, Grants and Fees	Use local money to match State & Federal grants and coordinate with County
Heard Road Extension	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton	\$1,525,736	City of Canton Impact Fees	Total: \$1,525,736 / Assumes \$1,525,736 from Impact Fees - new street to be 4 lane connection to Bluffs Parkway
Marietta Highway			X	X	X	City of Canton	\$10,000,000	Impact Fees, Grants, & Cherokee County	Construction to add 2 lanes
Prepare Transportation Plan	X	X				Community Development	\$150,000	General Fund, Impact Fees, & SPLOST	
Intersection Upgrades	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton	\$6,500,000	City Impact Fees and Grants	City Impact Fees - improvements to include additional striping, additional turn lanes, signal synchronization
Marietta Highway & State Route Business 5 Intersections	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton	\$1,647,000	City Impact Fees and Grants	City Impact Fees - improvements to include additional striping, additional turn lanes, signal synchronization, stormwater improvements

Canton 2040 - City of Canton Comprehensive Plan - 5 Year Short Term Work Plan									
Project Description	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Notes
Transportation									
Improve & increase parking in public areas (downtown)	X	X				City of Canton	\$4,000,000	General Fund & SPLOST	
Create regional & local hub for Express Bus Service with local connections & expansion of CATS shuttle service routes	X	X	X	X	X	GRTA, City of Canton, & Cherokee County	TBD	Federal, State, County, & City	
Develop East Side Parkway with a multi-use trail connecting City or County parks		X	X	X	X	City of Canton & Cherokee County	\$8,928,930	City General Fund, City Impact Fees, & SPLOST	
Install electric vehicle charging stations	X	X				City of Canton	\$7,500 per Level 2 station	City General Fund	
Implement Street Resurfacing Program	X	X	X	X	X	Public Works	\$1,000,000	City General Fund	
Create pathways & roadways for connectivity through the City	X	X	X	X	X	City of Canton	\$1,000,000 per mile	City General Fund, Grants, & SPLOST	
Prominence Boulevard - Keeter Road	X	X	X			City of Canton	\$3,661,632	Impact Fees, SPLOST, Developer	
Reinhardt College Parkway (SR20) Study	X					City of Canton	\$130,000	Impact Fees, SPLOST, General Fund, & Cherokee County	
Coordinate with Cherokee Area Transportation System (CATS) to install shelter stop at Teasley Middle School to downtown	X	X	X			City of Canton	TBD	LWCF, General Fund, & SPLOST,	

A. Proposed Extension of Northside Cherokee Boulevard Map



**PROPOSED EXTENSION OF
NORTHSIDE CHEROKEE BOULEVARD**

LEGEND:

- EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY █
- PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY █
- PROPOSED WIDENING OF EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY █
- TOTAL LENGTH OF R/W TO BE ACQUIRED: 3,605 FEET
- TOTAL LENGTH OF R/W TO BE WIDENED: 11,030 FEET
- TOTAL LENGTH OF PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY EXTENSION: 14,635 FEET
- EXISTING TRAILS ~ -12,800 L.F.
- FUTURE TRAILS ~ -13,300 L.F.
- PROPOSED PARKWAY TRAIL ~ -26,300 L.F.
- PROPOSED SCOTT MILL CREEK TRAIL ~ -12,400 L.F.
- TOTAL TRAILS: -64,800 L.F.**

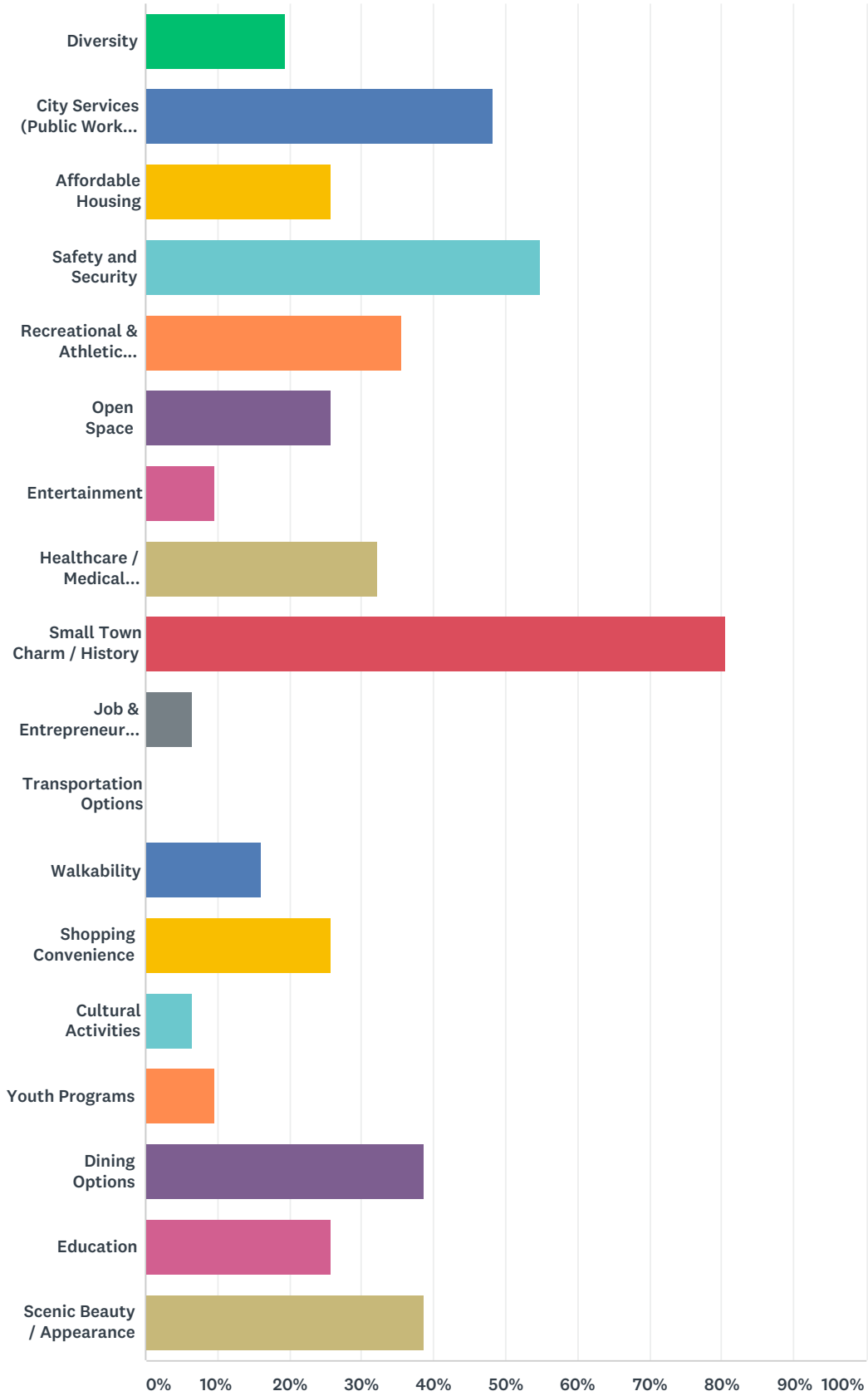
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0' 700' 1400' 2100'

B. Comprehensive Plan Community Survey & Survey Results

Q1 Which of the following topics best describes the quality of life in Canton?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 619

Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Diversity	19.35% 6

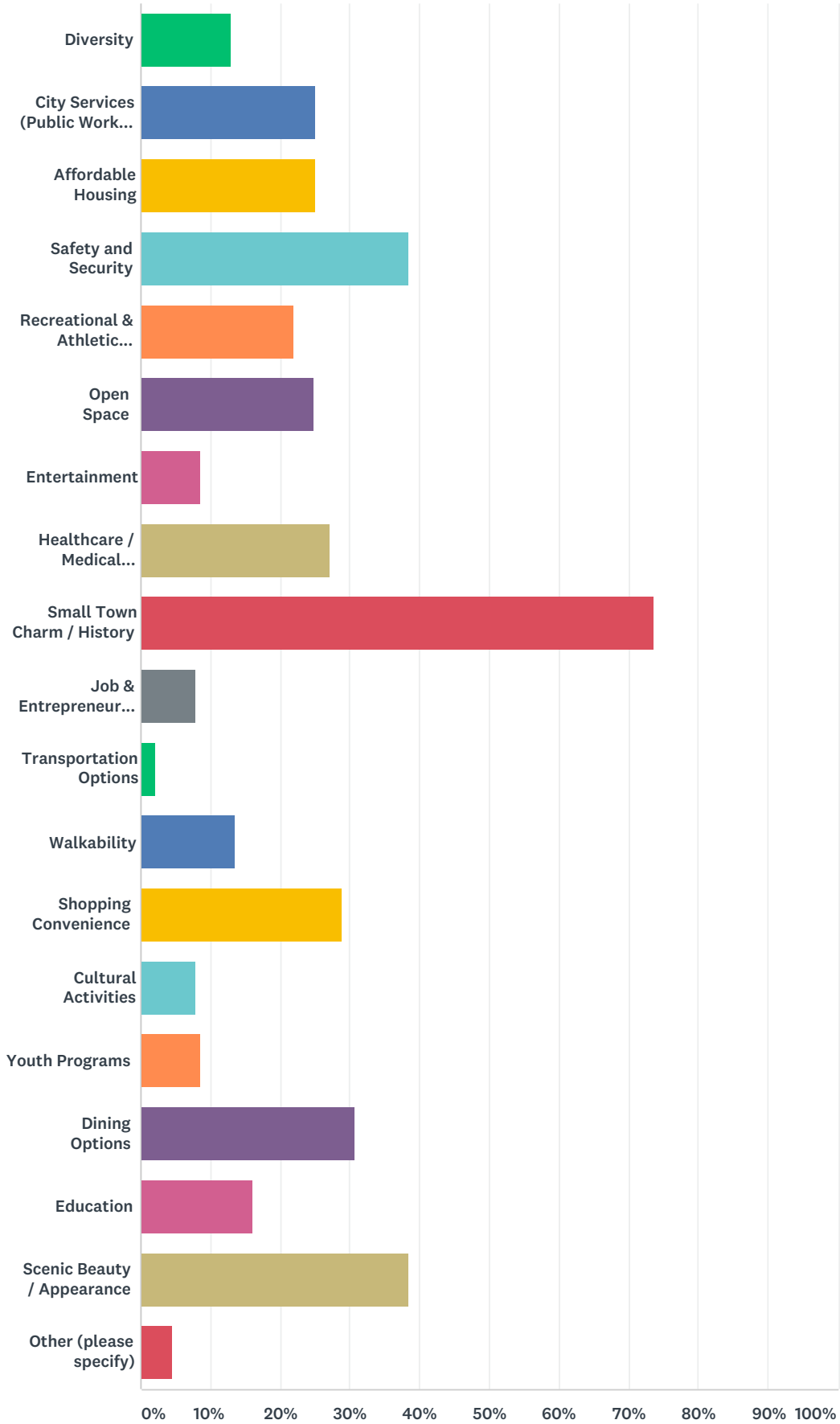
Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

City Services (Public Works, Police, Sanitation)	48.39%	15
Affordable Housing	25.81%	8
Safety and Security	54.84%	17
Recreational & Athletic Resources	35.48%	11
Open Space	25.81%	8
Entertainment	9.68%	3
Healthcare / Medical Services	32.26%	10
Small Town Charm / History	80.65%	25
Job & Entrepreneurship Opportunities	6.45%	2
Transportation Options	0.00%	0
Walkability	16.13%	5
Shopping Convenience	25.81%	8
Cultural Activities	6.45%	2
Youth Programs	9.68%	3
Dining Options	38.71%	12
Education	25.81%	8
Scenic Beauty / Appearance	38.71%	12
Total Respondents: 31		

Q2 Which of the following topics best describes the quality of life in Canton?

Answered: 617 Skipped: 33

Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

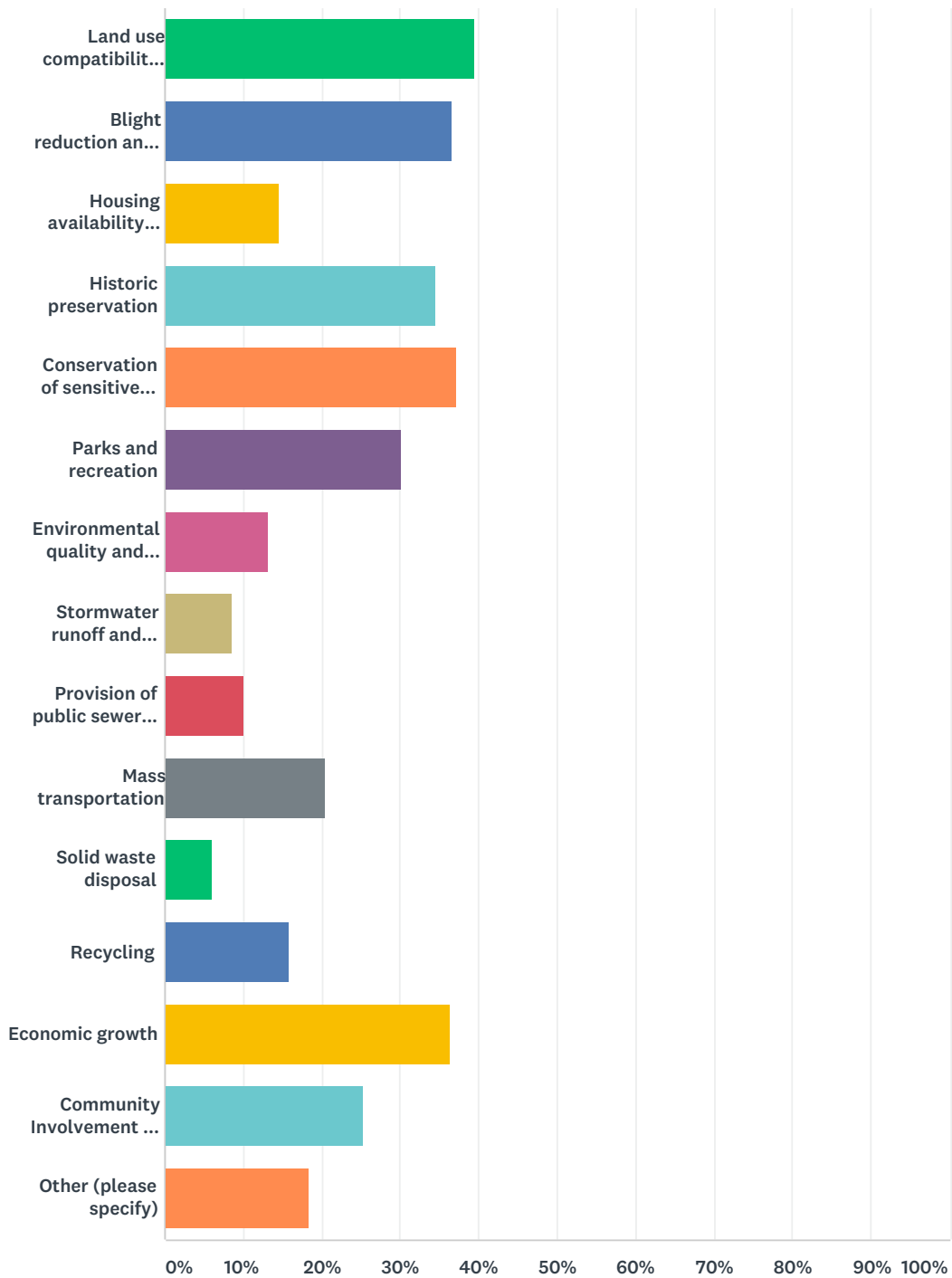


Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

Diversity	12.97%	80
City Services (Public Works, Police, Sanitation)	25.12%	155
Affordable Housing	25.12%	155
Safety and Security	38.41%	237
Recreational & Athletic Resources	22.04%	136
Open Space	24.80%	153
Entertainment	8.59%	53
Healthcare / Medical Services	27.23%	168
Small Town Charm / History	73.74%	455
Job & Entrepreneurship Opportunities	7.94%	49
Transportation Options	2.11%	13
Walkability	13.61%	84
Shopping Convenience	28.85%	178
Cultural Activities	7.94%	49
Youth Programs	8.59%	53
Dining Options	30.79%	190
Education	16.21%	100
Scenic Beauty / Appearance	38.57%	238
Other (please specify)	4.54%	28
Total Respondents: 617		

Q3 Which of the following topics do you feel need more attention in the City?

Answered: 647 Skipped: 3



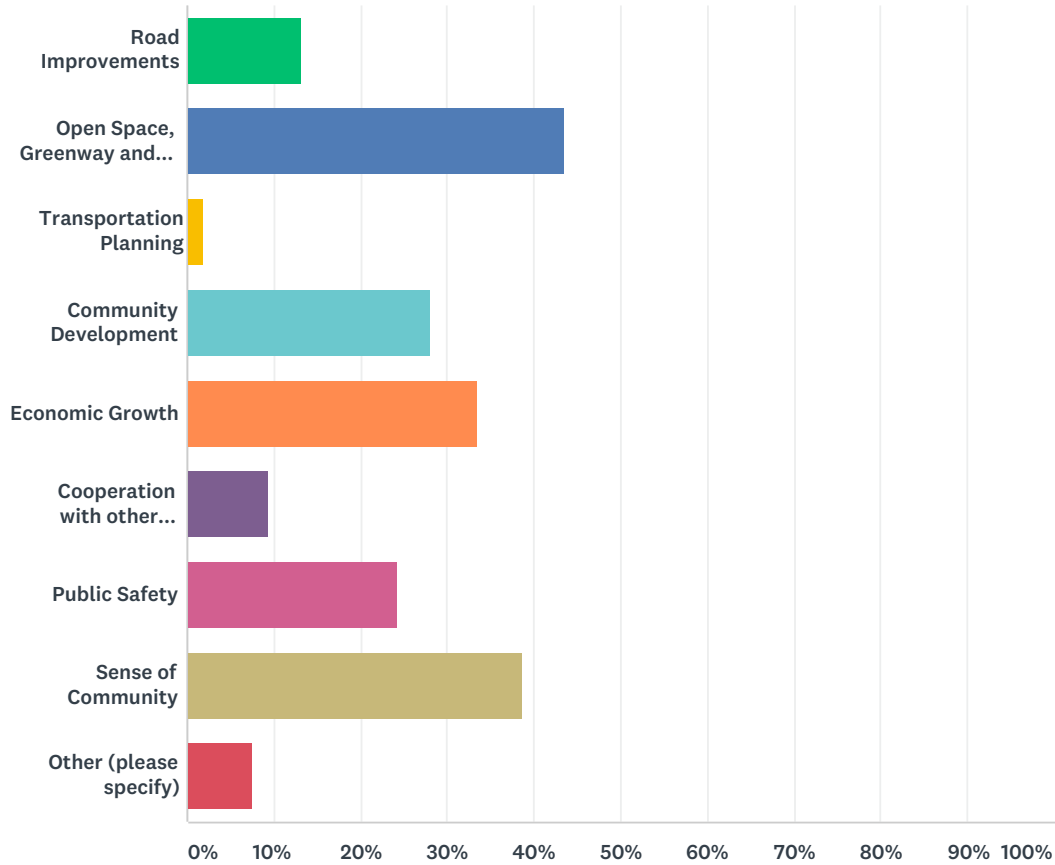
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Land use compatibility and zoning enforcement	39.57%	256
Blight reduction and code enforcement	36.63%	237

Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

Housing availability and affordability	14.68%	95
Historic preservation	34.62%	224
Conservation of sensitive natural features and open space	37.25%	241
Parks and recreation	30.14%	195
Environmental quality and pollution control	13.14%	85
Stormwater runoff and flooding	8.66%	56
Provision of public sewer and/or water	10.05%	65
Mass transportation	20.40%	132
Solid waste disposal	6.03%	39
Recycling	15.92%	103
Economic growth	36.48%	236
Community Involvement / Awareness and Education	25.35%	164
Other (please specify)	18.39%	119
Total Respondents: 647		

Q4 Please select the best trend(s) Canton has experienced recently.

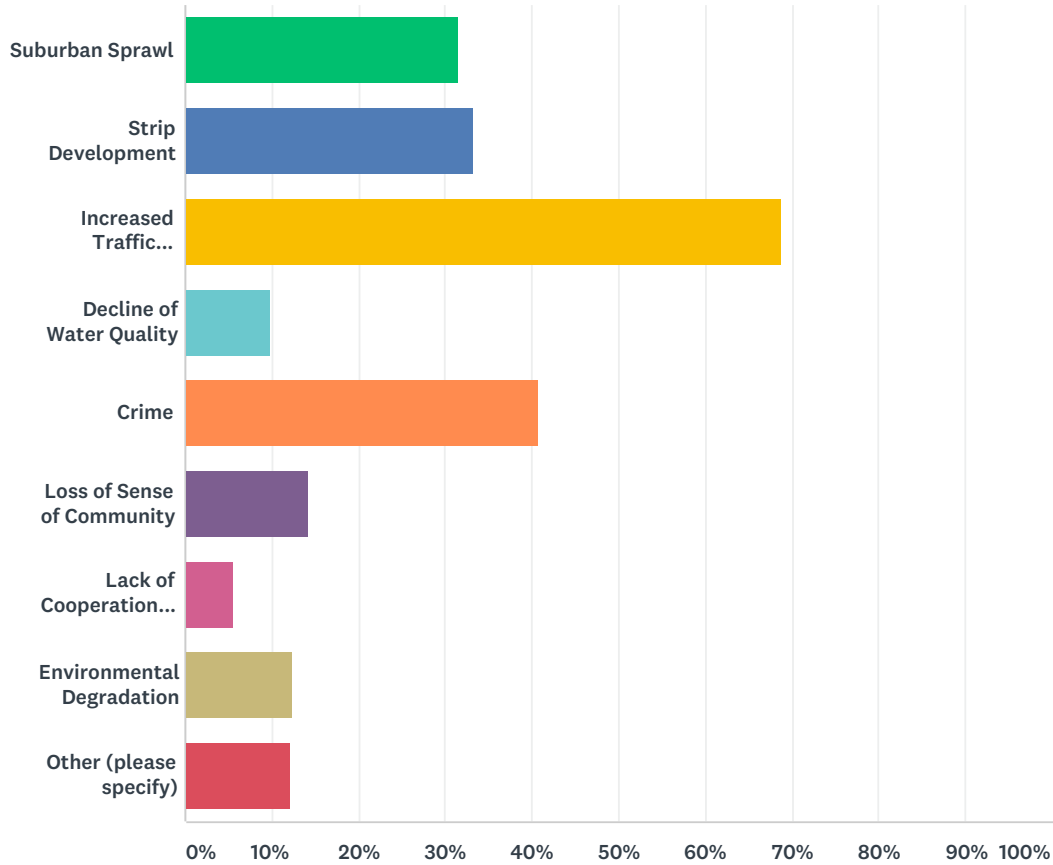
Answered: 626 Skipped: 24



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Road Improvements	13.10%	82
Open Space, Greenway and Recreation Planning	43.61%	273
Transportation Planning	1.92%	12
Community Development	28.12%	176
Economic Growth	33.39%	209
Cooperation with other Cities/Countries	9.42%	59
Public Safety	24.28%	152
Sense of Community	38.66%	242
Other (please specify)	7.51%	47
Total Respondents: 626		

Q5 Please select the worst trend(s) that Canton has experienced recently.

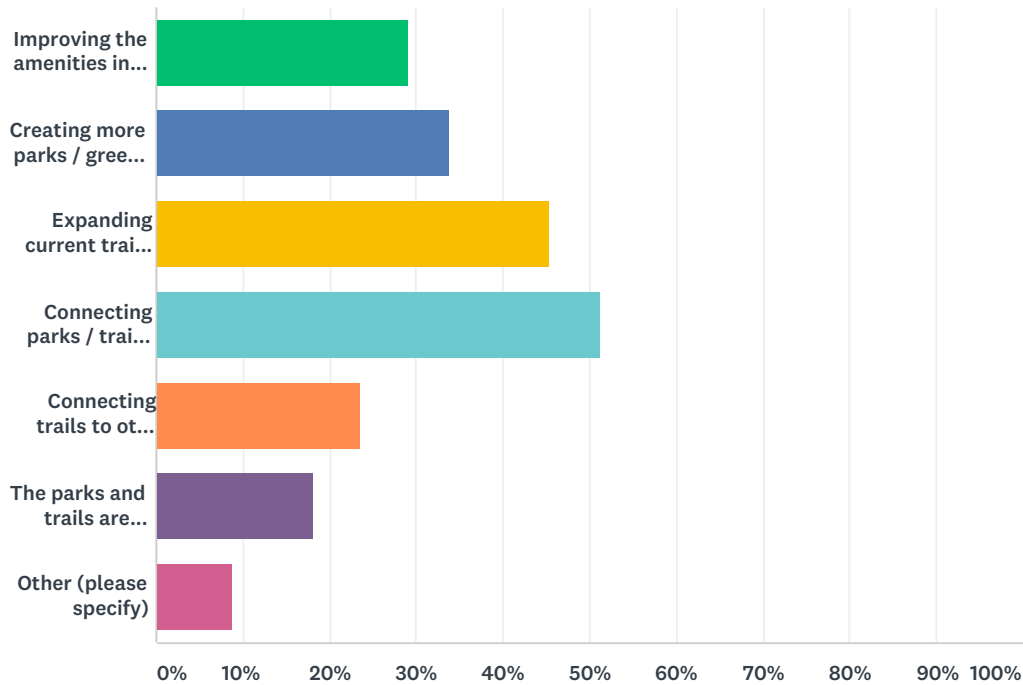
Answered: 631 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Suburban Sprawl	31.54%	199
Strip Development	33.28%	210
Increased Traffic Congestion	68.78%	434
Decline of Water Quality	9.83%	62
Crime	40.89%	258
Loss of Sense of Community	14.26%	90
Lack of Cooperation with other Cities/Counties	5.55%	35
Environmental Degradation	12.36%	78
Other (please specify)	12.20%	77
Total Respondents: 631		

Q6 Which of the following topics do you feel are the most important?

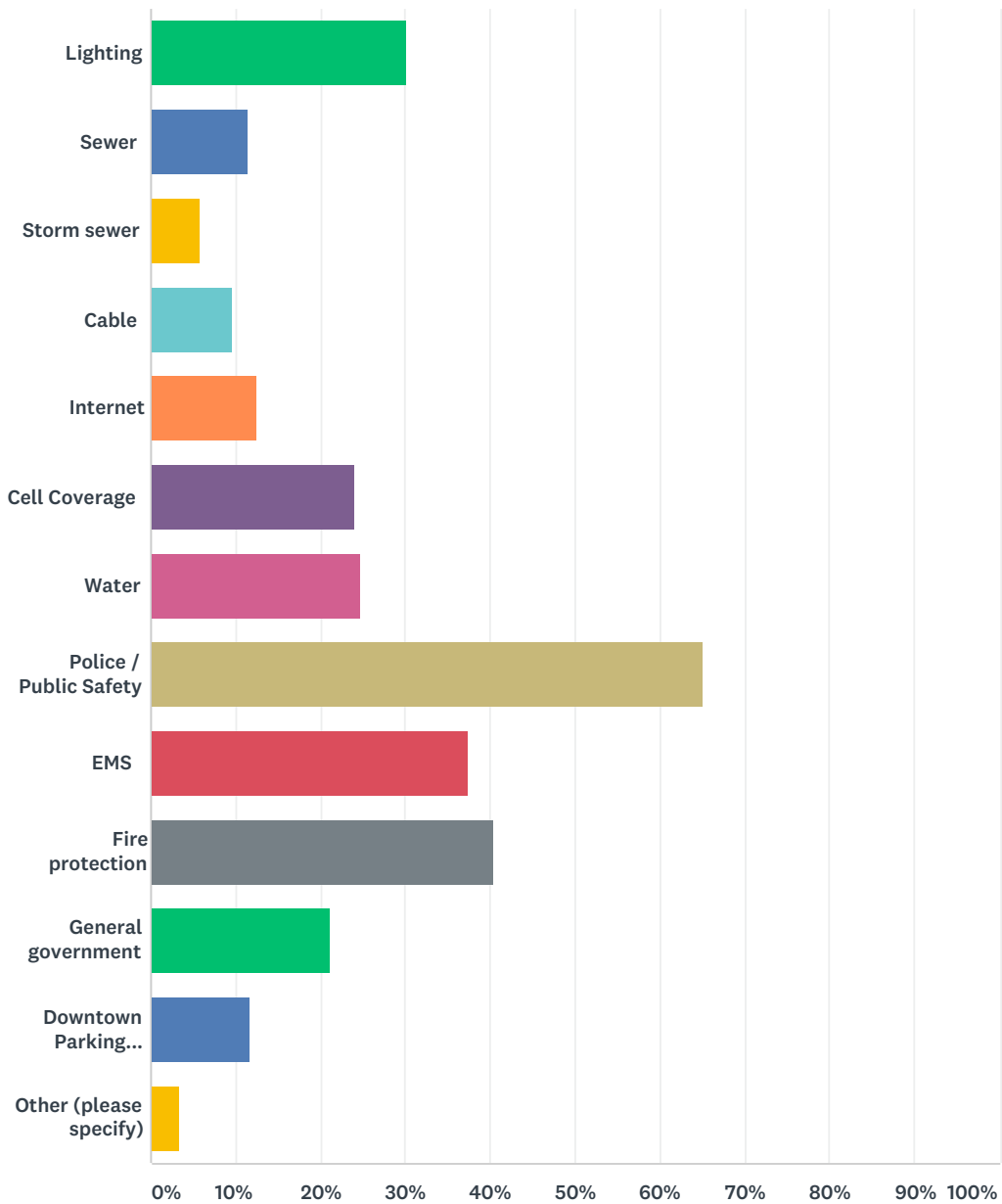
Answered: 633 Skipped: 17



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Improving the amenities in the parks	29.07%	184
Creating more parks / green areas	33.97%	215
Expanding current trails systems	45.34%	287
Connecting parks / trails to communities	51.18%	324
Connecting trails to other cities / counties	23.70%	150
The parks and trails are adequate as they exist	18.17%	115
Other (please specify)	8.85%	56
Total Respondents: 633		

Q7 Which of following public services & utilities do you feel are of the best quality in the City?

Answered: 622 Skipped: 28



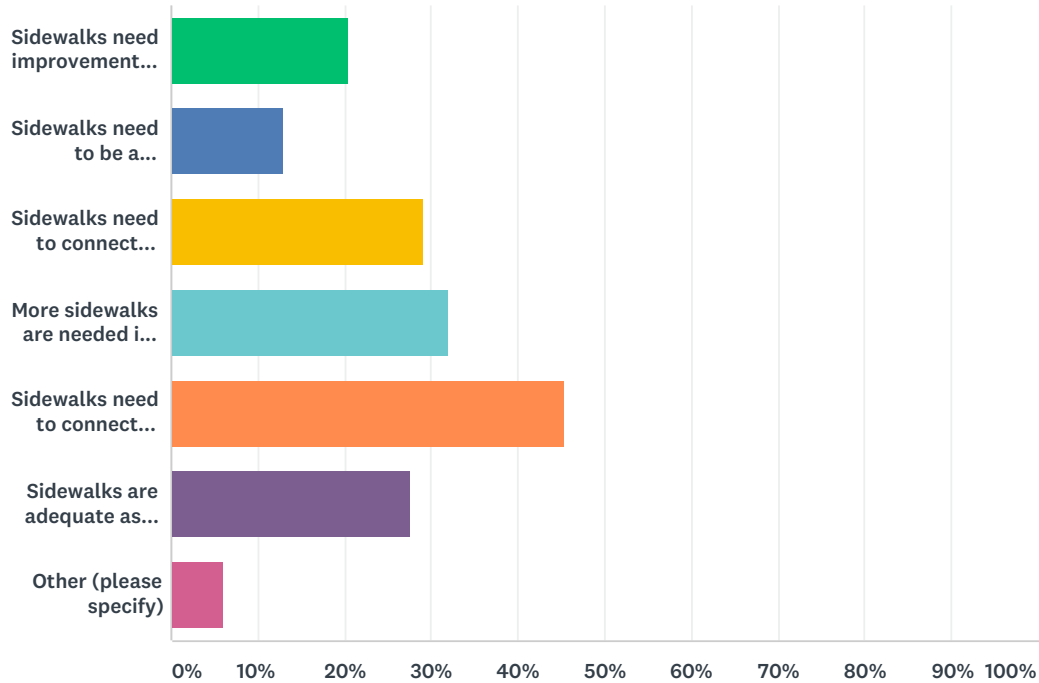
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lighting	30.06%	187
Sewer	11.58%	72
Storm sewer	5.95%	37
Cable	9.65%	60
Internet	12.54%	78

Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

Cell Coverage	23.95%	149
Water	24.60%	153
Police / Public Safety	65.11%	405
EMS	37.46%	233
Fire protection	40.35%	251
General government	21.22%	132
Downtown Parking Availability	11.74%	73
Other (please specify)	3.38%	21
Total Respondents: 622		

Q8 Which of the following topics do you feel are the most important?

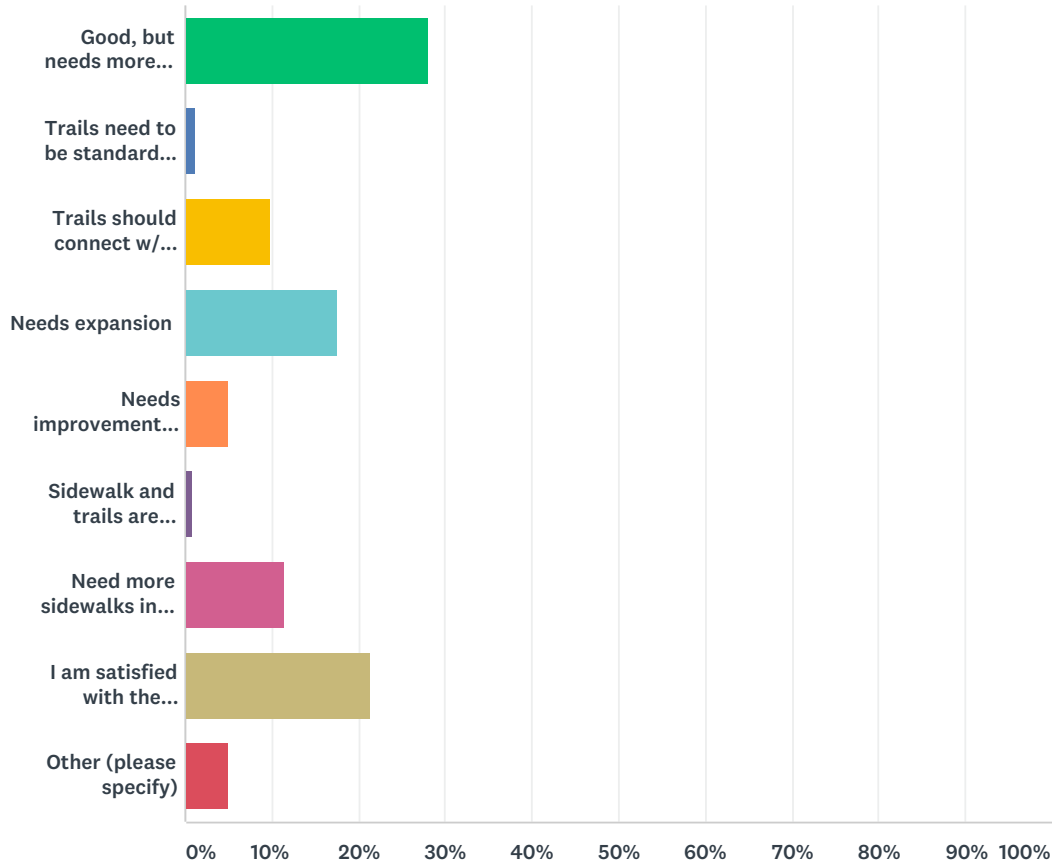
Answered: 620 Skipped: 30



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Sidewalks need improvement (poor condition)	20.48%	127
Sidewalks need to be a standard width and construction	12.90%	80
Sidewalks need to connect residential areas	29.03%	180
More sidewalks are needed in residential areas	32.10%	199
Sidewalks need to connect residential areas with parks and City	45.48%	282
Sidewalks are adequate as they exist	27.58%	171
Other (please specify)	6.13%	38
Total Respondents: 620		

Q9 What is your opinion on the sidewalk and trail system in Canton?

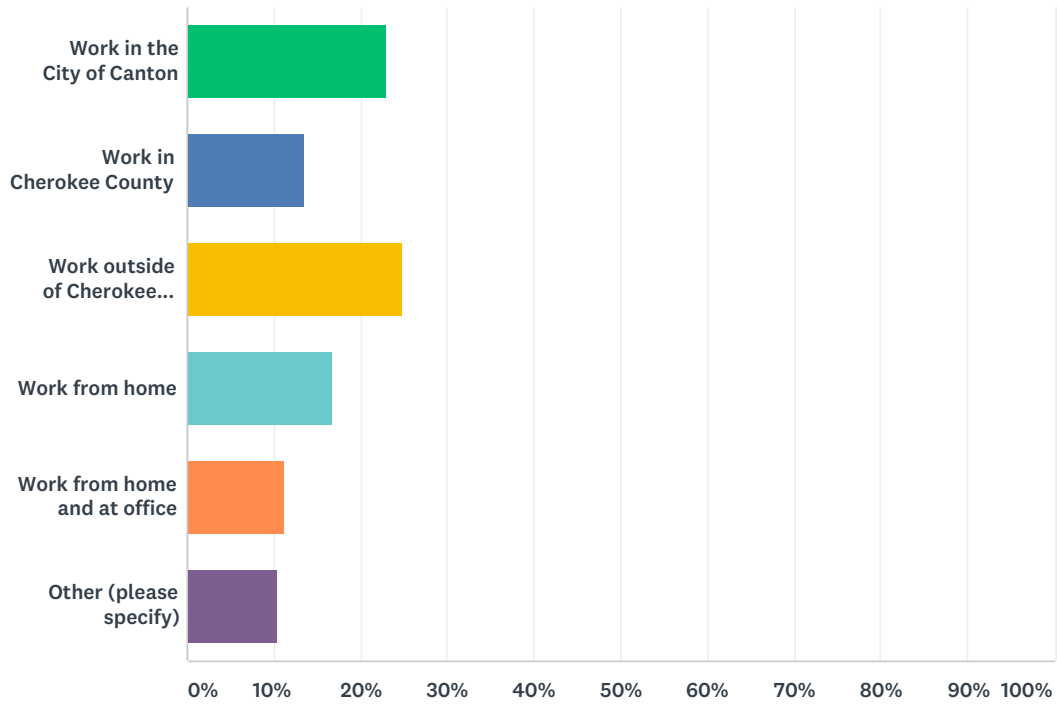
Answered: 626 Skipped: 24



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Good, but needs more connectivity	27.96%	175
Trails need to be standard width and construction type	1.28%	8
Trails should connect w/ other cities and county	9.74%	61
Needs expansion	17.57%	110
Needs improvement (poor condition)	4.95%	31
Sidewalk and trails are undesirable	0.80%	5
Need more sidewalks in existing residential areas	11.50%	72
I am satisfied with the current sidewalk and trail system	21.25%	133
Other (please specify)	4.95%	31
TOTAL		626

Q10 If you are currently employed, which best defines you?

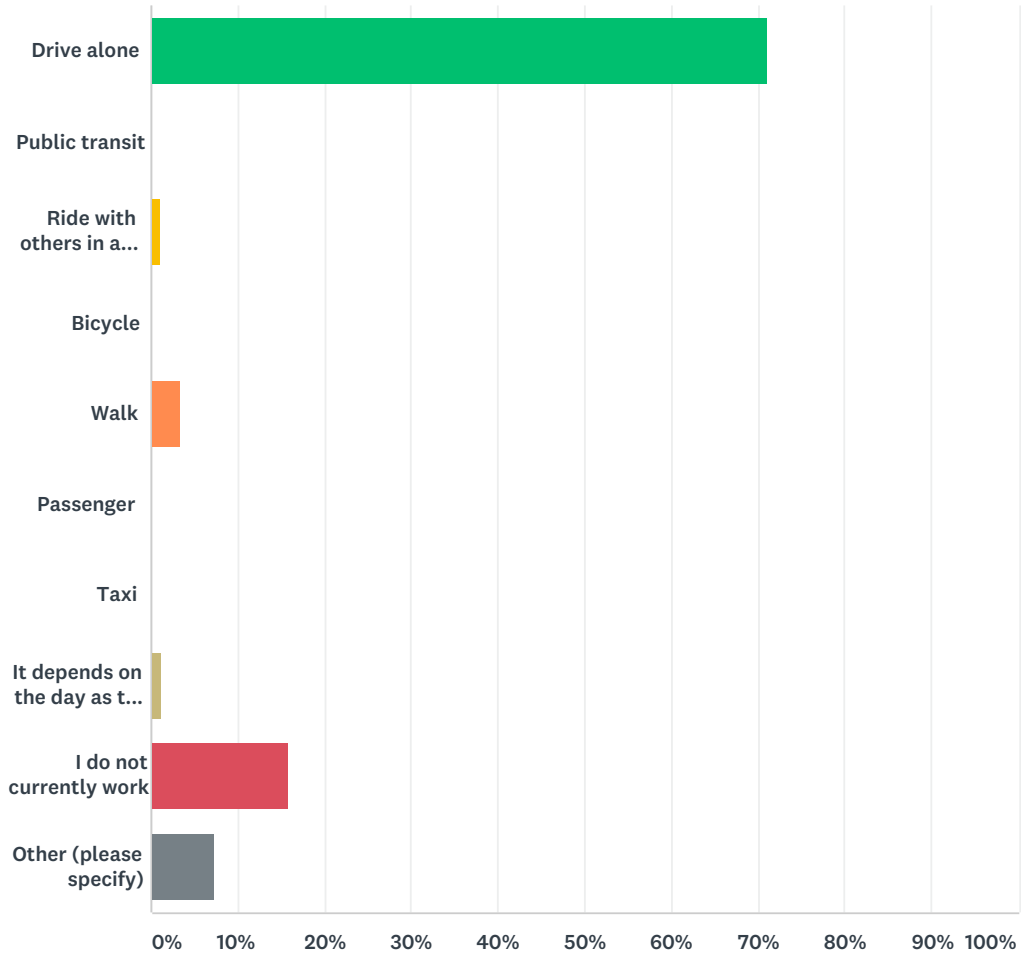
Answered: 536 Skipped: 114



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Work in the City of Canton	22.95%	123
Work in Cherokee County	13.62%	73
Work outside of Cherokee County	25.00%	134
Work from home	16.79%	90
Work from home and at office	11.19%	60
Other (please specify)	10.45%	56
TOTAL		536

Q11 How do you travel to work now?

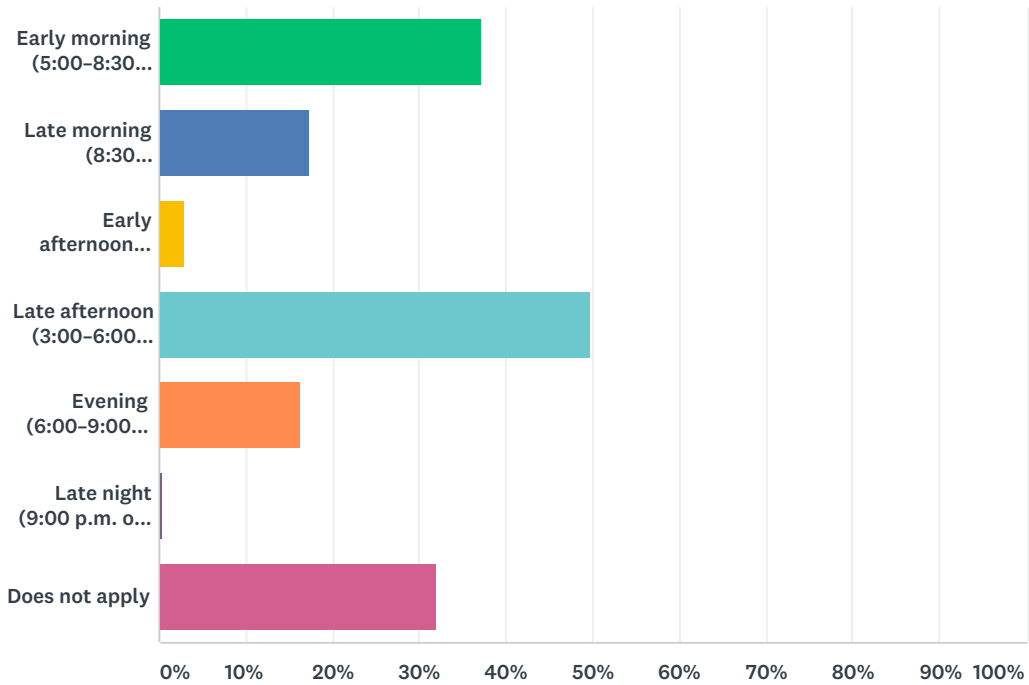
Answered: 580 Skipped: 70



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Drive alone	71.21%	413
Public transit	0.00%	0
Ride with others in a carpool or vanpool	1.03%	6
Bicycle	0.00%	0
Walk	3.28%	19
Passenger	0.00%	0
Taxi	0.00%	0
It depends on the day as to what is available	1.21%	7
I do not currently work	15.86%	92
Other (please specify)	7.41%	43
TOTAL		580

Q12 During what time(s) of the day is it hardest for you to get to/from work? (Check all that apply)

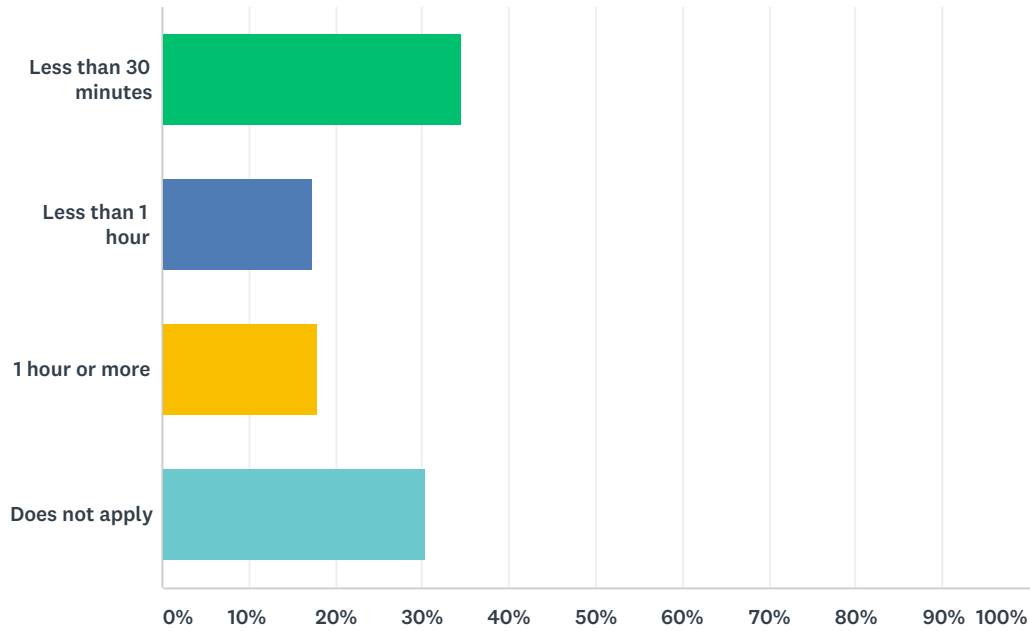
Answered: 592 Skipped: 58



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Early morning (5:00–8:30 a.m.)	37.33%	221
Late morning (8:30 a.m.–noon)	17.40%	103
Early afternoon (noon–3:00 p.m.)	2.87%	17
Late afternoon (3:00–6:00 p.m.)	49.83%	295
Evening (6:00–9:00 p.m.)	16.22%	96
Late night (9:00 p.m. or later)	0.34%	2
Does not apply	32.09%	190
Total Respondents: 592		

Q13 How much time do you currently spend on a one-way trip to your place of employment?

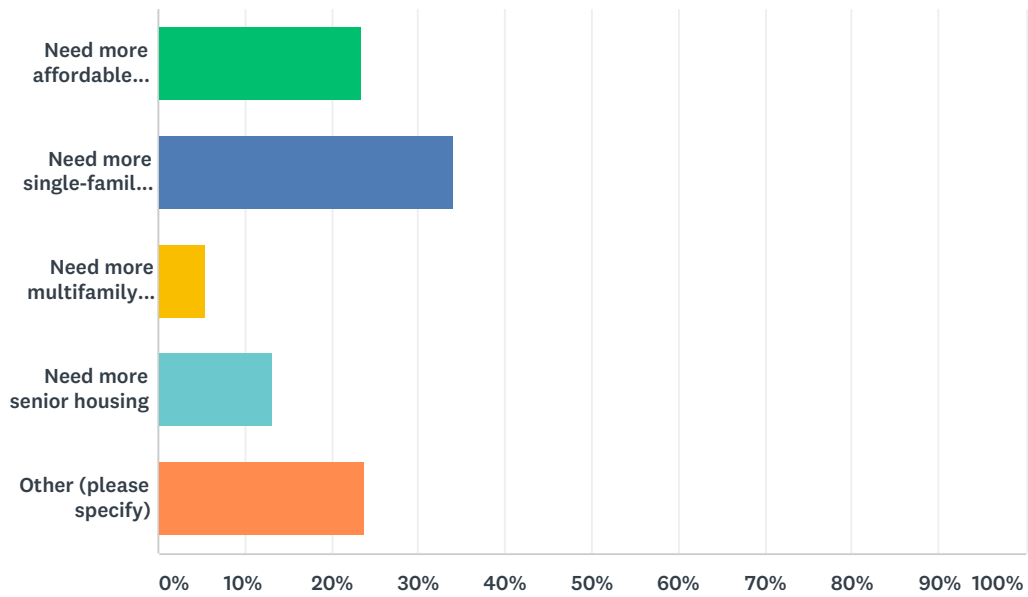
Answered: 592 Skipped: 58



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 30 minutes	34.46%	204
Less than 1 hour	17.40%	103
1 hour or more	17.91%	106
Does not apply	30.24%	179
TOTAL		592

Q14 With respect to housing, please select the most critical issue facing Canton.

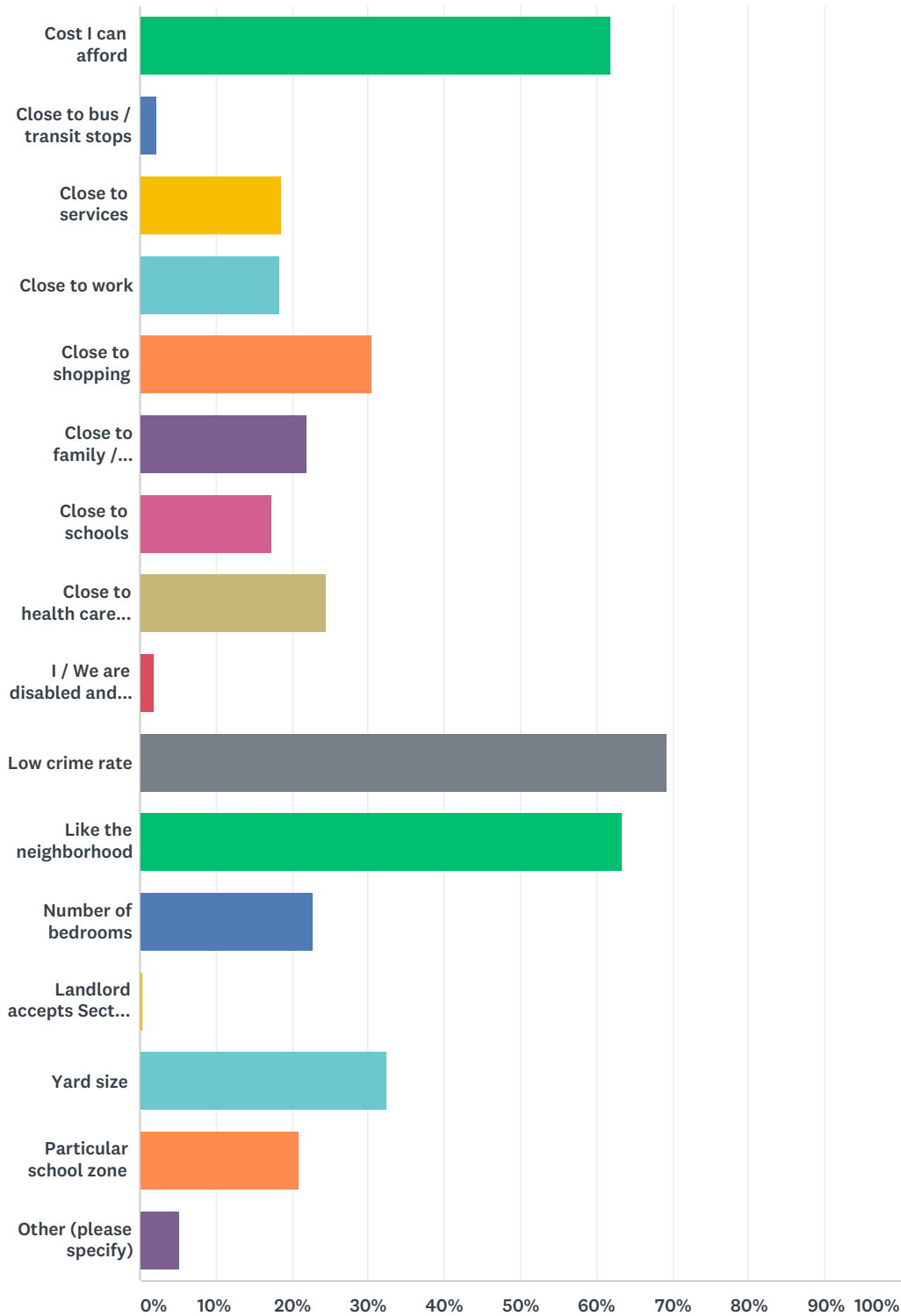
Answered: 610 Skipped: 40



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Need more affordable housing	23.44%	143
Need more single-family housing (high-end/executive housing)	34.10%	208
Need more multifamily housing (duplexes, condos, townhomes, apartments)	5.41%	33
Need more senior housing	13.28%	81
Other (please specify)	23.77%	145
TOTAL		610

Q15 Which of the following factors are most important to you when choosing your home or apartment?

Answered: 643 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES

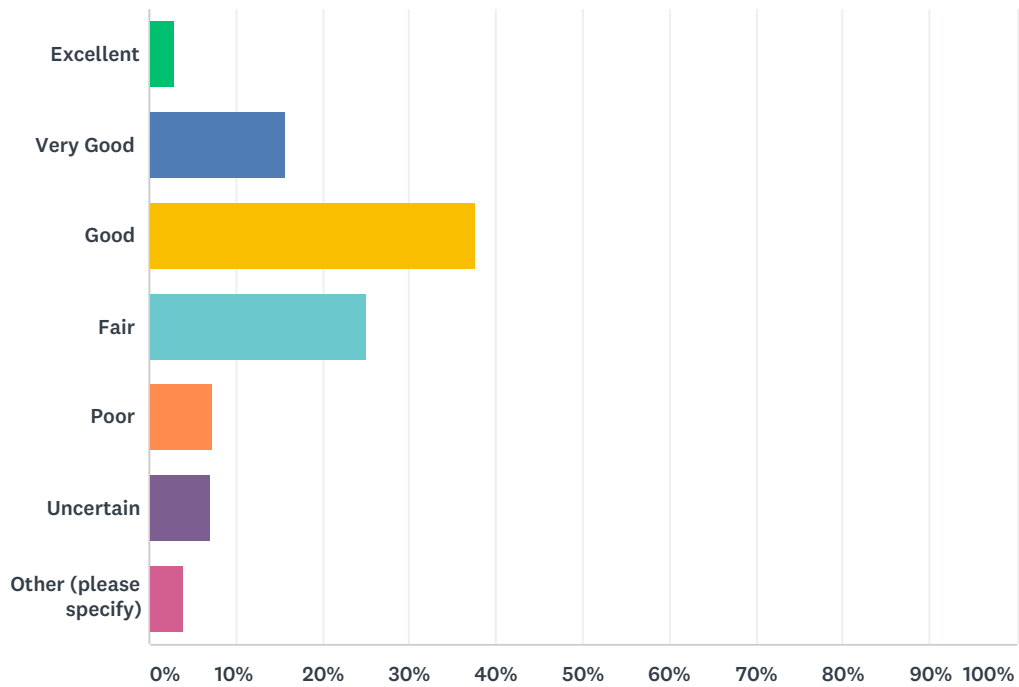
RESPONSES

Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

Cost I can afford	61.90%	398
Close to bus / transit stops	2.33%	15
Close to services	18.66%	120
Close to work	18.51%	119
Close to shopping	30.48%	196
Close to family / friends	21.93%	141
Close to schools	17.42%	112
Close to health care facilities	24.57%	158
I / We are disabled and require accessibility	1.87%	12
Low crime rate	69.21%	445
Like the neighborhood	63.45%	408
Number of bedrooms	22.71%	146
Landlord accepts Section 8	0.47%	3
Yard size	32.50%	209
Particular school zone	20.84%	134
Other (please specify)	5.29%	34
Total Respondents: 643		

Q16 How would you rate the overall current condition of the existing housing stock in the city?

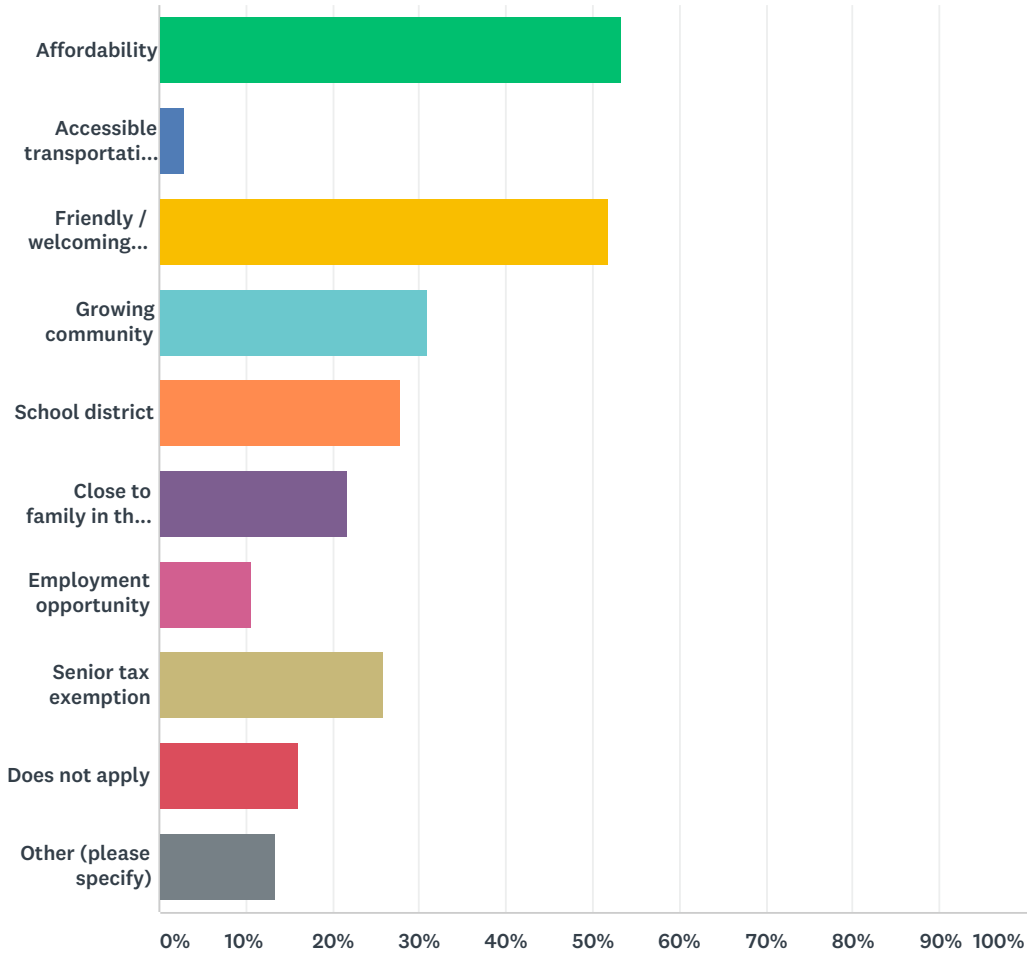
Answered: 647 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	2.94%	19
Very Good	15.77%	102
Good	37.56%	243
Fair	25.19%	163
Poor	7.42%	48
Uncertain	7.11%	46
Other (please specify)	4.02%	26
TOTAL		647

Q17 If you moved to Canton from another community, select three factors why you chose Canton as your new home?

Answered: 631 Skipped: 19



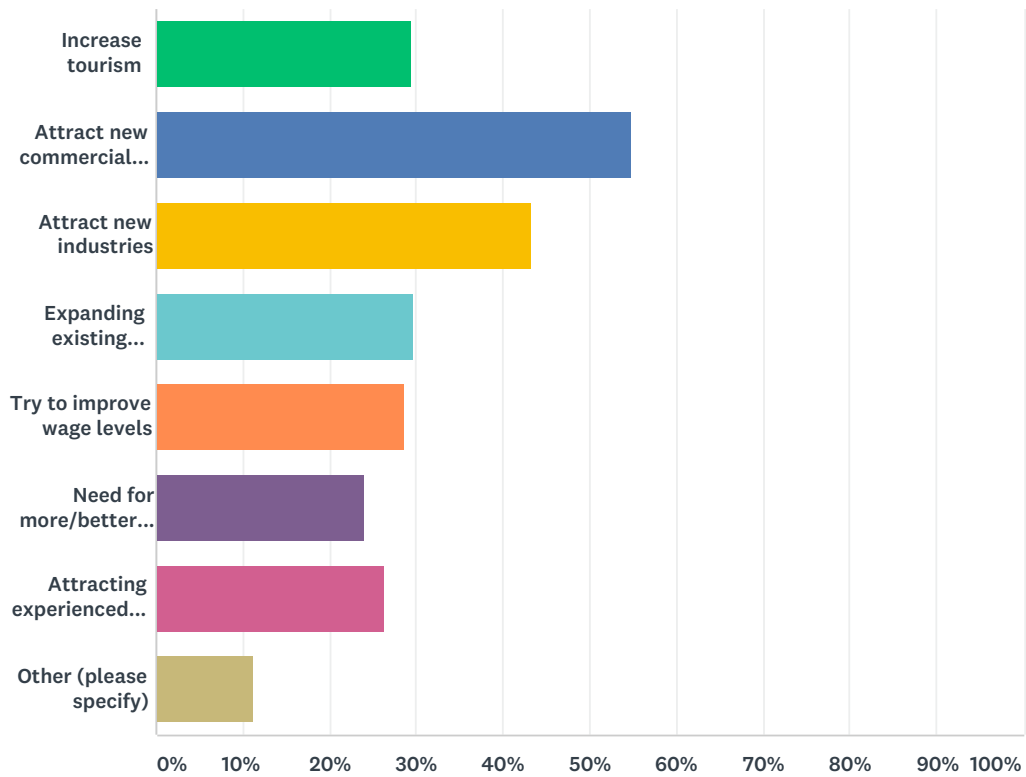
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Affordability	53.25%	336
Accessible transportation system	2.85%	18
Friendly / welcoming community	51.98%	328
Growing community	30.90%	195
School district	27.89%	176
Close to family in the community	21.71%	137
Employment opportunity	10.62%	67
Senior tax exemption	25.99%	164
Does not apply	16.01%	101
Other (please specify)	13.47%	85

Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

Total Respondents: 631

Q18 Which of the following topics do you feel are most important to the City's economic development strategy?

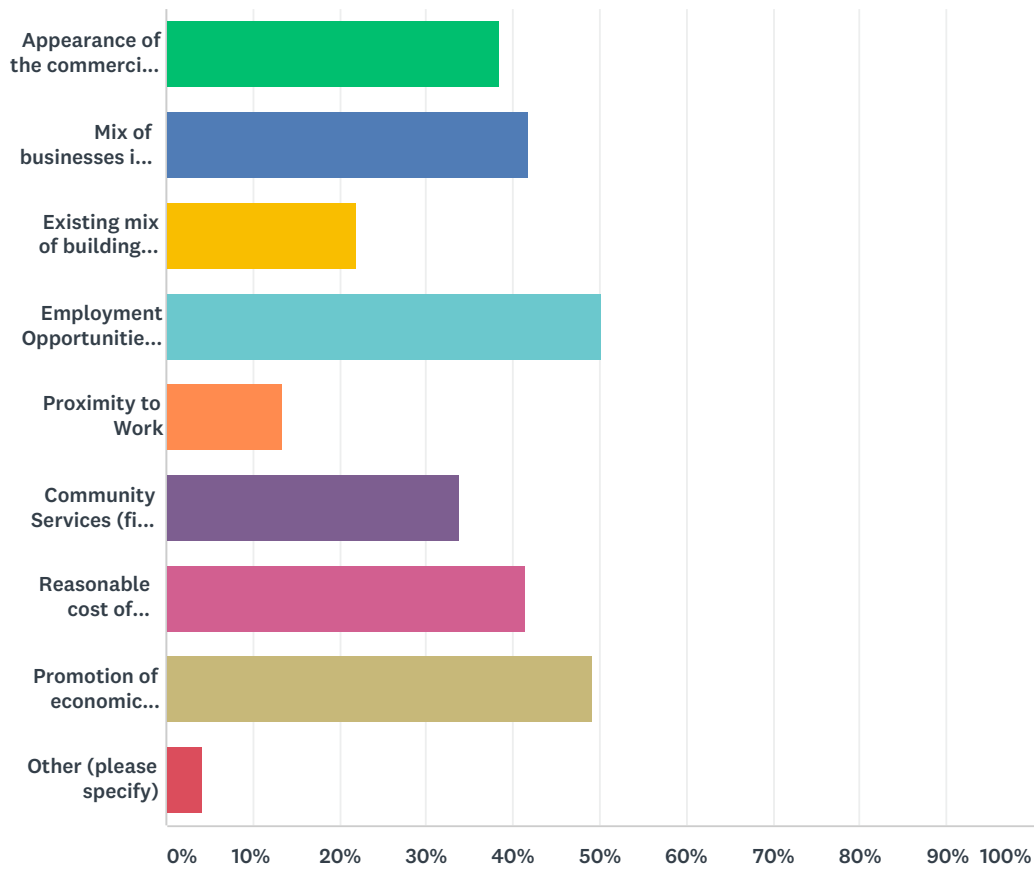
Answered: 641 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Increase tourism	29.49%	189
Attract new commercial businesses	54.76%	351
Attract new industries	43.37%	278
Expanding existing business	29.64%	190
Try to improve wage levels	28.71%	184
Need for more/better educational opportunities	24.02%	154
Attracting experienced labor force	26.37%	169
Other (please specify)	11.23%	72
Total Respondents: 641		

Q19 Which of the following factors do you feel commercial / industrial development should be dependent upon?

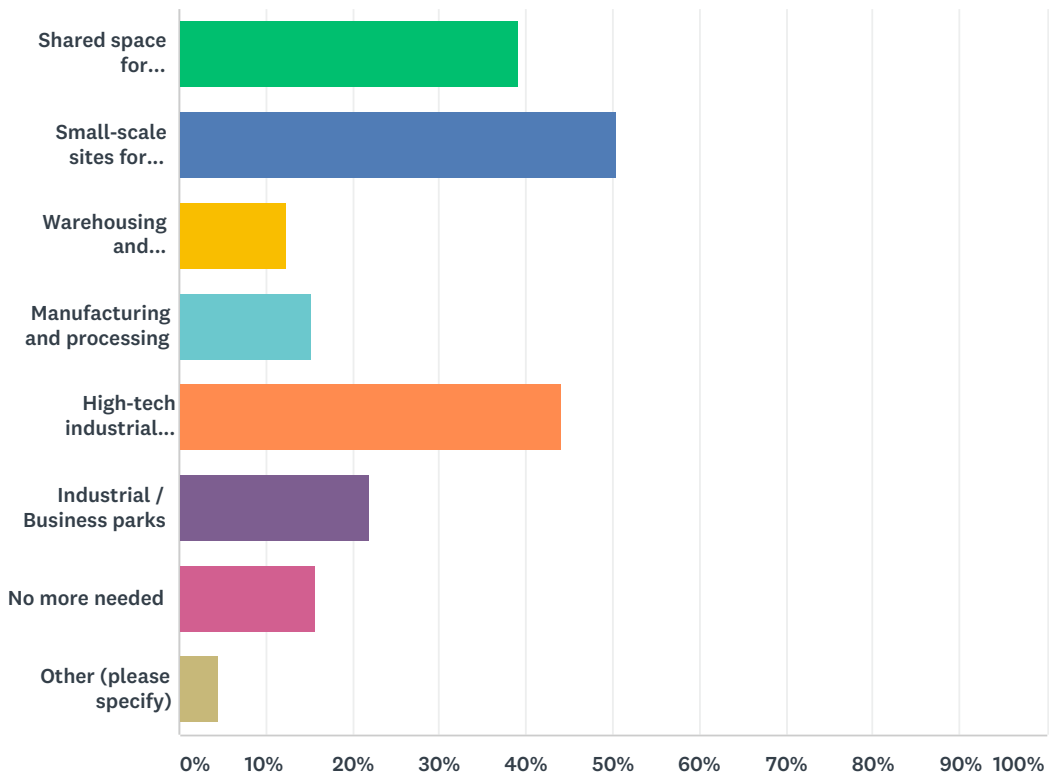
Answered: 630 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Appearance of the commercial / industrial area	38.41%	242
Mix of businesses in the City	41.75%	263
Existing mix of building style (appearance of buildings)	22.06%	139
Employment Opportunities	50.16%	316
Proximity to Work	13.33%	84
Community Services (fire, police, highway maintenance)	33.81%	213
Reasonable cost of living	41.43%	261
Promotion of economic development & job creation	49.21%	310
Other (please specify)	4.29%	27
Total Respondents: 630		

Q20 Which of the following types of industrial uses do you feel there is a need for in the city?

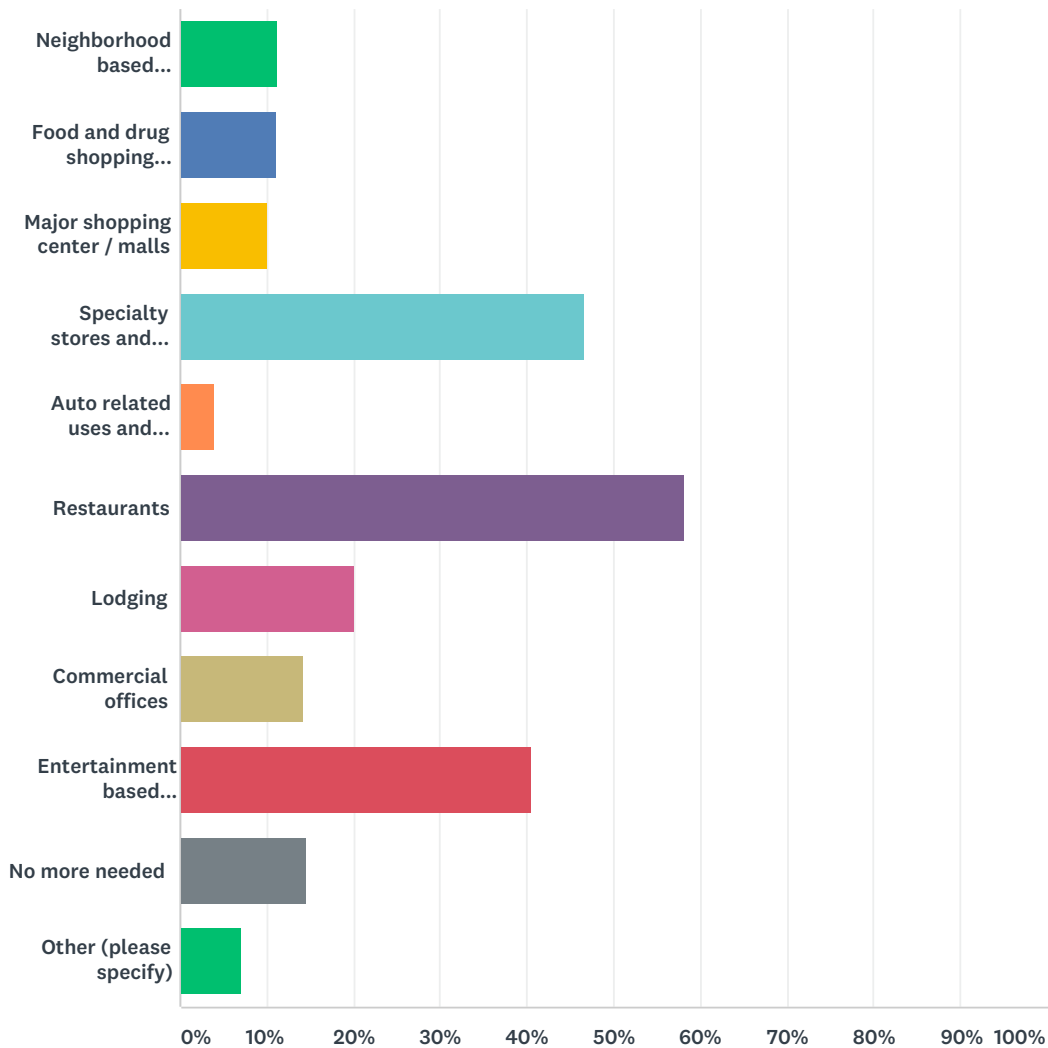
Answered: 622 Skipped: 28



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Shared space for professionals	39.07%	243
Small-scale sites for start-up businesses	50.32%	313
Warehousing and distribution uses	12.38%	77
Manufacturing and processing	15.27%	95
High-tech industrial parks	44.05%	274
Industrial / Business parks	22.03%	137
No more needed	15.76%	98
Other (please specify)	4.50%	28
Total Respondents: 622		

Q21 Which of the following types of commercial uses do you feel there is a need for in your city?

Answered: 637 Skipped: 13



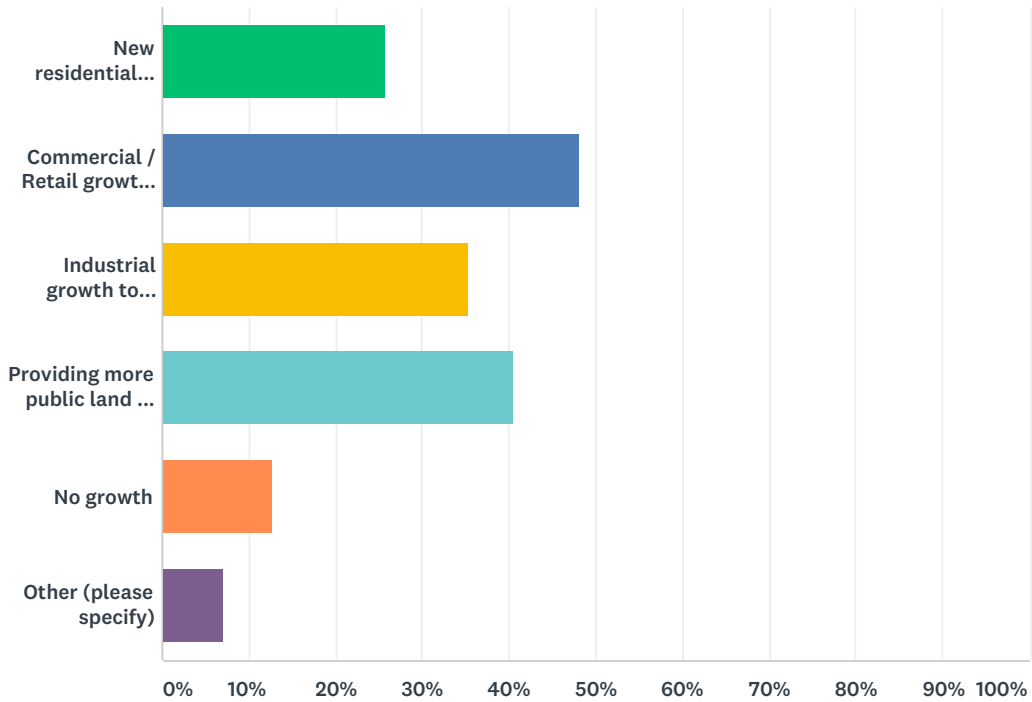
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Neighborhood based conveniences (convenience stores w/ or w/o gas pumps, salons {hair, nails, spas}, dry cleaners)	11.30%	72
Food and drug shopping centers	11.15%	71
Major shopping center / malls	10.05%	64
Specialty stores and boutiques	46.62%	297
Auto related uses and services	3.92%	25
Restaurants	58.24%	371
Lodging	20.09%	128
Commercial offices	14.29%	91
Entertainment based businesses	40.66%	259

Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

No more needed	14.60%	93
Other (please specify)	7.06%	45
Total Respondents: 637		

Q22 Which of the following best represents your highest priority for the future growth in Canton?

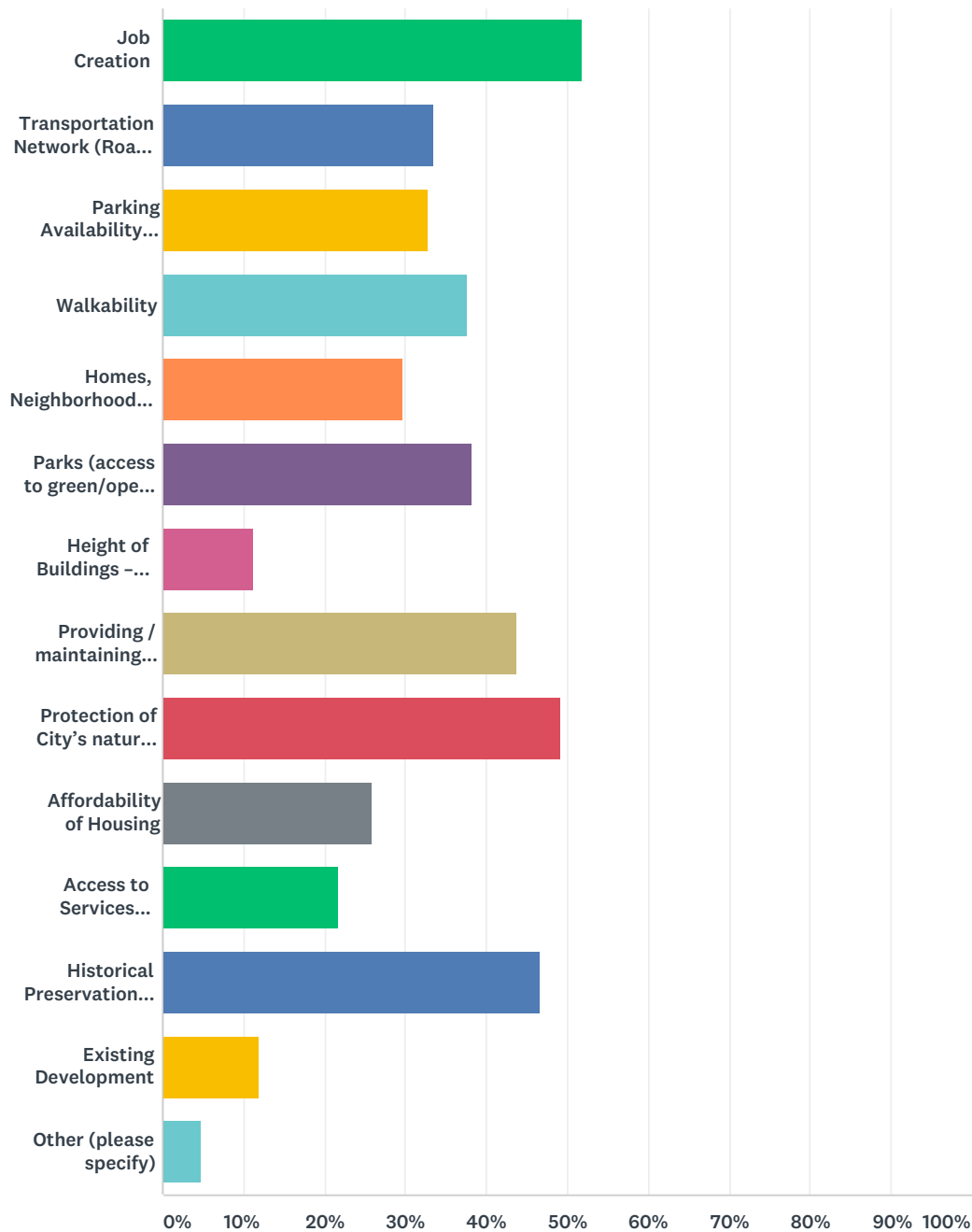
Answered: 638 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
New residential development / Build out of existing residential projects	25.71%	164
Commercial / Retail growth which may reduce taxes and add services	48.12%	307
Industrial growth to assist in minimizing long term tax burden and providing local jobs	35.27%	225
Providing more public land and services (parks, trails, ball fields, skate parks, pickle ball courts)	40.60%	259
No growth	12.85%	82
Other (please specify)	7.21%	46
Total Respondents: 638		

Q23 Which of the following topics do you feel are important in terms of future development?

Answered: 642 Skipped: 8



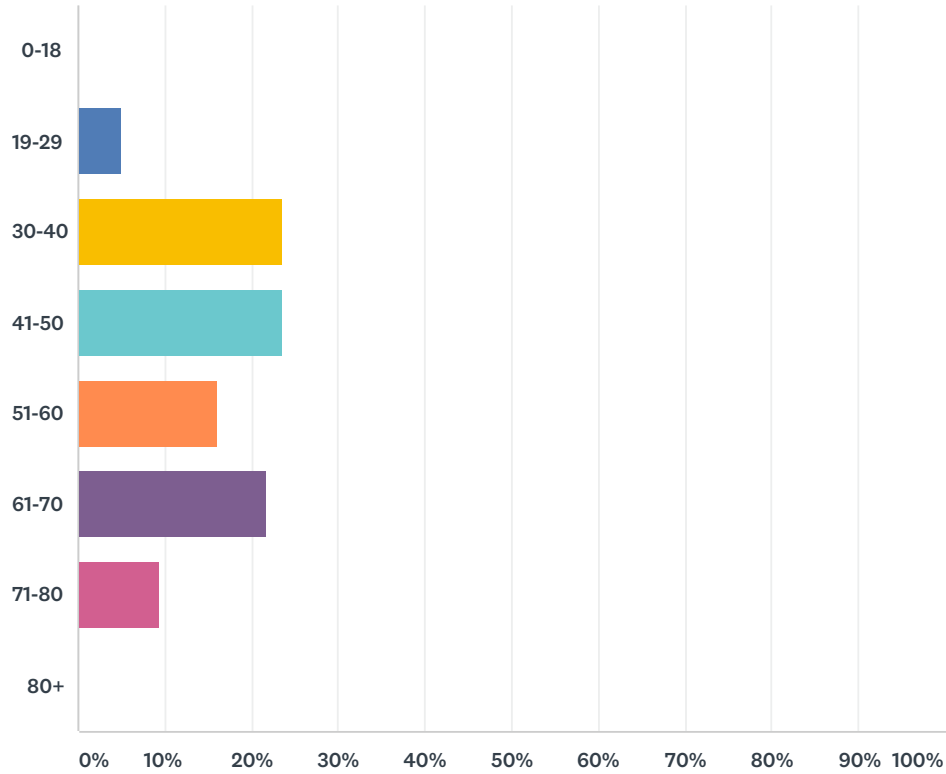
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Job Creation	51.87%	333
Transportation Network (Roads, Buses)	33.49%	215
Parking Availability	32.87%	211
Walkability	37.69%	242

Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Survey

Homes, Neighborhood	29.75%	191
Parks (access to green/open spaces)	38.32%	246
Height of Buildings – Density of Development	11.37%	73
Providing / maintaining infrastructure (Roads, Bridge)	43.77%	281
Protection of City's natural features (parks, water, quality)	49.07%	315
Affordability of Housing	25.86%	166
Access to Services (Shopping, Transit)	21.81%	140
Historical Preservation	46.57%	299
Existing Development	11.84%	76
Other (please specify)	4.83%	31
Total Respondents: 642		

Q24 Age?

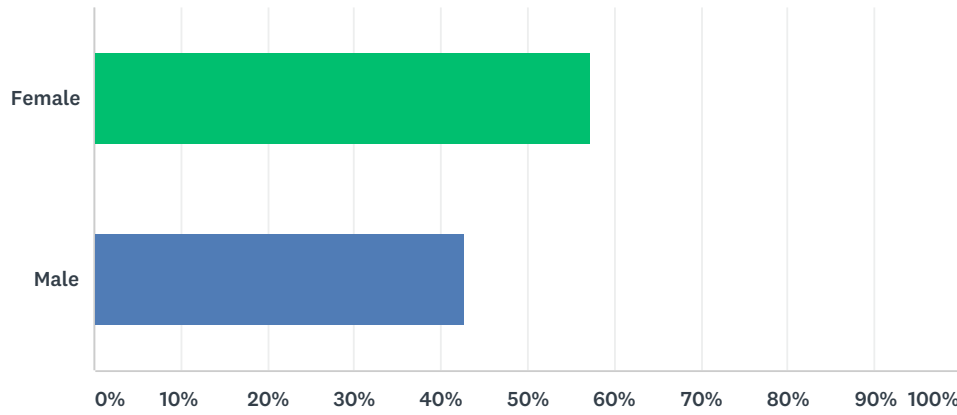
Answered: 643 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-18	0.31%	2
19-29	4.98%	32
30-40	23.64%	152
41-50	23.64%	152
51-60	16.02%	103
61-70	21.77%	140
71-80	9.33%	60
80+	0.31%	2
TOTAL		643

Q25 What is your gender?

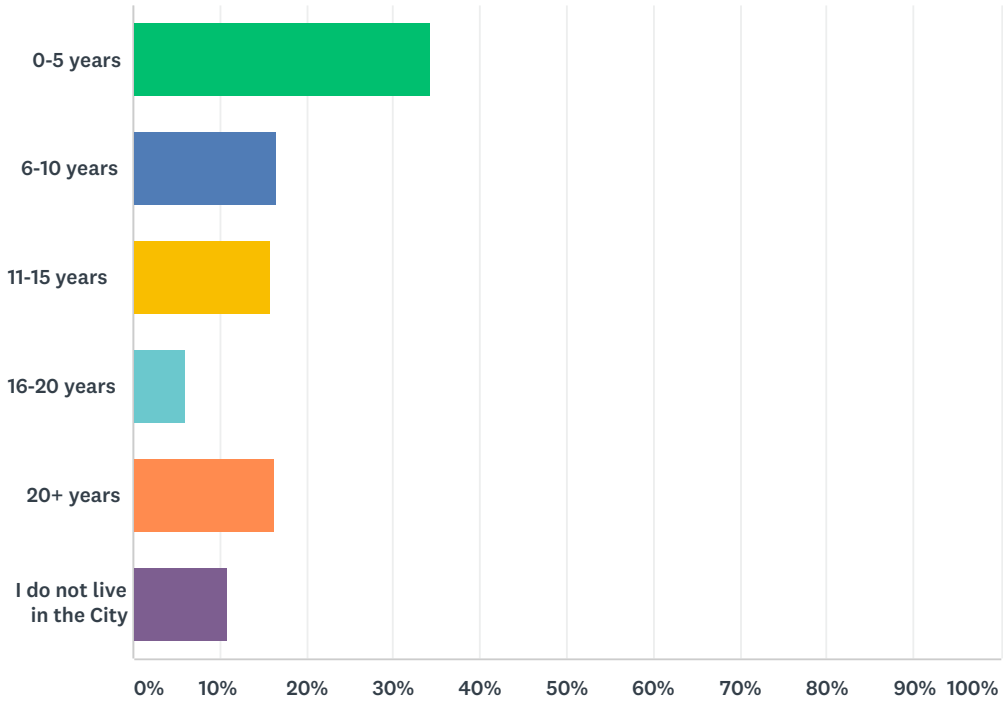
Answered: 635 Skipped: 15



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	57.32%	364
Male	42.68%	271
TOTAL		635

Q26 How long have you lived in the City of Canton?

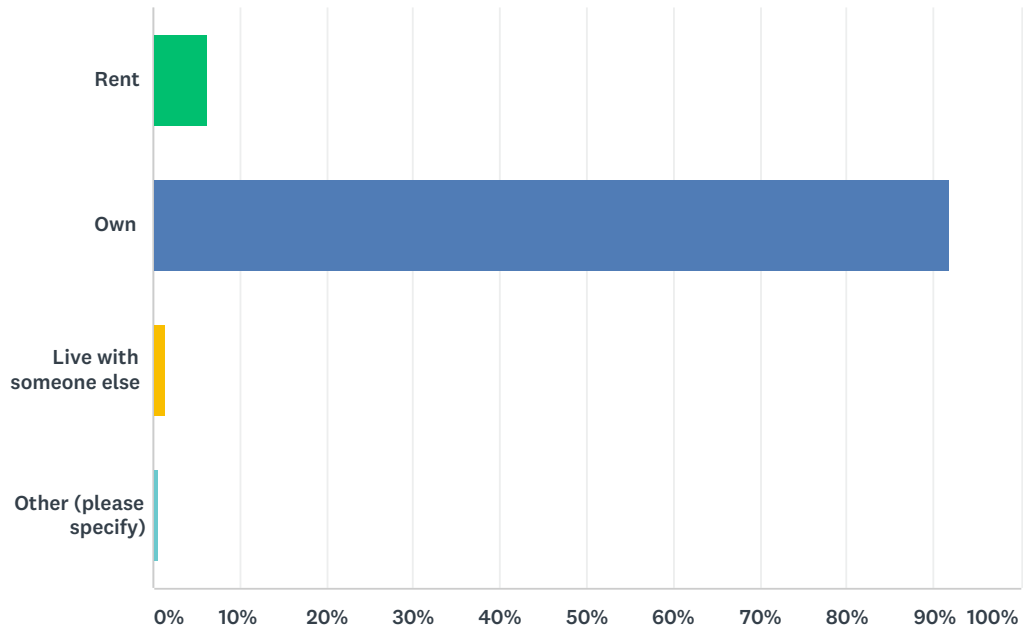
Answered: 644 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-5 years	34.32%	221
6-10 years	16.61%	107
11-15 years	15.84%	102
16-20 years	6.06%	39
20+ years	16.30%	105
I do not live in the City	10.87%	70
TOTAL		644

Q27 Do you currently rent or own your home?

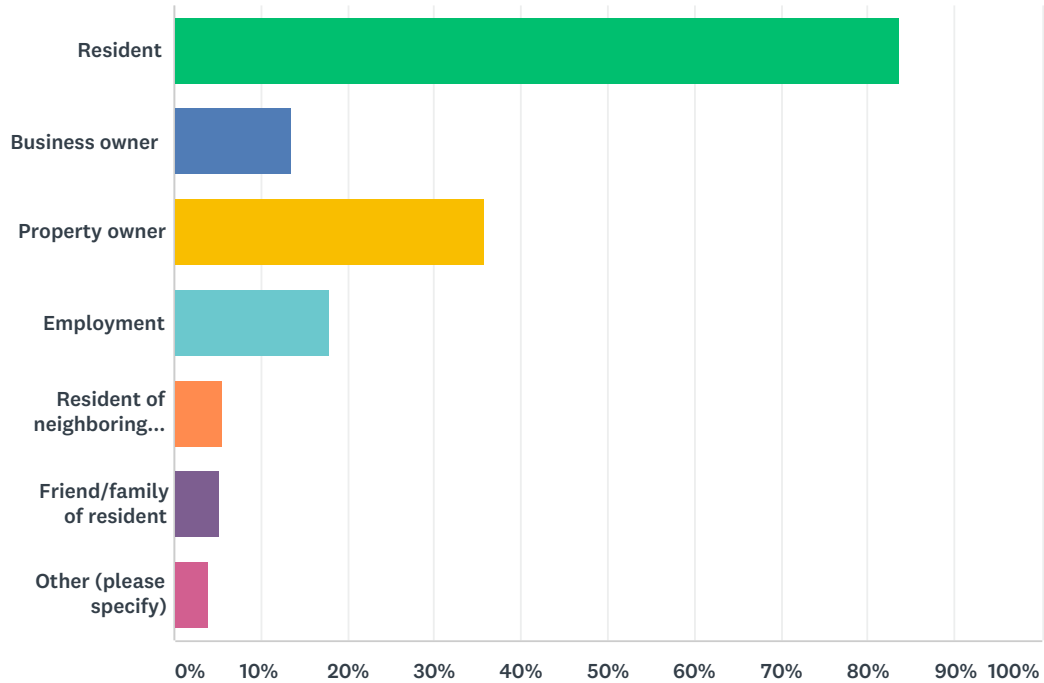
Answered: 645 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Rent	6.20% 40
Own	91.78% 592
Live with someone else	1.40% 9
Other (please specify)	0.62% 4
TOTAL	645

Q28 What is your relation to Canton? (Select all that apply)

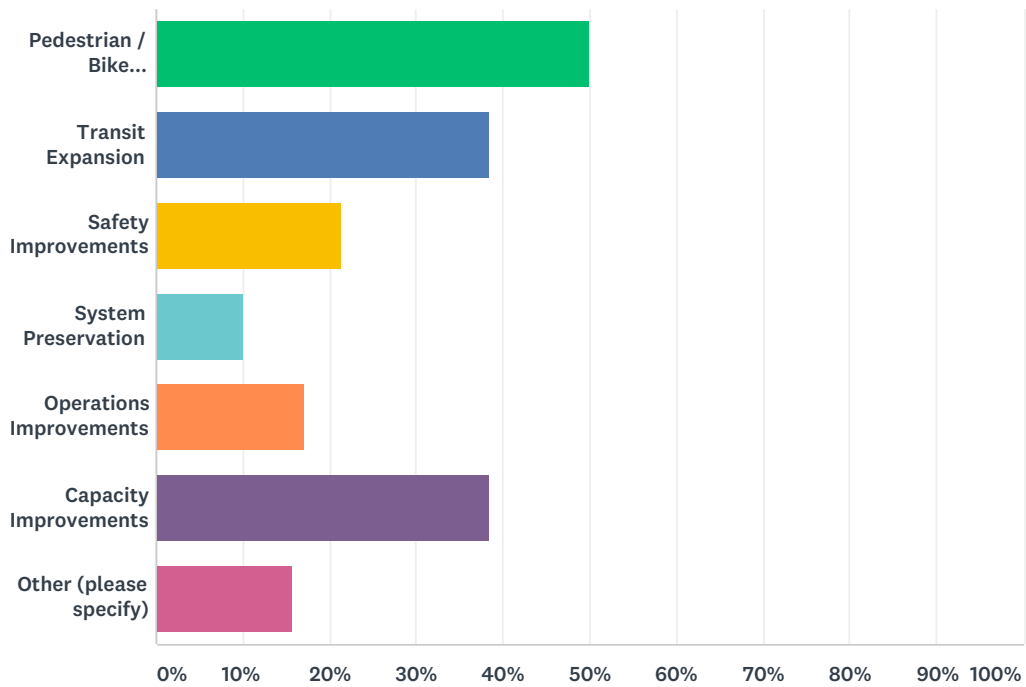
Answered: 644 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Resident	83.70%	539
Business owner	13.66%	88
Property owner	35.71%	230
Employment	18.01%	116
Resident of neighboring city	5.75%	37
Friend/family of resident	5.28%	34
Other (please specify)	3.88%	25
Total Respondents: 644		

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

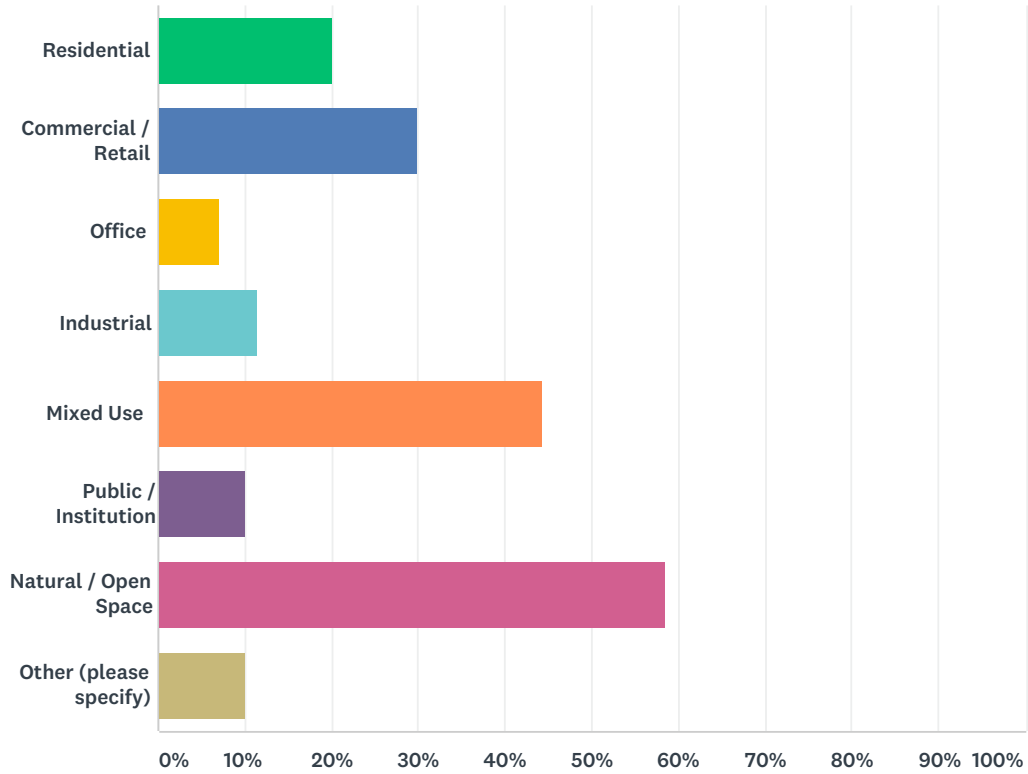
Answered: 70 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pedestrian / Bike Improvements	50.00%	35
Transit Expansion	38.57%	27
Safety Improvements	21.43%	15
System Preservation	10.00%	7
Operations Improvements	17.14%	12
Capacity Improvements	38.57%	27
Other (please specify)	15.71%	11
Total Respondents: 70		

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Residential	20.00%	14
Commercial / Retail	30.00%	21
Office	7.14%	5
Industrial	11.43%	8
Mixed Use	44.29%	31
Public / Institution	10.00%	7
Natural / Open Space	58.57%	41
Other (please specify)	10.00%	7
Total Respondents: 70		

C. Transportation & Land Use Community Survey & Survey Results

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:37:48 AM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:38:33 AM
Time Spent: 00:00:44
IP Address: 40.138.138.118

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
Transit Expansion,
Safety Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / Retail ,
Mixed Use

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:39:01 AM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:41:58 AM
Time Spent: 00:02:56
IP Address: 40.138.138.118

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Safety Improvements,
Operations Improvements,
Capacity Improvements**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Industrial,
Natural / Open
Space**

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 5:42:18 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 5:46:18 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:00
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Safety Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use,
Natural / Open Space

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 5:46:59 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 5:52:32 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:33
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,
Commercial / Retail ,
Mixed Use,
Other (please specify):
Utilize the river green space for pedestrian paths.

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 5:56:00 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 5:57:03 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:03
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Safety Improvements,
System Preservation

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 5:57:16 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:08:19 PM
Time Spent: 00:11:02
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Transit Expansion,
System Preservation,
Capacity Improvements**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Residential,
Commercial /
Retail**

#7

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:08:27 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:11:32 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:04
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Residential,
Natural / Open Space**

#8

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:11:39 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:12:40 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:01
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Transit Expansion,
Capacity Improvements**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Residential,
Natural / Open
Space**

#9

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:12:55 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:14:33 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:38
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion,
System Preservation,
Operations Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / ,
Retail
Industrial,
Mixed Use

#10

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:14:39 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:16:27 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:47
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Safety Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#11

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:22:37 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:23:39 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:01
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion,

Other (please specify):

Beautifying the entrance to Canton with more brick walls

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,

Industrial,

Natural / Open Space

#12

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:23:44 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:31:11 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:26
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Public / Institution ,
Natural / Open Space

#13

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:31:15 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:31:46 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:31
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Other (please specify):
parking downtown

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / Retail ,
Office,
Mixed Use,
Natural / Open Space

#14

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:35:29 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:36:40 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:10
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Other (please specify):
NOT to extend/widen Hwy. 20

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#15

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:36:47 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:40:06 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:19
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Mixed Use,
Natural / Open
Space**

#16

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:40:10 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:41:15 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:04
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#17

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:41:29 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:42:05 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:36
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#18

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:42:12 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:44:42 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:30
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Pedestrian / Bike
Improvements**

Operations Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Commercial /
Retail**

#19

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:44:51 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:49:02 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:11
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#20

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:50:08 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:50:54 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:46
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Safety Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Commercial /
Retail**

#21

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:50:56 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:52:06 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:10
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Other (please specify):
roads

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#22

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:55:55 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:56:24 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:28
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Transit Expansion,
Operations Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,
Public / Institution,
Natural / Open Space

#23

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:56:30 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:58:07 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:37
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#24

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:58:11 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:04:03 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:52
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
System Preservation

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,
Commercial / Retail ,
Mixed Use,
Public / Institution ,
Natural / Open Space

#25

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:04:06 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:04:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:49
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#26

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:04:58 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:05:50 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:51
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Other (please specify):
high end residential

#27

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:05:57 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:07:13 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:15
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Transit Expansion,
Safety Improvements,
System Preservation

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,
Office,
Public / Institution,
Natural / Open Space

#28

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:07:16 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:09:13 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:56
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#29

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:09:46 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:11:49 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:02
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Transit Expansion,
Safety Improvements,
Operations Improvements,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,
Commercial / Retail,
Industrial,
Mixed Use,
Public / Institution,
Natural / Open Space

#30

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:12:04 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:14:11 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:06
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
Transit Expansion,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / Retail ,
Mixed Use

#31

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:14:16 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:16:14 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:58
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / Retail ,
Mixed Use,
Natural / Open Space

#32

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:18:24 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:19:38 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:14
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use,
Natural / Open Space

#33

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:19:47 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:32:28 PM
Time Spent: 00:12:41
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
Transit Expansion,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,
Commercial / Retail ,
Mixed Use

#34

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:33:00 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:34:12 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:12
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Capacity Improvements,

Other (please specify):
parking downtown

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Mixed Use,
Natural / Open
Space**

#35

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:34:37 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:39:58 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:20
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,

Capacity Improvements,

Other (please specify):

a cute trolley from river up to center of downtown. NOT like trolley in atlanta which has no charm a cute trolley system like in alexandria virginia. the one there is free and its remade that lovely town!!

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,

Commercial / Retail ,

Mixed Use,

Natural / Open Space ,

Other (please specify):

build an equestrian park in the floodland. alpharetta wants to get rid of its horrible park. we could do so much better. take a look at tryon and see what's happening there. cherokee county is horse central for the metro area. nice people and lots of money.

#36

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:40:07 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:45:25 PM
Time Spent: 00:05:17
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Transit Expansion,
Capacity Improvements,**

Other (please specify):

Build the infrastructure BEFORE approving development!

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Residential,
Natural / Open Space** ,

Other (please specify):

Canton and Cherokee County should work to form a partnership and develop a world class equestrian center to replace Wills Park in Alpharetta. WE could and should be thought of as a destination. Tryon, NC has developed a center that is attracting riders and events from around the world. Canton is geographically situated in much better environs to do the same.

#37

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:45:35 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:48:23 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:47
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,

Transit Expansion,

Operations Improvements,

Capacity Improvements,

Other (please specify):

footpaths whenever a development, along the length of the main road

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Industrial,

Natural / Open Space ,

Other (please specify):

anything basically that brings jobs to the county, few more areas for families to do more during their time off, a few more things like the canton once a month idea

#38

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:48:30 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:50:30 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:59
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / Retail ,
Natural / Open Space

#39

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:51:27 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:52:22 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:55
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Pedestrian / Bike
Improvements** ,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use,
**Natural / Open
Space**

#40

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:52:25 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:52:59 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:34
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#41

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:53:04 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:56:09 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:05
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Capacity Improvements,

Other (please specify):

Widen SR140 (I realize it is a state road.)

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#42

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:56:13 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:58:47 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:34
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Transit Expansion,
Capacity Improvements**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Other (please specify):
hybrid home school facilities

#43

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:59:25 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:00:04 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:38
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on? **Transit Expansion**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need? **Mixed Use**

#44

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:00:09 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:00:22 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:13
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on? **Transit Expansion**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need? **Mixed Use**

#45

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:00:25 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:03:57 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:32
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Pedestrian / Bike
Improvements** ,
Safety Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Natural / Open
Space**

#46

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:04:40 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:05:39 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:59
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Industrial

#47

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:05:45 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:07:02 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:16
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Safety Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Mixed Use,
Natural / Open
Space**

#48

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:07:06 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:07:48 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:42
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Pedestrian / Bike
Improvements**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Commercial /
Retail**

#49

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:07:53 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:16:55 PM
Time Spent: 00:09:01
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Transit Expansion,
Safety Improvements**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Residential,
Commercial / Retail ,
Natural / Open
Space**

#50

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:16:56 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:17:50 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:53
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
Safety Improvements,
System Preservation,
Operations Improvements,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#51

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:17:53 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:18:26 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:32
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Safety Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use,
Natural / Open Space

#52

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 6:16:35 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:19:43 PM
Time Spent: 02:03:07
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#53

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:18:35 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:27:24 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:48
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#54

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:27:26 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:38:44 PM
Time Spent: 00:11:17
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Operations Improvements,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Office,
Mixed Use

#55

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:41:10 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:41:54 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:44
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / Retail

#56

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:42:02 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:54:04 PM
Time Spent: 00:12:01
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#57

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:54:17 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:54:59 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:41
IP Address: 174.218.137.15

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Commercial /
Retail**

#58

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:54:10 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:55:14 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:04
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Operations Improvements,
Capacity Improvements**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Mixed Use,
Natural / Open
Space**

#59

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:55:12 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:56:15 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:02
IP Address: 174.218.137.15

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Office,
Natural / Open Space

#60

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:55:25 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:56:24 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:59
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#61

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:56:31 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:57:03 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:32
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Operations Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#62

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:56:41 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:57:31 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:49
IP Address: 174.218.137.15

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#63

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:57:08 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:57:36 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:27
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Mixed Use

#64

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:57:43 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:58:09 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:26
IP Address: 174.218.137.15

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Public / Institution ,
Natural / Open Space

#65

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:58:43 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:59:09 PM
Time Spent: 00:00:25
IP Address: 174.218.137.15

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Public / Institution ,
Natural / Open Space

#66

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:58:05 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:59:31 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:25
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements,
Transit Expansion,
Other (please specify):
public transportation

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Residential,
Commercial / Retail

#67

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:59:22 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:01:12 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:49
IP Address: 174.218.137.15

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Safety Improvements,
Capacity Improvements,
Other (please specify):
Roads

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / ,
Retail
Industrial

#68

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:59:46 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:02:27 PM
Time Spent: 00:02:40
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Transit Expansion

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Natural / Open Space

#69

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:02:00 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:03:27 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:27
IP Address: 174.218.137.15

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

**Safety Improvements,
Operations Improvements**

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

**Industrial,
Natural / Open
Space**

#70

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:02:29 PM
Last Modified: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:04:19 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:49
IP Address: 174.218.20.94

Page 1

Q1 If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?

Pedestrian / Bike Improvements ,
Transit Expansion,
System Preservation,
Operations Improvements,
Capacity Improvements

Q2 What type of development (land use) does Canton need?

Commercial / Retail ,
Office,
Mixed Use,
Other (please specify):
encourage walkable lifestyles

D. Stakeholders Committee Meeting Flyer

CANTON 2040

Over the next year, Canton will be undertaking an update to the City's Comprehensive Plan. The work program will include analyzing community conditions, drafting the plan framework, and finalizing and adopting the plan. This Plan will be our vision as a community that directs the decision making process for matters such as:

- **Land Use** (growth and development)
- **Economic Development** (economic opportunities)
- **Transportation** (road network, modes of transit and parking)
- **Housing** (affordability and access)

A series of meetings will be held throughout the process to gather feedback from all involved parties on how the Comprehensive Plan should be formed. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend one or all of the meetings and be a part of the process. All meeting will be identical in format and information.

WWW.CANTONGA.GOV/GOV/DEPARTMENTS/COMMUNITY/CANTON_2040.HTM

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

KICK-OFF

**August 22, 2017; 6pm-8pm
City Hall, 3rd Floor**

NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES

September 19, 2017; 6pm-8pm

**November 14, 2017; 6pm-8pm
City Hall, 3rd Floor**

VISIONING & GOAL SETTING

December 5, 2017; 6pm-8pm

**January 9, 2018; 6pm-8pm
City Hall, 3rd Floor**

COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM

February 6, 2018; 6pm-8pm

March 6, 2018; 6pm-8pm

**June 5, 2018
City Hall, 3rd Floor**

TRAN/LAND USE

**April 3, 2018; 6pm-8pm
City Hall, 3rd Floor**

ECON DEV/ HOUSING

May 1, 2018; 6pm-8pm

City Hall, 3rd Floor D2

E. Public Workshop Meeting Flyer

CANTON 2040

Over the next year, Canton will be undertaking an update to the City's Comprehensive Plan. The work program will include analyzing community conditions, drafting the plan framework, and finalizing and adopting the plan. This Plan will be our vision as a community that directs the decision making process for matters such as:

- **Land Use** (growth and development)
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- **Housing** (affordability and access)

A series of workshops will be held throughout the process to gather feedback from all involved parties on how the Comprehensive Plan should be formed. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend one or all of the workshops and be a part of the process. All workshops will be identical in format and information.

WWW.CANTONGA.GOV/GOV/DEPARTMENTS/COMMUNITY/CANTON_2040.HTM

COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN UPDATE

PUBLIC
WORKSHOPS

NEEDS & STRATEGIES

October 12, 2017
6pm-8pm
City Hall,

COMMUNITY VISIONING

December 19, 2017
6pm-8pm
City Hall,

TRAN/LAND USE

May 4, 2018
6pm-8pm
Downtown—Cannon Park

OPEN HOUSE

May 24, 2018;
6pm-8pm
City Hall,

FINAL COMMUNITY VIEWING

September 13, 2018
6pm-8pm
City Hall,

F. Public Notices

CITY OF CANTON
Notice of Public Hearing
City of Canton

Notice is hereby given that the City of Canton City Council will hold a public hearing on Thursday, June 1, 2017 as a beginning for the process to update and amend the City of Canton Comprehensive Land Use Plan in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Chapter 110-12-1, Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning. The meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Canton City Hall, 151 Elizabeth Street, Canton, Georgia 30114. All meetings are open to the public.

CITY OF CANTON

BLOCK AD

Run Date: Friday, May 12, 2017
 Friday, May 19, 2017
 Friday, May 26, 2017

REEMAN LIBRARY L LEARNING CENTER



del of the Hill Freeman Library on campus with a ribbon-cutting on Tuesday morn-

NING HUB

ity cuts ribbon for renovated library



Waleska Mayor Doris Jones spoke about how the new remodel of the Reinhardt University Library would benefit the community during the ribbon-cutting for the facility on Tuesday.

CANTON ■ COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

City asks for public's input on future plans

By Madison Hogan

mhogan@cherokeetribune.com

City of Canton officials are inviting residents and comment at a meeting to kick off discussions about the city's needs, improvements and future this week.

City Planner Brittany Anderson said the first meeting for "Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Needs & Strategies" with the public will focus on identifying goals for the city that will be used throughout the development of a comprehensive plan.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday in City Hall at 151 Elizabeth St.

IF YOU GO

- ◆ **WHAT:** "Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Needs & Strategies" public meeting
- ◆ **WHEN:** 6 p.m. Thursday
- ◆ **WHERE:** Canton City Hall, 151 Elizabeth St.
- ◆ **INFO:** 770-704-1557

SEE PLANS, 10

ARBOR VIEW ■ ANIMALS

Woodstock residents spot big, black bear

By Thomas Hartwell

thartwell@cherokeetribune.com

An 11-year-old Woodstock resident caught video of a bear as it ran across her neighborhood's streets on Saturday. Kate Thompson said her dogs had escaped the yard and she and her aunt were searching for them when they spotted the black bear running through a neighbor's lawn.

Thompson's parents, John and Ali, said they were out of town at the time, but that their daughter took the video no more than a mile from their house, near the entrance of Arbor View subdivision in Woodstock.

"We posted it to our neighborhood Facebook page, and naturally, dozens of people commented on it," John Thompson said.

Jeanne McKinny, Thompson's aunt, was the

PLANS

From A1

“This particular meeting is one of many where we’ll be dealing with the public and we’ll be looking at a SLOT analysis,” she said. “We’ll be identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to put together a list of needs and strategies that we are looking to achieve.”

The state requires each jurisdiction to conduct a major update to their comprehensive plan, or land use plan, like this one every 10 years, Anderson said. The city is also required to update their community work program every five years, she said.

“So this comprehensive plan is a framework for the development, management and implementation at the local level,” she said. “So we’re just trying to come up with the vision and have goals that can be implemented in the city.”

Some of the elements that the city is hoping to

There will be several more meetings with the public following this initial one, she said, as well as booths set up at the “First Friday” events next year.

address this year include economic development, land use, transportation and housing, Anderson said. But city staff hope residents will attend and share their own ideas about what Canton needs, she said.

“We want them to come with ideas as to what they think the city would need to improve or things for the vision, like what do they want to see in the future, what can we do to improve the city, what can be done,” she said. “So just give us general ideas to help us guide the plan.”

The city has also organized a stakeholders group, consisting of residents, business owners and invested parties in Canton, which will meet throughout the course of next year

to discuss the needs for the comprehensive plan, Anderson said. There will be several more meetings with the public following this initial one, she said, as well as booths set up at the “First Friday” events next year.

“All of this will be going on simultaneously—working with the group, working with the public, working with the staff to compile this (plan),” she said.

In addition to the meetings, the public will also be able to submit thoughts and feedback through a community survey on the city’s website through SurveyMonkey soon, Anderson said.

“That should happen within the next month or so,” she said.

CANTON I REVITALIZATION

Work begins in historic Jones

By Madison Hogan
mhogan@cherokeetribune.com

The city of Canton will begin work on the historic Jones Building Wednesday and close a parking lot downtown for two months.

Garbutt Construction will begin fencing off the area around the Jones Building project site Wednesday morning, according to Public Outreach Manager Pat Gold.

Canton Public Works staff placed barriers downtown around the site Tuesday afternoon, she said.

Canton Police will also secure the parking area and drive aisle between the Jones Building and Cannon Park by Wednesday morning. The

parking lot will be for the next two months Gold said.

“A construction will arrive next week demolition on the of the building will Monday morning,” said.

A portion of the sidewalk along No and Main streets c

Solomon Co

REPRESENTING AET SENIOR A

**NO FEES FOR SERVICE
770-552-9090

JOIN US FOR INFORMATION

OCTOBER 11
CHEROKEE RECREATION

75
W

WE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH ROOM TO DESCRIBE US IN WORDS. SO WE USED ICONS.....

tribuneledgernews.com



CHEROKEE TRIBUNE & LEDGER-NEWS

Long Summer Days HOT SUZUKI DEALS

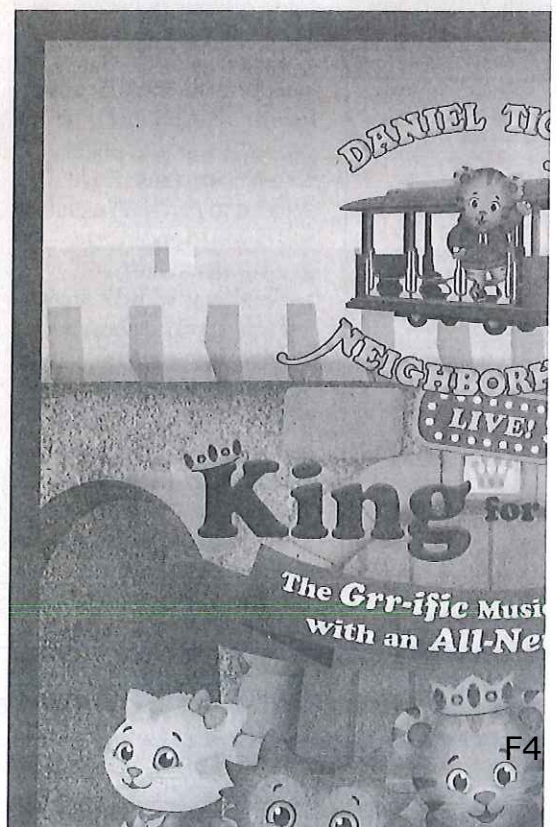
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL THREE SUZUKI DEALS FOR MORE SUMMER FUN



Six Years of Protection at no extra charge on all new outboards 25 to 300 HP.



Cash Rebates on select models. See your dealer for details.





151 Elizabeth St., Canton, Ga 30114
 (770) 704-1502
 www.cantonga.gov

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Account Number:	0026-001440-001
Service Address:	233 Hillcrest Ridge
Due Date:	01/05/18
Amount Due (if paid after due date):	\$50.14
Amount Due (if paid by due date):	\$45.58
Amount Enclosed:	

** PAID BY BANK DRAFT **

Dean & Wanda Floyd
 233 Hillcrest Ridge
 Canton GA 30115

0026001440001010520180000000045589

Please return this portion with your payment.

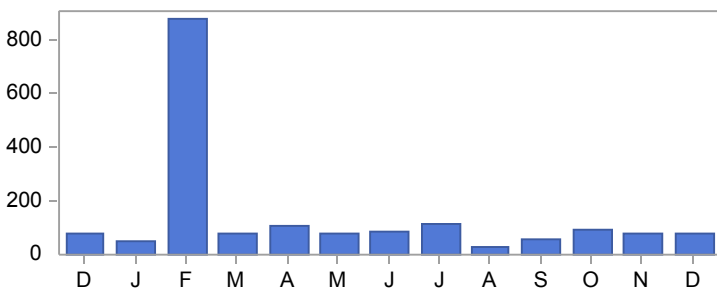
CUSTOMER ACCOUNT INFORMATION - RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS

Account Number 0026-001440-001	Name Dean & Wanda Floyd	Service Address 233 Hillcrest Ridge
--	-----------------------------------	---

Service	Meter Number	Read Dates		Billing Days	Meter Readings		Usage (gallons)	Charges
		Previous	Present		Previous	Present		
Water	67875611	11/03/2017	12/05/2017	30	3624	3632	80	\$ 13.29
Sewer								\$ 19.50
Garbage								\$ 14.50
Recycling								\$ 0.00
Stormwater								\$ 0.50
Total Current Charges								\$ 47.79

Previous Balance	Penalties	Payments	Adjustments	Balance Forward	Current Charges	Amount Due
\$47.79	\$0.00	-\$50.00	\$0.00	-\$2.21	\$47.79	\$45.58

12-Month Consumption History



CITY NEWS AND NOTES

Attn: Public input mtg. on the land use plan 12/19
 Contact City Hall 770.704.1557. City offices closed for the Christmas Holiday, Monday and Tuesday, December 25th & 26th, and New Year's day, Monday, January 1st. Holiday Trash delay: collection provided 1 day late. Please ensure your containers are available for service.



151 Elizabeth St., Canton, Ga 30114
 (770) 704-1502
 www.cantonga.gov

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Account Number:	0026-001440-001
Service Address:	233 Hillcrest Ridge
Due Date:	05/05/18
Amount Due (if paid after due date):	\$40.42
Amount Due (if paid by due date):	\$36.74
Amount Enclosed:	

**** PAID BY BANK DRAFT ****

Dean & Wanda Floyd
 233 Hillcrest Ridge
 Canton GA 30115

00260014400010000036740000040424

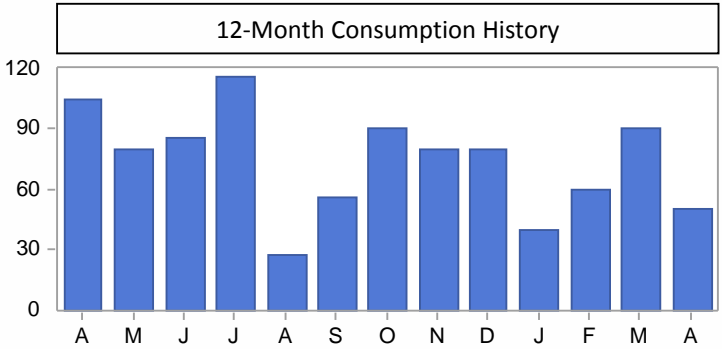
Please return this portion with your payment.

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT INFORMATION - RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS

Account Number 0026-001440-001	Name Dean & Wanda Floyd	Service Address 233 Hillcrest Ridge
--	-----------------------------------	---

Service	Meter Number	Read Dates		Billing Days	Meter Readings		Usage (gallons)	Charges
		Previous	Present		Previous	Present		
Water	67875611	03/05/2018	04/04/2018	31	3651	3656	50	\$ 13.29
Sewer								\$ 19.50
Garbage								\$ 14.50
Recycling								\$ 0.00
Stormwater								\$ 0.50
Total Current Charges								\$ 47.79

Previous Balance	Penalties	Payments	Adjustments	Balance Forward	Current Charges	Amount Due
\$38.95	\$0.00	-\$50.00	\$0.00	-\$11.05	\$47.79	\$36.74



CITY NEWS AND NOTES

Attn: Public input mtg. on the land use plan May 24th
 Consider evaluating your lawn sprinkler system before summer watering begins.
 Office M-F 8-5, phone 770.704.1501
 For Upcoming Events visit our website www.cantonga.gov
 2017 Water Quality Report is posted on Our Website



151 Elizabeth St., Canton, Ga 30114
 (770) 704-1502
 www.cantonga.gov

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Account Number:	0001-000960-005
Service Address:	210 E Main St
Due Date:	08/19/18
Amount Due (if paid after due date):	\$167.40
Amount Due (if paid by due date):	\$167.40
Amount Enclosed:	

Please remit and make checks payable to:

CITY OF CANTON UTILITY BILLING
 PO BOX 4848
 CANTON, GA 30114-0026



0001000960005081920180000000167400

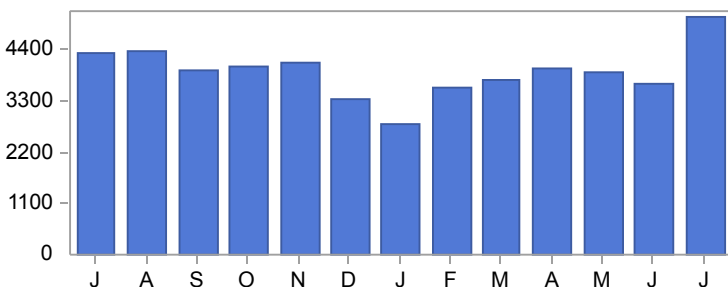
Please return this portion with your payment.

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT INFORMATION - RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS

Account Number 0001-000960-005	Name Audio Intersection	Service Address 210 E Main St
--	-----------------------------------	---

Service	Meter Number	Read Dates		Billing Days	Meter Readings		Usage (gallons)	Charges		
		Previous	Present		Previous	Present				
Water	48708163	06/19/2018	07/19/2018	30	15787	16298	5110	\$	33.54	
Sewer								\$	49.36	
Garbage								\$	83.00	
Stormwater								\$	1.50	
								Total Current Charges	\$	167.40
Previous Balance		Penalties	Payments	Adjustments	Balance Forward	Current Charges	Amount Due			
\$144.19		\$0.00	-\$144.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$167.40	\$167.40			

12-Month Consumption History



CITY NEWS AND NOTES

Attn: Public input mtg on the land use plan Sept 13th at 6pm. For more information visit our website at www.cantonga.gov Utility Customer Service Office M-F 8-5, phone 770.704.1502



CITY OF CANTON, GA
 151 Elizabeth St
 Canton, Ga 30114
 (770) 704-1501
 www.canton-georgia.com

Account Number	Amount Due
0026-001440-001	\$47.79
Due Date	Amount Enclosed
9/5/2018	PAID BY DRAFT
Service Address	
233 Hillcrest Ridge	

There will be a charge on all returned checks.
 Please return this portion with your payment.

Dean & Wanda Floyd
 233 Hillcrest Ridge
 Canton, GA 30115

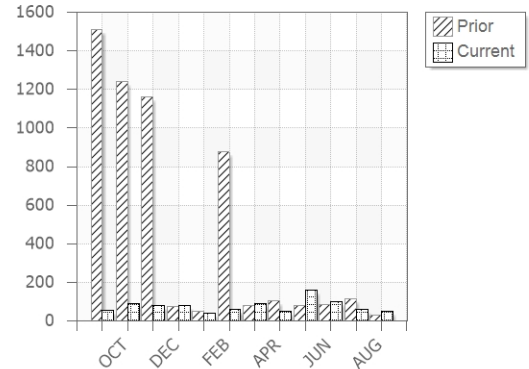
CITY OF CANTON, GA
 151 Elizabeth St
 Canton, Ga 30114

Please return this portion with your payment.

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT INFORMATION - RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS

Name		Service Address			Account Number	
Dean & Wanda Floyd		233 Hillcrest Ridge			0026-001440-001	
Status	Service Dates		Number of Days	Bill Date	Penalty Date	Due Date
	From	To				
Active	7/5/2018	8/5/2018	31	8/14/2018	9/6/2018	9/5/2018

PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$47.79
PAYMENTS	(\$47.79)
ADJUSTMENTS	\$0.00
PENALTIES	\$0.00
PAST DUE BALANCE	\$0.00



CURRENT	PREVIOUS	USAGE		
READING	READING			
08/06 3,693	07/05 3,688	50	Water Consumption	13.29
			Sewer Cons	19.50
			Refuse Charge	14.50
			Stormwater	0.50

CURRENT BALANCE	\$47.79
AMOUNT DUE	\$47.79
	PAID BY DRAFT

Attn: Public input mtg on the land use plan Sept 13th at 6pm. For more information visit our website at www.cantonga.gov
 Utility Customer Service Office M-F 8-5, phone 770.704.1502

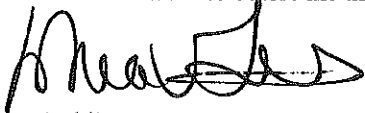
CHEROKEE TRIBUNE
521 East Main Street • Canton, Georgia 30114
PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA - County of Cherokee

Before me, the undersigned; a Notary Public, this day personally came **Otis Brumby III**, who, being duly sworn, according to law, says that he is the **Publisher** of *Times Journal, Inc.*, publishers of the *Cherokee Tribune*, official newspaper published in said county and State, and that the publication, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published in said paper on the 25 day of October, 2018, as provided by law.

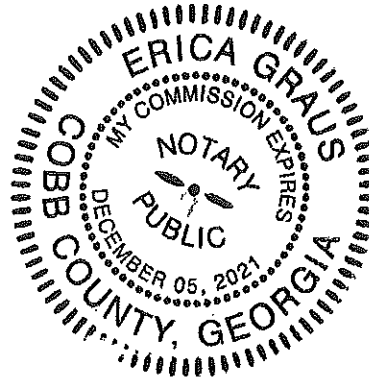


Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25 day of October, 2018.



Notary Public

My commission expires December 5, 2021



City of Canton

Notice of Public Hearing

10 Year Update – Canton Comprehensive Plan

Notice is hereby given that the City of Canton will hold a public hearing on November 1, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Canton City Hall, 110 Academy Street, Canton, Georgia. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider and receive public comment on the 10 Year Update of Canton's Comprehensive Plan to be prepared under the minimum planning standards and procedures for local Comprehensive Planning established by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs rules and regulations as adopted November 7, 2012. Any individual interested in the proposed annual updates may appear in support or opposition either in person, by agent, or attorney.

City of Canton

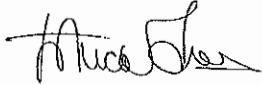
CHEROKEE TRIBUNE
521 East Main Street • Canton, Georgia 30114
PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA - County of Cherokee

Before me, the undersigned; a Notary Public, this day personally came **Otis Brumby III**, who, being duly sworn, according to law, says that he is the **Publisher** of *Times Journal, Inc.*, publishers of the *Cherokee Tribune*, official newspaper published in said county and State, and that the publication, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published in said paper on the 25 day of October, 2018, as provided by law.

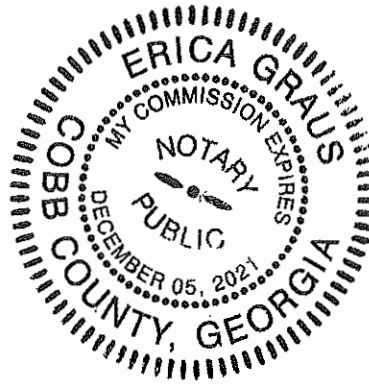


Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25 day of October, 2018



Notary Public

My commission expires December 5, 2021



City of Canton

Notice of Public Hearing

Capital Improvements Element of Canton Comprehensive Plan

Update

Notice is hereby given that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Canton, will hold a public hearing on November 1, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Canton City Hall, 110 Academy Street, Canton, Georgia for the purpose of considering and receiving public comment the Capital Improvements Element and 5 Year Short Term Work Program of Canton's Comprehensive Plan to be prepared under the minimum planning standards and procedures for local Comprehensive Planning established by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989. Any individual interested in the proposed annual updates may appear in support or opposition either in person, by agent, or attorney.

City of Canton

G. Stakeholders & Public Meeting Summaries & Sign-In Sheets

Steering Committee Kick-Off Meeting
Tuesday, August 22, 2017

The first stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at Canton City Hall. Twelve (12) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Mayor Gene Hobgood and City Manager Billy Peppers welcomed and thanked the committee members for their willingness to participate in the preparation of the City's Comprehensive Plan update.

The participants were asked to introduce themselves and announce to the remaining committee members their connection to the City and their desires for the City. All of participants live within the City and the following were the desires stated:

1. Realize the full potential of the river and trail system
2. Seek more economic growth in the City
3. Provide bike trails and connectivity to surrounding communities
4. Increase of businesses in the City
5. Continue the progression of Canton Forward
6. Pursue growth management
7. Increase of transportation modes throughout the City
8. Enhance the quality of life
9. Improve the education system
10. Preserve the City's history and uniqueness
11. Consider growth management of the entire city, not just certain areas
12. Maintain firm family and community oriented feel for the City
13. Preserve the City's identity as it continues to grow
14. Surpass Woodstock in growth and development

Brittany Anderson, Planner, discussed the planning process and guidelines provided by the State. The anticipated timeline and schedule was also covered along with expectations and responsibilities of the committee members.

Ken Patton, Community Development Director, briefed the committee on the differences of the regulations for the current comprehensive plan adopted in 2009 and the regulations effective as of March 1, 2014. Discussions that followed were related to the existing land use map and development within the City.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at Canton City Hall at 6pm. It is expected that the committee will conduct a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis and discuss Needs and Opportunities for the City.

Steering Committee Needs & Opportunities Meeting Pt1
Tuesday, September 19, 2017

The second stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at Canton City Hall. Eleven (11) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting.

A brief presentation on the survey questionnaire critique was given. During this presentation, committee member provided additional comments including but not limited to ratings of question responses should be the same throughout the entire survey, the order of the questions should be rearranged (simple to more complexed questions last), and the survey is too long.

A brief PowerPoint presentation was given on the importance of conducting a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis of the community to set the directions for identifying needs and opportunities for the City. The participants were provided with instructions on how to conduct a SWOT Analysis, split into two groups and were given forty-five (45) minutes to conduct the activity. After the allotted time came to an end, a group discussion regarding the identified items was held. Below are items the committee decided upon:

Strengths

1. Water supply
2. Medical facilities
3. Educational facilities (public and extended)
4. Parks and recreation
5. Nursing homes / assisted living facilities
6. Low crime rate
7. Community facilities, i.e. YMCA
8. Streetscape improvements (Hwy 140, Hickory Flat Hwy, Railroad St, & Marietta Rd)

Weaknesses

1. Water treatment system
2. Waste water treatment system
3. Sidewalk connectivity
4. Lack of transit
5. Increase subdivision connectivity via trails
6. Cultural integration
7. Community involvement
8. Aging housing / blighted properties
9. Downtown parking
10. Entry / gateway signage
11. Lack of housing (downtown)
12. Lack of job opportunities
13. Lack of industrial land
14. Lack of river development
15. Infrastructure

Opportunities

1. Lack of river development (use of fish traps)
2. Trail connectivity
3. Subdivision connectivity
4. Acquisition of additional green space
5. Education improvements (higher education)
6. Establish small business incentive program
7. Jones Building (employment center)
8. Etowah River Master Plan
9. Infill development
10. Marietta Hwy improvements
11. Parks and recreation to meet all needs
12. Redevelop blighted areas
13. Streetscape improvements
14. Annexation of County properties within the City

Threats

1. Streetscape improvements along Waleska Hwy, Marietta Hwy and South/North Canton
2. Aging housing and blighted areas
3. Lack of wayfinding (directional signage and sight distance)
4. Older water / sewer lines (downtown)
5. Ability to provide water / sewer for development

The committee expressed their concerns regarding attendance at the upcoming public workshops. In addition to providing notice on the website, Facebook, and all legal organs per the code, the committee asked for notices/flyers to be included with the residents' water bills.

The next stakeholder meeting will be Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at Canton City Hall at 6pm. It is expected that the committee will use the results from the (SWOT) Analysis to identify Needs and Opportunities for the City.

Public Workshop - Needs & Strategies
Thursday, October 12, 2017

The first community meeting was held on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at Canton City Hall. Citizens and Council members attended and participated in the discussions while Council members looked on. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the attendees and briefly explained what is a comprehensive plan and the expectations of community involvement in the planning process.

A brief PowerPoint presentation was given on the importance of conducting a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis of the community to set the directions for identifying needs and opportunities for the City. The participants were provided with instructions on how to conduct a SWOT Analysis, split into two groups and were given forty-five (45) minutes to conduct the activity. After the allotted time came to an end, a group discussion regarding the identified items was held. Below are items the citizens decided upon:

Strengths

1. Transportation - rail, airports, roads
2. River through the City - connecting to parks; fish traps and Indian heritage
3. River, Reservoir (Hickory Log) and Lake (Allatoona)
4. Existing arts - Canton Theater, Arts Center, and festivals
5. Native American heritage
6. Small town charm - history of Canton
7. Senior population - disposable income
8. County seat
9. Many visits to the City - capture the visitors
10. Undeveloped land along the River
11. Historic preservation
12. City's environment - clean air
13. Historical downtown area
14. Shopping
15. Educated workforce
16. Excellent home prices
17. Gateway to North Georgia mountains
18. National Cemetery

Weaknesses

1. Lack of downtown housing - blighted houses, interested in mixed use housing
2. Wayfinding signage - directional signs, welcome signs and statues
3. Lack of downtown marketing/advertising – welcome center, city map, directory at the gazebo
4. City is not connected – lack of trails, sidewalks, bike lanes

Opportunities

1. Learn from other communities' mistakes
2. Increase historic home tours
3. Brochures / maps showing connectivity
4. Air show at airport
5. Market the City and River
6. River access
7. Become a Green City
8. Encourage film industry
9. Create youth programs

Threats

1. Traffic – congestion, lack of traffic control
2. Other cities' encroachments
3. Blight
4. Increase in crime – need to be proactive
5. Drug usage
6. Homeless population

After discussing the results from the SWOT Analysis; Ken Patton, Community Development Director, explained what needs and strategies are and the importance the items have on future development. The citizens came up with the following suggestions as needs and strategies:

1. Create a portal or similar method linked to the City's website to allow businesses to advertise and provide discounts or specials to the public.
2. Create forums or a similar method for residents to log into to increase citizen participation at citywide events and meetings, etc.
3. Increase interconnectivity between subdivisions
4. Seek a bike share system
5. Provide economic incentives for businesses
6. Add modern and contemporary arts and other variety of arts to the existing arts in the City

The next community meeting will be Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at Canton City Hall at 6pm. It is expected that the participants focus on visioning and goal setting for the City.

Steering Committee Needs & Opportunities Meeting Pt2
Tuesday, November 14, 2017

The second stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at Canton City Hall. Eleven (11) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting.

A brief presentation on the needs and opportunities was given. During this presentation, Brittany explained the importance of needs and opportunities and provided examples from surrounding communities to use as a guide. The participants were provided with instructions on how to come up with the needs and opportunities to guide the plan, split into two groups and were given one hour and forty-five minutes to brainstorm. After the allotted time came to an end, a group discussion regarding the identified items was held. Below are items the committee decided upon:

Community Facilities

Needs:

- Connect and establish relationship with local churches such as MUST Ministries, YMCA and other organizations to help with the homeless population when needed. Currently, we do not see a need for a shelter and most of the homeless are transit.
- Explore the possibility of a new Water Treatment facility that is expandable to facilitate future growth and come up with a way to eliminate the order.
- Determine additional location for Water Treatment System and Waste Water Treatment Center to accommodate future population increases.
- Increase the capacity for sanitary sewer and potable water to appeal to prospective businesses and homeowners.

Opportunities:

- Expand City's Trail System outward from Etowah River Trail to other areas within the City and link to other communities' trail system.
- Increase pedestrian and bicycle accessibility trails to link current communities together with access to our trail system.
- Provide Educational/Minority Outreach/Awareness/Overall community involvement through the Cultural Center.

Economic Development

Needs:

- Provide a Welcome Center and kiosk for tourists and new residents as the City becomes more of a destination place.
- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to "Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory" section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement.
- Seek ways to provide a variety of job opportunities (retail, small businesses, and corporate, etc) to support future growth.

- Research and implement methods to maintain and increase the ability to provide water and sewer for current and future development.
- Consider making main level space available in downtown Canton for shops and restaurants.

Opportunities:

- Provide opportunity for more retail and professional business throughout the City to provide more job opportunities.
- Develop riverfront with boardwalk (cycling and walking path) to include retail, restaurants, commercial and residential space.
- Consider the Jones building to become retail space at main level such as Ponce or Kroger
- Build relations through means of a tourism facility as it is part of Canton’s charm.
- Focus on “Riverfront” development and marketing to provide a vibrant city and appeal to future businesses and residents.
- Incentivize existing attorneys to relocate upstairs to free up prime retail space on sidewalk level.
- Establish small business incentive program to attract new businesses.
- Encourage the Film Industry to consider Canton as a location to film by showcasing prior work conducted in the City.
- Seek champions to promote and host historic home tours in the City and host airshows at the airport.

Housing

Needs:

- Develop housing to accommodate Millennials and Aging adults downtown.
- Enforce code compliance and partner with landlord to revamp blighted residential and commercial properties.
- Conduct a housing study to prevent overbuilding of residential housing in the City.

Opportunities:

- Increase connectivity of subdivisions through pedestrian sidewalks, bicycle lanes and accessibility trails to link current communities together.
- Redevelop aging and blighted properties to prevent issue from becoming worse.
- Incorporate mixed use housing in downtown Canton to provide a live, work, play environment.

Land Use

Needs:

- Focus on expanding land for industrial, manufacturing, and technology by potentially annexing additional land.
- Communicate with Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and other governing agencies involved with the expansion of HWY 20.
- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to “Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory” section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement.

- Seek ways to provide a variety of job opportunities (retail, small businesses, and corporate, etc) to support future growth.
- Establish Canton’s street and boundary character to prevent encroachment from surrounding communities and cities.

Opportunities:

- Undeveloped land along the river has the potential to become a riverfront as an entertainment / restaurant venue.
- Utilize infill development in downtown for housing.
- Acquire green space in the City by annexing additional property or develop green space within vacant City property.
- Incorporate the use of historic Fish Traps along with potential river development.

Natural and Cultural Resources

Needs:

- Find methods that will help residents in the community connect with and feel a part of the City.
- Connect the River to the City by linking the river to the parks, incorporating the historic fish traps and Indian heritage.
- Preserve the River, Reservoir (Hickory Log) and Lake (Allatoona) as natural land features attract business through quality of life.
- Establish Canton’s street and boundary character to prevent encroachment from surrounding communities and cities.
- Preserve and enhance parks and recreation to meet all needs of the community.
- Continue usage of Etowah River Master Plan to attract future businesses and meet the needs of the community.

Opportunities:

- Host concerts in Etowah Park to bring residents and non-residents together for entertainment.
- Become a Green City to become and remain a cleaner, healthier, and more economically viable Canton.
- Focus on developing the area along the river as it has the potential become a riverfront with entertainment and restaurant opportunities.
- Study methods to showcase Native American heritage as a historical attraction.
- Create youth programs oriented towards youth development through recreation, life skill training, education and coaching.
- Add modern and contemporary arts and other variety of arts to the existing arts in the City

Transportation

Needs:

- Connect sidewalk along Hwy 140 heading towards Waleska.
- Add bicycle signage throughout the Bluffs and downtown Canton and along Riverstone Parkway and Reinhardt College Parkway.

- Install wayfinding signage – directional signs, welcome signs, and statutes throughout the City to allow for easy navigation.
- Increase connectivity of Canton and subdivisions through pedestrian sidewalks, bicycle lanes and accessibility trails to link current communities together.
- Install additional signage for identifying City’s gateway, parking areas, and sight distance.
- Provide additional transit options to benefit the community and allow other modes of transportation.
- Research methods to reduce traffic congestion and lack of traffic control to improve the flow of traffic.
- Conduct a study to determine the best parking locations and how many spaces are needed to accommodate downtown Canton.

Opportunities:

- Improve and maintain streetscape along Highway 140, Hickory Flat Highway, Railroad Street, Marietta Road, Waleska Highway, Marietta Highway and throughout north and south Canton.
- Preserve and enhance routes / gateway to North Georgia Mountains as natural land features attracts businesses and people through quality of life.
- Seek to incorporate a bike share program in Canton.
- Utilize the current transportation plan as a method to interest prospective businesses as the City sees future growth.

Vocational / Educational

Needs:

- Connect and establish relationship with local churches such as MUST Ministries, YMCA and other organizations to help with the homeless population when needed.
- Be proactive in determining methods to preventing an increase in crime.

Opportunities:

- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to “Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory” section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement and as Canton becomes a destination place.
- Provide opportunity for more retail and professional business throughout the City to provide more job opportunities.

Members of the committee expressed their concerns regarding population, water, sewer, and transportation data. Data will be emailed to the group once the information has been compiled.

The next stakeholder meeting will be Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at Canton City Hall at 6pm. It is expected that the committee will brainstorm for the visioning and goal setting portion of the comprehensive planning process for the City.

Steering Committee Visioning & Goal Setting Meeting
Tuesday, December 5, 2017

The fourth stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at Canton City Hall. Nine (9) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting. The members were also informed of the progress of the community survey for the comprehensive planning process and were asked to invite other community members to take the survey.

At a previous stakeholders meeting, committee members voiced concerns regarding communications and how the City provides information to the public. Following this concern; Angela Thompson, Communications and Outreach Director, was invited to speak to the group. Angela spoke on her role and responsibilities as the Communication and Outreach Director for the City of Canton as well as the City's new brand. Angela provided the committee with the different avenues of how communication is provided to the public. This includes, but are not limited to: the City's website, email groups, social media networks, and legal organs. After the presentation, the members were able to ask questions or provide suggestions regarding the City's communication and outreach program.

A brief presentation on the visioning and goal setting was given. During this presentation, Brittany explained the importance of visioning and goal setting and also provided examples from surrounding communities to use as a guide. The participants were provided with instructions on how to come up with a vision statement and goals to guide the plan, members were split into two groups and were given one hour and thirty minutes to brainstorm. After the allotted time came to an end, a group discussion regarding the identified items was held. Below is the vision statement the committee decided upon:

"The City of Canton is a destination that is a dynamic, diverse, and developing place to live, work, and play. Ensuring a safe, clean, healthy, productive city where community is valued, neighborhoods are revitalized, history is preserved, the natural environment is respected, and where all people can reach their full potential through education, commerce, culture, recreation, and wellness. The City of Canton is proud to be the heart of North Georgia, with big city amenities and small-town charm."

Committee members and staff discussed expectations on brainstorming for goals and policies which will be the focus for the following stakeholders meeting. The next stakeholder meeting will be Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at Canton City Hall at 6pm.

Public Workshop - Visioning & Goal Setting Meeting
Tuesday, December 19, 2017

The second community meeting was held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at Canton City Hall. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the attendees and provided a brief recap of where we are in the planning process highlighting the SWOT analysis and proposed needs and opportunities, what can be expected from the process and the importance of community input throughout the process.

A brief presentation on the visioning and goal setting was given. During this presentation, Brittany explained the importance of visioning and goal setting and provided examples from surrounding communities to use as a guide. The participants were provided with instructions on how to come up with a vision statement and goals to guide the plan, members were given one hour and thirty minutes to brainstorm. After the allotted time came to an end, a group discussion regarding the identified items was held. Citizens were provided with the visioning statement prepared by the stakeholders committee. Below is the vision statement the citizens proposed minor revision to:

“The City of Canton is a destination that is a dynamic, diverse, and vibrant community to live, work, and play. Ensuring a safe, clean, healthy, productive city where family and diversity are valued, neighborhoods are revitalized, history is preserved, the natural environment is respected, and where all people can reach their full potential through education, commerce, culture, recreation, and wellness. The City of Canton is proud to be the heart of North Georgia, with big city amenities and small-town charm.”

The citizens were tasked with the review of goals and policies listed in the City’s current comprehensive plan, Horizon 2030. Citizens were asked to identify which items are still applicable and can be used in the plan update and also identify items which are no longer needed and can be removed from the list. Below are the goals that can be considered as potential goals for the current plan update:

Natural and Cultural Resources

- We will consider the protection and conservation of Canton’s natural and cultural resources in making decisions about future growth and development.
- We will encourage new development to locate in suitable locations that avoid and/or protect natural resources, environmentally sensitive areas, and/or areas of valuable historic, archaeological, or cultural resources from encroachment by the impacts of new development.
- We will promote low impact development that preserves the natural topography and existing trees and green open space and encourage more compact urban development in appropriate locations to reduce the inefficient consumption of land and water resources and encourage preservation of green open space and natural resource areas.
- We will factor potential impacts on water quality into decisions regarding new development and we will ensure safe and adequate supplies of water through protecting ground and surface water sources.
- We will factor potential impacts on noise and air quality into decisions regarding new development and we will support spatial and design efforts that reduce negative impacts on air quality and/or noise levels beyond acceptable standards.

- We will encourage new development be located in urban areas and corridors in the City of Canton to help redirect development pressure away from agricultural farms and equestrian estates in Cherokee County.
- We will promote enhanced solid waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Facilities and Services

- The City of Canton will encourage infill redevelopment and compact development patterns in the more urban areas of the city where they provide more efficient use of existing infrastructure and protect infrastructure investments already paid for by reducing the need for more costly new/expanded facilities and services.
- We will support development within existing areas of service and areas that can be reasonably served by public infrastructure to ensure that new development does not cause a decline in existing levels of for the City's residents and employers.
- Canton will encourage the use of planned infrastructure expansion and sequential, phased extension of utilities and services to encourage rational expansion in areas immediately contiguous to already developed areas of the community and with areas identified in the comprehensive plan as suitable for such development.
- The City of Canton will seek ways for new growth to pay for itself through impact fees, community improvement districts, and other methods to achieve investment in infrastructure and services to support the development to the maximum extent possible.
- We will invest in parks and open space to enhance the quality of life for our citizens.
- We will coordinate the timing in providing public facilities and services with the ability to program and pay for concurrent land use development and capital facilities.
- We will work with the Cherokee County School System to encourage school location decisions that support the community's overall growth and development plans.

Land Use

- We will provide creation and maintenance of recreational facilities, public gathering places, cultural event sites, appropriate park and recreation facilities and the set-aside of attractive "green space" as important responsibilities for the City of Canton.
- We support new land uses that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving meaningful open space and that enhance housing options in our community.
- We will support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton's character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.
- Our community will use land efficiently to avoid the costs and problems associated with urban sprawl.
- We will encourage the improvement of our gateways and corridors to create a "positive" sense of place for our community and improve the direct and indirect effects of these areas on adjacent areas or the City as a whole.

- We are committed to redeveloping and enhancing existing (and planned) commercial and industrial areas within our community in preference to new development in previously undeveloped “Greenfield” areas of the community.
- We will encourage development of a rational network of commercial nodes, including crossroads, neighborhood, community, and regional activity centers, and employment centers that meet the service needs of citizens while avoiding unattractive and inefficient strip development along major roadways.
- We support increases in residential density in areas where community design standards, environmental constraints and available infrastructure capacities can satisfactorily accommodate the increased density.
- We will encourage mixed-use developments that are human-scale and less auto-oriented.
- We support appropriate residential and non-residential in-fill development and redevelopment in ways that complement surrounding areas.
- We are committed to creating safe, attractive, and walkable neighborhoods throughout the City, where people have easy access to schools, parks, and necessary services (grocery store, drug store) without having to travel by car.
- We will encourage the development of the “Downtown Canton central business district” as a vibrant center of the community in order to improve overall attractiveness and local quality of life with improved access to parking.
- We will support methods to help ensure that our decisions on new development contribute to Canton’s character and sense of place, are sensitive to the sense of place and the historic context of the community, and whose design, landscaping, lighting, signage, and scale add value to the community.

Economic Development

- We will support programs for retention, expansion and creation of businesses that are a good fit for our community’s economy in terms of job skill requirements and linkages to existing businesses.
- We will carefully consider costs and benefits in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.
- We will target reinvestment to declining, existing neighborhoods, vacant or underutilized sites or buildings in preference to new economic development projects in (previously undeveloped) “greenfield” areas of our community.
- We will seek to balance the supply of housing and employment in our community and consider their location in relation to each other.
- We will take into account access to housing and impacts on transportation, other infrastructure facilities and natural resources when considering economic development projects.
- We will consider the employment needs and skill levels of our existing population in making decisions on proposed economic development projects.

- We will encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
- We will target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- Our new and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- We will promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- We will encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- We will encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- We will encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

Transportation

- We will encourage creation of a community-wide network of roads, railroads, walking paths, bicycle trails, car-pooling, and other alternative transportation choices and facilities to meet multiple functions for roads and transport facilities, including pedestrian facilities, parking, bicycle routes, public transit (bus and/or rail), and local vehicular circulation for access as well as for recreation.
- We will target transportation improvements to support desired development patterns for the community (recognizing that ready availability of transportation creates demand for land development in adjacent areas).
- Our new and reconstructed roadways will be appropriately designed and use context sensitive design considerations to enhance community aesthetics and to minimize environmental impacts.
- We will promote connectivity of our road network (including fostering a grid network of streets and multiple connections between subdivisions where appropriate).
- We will encourage new development that supports and ties in well with existing and planned public transit options in the community.
- We will encourage traffic calming and other design considerations for addressing excessive vehicular traffic that will not harm the peaceful nature of our residential neighborhoods.
- We will encourage businesses, schools, and other institutions to include bicycle parking and traffic management in their development projects.

- We will coordinate with the City to encourage rail access to and from Canton via the railroad corridor.

Housing

- We will encourage development of housing that enable residents to live closer to their places of employment and replace or rehabilitate substandard or dilapidated housing in Canton without eliminating housing opportunities for the poorest segments of the community.
- We will accommodate our diverse population by encouraging a compatible mixture of housing types and costs.
- We will stimulate infill housing development in existing neighborhoods.
- The City of Canton will support dispersion of assisted housing throughout the community in order to diversify neighborhoods, eliminate pockets of poverty, and to prevent the growth of larger areas of disinvestment.

Intergovernmental Coordination

- We will pursue joint processes for collaborative planning and decision-making with neighboring jurisdictions (and specifically with Cherokee County).
- We will consult with Cherokee County, the City of Holly Springs and other neighboring jurisdictions when making decisions that are likely to impact both parties and work together to seek opportunities to share services and facilities to address shared regional issues such as growth management, watershed protection, major parks, etc.
- We will engage in cooperative planning between the City of Canton and other public entities such as the Cherokee County Public Schools System to address issues that are likely to have an impact on our community or our plans for future development.

Staff anticipates hosting a booth/table session on Transportation and Land Use component as well as a Economic Development and Housing component at the City's First Friday event on April 6, 2018 and May 4, 2018 respectively to receive additional input from the community.

Steering Committee Visioning & Goal Setting Meeting
Tuesday, January 9, 2018

The fifth stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at Canton City Hall. Nine (9) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting. The members were also informed of the progress that staff has made with the help of the committee and the public providing feedback.

A brief presentation on the visioning and goal setting was given. During this presentation, Brittany explained the importance of visioning and goal setting and provided examples from surrounding communities to use as a guide. The participants were provided with instructions on how to come up goals and policies to guide the plan and members were given most of the meeting time to brainstorm. After the allotted time came to an end, a group discussion regarding the identified items was held. Below are the goals and policies decided upon:

Economic Development

Goal #1 – Incentivized a diverse mix of light industry, small business, medical, entertainment, aeronautics, and technical expansions.

- Small business start-ups that fit with future planning (tax fees, leasing, grants).
- Ensure a mix of residential, commercial, and agricultural development.
- Consider impact on traffic congestion with development.
- Ensure accessibility to businesses and communities through connectivity.
- Streamline and expedite permitting process.
- City employee “Customer Service” training programs.
- Utilize single point contract to advertise for development.

Goal #2 – Target redevelopment, educational paths and maximizing current assets.

- Target infill redevelopment to utilize current infrastructure.
- Balance residential development with job locations.
- Consider impact on increased student populations with development.
- Encourage educational paths of students to align with needed job skill levels.
- Ensure current infrastructure improvements are completed.
- Maximize current assets (Etowah River, Jones Building, Mill Site, Bluffs, Reservoir, land Value, Diverse Population, Country Seat, etc.)

Housing

Goal #1 – Development planning should be based on density, infrastructure, services and rehabilitation existing housing.

- Conduct a residential housing study.
- Collaborative planning with county and city governments on new development pertaining to density, infrastructure, services and schools.

- Encourage nodular communities to reduce traffic and enhance walkability.
- Encourage diversity housing type and cost in communities.
- Unified zoning classifications to encourage growth in specific areas.
- Re-envision public housing.
- Enforce code compliance and partner with landlord to revamp blighted residential land commercial properties
- Encourage compatible mixture of housing in our downtown area.
- Stimulate infill housing development in existing neighborhoods.
- Support the dispersion of diversity of housing in neighborhoods to eliminate pockets of poverty and prevent growth of disinvestment.
- Connect and establish a relationship with local churches and non-profit organization to help with the indigent population.

Transportation

Goal #1 - Establish a regional and transportation hub

- Enhance local transportation to connect communities with the city with Atlanta and airport.
- Install charging stations for electric vehicles.
- Establish plans for automatous transportation.
- Work with State and local governments to ensure we have access to railroad right of way.

Goal #2 – Create pathways and roadways for connectivity throughout the city

- Create multi-use pathways, sidewalks, and bike lanes to connect city to communities and points of interest
- Connect roadways from the Bluffs to regional airport.
- Ensure future development has adequate tie ins with existing roadways and transit especially major state and interstate highways.
- Improve connectivity of highways 140 and 20 to reduce traffic congestion.
- Continue improvements to Marietta highway.

Goal #3 – Improve and increase parking in all public areas especially downtown

- Provide parking deck in downtown.
- Create more parking in Heritage, Boling and Etowah Park.

Land Use

Goal #1 Create a master plan for all parks and the Etowah River Corridor

- Establish a relationship with Cherokee County Trail Advisory Board and the city to work together on future projects.
- Connect all major parks and increase the parking in Heritage and Boling park.
- Construct boat ramps east and west of city to encourage kayaks and canoes.
- Establish design, landscape, signage, connectivity and scale guidelines in development.
- Increase available parking.
- Complete current paths between park.

- Survey the Etowah River for development to ensure its full potential
 - Develop environmentally sensitive ways to make the Etowah river more accessible and attractive.
 - Investigate and developing engineering standards that encourage restaurants, retail shops and recreation facilities along the Etowah River.
 - Develop a bike/walk path along the river with historic information along the path.
 - Create architectural engineered boardwalk so when river over flows it will go underneath that way we can put a restaurant on the river i.e. Ray's on the River.

Goal #2 - Ensure walkability and reduce traffic by establishing multi-use pathways through the city

- Establish gateways to the city
- Connect Reservoir Nature Trail to Great Sky
- Northside Hospital to Etowah Park
- Great Sky to Laurel Canyon
- Reinhardt college to Great Sky / Laurel Canyon
- Bluffs to Reservoir Nature Trail

Goal #3 - Preserve historical heritage and protect our natural resources

- Maintain and expand agricultural development (agrarian history).
- Preserve and expand parks and green space.

Goal #4 - Utilize zoning measures to control density levels and sprawl and encourage infill development

- Utilize zoning measures to regulate buffer areas around river and historical sites.
- Utilize commercial/residential nodes versus strip mall development.
- Ensure diverse neighborhoods with a range of affordable housing.

Goal #5 - Canton moving into sustainability which includes cleaner air, waste reduction, water use reduction, renewable energy technologies, buildings becoming high performance structures, better agriculture management, transportation alternatives, entire community walkable and abundant green space

- The key component to the sustainability vision is to educate both businesses and citizens. Constantly improving on core ideals of sustainability and innovative ideas that could escalate and propel the City forward.
- Implement incentives for building green through Tax incentives, expedited permitting, permit/zone reductions, grant/loans, technical assistance/design assistance, rebates and discounts, leasing assistance
- Recommend would be to hire a City employee to report to the Manager on Sustainability an expert in the field of energy conservation, green and renewable energies ect. This person should be introduced to the public and make public aware of the City's direction. This person will provide a plan of action with the help of City Manager, Mayor and City council.

Capital Improvement

Goal #1 – Support development in areas efficiently serviced by existing infrastructure.

- Work with county government to ensure growth and development plans can be supported by infrastructure especially schools.
- Ensure police services can accommodate expanding population growth and coordinate with county government.
- Support hospital expansion and upgrades.
- Ensure future planning is compatible and sustainable with predictable technological advances.
- Ensure road and bridge infrastructure is maintained and future planning will include sidewalks, multi-use paths, bicycle lanes and storm water catchment systems.

Goal #2 – Encourage infill development by utilizing impact fees and community improvement districts

- Encourage infill redevelopment for efficient use of current infrastructure.
- Use impact fees and community improvement districts to fund expansions for parks and recreation and road improvements, etc.

Goal #3 – Continue investment in green space to improve quality of life

- Ensure planned improvements to parks and recreation facilities are completed.
- Establish indigent care facilities with local nonprofits and churches.
- Create a position to disseminate information about city governmental issues to encourage participation of citizens (ambassador program).

Supplemental Category

Culture

Goal #1 – Preserve and reclaim historical and natural sites

- Protect and expand greenspaces, agricultural lands, and equestrian estates by utilizing indigenous flora and water conservation techniques in future development.
- Establish a narrative of Native American history in conjunction with Reinhardt University.
- Encourage recycling, pollution reduction and green development to sustain our environment.

Goal #2 – Develop Community Centers to encourage a “Sense of Community” and “Identity”

- Promote Art Center with diverse programs designed for specific Community Centers and Schools.
- Promote concept of an Artistic Center in downtown area (shops, galleries, market place etc.)
- Establish a Visitor Center and Kiosk in downtown area.
- Utilize Artistic Center to create diverse cultural events.
- Establish community gateways such as signage indicating you part of the City.
- Establish an Ambassador Program overseen by a designated city employee to enhance communication with the city and citizens.
- Increase representation of diverse areas of the city by electing council members by ward.
- Term limits for elected officials to encourage participation in governmental process.

- Establish voter registration and voting goals at the community level.
- Elect City Judge and create an ethics board under the supervision of that office.
- Assign areas of responsibility to individual council members.

Committee members and staff discussed expectations on upcoming meetings regarding housing and economic development. The next stakeholder meeting will be Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at Canton City Hall at 6pm.

Steering Committee Housing & Economic Development Meeting
Tuesday, February 6, 2018

The sixth stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at Canton City Hall. Ten (10) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting and discussed the amount of progress that has been made this far. The members were informed that the community survey has been closed and that staff will analyze the results to incorporate into the comprehensive plan document.

Staff invited Matthew Thomas, Economic Development Manager for the City of Canton, to speak about the Office of Economic Development's role and efforts in retaining and expanding local businesses as well increasing the amount of business interests in the City. Matthew also discussed recent business operation and growth in the City. Staff also invited David Moody, CEO/Broker of ERA Sunrise Realty, to speak on current housing trends and issues and housing and rental prices. Ken Patton, Community Development Director for the City of Canton, provided the stakeholders with information regarding affordable housing in both Canton and Cherokee County. After the presentation, the members were able to ask questions or provide suggestions regarding housing and economic development concerns within the City.

Committee members and staff discussed expectations on brainstorming for goals and policies specifically for housing and economic development. The focus of the next stakeholders meeting will be land use and transportation. The next stakeholder meeting will be Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at Canton City Hall at 6pm.

Steering Committee Transportation & Land Use Meeting
Tuesday, March 6, 2018

The seventh stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at Canton City Hall. Eleven (11) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting and discussed the amount of progress that has been made this far.

Staff invited Dave Hatabian, City Engineer for the City of Canton, to speak about the City's existing water and wastewater system as well as the City's water and sewer flow projections. David also presented information on the infiltration and inflow program and discussed the importance of its reduction. Staff also invited Geoffrey Morton, Public Works Agency Director for Cherokee County, to speak on current transportation trends and issues. Geoffrey also discussed the County's Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update and placed emphasis on capacity expansion projects, operations and connectivity projects, safety improvements and bridge upgrades, potential trail and bike/pedestrian projects, and transit needs in the City of Canton. Ken Patton, Community Development Director for the City of Canton, provided the stakeholders with information regarding land use in Canton. Ken was sure to point out previously approved projects which are beginning to commence construction this year to add to existing development. After the presentation, the members were able to ask questions or provide suggestions regarding transportation & land use concerns within the City.

Committee members and staff discussed expectations on brainstorming for goals and policies specifically related to transportation & land use. The focus of the upcoming stakeholders meetings will be the Community Work Program. The next stakeholder meeting will be Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at Canton City Hall at 6pm.

Steering Committee Transportation & Land Use Meeting
Tuesday, April 3, 2018

The eighth stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at Canton City Hall. Four (4) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting and discussed the amount of progress that has been made this far. The members were made aware of future community events that staff will participate in to increase public involvement throughout the process as well as progress on the draft document.

Ken Patton, Community Development Director for the City of Canton, provided the stakeholders with information regarding road improvements and additional capital improvement projects in Canton. Ken was sure to identify which projects were recently completed and which projects are ongoing, pending, or dropped. After the presentation, the members were able to ask questions or provide suggestions regarding road improvement and capital improvement projects concerns within the City.

A brief presentation on the community work program was given. During this presentation, Brittany explained the importance of the community work program and provided examples from the City's current comprehensive plan and surrounding communities' comprehensive plan to use as a guide. The participants were provided with instructions on how to come up with projects to be included in the community work program based on items identified in the need & opportunities and community goals portion of the comprehensive plan. The members were given the remaining meeting time to brainstorm.

Committee members and staff discussed expectations on brainstorming for projects to be included in the community work program as the next meeting will be a follow up meeting to finalize the community work program. The next stakeholder meeting will be Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Canton City Hall at 6pm.

Steering Committee Community Work Program Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2018

The eighth stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Canton City Hall. Ten (10) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting and discussed the amount of progress that has been made this far. The members were made aware of future community events that staff will participate in to increase public involvement throughout the process as well as progress on the draft document.

Ken Patton, Community Development Director for the City of Canton, provided the stakeholders with information on how utilizing standard land use map or character area map for zoning in Canton would affect and/or benefit the City. Members asked questions to ensure their understanding of the diverse types of land use zoning that could be used in the comprehensive plan update. Committee member Jim Fleming made a motion to recommend that the City utilize character area map versus the standard land use map for the City's comprehensive plan update. Committee member Irene Stout seconded the motion. Before voting, members had concerns about the options and which would the City best benefit from as well as which option would make more sense to the residents and the development community. After discussion, the vote was 9-0 with one member abstaining from the vote. The abstaining member arrived near the end of the discussion.

A follow up presentation on the community work program was given. During this presentation, Brittany explained the importance of the community work program and provided examples from the City's current comprehensive plan and surrounding communities' comprehensive plan to use as a guide. Again, the members were provided with instructions on how to come up with projects to be included in the community work program based on items identified in the need & opportunities and community goals portion of the comprehensive plan. The members and staff discussed potential projects the stakeholders would like to see happen over the next five years. Members were concerned whether recommended projects would be carried out over the course of the next five years. Staff reassured the members that once City Council votes on the projects listed in the documents, staff works together to oversee the projects and ensure that the voted upon projects are carried out. The committee also discussed the responsibility column of the community work program and expressed concerns for additional information to be included in that section.

Committee members and staff discussed expectations for the upcoming meeting on finalizing the report of accomplishments and the community work program. The next stakeholder meeting is tentative for Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at Canton City Hall at 6pm.

First Friday – Transportation & Land Use Booth
Friday, May 4, 2018

To promote the Comprehensive Plan update further and seek additional feedback from the community, staff set up a booth at the City of Canton’s First Friday on Friday, May 4, 2018 at Cannon Park. First Friday is a themed event hosted by Canton Main Street filled with fun for the entire family with a car show, live music, kid friendly activities, food and beverages, and shopping.

Staff provided a copy of the City’s current comprehensive plan as well as copies of the draft comprehensive plan update, the community survey results used to gain insights from the community at the beginning of the process, and the City’s land use map and future development map for residents and visitors to review. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the attendees and provided a brief recap of where we are in the planning process highlighting the SWOT analysis and proposed needs and opportunities, what can be expected from the process and the importance of community input throughout the process.

Staff presented a digital two question survey on transportation and land use to gain feedback from the community. The two questions are as follows:

1. If you had \$10 million dollars to spend on transportation, what would you choose to spend it on?
 - Pedestrian / Bike Improvements
 - Transit Expansion
 - Safety Improvements
 - System Preservation
 - Operations Improvements
 - Capacity Improvements
 - Other (please specify)

2. What type of development (land use) does Canton need?
 - Residential
 - Commercial / Retail
 - Office
 - Industrial
 - Mixed Use
 - Public / Institution
 - Natural / Open Space
 - Other (please specify)

Residents and visitors were given the opportunity to ask staff any questions relating to the comprehensive plans as well as any other concerns they may have had regarding the City itself. Staff offered the residents and visitors an opportunity to provide feed back through writing their thoughts and storing in the suggestion box displayed on the table at the booth. Feedback from the suggestion box include:

- Kids are bullied about what they have and have not – consider enforcing school uniforms as remedy
- Preservation, preservation, preservation – resident willing to pay higher taxes to ensure that preservation is carried out responsibly

- Tout Canton as a destination. This is horse country. Develop a facility to rival Tryon, North Carolina and the Georgia Horse Park in Conyers. If you build it, they will come
- Consider infrastructure prior to buildings being constructed
- Provide sidewalks along the main road when developments are being constructed
- Consider the elderly when dealing with transportation matters
- Would like to see another entrance/exit to Great Sky to Joe Green Road. Consider purchasing land to make it happen.
- Would like to see more public fishing areas, fishing ponds in parks, and a second reservoir access point
- Children cannot use playground equipment due to heat, consider installing covers for equipment and seating
- Widen State Route 140 before Northside expands – rush hour is horrendous
- Build more elementary and high schools
- Provide footpaths when new development is being constructed
- Provide fishing dock at Hickory Log Creek Reservoir, more events at Etowah River Park – We LOVE First Fridays!
- Provide more cycle paths for kids and wider paths for the disabled
- Consider sidewalks, schools, and traffic before developing; need more bicycle paths and footpaths

Staff anticipates hosting another booth/table session on Economic Development and Housing at the City's First Friday event on June 1, 2018 to receive additional input from the community.

Draft Comprehensive Plan - Open House Notes
Thursday, May 24, 2018

The Open House was held on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at Canton City Hall. Staff used this meeting to provide residents with current progress of the comprehensive plan update and to seek additional feedback to continue the process.

Staff provided a copy of the City's current comprehensive plan as well as copies of the draft comprehensive plan update, the results used to gain insights from the community at the beginning of the process and the land use and transportation survey from the First Friday event, the City's land use map and future development map for residents and visitors to review, and draft copies of the City's report of accomplishments and the five-year short-term work program. Residents were able to ask questions regarding the shared information and provide additional feedback where they saw fit.

Staff posted the list of Needs and Opportunities decided upon by the community to allow attendees to place dots beside items that are a priority to them. The priority items are as identified with asterisks in red below:

Economic Development

Needs:

- Provide a Welcome Center and kiosk for tourists and new residents as the City becomes more of a destination place. *
- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to "Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory" section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement. **
- Seek ways to provide a variety of job opportunities (retail, small businesses, and corporate, etc) to support future growth.
- Research and implement methods to maintain and increase the ability to provide water and sewer for current and future development.
- Consider making main level space available in downtown Canton for shops and restaurants. *

Opportunities:

- Provide opportunity for more retail and professional business throughout the City to provide more job opportunities.
- Develop riverfront with boardwalk (cycling and walking path) to include retail, restaurants, commercial and residential space. *
- Consider the Jones building to become retail space at main level such as Ponce or Krog
- Build relations through means of a tourism facility as it is part of Canton's charm.
- Focus on "Riverfront" development and marketing to provide a vibrant city and appeal to future businesses and residents. *
- Incentivize existing attorneys to relocate upstairs to free up prime retail space on sidewalk level. *
- Establish small business incentive program to attract new businesses.
- Encourage the Film Industry to consider Canton as a location to film by showcasing prior work conducted in the City.

- Seek champions to promote and host historic home tours in the City and host airshows at the airport. *

Housing

Needs:

- Develop housing to accommodate Millennials and Aging adults downtown. *
- Enforce code compliance and partner with landlord to revamp blighted residential and commercial properties. ***
- Conduct a housing study to prevent overbuilding of residential housing in the City.

Opportunities:

- Increase connectivity of subdivisions through pedestrian sidewalks, bicycle lanes and accessibility trails to link current communities together. *
- Redevelop aging and blighted properties to prevent issue from becoming worse. *
- Incorporate mixed use housing in downtown Canton to provide a live, work, play environment. **

Historic, Natural, & Cultural Resources

Needs:

- Find methods that will help residents in the community connect with and feel a part of the City. *
- Connect the River to the City by linking the river to the parks, incorporating the historic fish traps and Indian heritage.
- Preserve the River, Reservoir (Hickory Log) and Lake (Allatoona) as natural land features attract business through quality of life.
- Establish Canton's street and boundary character to prevent encroachment from surrounding communities and cities.
- Preserve and enhance parks and recreation to meet all needs of the community.
- Continue usage of Etowah River Master Plan to attract future businesses and meet the needs of the community. **

Opportunities:

- Host concerts in Etowah Park to bring residents and non-residents together for entertainment.
- Become a Green City to become and remain a cleaner, healthier, and more economically viable Canton. *
- Focus on developing the area along the river as it has the potential become a riverfront with entertainment and restaurant opportunities. **
- Study methods to showcase Native American heritage as a historical attraction.
- Create youth programs oriented towards youth development through recreation, life skill training, education and coaching.
- Add modern and contemporary arts and other variety of arts to the existing arts in the City

Community Facilities & Services

Needs:

- Connect and establish relationship with local churches such as MUST Ministries, YMCA and other organizations to help with the homeless population when needed. Currently, we do not see a need for a shelter and most of the homeless are transit.
- Explore the possibility of a new Water Treatment facility that is expandable to facilitate future growth and come up with a way to eliminate the odor. *
- Determine additional location for Water Treatment System and Waste Water Treatment Center to accommodate future population increases. ***
- Increase the capacity for sanitary sewer and potable water to appeal to prospective businesses and homeowners.

Opportunities:

- Expand City's Trail System outward from Etowah River Trail to other areas within the City and link to other communities' trail system. **
- Increase pedestrian and bicycle accessibility trails to link current communities together with access to our trail system. *
- Provide Educational/Minority Outreach/Awareness/Overall community involvement through the Cultural Center. *

Transportation

Needs:

- Connect sidewalk along Hwy 140 heading towards Waleska. *
- Add bicycle signage throughout the Bluffs and downtown Canton and along Riverstone Parkway and Reinhardt College Parkway.
- Install wayfinding signage – directional signs, welcome signs, and statutes throughout the City to allow for easy navigation.
- Increase connectivity of Canton and subdivisions through pedestrian sidewalks, bicycle lanes and accessibility trails to link current communities together. *
- Install additional signage for identifying City's gateway, parking areas, and sight distance.
- Provide additional transit options to benefit the community and allow other modes of transportation. **
- Research methods to reduce traffic congestion and lack of traffic control to improve the flow of traffic. *
- Conduct a study to determine the best parking locations and how many spaces are needed to accommodate downtown Canton.

Opportunities:

- Improve and maintain streetscape along Highway 140, Hickory Flat Highway, Railroad Street, Marietta Road, Waleska Highway, Marietta Highway and throughout north and south Canton. **
- Preserve and enhance routes / gateway to North Georgia Mountains as natural land features attracts businesses and people through quality of life.
- Seek to incorporate a bike share program in Canton.

- Utilize the current transportation plan as a method to interest prospective businesses as the City sees future growth. *

Land Use

Needs:

- Focus on expanding land for industrial, manufacturing, and technology by potentially annexing additional land.
- Communicate with Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and other governing agencies involved with the expansion of HWY 20.
- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to “Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory” section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement. *
- Seek ways to provide a variety of job opportunities (retail, small businesses, and corporate, etc) to support future growth. *
- Establish Canton’s street and boundary character to prevent encroachment from surrounding communities and cities. **

Opportunities:

- Undeveloped land along the river has the potential to become a riverfront as an entertainment / restaurant venue. *
- Utilize infill development in downtown for housing. ***
- Acquire green space in the City by annexing additional property or develop green space within vacant City property.
- Incorporate the use of historic Fish Traps along with potential river development.

Vocational /Educational

Needs:

- Connect and establish relationship with local churches such as MUST Ministries, YMCA and other organizations to help with the homeless population when needed. *
- Be proactive in determining methods to preventing an increase in crime. ***

Opportunities:

- Add digital kiosks, merchant maps, online applications, and mobile applications to “Welcome Center, City Map, and Gazebo Directory” section as comprehensive information distribution is needed for improved civic involvement and as Canton becomes a destination place. **
- Provide opportunity for more retail and professional business throughout the City to provide more job opportunities. **

Residents were given the opportunity to ask staff any questions relating to the comprehensive plans as well as any other concerns they may have had regarding the City itself. Again, staff offered the residents an opportunity to provide feed back through writing their thoughts and storing in the suggestion box displayed. Feedback from the suggestion box include:

- Need an access to Hickory Log Reservoir on west side. Please approach State to make this possible. President of Landever is willing to give land for free to do it.

Staff anticipates hosting another Open House towards the end of the process to display the latest edit of the comprehensive plan and request additional input from the community.

Steering Committee Community Work Program Meeting
Tuesday, June 5, 2018

Another stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at Canton City Hall. Five (5) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting and discussed the amount of progress that has been made this far.

Ken Patton, Community Development Director for the City of Canton, began the discussion by familiarizing the group of the items listed on the report of accomplishments and the five-year short-term work program. The following were concerns for the stakeholders and/or were discussed for further clarification:

- Etowah River Trail; potential amendments to the project and masterplan
- Concerns about getting people off the roadways along Waleska Road and Reinhardt Parkway; there is no actual work plan, but the City has to collaborate with the County to control and allow pedestrian mobility
- Concerns about connectivity/full loop along Univeter to complete the East Side Connector; will be addressed in the transportation element of the comprehensive plan update. This will have to be joint City/County effort and also include GDOT.
- Ken questioned the need for TOD in the area being that the County's regional transportation plan does not provide services to the City nor does the City have the capacity to provide transit; the group discussed bus service and the nonsuccess of determining a second location for pick up and drop off.
- Concerns about creating additional CIDs; solution would be to include look for other viable alternatives to community improvement districts.
- Concerns about recreational facilities along the Reservoir; DNR regulates the Reservoir and would require a master plan for review before activity can take place. Solution would be to encourage City to work with Hickory Log Reservoir to enhance recreational activities.
- Stakeholders had concerns regarding affordable housing, physical build out of homes, assigning an actual housing program manager to oversee these projects, and Canton's Housing Authority ability to provide certain resolutions to the housing issues at hand.
- Stakeholders discussed the lack of advertising and informing citizens of city-wide events and would like for City Council to provide an annual update on the short-term work program and other activities and projects conducted.

Committee members and staff discussed expectations for finalizing the report of accomplishments and the community work program. The next stakeholder meeting if needed is to be determined.

Steering Committee Draft Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting
Tuesday, July 31, 2018

Another stakeholders committee meeting was held on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at Canton City Hall. Seven (7) of the 21 appointed members attended and participated in the discussions. Brittany Anderson, Planner greeted the committee members and provided a brief recap of the previous meeting and discussed the amount of progress that has been made this far. Ms. Anderson also discussed the components of the draft comprehensive plan document being sure to inform the members of the supporting documentation as required by the state and placing emphasis on the Short-Term Work Program (STWP). Ken Patton, Community Development Director, also discussed the maps used to further support the comprehensive plan including the character area map.

Staff began discussing the plan in detail allowing the members to provide feedback and suggestions to the plan. Members were concerned with the connection of the park trail system and not having such connections identified on a map or a similar visual.

Roy Taylor made a motion to include a pictorial of the proposed park trail system connections identified in the document. Charles Barnes seconded the motion.

Hand Vote: 6 Yeas 0 Nays (Jeff Adams out of room during vote) Motion Approved

Members were also concerned about affordable and workforce housing and would like to see the City provide incentives to developers who create workforce housing in the City.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to add an item to the STWP to create workforce housing incentives. Jim Fleming seconded the motion.

Hand Vote: 6 Yeas 0 Nays (Jeff Adams out of room during vote) Motion Approved

Mr. Taylor made a motion delete, "currently, we do not see a need for a shelter and most of the homeless are transit" and replace it with "there is a need for sheltering the homeless population." Mr. Barnes seconded the motion.

Hand Vote: 6 Yeas 0 Nays (Leon Stafford abstained) Motion Approved

Members inquired about the development of the Jones Building and considered the potential of the building.

Brandon Young made a motion that after completion of the exterior building façade contract, the City reassess the project and consider all available options including selling the building. Mr. Fleming seconded the motion.

Hand Vote: 7 Yeas 0 Nays Motion Approved

Staff inquired whether the committee had any additional feedback. There were none.

Mr. Fleming made a motion to approve the document along with suggested revisions to move forward with the planning process. Mr. Stafford seconded the motion.

Hand Vote:

7 Yeas

0 Nays

Motion Approved

Committee members and staff discussed expectations for moving forward with the planning process. The draft document will be presented to the Planning Commission during their work session on Tuesday, August 7, 2018.

Draft Comprehensive Plan – Final Open House Notes
Thursday, September 13, 2018

The Open House was held on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at the former Canton City Hall. Staff used this meeting to provide residents with current progress of the comprehensive plan update and to seek additional feedback to continue the process.

Staff provided a copy of the City's current comprehensive plan as well as copies of the draft comprehensive plan update, draft copies of the City's report of accomplishments and the five-year short-term work program, and the City's land use map and future development map for residents and visitors to review. Residents were able to ask questions regarding the shared information and provide additional feedback where they saw fit.

The next step in the planning process is to receive a recommendation to City Council from the Planning Commission.



Stakeholders Committee Kick-Off Meeting #1
 Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 6pm
 City Hall, 3rd Floor

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet

Name	Email Address	Phone Number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Adams	jadams21@aol.com	404-202-5951
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Barnes	charlieab2003@gmail.com	770-704-6381
<input type="checkbox"/> Linda Breeden	lbreedden9403@gmail.com	678-764-4278
<input type="checkbox"/> Kandace Walker-Bunda	kandace@bunkerdesigncollab.com	646-401-2077
<input type="checkbox"/> Ned Castleberry	ned.castleberry@edwardjones.com	770-720-6245
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ari Durham	aridurham111@gmail.com	770-345-5784
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Estes	nick@stoutsgrowlers.com <i>NE</i>	678-899-6684 404-644-2718
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Fincher	fincherjohn1@aol.com	770-815-7317
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Fleming	jfleming098@gmail.com	404-285-0100
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim McCratic	tim.mccratic@comcast.net	770-778-8073
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Morgan	morgan1954@windstream.net	678-773-0845
<input type="checkbox"/> Dwight Pullen	dwrightpullen@comcast.net	770-605-0935
<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Reilly	breilly@jasperengines.com	
<input type="checkbox"/> Broøke Schmidt	brooke_schmidt@mac.com	404-403-1848
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Sellers	joesellersrealtor@gmail.com	770-883-6820
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irene Stout	istout68@gmail.com	678-925-5401
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Tanner	ladydirect@msn.com	770-479-8676
<input type="checkbox"/> Roy Taylor	rht@rt3architects.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clintea Weatherby	weatclint@gmail.com	404-402-6250
<input type="checkbox"/> Stacy Yawn	stacyyawn@comcast.net	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Young	brandon@getoncloudnine.com	770-693-9286 075 254 8583

Sign-In Sheet

Canton Comp. Plan Update
August 22, 2017
6:00 PM- Canton City Hall

Name

Address

William

John

Farris Yawn

Irene Stout

John Fincher

MIKE MORGAN



Stakeholders Committee Needs & Opportunities Meeting #2
 Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 6pm
 City Hall, 3rd Floor

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet

Name	Email Address	Phone Number
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Adams	jdadams21@aol.com	404-202-5951
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Barnes	charlieab2003@gmail.com	770-704-6381
<input type="checkbox"/> Linda Breeden	lbreedden9403@gmail.com	678-764-4278
<input type="checkbox"/> Kandace Walker-Bunda	kandace@bunkerdesigncollab.com	646-401-2077
<input type="checkbox"/> Ned Castleberry	nedcastleberry@windstream.net	770-720-6245
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ari/Durham	aridurham1111@gmail.com	770-345-5784
<input type="checkbox"/> Nick Estes	nick@stoutsgrowlers.com	404-644-2718
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Fincher	fincherjohn1@aol.com	770-815-7317
<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Fleming	jfleming098@gmail.com	404-285-0100
<input type="checkbox"/> Tim McCratic	tim.mccratic@comcast.net	770-778-8073
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Morgan	morgan1954@windstream.net	678-773-0845
<input type="checkbox"/> Dwight Pullen	dwrightpullen@comcast.net	770-605-0935
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Reilly	breilly@jasperengines.com	704 785 5125
<input type="checkbox"/> Brooke Schmidt	brooke_schmidt@mac.com	404-403-1848
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Sellers	joesellersrealtor@gmail.com	770-883-6820
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irene Stout	istout68@gmail.com	678-925-5401
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patricia Tanner	ladydirect@msn.com	770-479-8676
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roy Taylor	rht@rt3architects.com	770-479-8676
<input type="checkbox"/> Clint Weatherby	weatclint@gmail.com	404-402-6250
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nadine Yawn	nadine@yawnsbooks.com	770-316-0968
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Young	brandon@getoncloudnine.com	678-254-8583

Sign-In Sheet

Canton 2040 Comp. Plan Update
October 12, 2017
6:00 PM- Canton City Hall

Name

Address

Stefanie Jones 175 W Main St Canton

LEON STAFFORD 205 TOWERING PEAKS CANTON

Dan Owen 650 Longview Dr Canton

Bill & Tina Kell 121 Ridgemoor Trace Canton

Susan Stanton

Bob Reilly 402 White Cloud Ct Canton

JEFF ADAMS 3329 Confederate Pt.

John 15 Stowers Terrace

Gene Horgan 913 Star Ln Canton, 30115

Nyholo Lynd Fair 3123 Hearthstone Landing CANTON

Richard Kemp 970 E. Main St CANTON GA

Melinda Brown 971 White Stag Lane Canton GA



Stakeholders Committee Needs & Opportunities Meeting #3
 Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 6pm
 City Hall, Council Chambers

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet

Name	Email Address	Phone Number
<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Adams	jdadams21@aol.com	404-202-5951
<input type="checkbox"/> Charles Barnes	charlieab2003@gmail.com	770-704-6381
<input type="checkbox"/> Kandace Walker-Bunda	kandace@bunkerdesigncollab.com	646-401-2077
<input type="checkbox"/> Ned Castleberry	nedcastleberry@windstream.net	770-720-6245
<input type="checkbox"/> Ari Durham	aridurham1111@gmail.com	770-345-5784
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Estes	nick@stoutsgrowlers.com	404-644-2718
<input type="checkbox"/> John Fincher	fincherjohn1@aol.com	770-815-7317
<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Fleming	jfleming098@gmail.com	404-285-0100
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stefanie Jones	junkdrunkjones@gmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim McCratic	tim.mccratic@comcast.net	770-778-8073
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Morgan	morgan1954@windstream.net	678-773-0845
<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Reilly	breilly@jasperengines.com	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brooke Schmidt	brooke_schmidt@mac.com	404-403-1848
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Sellers	joesellersrealtor@gmail.com	770-883-6820
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leon Stafford	lstafford2@yahoo.com	770-881-1698
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irene Stout	istout68@gmail.com	678-925-5401
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Tanner	ladydirect@msn.com	770-479-8676
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roy Taylor	rht@rt3architects.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clint Weatherby	weatclint@gmail.com	404-402-6250
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Madine Yawn	nadine@yawnsbooks.com	770-316-0968
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Young	brandon@getoncloudnine.com	678-254-8583

Sign-In Sheet

Canton 2040 Comp. Plan Update
November 14, 2017
6:00 PM- Canton City Hall

Name

Address

Joe Sellers

LEON STAFFORD

GREAT SKY

Stefanie Jones

175 W Main St

Roy Taylor

360 E MARKET

Inne Stout

512 Blue Mt Road.

TIM McCRAFF

903A COPPERMINE PL.

BRANDON YOUNG

Nadine Young

4960 Dovesnoes Walk

J. V. Hood

15 Elwood Ter



Stakeholders Committee Needs & Opportunities Meeting #4
 Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 6pm
 City Hall, Education Training Room

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet

Name	Email Address	Phone Number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Adams	jadam21@aol.com	404-202-5951
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Barnes	charieab2003@gmail.com	770-704-6381
<input type="checkbox"/> Kandace Walker-Bunda	kandace@bunkerdesigncollab.com	646-401-2077
<input type="checkbox"/> Ned Castleberry	nedcastleberry@windstream.net	770-720-6245
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ari Durham	aridurham1111@gmail.com	770-345-5784 <i>678-314-8434</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Estes	nick@stoutsgrowlers.com	404-644-2718
<input type="checkbox"/> John Fincher	fincherjohn1@aol.com	770-815-7317
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Fleming	jfleming098@gmail.com	404-285-0100
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stefanie Jones	junkdrunkjones@gmail.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim McCratic	tim.mccratic@comcast.net	770-778-8073
<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Morgan	morgan1954@windstream.net	678-773-0845
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Reilly	breilly@jasperengines.com	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brooke Schmidt	brooke_schmidt@mac.com	404-403-1848
<input type="checkbox"/> Joe Sellers	joesellersrealtor@gmail.com	770-883-6820
<input type="checkbox"/> Leon Stafford	lstafford2@yahoo.com	770-881-1698
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irene Stout	istout68@gmail.com	678-925-5401
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Tanner	ladydirect@msn.com	770-479-8676
<input type="checkbox"/> Roy Taylor	rht@rt3architects.com	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clint Weatherby	weatclint@gmail.com	404-402-6250
<input type="checkbox"/> Nadine Yawn	nadine@yawnsbooks.com	770-316-0968
<input type="checkbox"/> Brandon Young	brandon@getoncloudhine.com	678-254-8583

Sign-In Sheet

Canton 2040 Comp. Plan Update
December 5, 2017
6:00 PM- Canton City Hall

Name

Address

Bob Reilly

JAMES CANNON

160 NORTH ST CANTON, GA 30114

Iner Stout

512 Bleer Mt. Rio GA 30114

Nick Estes

503 Union Cove Canton 30114

Stephanie Jones

1007 Red Oak Ct Canton

Ari Durham

230 Murrel St. Canton, GA 30119

Sign-In Sheet

Canton 2040 Comp. Plan Update
December 19, 2017
6:00 PM- Canton City Hall

Name

Address

LEON STAFFORD

205 TOWERING PEAKS GREAT SKY

Richard PARANTINO

622 Laurel Crossing - Solid

JAMES CANNON

160 NORTH ST. CANTON, GA 30114

JEFF ADAMS

3329 Confederate Pt.



Stakeholders Committee Needs & Opportunities Meeting Pt2 #5
 Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 6pm
 City Hall, Education Training Room

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet		
Name	Email Address	Phone Number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Adams	jdadams21@aol.com	404-202-5951
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<input type="checkbox"/> Nick Estes	nick@stoutsgrowlers.com	404-644-2718
<input type="checkbox"/> John Fincher	fincherjohn1@aol.com	770-815-7317
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Fleming	jfleming098@gmail.com	404-285-0100
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stefanie Jones	junkdrunkjones@gmail.com	678-896-0482
<input type="checkbox"/> Tim McCratic	tim.mccratic@comcast.net	770-778-8073
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leon Stafford	lstafford2@yahoo.com	770-881-1698
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irene Stout	istout68@gmail.com	678-925-5401
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Tanner	ladydirect@msn.com	770-479-8676
<input type="checkbox"/> Roy Taylor	rht@rt3architects.com	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clint Weatherby	weatclint@gmail.com	404-402-6250
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nadine Yawn	nadine@yawnsbooks.com	770-316-0968
<input type="checkbox"/> Brandon Young	brandon@getoncloudnine.com	678-254-8583



Stakeholders Committee Needs & Opportunities Meeting #5
Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 6pm
City Hall, Education Training Room

Sign-In Sheet		
Name	Email Address	Phone Number
Benjamin Edwards	Ben.Edwards@bigmail.com	401-316-2119
Susanne Edwards	Susanne.edwards@adv.com	678-325-9283
LEON STAFFORD	LSTAFFORD2@YAHOO.COM	770-881-1818
JAMES CANNON	James@jamescannoncpa.com	770-720-4829



Stakeholders Committee Housing & Economic Development Meeting #6
 Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 6pm
 City Hall, Education Training Room

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet		
Name	Email Address	Phone Number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Adams	jdadams21@aol.com	404-202-5951
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Barnes	charlieab2003@gmail.com	770-704-6381
<input type="checkbox"/> Ned Castleberry	nedcastleberry@windstream.net	770-720-6245
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<input type="checkbox"/> Nadine Yawn	nadine@yawnsbooks.com	770-316-0968
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Young	brandon@getoncloudnine.com	678-254-8583



Stakeholders Committee Housing & Economic Development Meeting #6
 Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 6pm
 City Hall, Education Training Room

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Name	Email Address	Phone Number
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clint Weatherby	weatclint@gmail.com	404-402-6250
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nadine Yawn	nadine@yawnsbooks.com	770-316-0968
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Young	brandon@getoncloudnine.com	678-254-8583



Stakeholders Committee Housing & Economic Development Meeting #8
 Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 6pm
 City Hall, Education Training Room

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ari Durham	aridurham1111@gmail.com	678-314-8434
<input type="checkbox"/> Nick Estes	nick@stoutsgrowlers.com	404-644-2718
<input type="checkbox"/> John Fincher	fincherjohn1@aol.com	770-815-7317
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<input type="checkbox"/> Clint Weatherby	weatclint@gmail.com	404-402-6250
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<i>James G. Gunn</i>	<i>James@jamesgunnspeakers.com</i>	<i>770-9720-4829</i>



Stakeholders Committee Housing & Economic Development Meeting #9
 Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 6pm
 City Hall, Education Training Room

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Fleming	jfleming098@gmail.com	404-285-0100
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<input type="checkbox"/> Tim McCratic	tim.mccratic@comcast.net	770-778-8073
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Morgan	morgan1954@windstream.net	678-773-0845
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leon Stafford	lstafford2@yahoo.com	770-881-1698
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patricia Tanner	ladydirect@msn.com	770-479-8676
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roy Taylor	rht@rt3architects.com	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clint Weatherby	weatclint@gmail.com	404-402-6250
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nadine Yawn	nadine@yawnsbooks.com	770-316-0968
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<i>JAMES CANNON</i>	<i>james@jamescannoncpa.com</i>	<i>770-720-4829</i>
<i>Margaret w h a r e</i>	<i>mwarage@ndjonline.com</i>	<i>Cherokee Tribune & Ledger News paper</i>



Canton 2040: Open House
Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6pm
City Hall, 3rd Floor

Community Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Name	Address
Irene Stout	
Jim Stout	
Alicia Stout	
Leon Stafford II	
Sandy McGrew	



Stakeholders Committee CWP Meeting #10
 Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 6pm
 City Hall, Education Training Room

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet

Name	Email Address	Phone Number
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Barnes	charlieab2003@gmail.com	770-704-6381
<input type="checkbox"/> Ned Castleberry	nedcastleberry@windstream.net	770-720-6245
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<input type="checkbox"/> John Fincher	fincherjohn1@aol.com	770-815-7317
<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Fleming	jfleming098@gmail.com	404-285-0100
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leon Stafford	lstafford2@yahoo.com	770-881-1698
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irene Stout	istout68@gmail.com	678-925-5401
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<i>JAMES CANNON</i>	<i>james@cannoncpa.com</i>	<i>770-720-4829</i>



Stakeholders Committee Draft Comp Plan Update Meeting #111
 Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at 6pm
 City Hall, Education Training Room

Stakeholders Committee Sign-In Sheet			
Name	Email Address	Phone Number	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charles Barnes	charlieab2003@gmail.com	770-704-6381	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ned Castleberry	nedcastleberry@windstream.net	770-720-6245	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Stefanie Jones	junkdrunkjones@gmail.com		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Nadine Yawn	nadine@yawnsbooks.com	770-316-0968	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Young	brandon@getoncloudnine.com	678-254-8583	
<i>James Cannon</i>	<i>jamescannon@epa.com</i>	<i>770-720-4829</i>	



Canton 2040: Comprehensive Plan Open House
Thursday, September 13, 2018, 2018 at 6pm
Old City Hall, 3rd Floor

Community Meeting Sign-In Sheet	
Name	Address
Roy Taylor	360 E MAURITA ST
LEON STAFFORD	205 TOWERING PEAKS, DANTON

H. Commission on Canton's Future Subcommittee Reports

VFC 2050 Sustainability Sub-Committee

The Community Development Sub-Committee has been charged with the development of a concise vision for the City of Canton. The pure spectrum had to be dissolved down into further smaller groups with specific focuses in different areas. This section will primarily focus on the topic of Sustainability and what exactly that means for our City. ***Our vision for a Sustainable Canton includes:***

- Cleaner Air
- Waste reduction
- Water use reduction
- Renewable energy technologies being utilized
- Buildings becoming high performance structures
- Abundant green space
- Better agricultural management
- Transportation alternatives used more frequently
- Entire community being walkable
- Quality of life is preserved for future generations

The pathway to a sustainable Canton have been reduced to five categories including public awareness, Incentives, The 3 R's, Green Spaces, and Transportation. We feel that these categories will enhance the City and bring value to the municipality. Last we will include a Final Summary and Conclusion. These topics will facilitate the necessary changes to grossly affect the overall living experience within the City and to lessen the City's carbon foot print.

Public Awareness

Education

The key components to the sustainability vision for The City of Canton is in educating both businesses and citizens. The focuses remaining on incentivizing the City's participation, the benefits of an Energy Economy, and to start making small changes now. The current awareness in this field is fairly bleak.

Most American's are not familiar with energy policies that are currently active in the United States for example the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence Act of 2007. These Acts were passed by Congress and are implemented every day but few realize there importance.

Federal and State governments currently issue grants for solar power however, most of the utilization of benefits with regard to rebates from the Power Company.

It is of our belief that the City should employ an individual with experience and knowledge the field of sustainability cities. This individual could assist and guide the cities strategic and financial decisions necessary to create an eco-friendly city. This new position could emphasize the unsustainability of our current trajectory and redirect the path into a more sustainable module.

Policies

This section will encompass potential policies that would encourage the change that we want to witness. This section also encourages the furthering of incentivizing the process to encourage participation. Any policy should encourage preservation and regeneration to promote the finest quality of life possible. With the employment of a City Employee dedicated to a sustainable means of growth for Canton the City could focus on developing a city wide sustainable building standards for historic buildings and standardize new construction and encourage 'green industry' in Canton.

Incentives

This process, if facilitated properly, will encourage businesses and residents to start making the changes necessary for a better tomorrow. As stated prior, GA Power and other energy companies already incentivize energy upgrades in the form of rebates on a Kilowatt per Hour (kWh) savings and for changes to environmentally conscience products. As a municipality starts encouraging such changes we could see the benefits of a lessening of our carbon foot print and the prospering of businesses. **The incentives for building green could be in the form of the following:**

1. Tax Incentives

- **Corporate Tax** (tax levied on the profits made by companies or associations) The 179 Deduction was resigned for another year. It expires this December.
- **Gross Receipts Tax** (tax levied on the total gross revenues of a company – charged to the seller of goods)
- **Income Tax** (tax levied on the financial income of persons, corporations, or other legal entities)
- **Property Tax/Ad Valorem Tax** (tax levied on the value of property)
- **Sales Tax (tax levied on goods and services – charged at the point of purchase)**
- **Local Tax** (tax levied from cities and counties)

2. Expedited Permitting

3. Permit/Zone Reductions

4. Grants/Loans

5. Technical Assistance/Design Assistance

6. Rebates and Discounts on Environmental Products (e .g ., Energy Star)

7. Leasing Assistance

A few examples of incentives that are offered by GA Power include:

Clients may receive up to \$25,000 per electrical meter for energy upgrades on the commercial side and residences can receive generous rebates for changes made in their residents as well for participating. GA Power has been educating the public through TV and radio ads. This is where the emphases should be placed on the local government level. **Examples of other rebates from GA Power:**

- GA Power also has rebates for companies that install charging stations for electric cars up to \$500.00.
- GA Power will buy back power for energy generated due to solar panels. They pay per kWh generated and they will sign 10, 15, or even 30 contracts in some cases for purchasing the generated power.

These incentives encourage business to take steps necessary for a long term change with short term benefits. The short term benefits are the incentives listed above combined with utility expense savings, operational expense savings, and a lessening in maintenance costs. The longer term benefits are to lessen our carbon foot print on our planet. This appeal for our City creates an appeal to an environmentally consciously minded community. The city together can make a huge difference! The education of programs and incentives will further encourage green buildings/construction projects and green jobs in the City of Canton.

The Three R's

Reuse, Recycle, Reduce

It is one of the easiest ways to lessen our carbon foot print while also ensuring that we are not depleting our currently dwindling resources.

- **Reuse** - Programs that encourage citizens to reuse products, merchandise, or materials that would normally end up at a land field.
- **Recycle** - Encourage the present recycling programs in the City. There are a great deal of companies that make furniture, building materials, and other everyday items from recycled materials. A great example would be park benches or picnic tables that were made from recycled materials. This would also enhance and encourage more recycling from the community that would see the benefit of recycled materials.

“Republic Services launched [My Republic Rewards](#) to customers in Houston as a way for residents to earn points for valuable coupons and gift cards whenever they recycle. As a result, both participation in the program and diversion increased.

With 2,000 residents participating in the program so far:

- Recycling participation has increased from 55% to 73%
- Household waste was reduced by 39%, saving landfill space

The average tonnage recycled increased a whopping 315%, from 64 tons a year to 266 tons in just the first seven months”

<http://site.republicservices.com/corporate/planet/sustainabilityprojects/houston.aspx>

- **Reduce** - Through education, it is possible to engage citizens to reduce waste, reduce energy, and reduce product consumption at our home and businesses. Incentivizes the use of rain

barrels for reusable grey water for watering plants, gardens, and lawns. Encourage solar panels and other renewable energy sources in the City. All regulations could be monitored by Code Enforcement and the (IPMC) International Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals.

Renewable Energy

This section will cover some sources for renewable energy and give some examples of areas in Georgia that have applied these technologies.

Excerpt from a website –

“The Republic Services Oak Grove Landfill gas-to-energy project in Winder, Georgia was recognized by the U.S. EPA Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) as a Project of the Year. The Oak Grove landfill supplies enough renewable energy to heat 10,500 homes. The use of this renewable resource results in 44,500 fewer tons of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere each year.

LMOP is a voluntary assistance program designed to help reduce methane emissions from landfills by encouraging the recovery and beneficial use of landfill gas as an energy resource. As an LMOP program participant, Republic Services helps local facilities gain access to a vast network of industry experts and practitioners, as well as to various technical and marketing resources that can help with landfill gas energy project development.”

<http://site.republicservices.com/corporate/planet/sustainabilityprojects/winder.aspx>

There are several other options for renewable energies. Some are listed below:

- **Landfill Gas to Energy** – Listed above example.
- **Solar-Gas Innovations** – A Texas landfill combined solar and gas to energy technologies to create a sustainable energy park.
- **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)** – Pennsylvania displaces 640,500 gallons of diesel and reduces 160,000 pounds of vehicle emissions annually through compressed natural gas (CNG).
- **Landfill Caps** – Republic Services and Texas A&M developed an erosion resistant vegetative landfill cover.
- **Landfill Filters** – Several landfills have used live vegetation as a natural filter for toxins or other liquid products.
- **Solar Panels** – Are growing rapidly as a reliable energy source. Cities are installing solar powered street lights in new parks to drastically reduce the utility usage.
- **Lighting Up Grades** – Upgrading your lighting in your home or business can drastically reduce your utility expenses. Commercial upgrades can render up to a 70% energy savings while reducing maintenance costs per year.
- **Wind Power** – Use of windmills to generate power.
- **Geothermal Energy** – Use of the earth’s heat to generate power.
- **Hydrogen and Fuel Cells** – This technologies is used in vehicles.
- **Biofuels** - Are energy sources made from living things, or the waste that living things produce.

These technologies have been used all over Georgia with outstanding results. UPS have been implementing the Fuel Cell technology in their trucks. They are slowly adding to their fleet and

removing the oldest models a few each year. This lowers the emissions to next to nothing and reduces harmful gas pollutants in the atmosphere. The City and County have fleet vehicles that could start making these changes slowly. The Federal government currently gives grants for the use of these technologies which could be leveraged on the local level.

Green Spaces

- **See Parks and Recreation Section.** The ideas for new parks and recreations would be to use solar panels when possible and use recycled materials for park benches etc.
- **Agriculture Management** - Investment in agricultural practices and management will improve agricultural practices to reduce water pollution and reduce water use which could boost the coastal fishing industry. Sustainability is now being recognized as an essential approach to achieving development goals without depleting natural and cultural resources or degrading the environment.

Transportation

- **See Transportation Section.** The use of alternative modes of transportation is the green sustainable movement and the implementation/installation of charging stations for electric cars. These stations could be strategically placed in town.

The Final Summary of the sustainable Canton Movement

Years 1-5

Our recommendation would be to hire a City employee to report to the City Manager on Sustainability. An expert in the field of energy conservation, green and renewable energies, etc. by the close of **Year 1**. This person should be introduced to the public and make public aware of the City's direction.

Year 2 – The Team would be brain storming ideas with the assistance of the Mayor, Council, City Manager, and the City employee hired for the new position.

Year 3 and 4 - The Team should have a plan of action that will take the City Forward on Incentives, Education of the public awareness, and Policies.

Year 5 – Action Plan Roll Out. Educate City Residence with details of new plan.

Years 5-30

These years should be used to educate the public, constantly improving on core ideals of sustainability and innovative ideas that could escalate and propel the City forward. We should be using and seeing the changes set forth by precisely executed policies. Other municipalities will be looking to Canton for an example of moving forward.

Years 30 to 50

The technologies and innovation will have changed and progressed. These technologies are ever evolving. The Mayor and Council's to come will be charged with carrying the torch however, it is our belief that with the assistance of an energy professional the City will reap the prolonged benefits.

Conclusion

In conclusion, investing in and developing sustainable programs will benefit everyone. The local government could benefit in grants from Federal and State government while the businesses/citizens reap the benefits of reduced energy expenses. Sustainability is now being recognized as an essential approach to achieving developmental goals without depleting natural and cultural resources or degrading the environment. As this City grows it will see tremendous and drastic improvement in the overall living experience. Municipalities are already moving towards a more sustainable way of life. This great City of Canton should be a pioneer for the evolution of such innovative ideas and create a City on the leading edge.

VFC 2050 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

It was identified that due to the pockets of development occurring within Canton, it is difficult for some areas to identify as being part of the city (City Boundaries). These pockets are evolving into separate and distinct communities. This has resulted, not only from the geographical distances, but also from issues such as ineffective communication that blocks the “one-community” that is the City.

Undeveloped resources such as social centers, parks and trails and leadership from respective communities would help the citizens of Canton identify as *one*, while enlarging the sense of inclusion of its diversity.

City Portal Locations

Due to these distinct geographical communities of Canton, it is recommended that signage be designed around the branding of the City. This signage should be commissioned for manufacture and installed in a consistent manner for each community portal. A previous study and design has been completed and should be utilized to begin this initiative.

Citizen Involvement

Each community within the city is developing a “standalone” culture. To ensure that the City culture be one of inclusion, it is imperative to engage *all* citizens from *all* communities. Suggestions include:

1. Establish a *Canton Community Ambassador Program* with the primary goal of connecting the communities to the resources provided by the city. These volunteer positions will be identified by a solicitation/or appointment by each City Council Member in their respective districts. Further, they will include a cross section of volunteers by race, gender, age, disability, and national origin that represent the citizen population.

- a. Establish a paid/volunteer position to serve as *Community Ambassador Administrator* that will provide the following:

- Develop and establish connection channels to communicate needs and stay current on city programs and messaging.

- Advocate and lead Ambassador Volunteer activities of the Canton Vision 2050 through community education and involvement to include canvassing events, youth programs, community outreach booths and Map Your Neighborhood meetings in order to provide opportunities for their community and the city to collaborate, using the Public Deliberation method of communication.

-- Recruit and refer prospective volunteers and volunteer groups that represent the needs within their respective community, dedicated to creating a self-reliant community.

--Provide leadership and demonstrate the ability to train and to involve volunteers

b. The appointed volunteer Ambassadors, for their respective communities, will serve as spokespeople for the citizens to the city as well as provide communication about the city. These volunteer citizen groups could be appointed to assist the Mayor and Council members in sub-sections of the report.

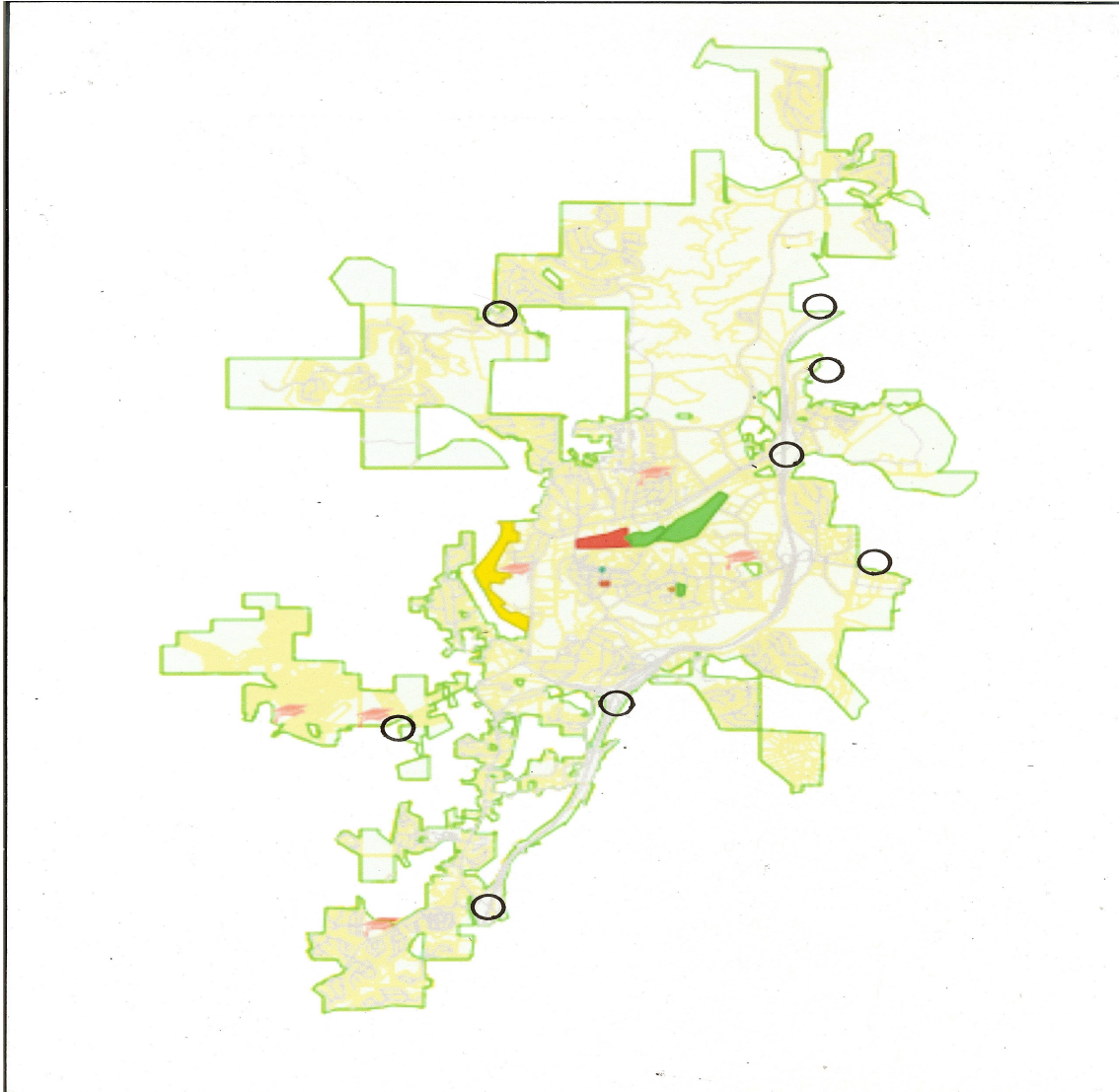
To ensure the continued progress of the 2050 Vision report it is further suggested that:

- 1) The Mayor and Council members be assigned responsibility for individual sections of the report.
- 2) Each City Department would be required to include in their vision statements plans to achieve goals of the 2050 Vision report specific to their department.
- 4) A single person in City government should coordinate the implementation of the 2050 Vision, perhaps the head of the Community Development Department or a new position.
- 5) Communication would be of major importance in all the above areas and all types of media should be used to keep the projects in public view.

Additional Community Development Items:

1. Ensure sustainable agriculture in the city. Supporting local farmers to ensure that we have locally grown products and not relying on food sources from other areas of the country or world. We want to be a self- supporting community.
2. Develop resources for inclusion such as language centers, senior centers, cultural arts, etc.

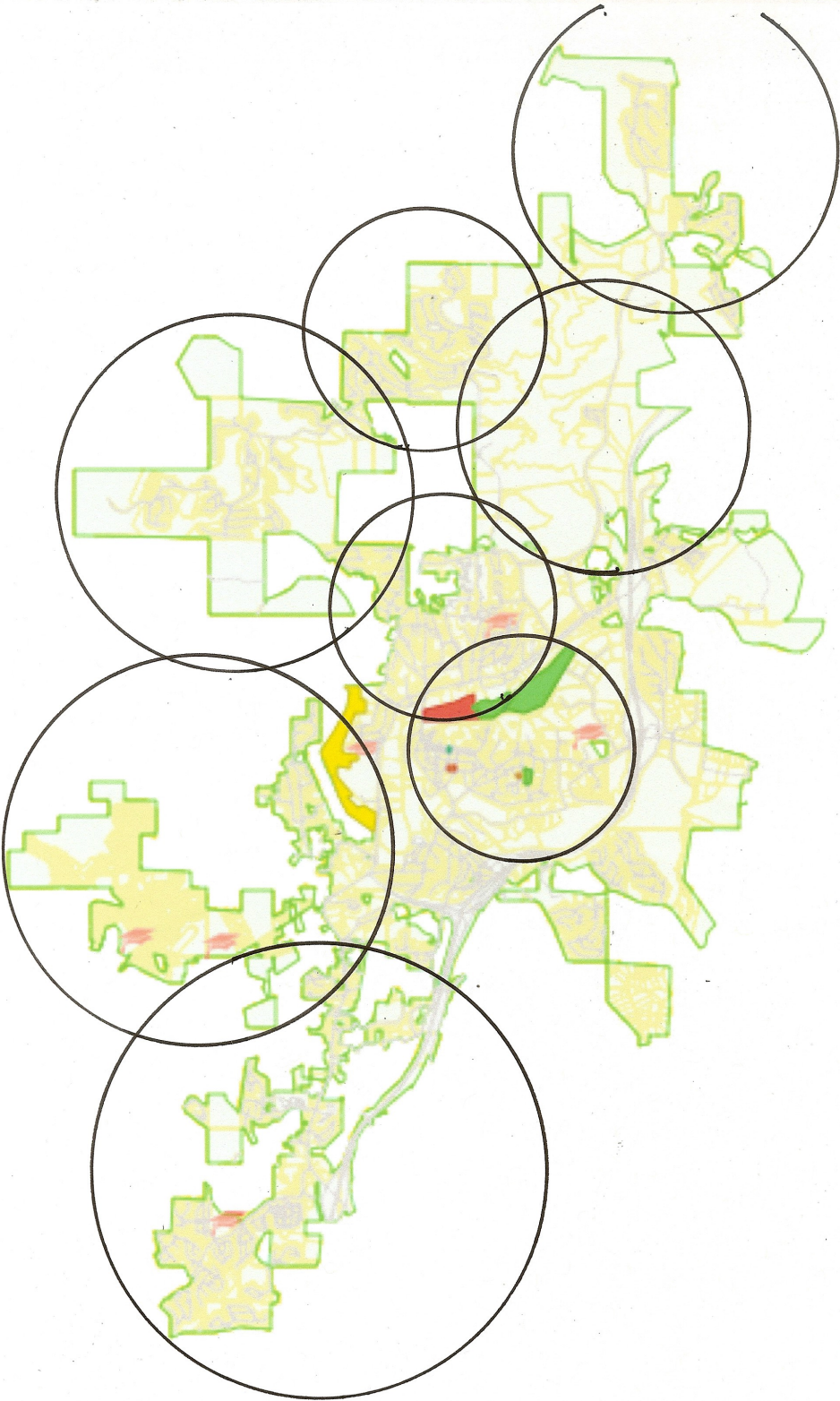
City Portal Location



City Boundary



City Areas



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARKS REPORT

It is important for us as a city to be progressive in supporting business and technology while enhancing quality of life by reserving greenspace for active and passive recreation.

Future Preservation and Accessibility

- Greenspaces, wetlands, rivers and streams are our most precious resource. It is important that we use them wisely and protect them. We must preserve and highlight significant historical sites along the Etowah Green Space.
- Make them vibrant, accessible, safe and fun
- All new development must include greenspace
- Connect the city with local communities via greenspace corridors
- Bike lines added to current roads where possible and future roads

Overall Plan for the Enhancement of Canton's Parks and River Corridor and Beyond

PHASE I – Short Term (1-3 years) – Enhancements to Current Parks

- a. Create a Master Plan for Parks and Etowah River corridor with Cherokee County (Trails Advisory Committee) and the City of Canton. This will ensure the preservation and development of trails and green space. See attachment "Potential Trail Projects"
- b. Connect Major Parks
 - i. Connect Etowah Park to Heritage Park (In progress)
 - ii. Boling Trail – could be completed by volunteers
 - iii. Connect Heritage Park to Boling Park – (Plans to start next fiscal year)
 - iv. Add access to Waleska Rd from this connectivity for easy access to Downtown Canton (shopping, eating, sightseeing)
 - v. Forge Reservoir Nature Trail – could be completed by volunteers
- c. Increase Parking in all parks
- d. Make parks kid friendly; add playgrounds, water features
- e. Make parks safer; lighting, cameras and emergency call boxes
- f. Start Multi-Use Trail in Boling Park
- g. Establishing a citizen's volunteer group for trails and green space.

PHASE II – Mid-Term (3-15 years)

- a. Construct a boat ramp in Boling Park
- b. Extension of River Trail east/west from Canton
- c. Highlight parks/River Activities and Historical sites
- d. Construct boat ramps east/west of city to encourage increased usage
- e. Add concession stands
- f. Connect Local Canton Communities via Multi-Use Trails
- i. Reservoir Nature Trail to Great Sky
- ii. Great Sky to Laurel Canyon
- iii. Hospital to Etowah Park
- iv. Reinhart College to Great Sky/Laurel Canyon
- v. Bluffs to Reservoir Nature Trail

PHASE III – Long Term (15-35 years) – Complete Multi-Use Trail System

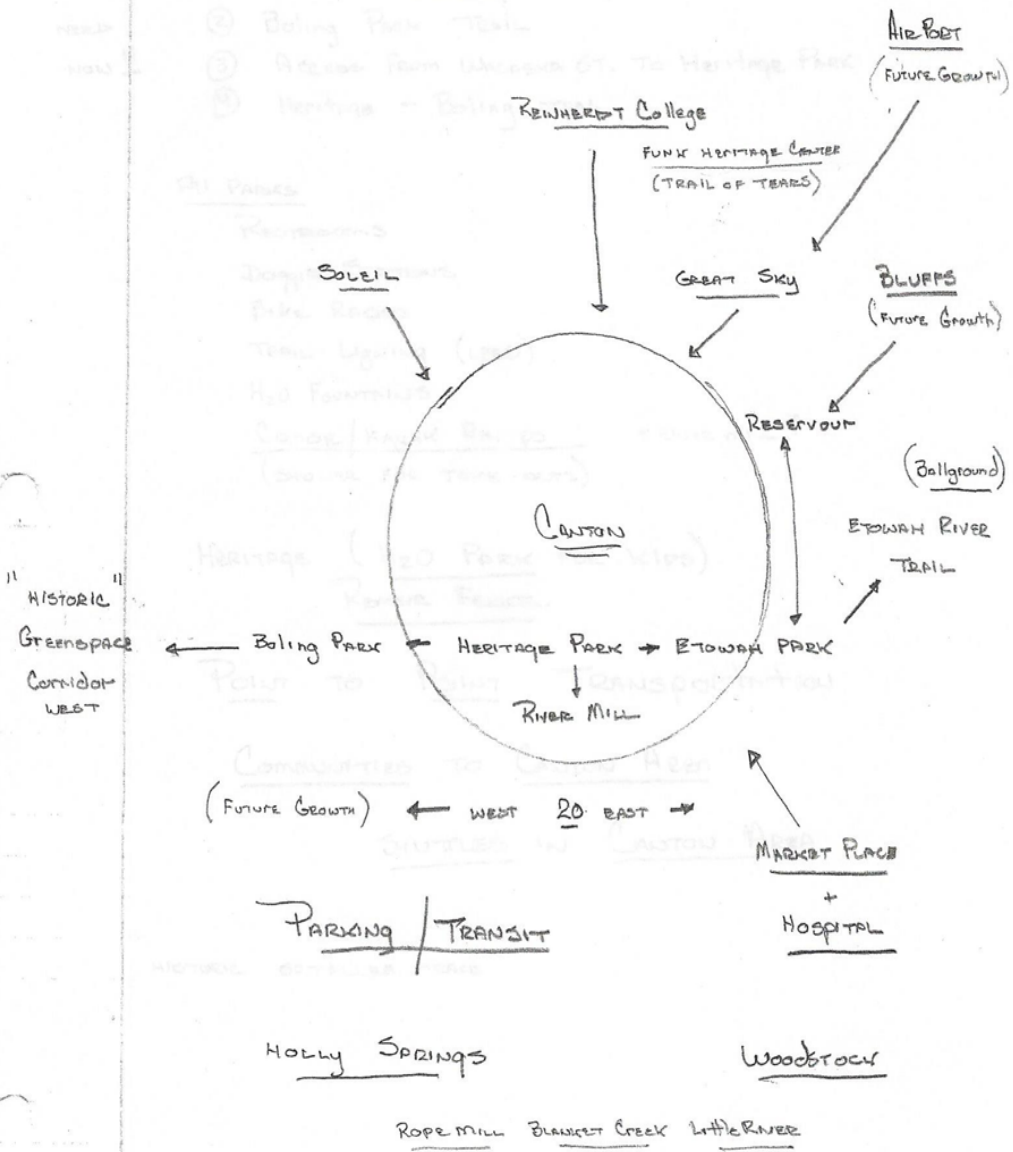
- a. Establish transit system to connect community areas in Canton/river system and downtown (River Green, Great Sky, Soleil and new hospital/Market Place area)
- b. Encourage development of river corridor in Canton (Riverstone Parkway, Mill Site)
- c. Connect Local Canton Communities via Multi-Use Trails
- i. Connectivity to (new) Northside Hospital
- ii. Connect Canton Trail Systems to Holly Springs/Rope Mill
- iii. Connect trail to Sixes and Woodstock
- d. Connect to the Gold Belt Trail System

Heritage Park	Boling Park	Etowah Park
Add Bathrooms	Add Bathrooms	
Dog Friendly	Dog Friendly	
Charging Stations	Charging Stations	Charging Stations
Bike Racks	Bike Racks	Bike Racks
Exercise Stations	Exercise Stations	Exercise Stations
Kayak Ramp / Shower	Kayak Ramp / Shower	Kayak Ramp / Shower
Directional Signage	Directional Signage	Directional Signage
Safety Enhancements/ Emergency Boxes	Safety Enhancements/ Emergency Boxes	Safety Enhancements/ Emergency Boxes
Wheel Chair Accessibility	Wheel Chair Accessibility	Wheel Chair Accessibility
Trail Lighting	Trail Lighting	Trail Lighting
Need pavilions and grills		Additional Picnic Pavilions
Kid Water Feature		Kid Water Feature
Remove Active/Passive Fence		
	Historical Monuments/Kiosks **	

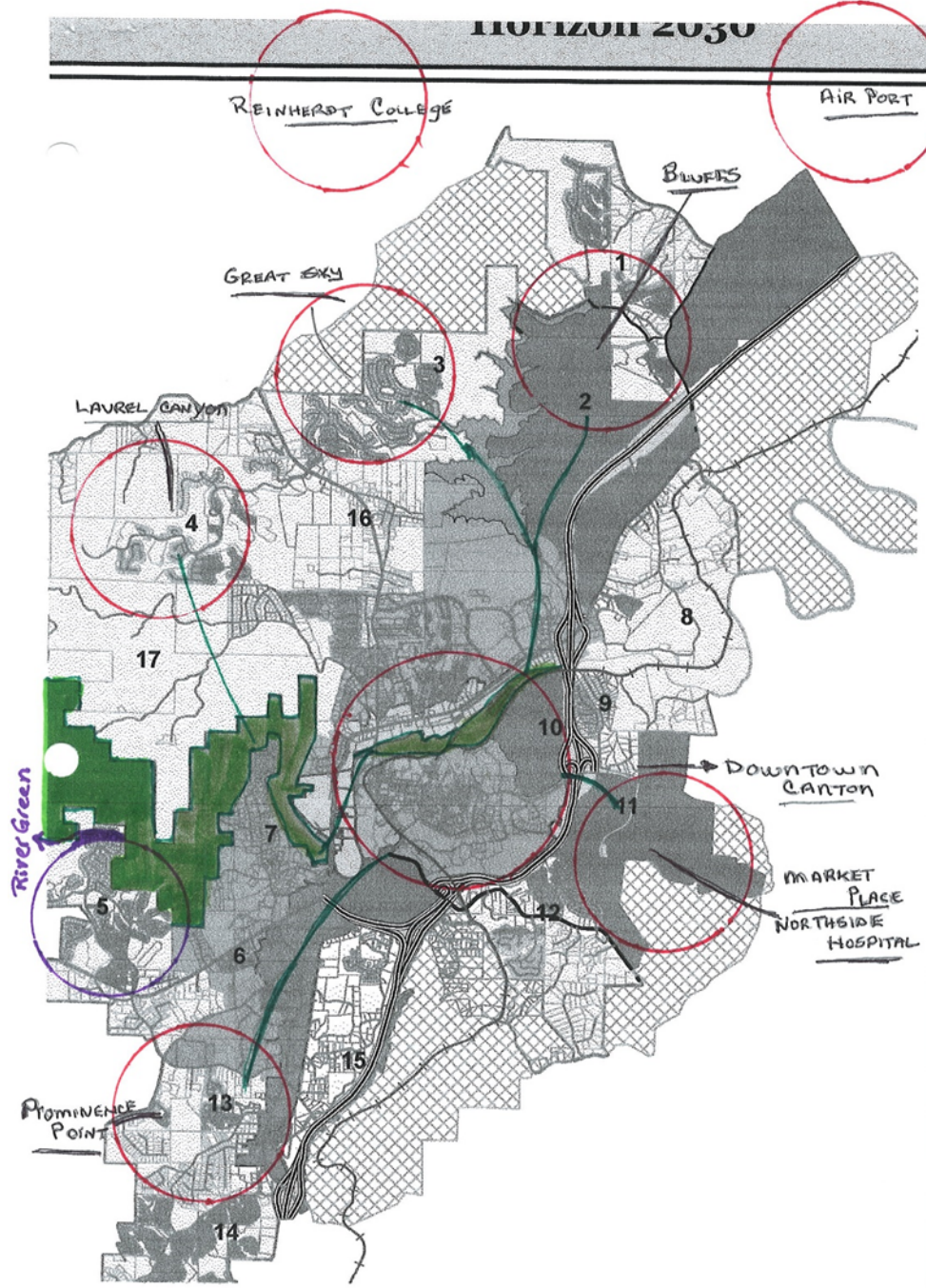
** Fish Weirs, Mines, Native America Trail Trees, etc

! ETOWAH RIVER !

Connectivity ?



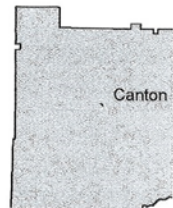
HORIZON 2030



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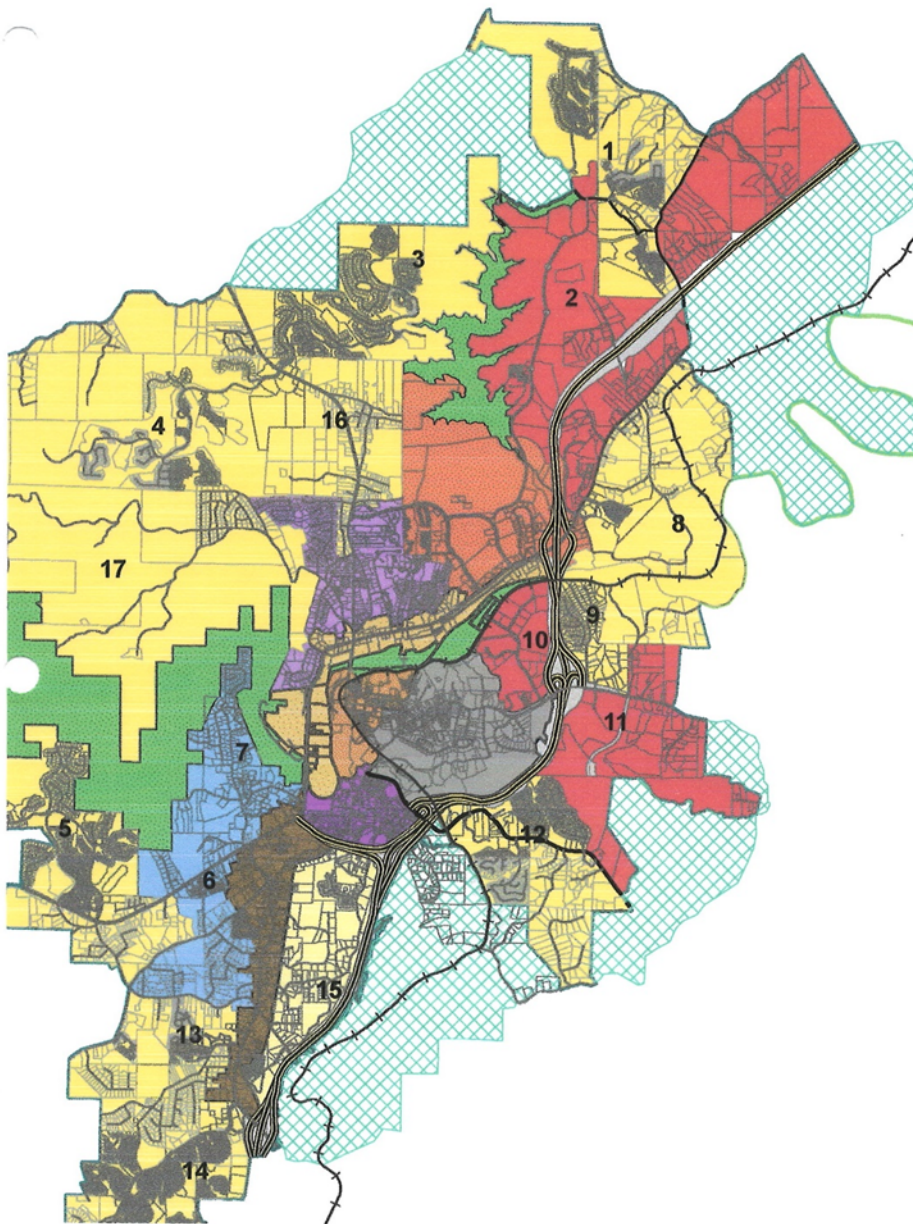
- Downtown/Urban Center
- Central City
- Major Highway Corridor
- Crescent Ridge Corridor
- South Crescent Ridge
- Historic/Traditional Neighborhood-Stable
- Historic Canton
- Suburban Development
- New Canton
 - 1. Hickory Log
 - 3. Great Sky
 - 4. Laurel Canyon
 - 5. Knox Bridge
 - 8. Elowah Shoals
 - 9. Governors Walk
 - 12. Mountain Vista Overlook
 - 13. Prominence Point Ridge
 - 14. Prominence
 - 16. Pea Ridge County Pocket
 - 17. Canton West
- Community Level Mixed Use/Retail Center
- Riverstone
- Traditional Neighborhood Redevelopment Area
- New Town
- Sunnyside
- Neighborhood Livability
- South Canton
 - 6. Ridge Pine
 - 7. Oakdale
- Suburban Estates
 - 15. Rolling Hills
- Natural Area
- Emerald Trail
- Employment Center
 - 2. Technology Bluffs
 - 10. Technology Center
 - 11. Canton Place
- City of Canton Tax Franchise
- Canton Area of Influence
- City of Canton Street
- Flood Zone
- Future Growth Boundary
- Right of Way

Site Location



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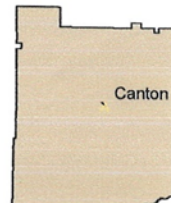




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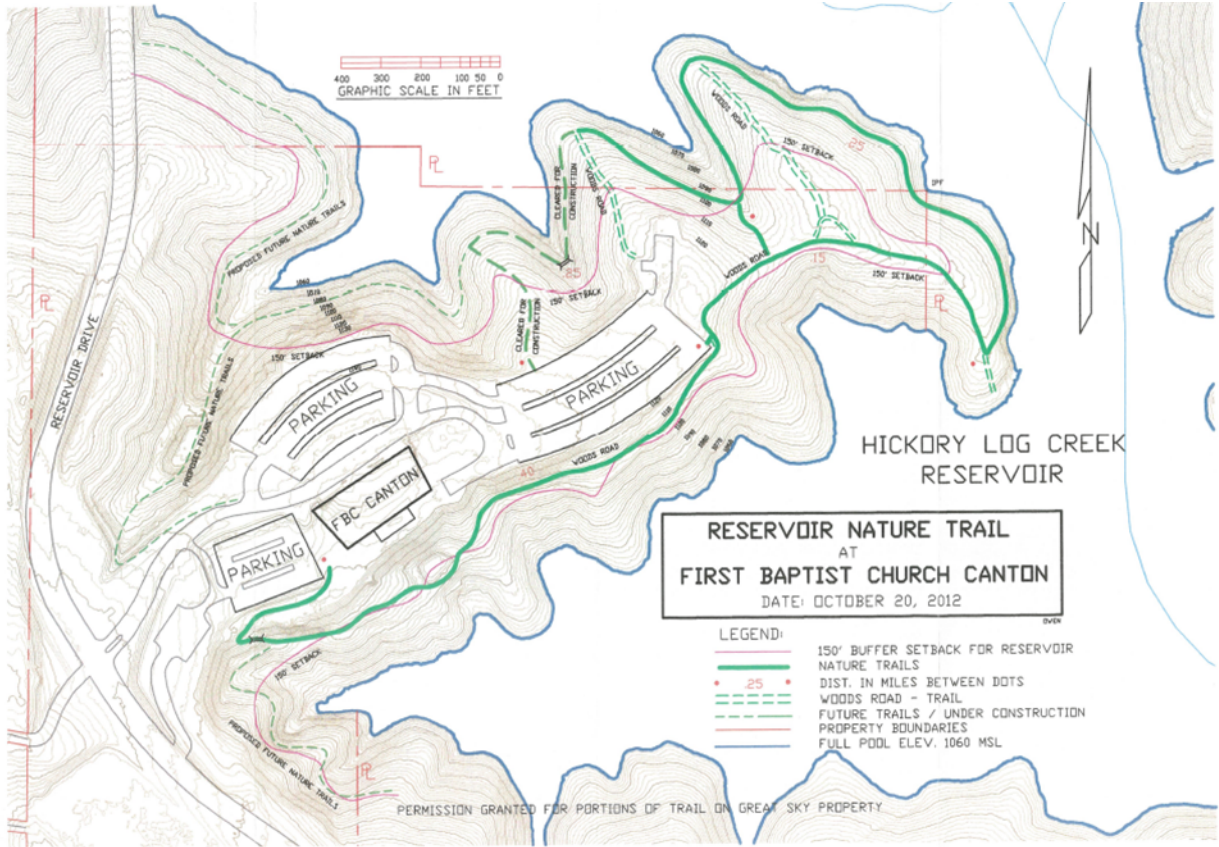
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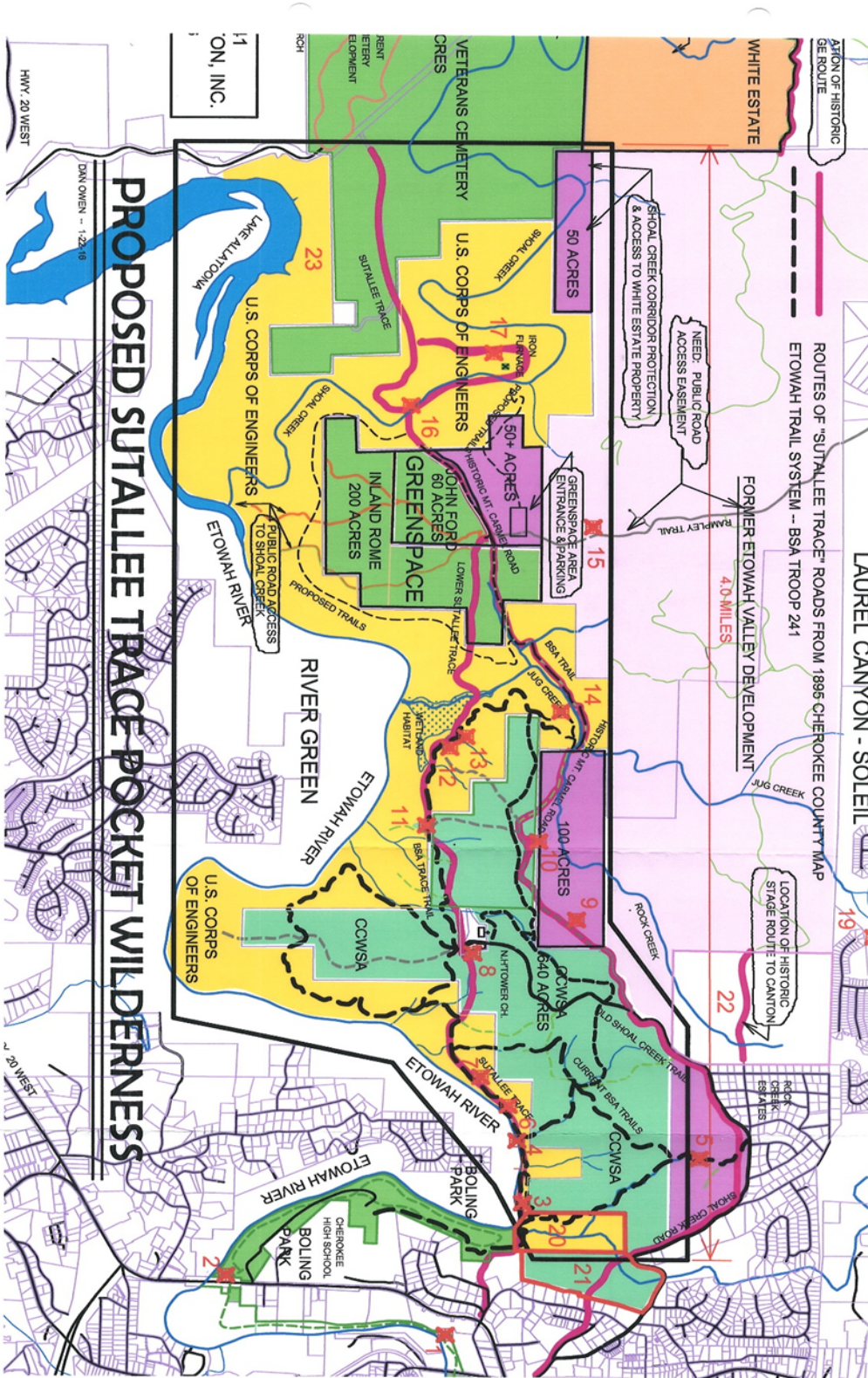
Historical Landmarks - Points of Interest & Preservation

As we begin to bring connectivity let's remember to also highlight some of our history where we can.

Here's a few historical observations for review.

1. Roadbed "trace" in valley intersects Etowah River, possibly an early ferry location into Canton
2. Concrete wall – possible retaining wall for earlier road bed leading to river ferry crossing
3. Prominent stone outcrop beside the "Trace" has ornate carvings with names and dates (circa 1800's) and decorative ivy
4. Stone piers and headwall give indication of a bridge over the stream at this point. At base there appears to be Native American carvings
5. Moonshine Still
6. Rock outcropping where river flooding washed out original road
7. Site of homestead in valley, abandoned well
8. New Hightower Church trailhead – location of original church
9. "Free" family homestead location
10. Grassy Knoll School location
11. Wildlife Meadow
12. Marsh Road – Good views over the wetland area
13. Moonshine Still along small creek beside trail
14. Huckleberry Hill – names for the profusion of huckleberries growing along the summit
15. Rampley Trail road provides access to the county greenspace
16. Bridge site where the "Trace and Mt. Carmel Road crossed Shoal Creek on a steel truss bridge.
17. The "Iron Smelter" furnace on Shoal Creek is a typical stone pyramidal structure
18. White Estate Property – Evidence of early stage route through property and historical structure used as a Wayside Inn and horse team exchange location.
19. Concrete structure reported to still be located in area. It was a mining operation, potentially iron ore.

*** Appendix A – Dan Owen Sutallee Greenspace Incorporating Etowah Nature Trails



Sutallee Greenspace Incorporating Etowah Nature Trails Points of Interest & Preservation

Canton is fortunate to have an adjacent strip of undeveloped woodland extending west from Boling Park along the Etowah River approximately four miles to the new National Veterans Cemetery in Sutallee. This land is owned to a great extent by the US Corps of Engineers as a part of the Allatoona Reservoir floodplain. Approximately 260 Acres of privately held land was purchased as Greenspace by Cherokee County a few years back and is thus also protected from development. The remaining unprotected land (approximately 640 Acres) is owned by the Cherokee County Water & Sewerage Authority (CCWSA).

Both the Corps of Engineers and the Water & Sewerage Authority have issued license agreements to Boy Scout Troop 241 and their sponsoring organization, Scouts Canton, Inc., allowing pedestrian nature and historic trails to be constructed for public use on their property. Approximately 10 miles of trails are currently in use.

However, the CCWSA land is not protected against future development. There were plans for a divided highway and construction of three public schools within the CCWSA land as a part of the proposed Canton West - Etowah Valley development a few years back. This development was denied by the County, but similar development could be proposed again at any time. Scouts Canton requests consideration from the City of Canton and Cherokee County to make every effort to protect this corridor as a greenspace for future generations.

The main white-blazed "Sutallee Trace Trail" along the Etowah River west of Boling Park in Canton, one of several pedestrian nature and historic trails originating as an American Bicentennial project by Boy Scout Troop 241 in 1976, follows the "trace" of an 1800's era roadway west of Canton to the Sutallee community and beyond. This unnamed road was shown on the 1895 map of Cherokee County prior to subsequent abandonment as a through route following a washout by the river. The road was relocated to higher ground nearby and became known as the Mt. Carmel Road, remaining in use until replaced by the current State Highway 20 which was constructed along with the formation of the Allatoona Reservoir by the Corps of Engineers in the late 1940's.

Prior to the creation of Lake Allatoona this area west of Canton was extensively farmed and populated, and included several community centers, as well as mining operations, pig iron furnaces, ferries and mills. Historic land purchases by Canton Cotton Mills and various Jones family enterprises, along with the Allatoona Reservoir development, helped to preserve this current greenway along the river.

Structures within the Reservoir boundary were removed by the Corps of Engineers when the lake was created. Look for remaining signs of early Cherokee county life along the road, which included homesteads, churches, schools, cultivated farmland, and liquor "moonshine" stills.

Homestead locations may still be identified from abandoned wells and remaining "domesticated" orchard trees, shrubs and flowers.

Interesting remnants of the original road, probably constructed using oxen teams pulling grading plows and scoops, include extensive excavations, stream fords and stone bridge pier structures.

Trail information, along with points of interest and preservation, include the following:

1. Roadbed "trace" in valley intersects Etowah River, possibly an early ferry location into Canton. Indications show the "Sutallee Trace" ascending the valley toward Marietta Highway opposite this location.
2. Concrete wall parallel with highway. Possible retaining wall for earlier road bed leading to river ferry crossing.
3. Prominent stone outcrop beside the "Trace" has ornate carvings with names, dates (circa 1800's) and decorative ivy. It is thought that the carving work was performed by professional craftsman from the marble finishing works located adjacent to the original textile mill complex in Canton. This location on the "Sutallee Trace" would have given easy access to the river from Canton, just beyond a bridge or ford of Puckett Creek, and possibly a good fishing location.
4. Stone piers and headwall give indication of a bridge over the stream at this point. At the base of the piers there appear to be Native American carvings in the exposed stone. This is also the intersection with the Orange Trail, providing a trail loop opportunity to New Hightower Church and Huckleberry Hill. Portions of the Orange trail still suffer from tornado damage of June 2013.
5. Location of early "moonshine still".
6. Rock outcropping where river flooding washed out original road, resulting in its relocation and subsequent abandonment as a through-roadway.
7. Site of homestead in valley, indicated by abandoned well.
8. New Hightower Church trailhead, and location of original church which was located beside and facing the "trace", back to cemetery, right (east) of current gate.
9. "Free" family homestead location.
10. "Grassy Knoll School" location. Well is still present. Private property.

11. "Wildlife Meadow". It is believed that a homestead was located along and facing the "trace", the meadow opening probably containing the garden, livestock, and possible out-buildings. Domesticated flowers are still evident. Osage Orange trees are unique to this location. These trees are extremely thorny and were sometimes used in place of fencing. Osage Orange was also reported to be a choice wood by Native Americans for constructing bows. The roadway through the meadow can be followed down the hill and to the right (west) for a walk along the river and to the marsh area created at the mouth of Jug Creek. The existing dirt "Meadow Road" veers from the "trace" route to connect with the old Mt. Carmel Road.

12. Marsh Road intersection. West of this intersection are good views over the wetland area.

13. Moonshine still location along small creek beside trail. From here, the trail veers north of the original trace roadway and begins an ascent to Huckleberry Hill. The trace roadway crossed Jug Creek (possible ford) in what is now a boggy area unsuitable for the walking trail or bridging of the creek. There are good views of the narrow valley through which Jug Creek cuts through to the river.

14. Huckleberry Hill, named for the profusion of Huckleberries growing along the summit, is the terminal location of the Orange Trail which provides an alternate loop route back to New Hightower Church or Boling Park. The trail ahead descends to Mt. Carmel Road.

At the Scout's last trail lease renewal with the Corps of Engineers, the Fish and Wildlife division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, having priority for all Corps land along the Allatoona region, required that our trail be officially stopped at Mt. Carmel Road. However, the public is free to walk the road on Corps of Engineer property. In fact, we were told that the public is allowed to walk anywhere on Corps property not otherwise designated. The Scouts are simply unable to maintain a walkway or provide signs, blazes or bridges. This is a pleasant and scenic road to walk, although the creek crossings may result in wet feet. In approximately 3/4 mile the road passes onto Cherokee County Greenspace property where the Scouts have plans for continued trail work. The roads within the Greenspace provide access to the Iron Furnace on Shoal Creek as well as the mouth of Shoal Creek at the river. None of this currently has signage or is blazed.

Mt. Carmel Road to the right of the trail termination leads back to Shoal Creek Trail road, but passes through some private property.

The original "Trace" road intersects the newer Mt. Carmel Road near the intersection with Rampley Trail. The combined road crosses Rampley Trail and descends to the west along the greenspace property line. This road is badly eroded and there are plans to construct a parallel trail at some time in the future.

15. Rampley Trail road provides access to the county greenspace but passes through private property and is not maintained. Several homestead sites of long-term Cherokee County

Million Mile Greenway organization is assisting with this trail development, and has proposed continuing the pathway from Bartow County into Cherokee County, up the Etowah River Valley, and toward Dahlonega, Helen and Clayton. This proposed route generally follows the line of historic gold exploration through North Georgia and is thus referenced as the Gold Belt Trail. The proposed Sutalee Trace Greenspace, the National Veterans Cemetery and Canton's developing river pathways and parks, could become a portion of this planned regional trail system. The City of Canton would become a major trailhead within this system, and regional funding assistance for trail development along the Etowah River would likely become available.

families were located along the road. Funding was not available at the time of the greenspace purchases to obtain all desirable property which would enhance and protect the proposed Sutallee Trace Pocket Wilderness area. Some of the desirable additional purchases are indicated in Purple color on the drawing. All the adjacent property (light purple color) was to be included in the "Canton West" or "Etowah Valley" development that was denied development by the County some years back. It is still owned by potential developers.

16. Bridge site where the "Trace" and Mt. Carmel Road crossed Shoal Creek on a steel truss bridge. We have no record of whether a ford might have originally been used. Follow the "roadway" upstream approximately 1/2 mile to the furnace site.

17. The "Iron Smelter" furnace on Shoal Creek is a typical stone pyramidal structure. It may be observed (with some difficulty) across Shoal Creek after walking an unimproved road along the creek to where the road terminates. The original road forded Shoal Creek at an angle upstream and is typically about waist deep. This furnace was apparently never fired and is believed to have been constructed as a means of involved families avoiding service in the Civil War.

18. White Estate Property was considered for greenspace by the County but lack of funding prevented its purchase. There is evidence of an early Stage Route through the property and there is an historical structure used as a Wayside Inn and horse team exchange location. Alum Bluffs along Shoal Creek is a beautiful area.

19. Laurel Canyon and Soleil are indicated on the map. This is the location of a mining operation in the distant past, potentially iron ore. A concrete structure is reported to still be located within the development. The current lake was one of two adjacent lakes, one being used for sediment control from the mining operations.

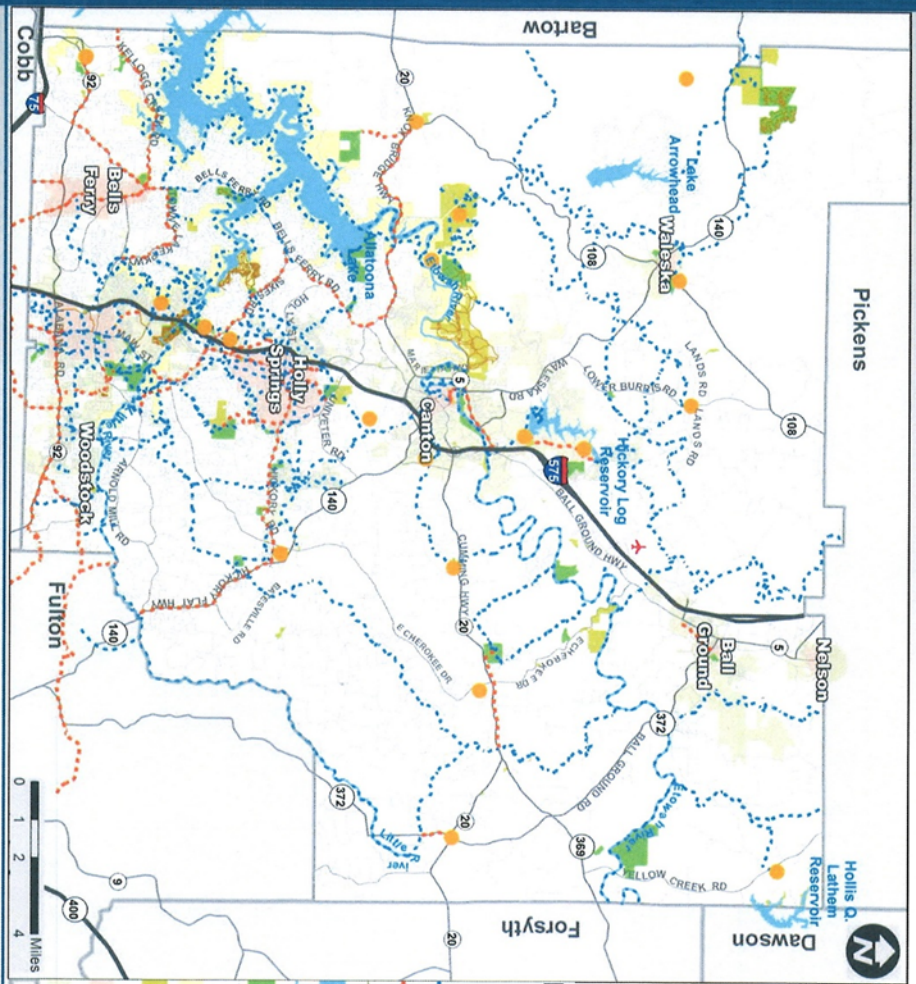
20. - 21. The Scouts investigated a trail connection from Boling Park to Shoal Creek Road some years back. The Corps suggested that the first step to trail development in that area should involve the City of Canton extending their lease agreement with the Corps to include that area (Number 20). The Corps land is partially a wetland but satisfactory for a multi-use pathway and some other park development. The adjacent land (Number 21) owned by the Cherokee County Water & Sewerage Authority should be considered for purchase by the City to accompany the leased Corps land to provide a truly beneficial extension to Boling Park, including a family picnic and recreation area along the creek as well as new park access and parking.

22. This land has been available for some time and would provide a great connection between Soleil at Laurel Canyon and the Sutallee Trace Greenspace area. This land was also considered for greenspace purchase by the County but was passed over due to lack of funding.

23. Tentative plans are being developed by Cartersville and Bartow County to connect their area to the new Silver Comet bike pathway extending west from Atlanta into Alabama. The



Potential Trail Projects



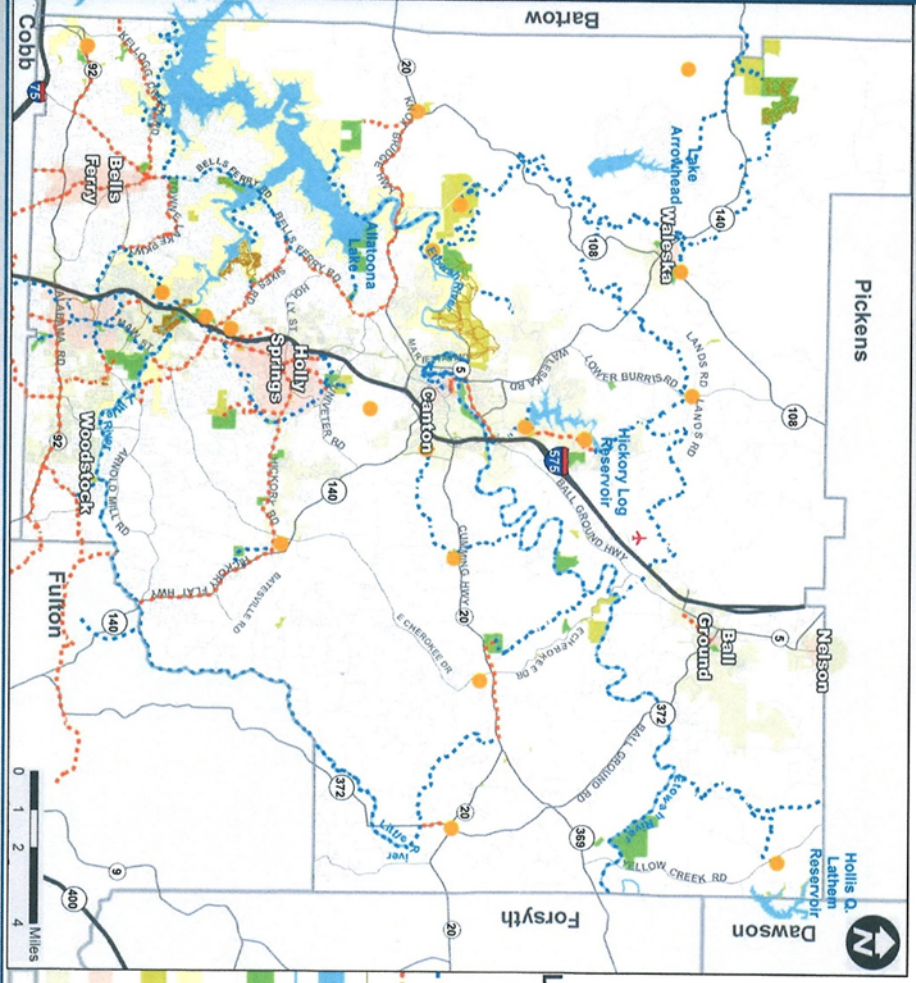
Legend

- Airport
- Major Destinations
- Multi-Use Trails
- Bike-Ped Routes
- Existing Trails
- Lakes
- River
- Parks or Greenspace
- Wildlife Management Area
- US Corps of Engineers
- Government Owned
- Activity Centers and ICD Areas
- Cities
- Counties

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Proposed Trails



Legend

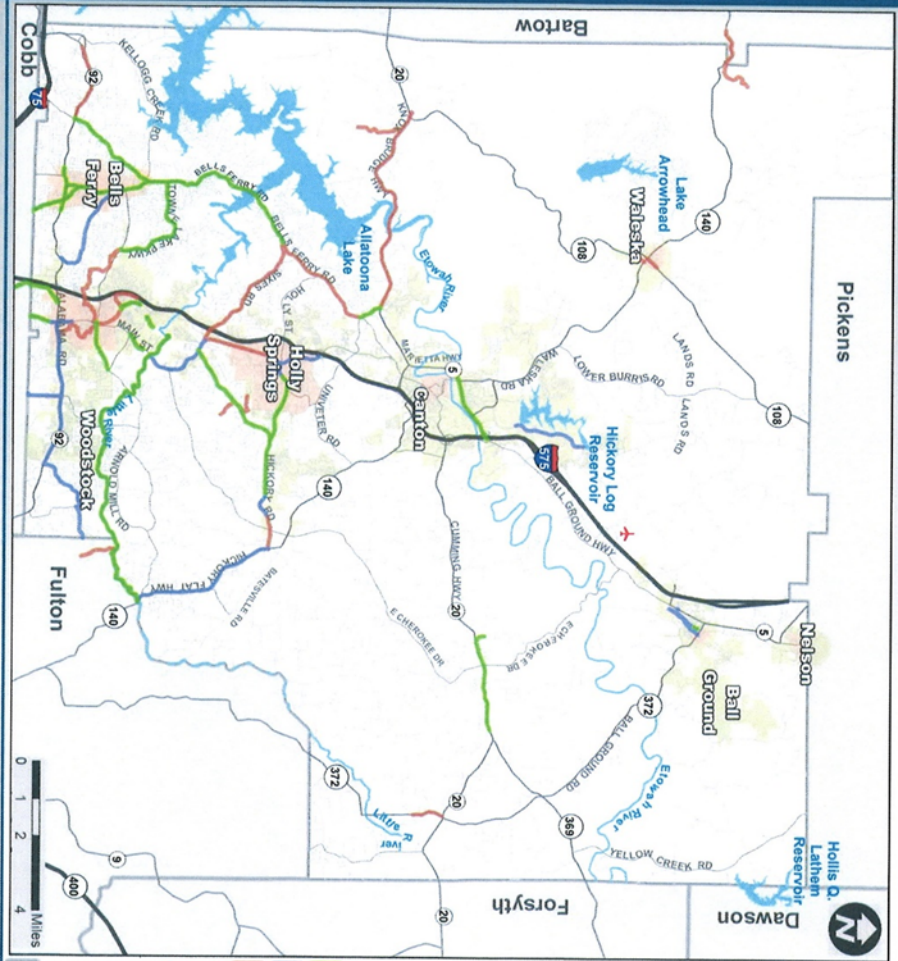
- Airport
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- Cities
- Counties

0 1 2 4 Miles

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Bike / Ped Facilities



Legend

- Airport
- Bicycle - Pedestrian Projects**
 - Tier 1 (2019-2024)
 - Tier 2 (2025-2030)
 - Tier 3 (2031-2040)
- River
- Lakes
- Activity Centers and LCI Areas
- Cities
- Counties

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Bike / Ped Facilities – Tier 1



Name	Location
Rope Mill Rd	From Woodstock Pkwy @ Rope Mill Rd to Rope Mill Rd @ Brownlee Rd
Woodstock Rd Bike-Ped Improvements	From Bells Ferry Rd to SR 92
Marietta Hwy/Ball Ground Hwy Pedestrian Facilities	From SR 140 @ N Etowah Dr/Anderson Ave to SR 20 @ I-575
Hickory Rd W	From Hickory Rd @ Holly Springs Pkwy to Park
Old Canton Rd Sidewalks	From Beck St to Gilmer Ferry Rd
Toonigh Rd Sidewalks	From Canton Hwy to Hickory Rd
J.J. Biello - Ridgewalk Pkwy Connector	From J.J. Biello Park to Old Rope Mills Trails (South of Little River)
Boling Park Multi-Use Pathway	Boling Park
Butterworth Rd	From Bells Ferry Rd to SR 20
Canton Road Pedestrian Facilities	From Stockwood Dr to Cobb County Line

CONCLUSION

The active engagement of the citizens of Canton will generate a culture of open, fact-based communication from the citizens to the city officials, and from the city officials to the citizens. Resources such as the local farmer's market and other local businesses combined with the social growth of community centers, will result in a cohesive culture built on being active in creating the Canton of the future. The recommendations from Parks will geographically connect the city through supporting businesses, technology and quality of life. These initiatives will provide today's action plan while driving toward VFC 2050.

VISION FOR CANTON 2050

Culture Subcommittee Report

Canton is a growing, vibrant city with many diverse, cultural activities. There is rarely a day that goes by that some form of cultural activity is not available. By 2050, it is possible the facilities currently housing our cultural events may outgrow their capacities. It is crucial we seek to improve and maintain the current structures we have and look towards the construction of new facilities or the repurposing of historical properties within the City.

2050 - How do we get there?

- Improve Awareness and Marketing of Cultural Activities
 - Distribute flyers in schools and churches
 - Perform public outreach to HOAs of larger developments in Canton
 - Reach out to leaders of Hispanic community to spread information about events and classes
 - Improve Signage
- Focus on maintenance and enhancement of current facilities
 - Canton Theater
 - Arts Center
 - YMCA
 - Etowah Park Amphitheater
- Consider the purchase and repurposing of additional properties within the historic district
 - Mills
 - School Board Property #3

Proposals for Future Cultural Offerings in Canton

Artist Colony – Establishment of an artist colony along the Etowah River in the old Mill. The Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, VA and Tannery Row Artist Colony in Buford, GA were cited as examples for this project. Items of interest to include:

- An Iron Forged Entrance
- Large fountain on the front grounds
- Playground with Animal sculptures for kids
- Novelty, Gourmet Food Shops and Restaurants on the first floor
- Living Space with studios upstairs (music, dance, painting, etc.)
- Picnic Tables outside for enjoying treats purchased in the gourmet food stores
- Event Space for holding reunions and private parties
- Impromptu musicians entertaining visitors are shopping

This facility could be a replacement for the current Arts Center, providing a much larger facility for our growing community come 2050.

Block Party/Food Truck Festival – many of the events held in Canton do not offer enough diversity to attract all residents.

- Use all venues of Downtown Canton (Canton Theater, the Arts Center, Amphitheater, Parks, etc.) to sponsor massive Block Parties
- Selection of Food Trucks to draw a larger, diverse population
- Model after successful events held in Atlanta, Alpharetta, Decatur

Visitors Center/Kiosk

- Hours are limited for the Visitors Center in the Cherokee County History
- Construct a new Visitors Center with the sole purpose of promoting tourism in Canton
 - Prepare a walking map, brochures or one-page pamphlets for highlights of Downtown Canton.
 - Include referrals to all web sites and online calendars
 - Include a “shop local” gift shop showcasing handmade or local produced items
 - The subcommittee suggests setting up a kiosk in town for off-hours
- Set up kiosks in strategic points of town for disseminating maps and brochures during off hours

Promotional Ideas

- Whimsical scavenger hunt – place whimsical pieces of art around town, have retailers hand out hints for location of items, provide a prize at end (free coke, ice cream, etc.)
- Hold a contest or promotional award for new cultural ideas

Denim Museum

- Canton’s Heritage was the denim mills
- Contact Levi Straus to see if they would assist with building a museum

Water Park on the River

- Park that offers rafting, kayaking, etc., along the Etowah River
- Strategic ramps(s) for exiting to enjoy shops and restaurants in town

Vision for Canton 2050: Economy Subcommittee

By the year 2050, we envision the City of Canton to be one of the most desirable economic submarkets of Atlanta, Georgia. The economy of 2050 will most likely show little resemblance to the one in which we've grown accustomed. The continued globalization of the world economy, driven primarily by new technology and communication channels, might all but erase current political and geographical boundaries we now know.

Although the trend toward the globalization of the economy will continue in a macro-economic sense, there is also a new momentum back towards promoting the local economies in the micro-economic sense. In 2050 you may work in a virtual office at your home for a company headquartered in Switzerland. But at the same time you may consume food products produced no further than 20 miles away from your home.

Canton was built, and boomed, on the success of the textile industry. Once that industry faded away, Canton suffered for many years. More recently, Canton thrived on the local real estate market, and busted, as did the housing/real estate bubble in 2008. We envision the economy of Canton in 2050 to be diversified with regards to industry, rather than too heavily leveraged on one single industry.

2050 - How do we get there?

- **We must be seen as the most business friendly City in all of Atlanta**
 - Increased Economic Development efforts
 - Advertising
 - Reaching out to current businesses
 - Single point of contact for prospects
 - Streamlined permitting for projects
 - Less "Red-Tape"
 - Providing incentives to new and existing businesses
 - Have the lowest tax & fee structure to gain an advantage over other municipalities
 - A focus on Customer Service for all City employees (they work for us)

- **Focus on attracting multiple industries to the City**
 - Medical Services
 - Technology
 - Housing
 - Film & Entertainment
 - Aeronautics

- **Promoting what we currently have**
 - Relatively cheap land
 - The Reservoir
 - Inexpensive housing
 - Etowah River
 - Diverse population

The Success of our local economy is also contingent on the success or failure of developing and implementing a our vision in other key areas:

- Education – businesses look for areas with an educated work force
- Transportation – Companies need to be able to ship their goods and services with ease. Retailers need for their customers to be able to get to their shops with a little as much congestion as possible to promote a positive experience
- Governance – It all starts with the elected officials. Their attitude and willingness to be “Open for Business” trickles down through the employees that interact with current and prospective business owners.
- Community Development – this goes hand in hand with economic prosperity. The stronger the community, the more demand for business development will increase.

CANTON'S FUTURE 2050
GOVERNANCE
SUB COMMITTEE May 18, 2015
JOHN FINCHER, CHARLIE BARNES, BOB REILLY

Governance/ Fiscal Responsibility:

A vibrant city must have the citizens fully involved in the policy making process that will determine the future growth of the city.

To achieve this goal

- 1) The citizens must be informed by:
 - a) print media postings of detailed agendas and minutes of Council meetings.
 - b) townhall meetings.
 - c) individual council members engaging communities.
 - d) creation of community ambassadors.

- 2) The citizens must be encouraged to participate by:
 - a) setting goals for voter registration and voting.
 - b) creating citizen committees to give input on major agenda items.
 - c) establishing term limits for the mayor and council.
 - d) establishing wards for the election of council members.
 - e) assigning council members individual areas of responsibility with goals and timelines.
 - f) establishing goals for diversity(age, race, gender, ethnicity) in all areas of city government.

- 3) Plan for future growth of the city by:
 - a) enforcing building and housing codes.
 - b) establishing a city beautification board to ensure properties are well maintained.
 - c) creating and enforcing zoning to ensure the desired growth in the city and on the river.
 - d) creating pathways connecting points of interest and the communities to the city.
 - e) working on annexation for future growth.
 - f) establishing city/private investment with bonds for land acquisition and improvement.

- 4) Ensure a responsive city government by:
 - a) the election of the city judge.
 - b) the judicial branch creating and overseeing a citizens ethics board to ensure the accountability and transparency of the city government.

With that does Canton remain a City or blend in with the county like Macedonia

Cons to be a City

-We pay more taxes than residents of Cherokee county for same services as schools, fire, police, parks, and roads because we have double taxation on some of the services since we pay both City and County Taxes

-Downtown would still be there

-No community

Pros to be a City

-Our own police and fire services may provide more protection and quicker response. Extra protection should help in striving to have No to little Gang Activity

-Downtown thriving and our social, economic, and civic activities are inviting for the community

-Beautification & Parks and Trails

-Community

- We can expect higher level of service

-Control own destiny (planning and development). City control would not be subject to total county government as far as controlling our own destiny. Current city control has allowed us to be one of the top 10 places to live in Georgia

-A county seat

Also we need to change our representative Wards to ensure the whole population is represented. We believe Canton needs to divide the City into 4 Wards

-Canton becoming more and more diverse

North Canton will become two big subdivisions with a growing senior population that should continue next 30 years

East Canton is becoming our retail sector

South Canton needs development and representation and future growth

West Canton will grow with subdivisions and commercial development on Hwy 20

Residents will need to only vote for their City Council person in their precinct to get proper representation as the City grows in population and becomes more diverse

- City Voting Precincts will need to be set up with similar number of residents per precinct. The population has to be within 2% in each post. Use census data to group population
- Minority groups do not get a voice in City government
- Come up with 4 districts and either have 5 or 9 elected officials and possibly downtown area as one to include where most minorities live.
- Mayor Executive- The mayor has no authority to implement, enforce laws, judgments, or actions the Council votes for. City Council will need to decide Powers over the next 30 years.
- Term Limits possibly 2 four year terms. Sit out and can run again

Transportation Committee

Members: Kandace Walker-Bunda and John Fincher

Commission on Canton's Future 2050

Transportation Report

Objectives

1. **Bike Lanes and Paths**

Implementation of a Bike Lane within the city for "necessity" travel. Lanes could tie into Bike Paths throughout the city that are used for more recreational purposes i.e. Heritage and Etowah Parks. Tie downtown, parks and other Canton "hot spots" together with bike paths/lanes.

2. **Local Public Transit**

-Schedule:

Increase schedule to accommodate workers going to and from work in the Canton area.

-Bus/Transit Stops:

Modern bus/transit stops should be incorporated into our city. Currently they are labeled poorly and do not have appropriate information or equipment to service it's users i.e. maps, covered waiting areas, bike racks, garbage cans additional city info. Better Transit Stops and Advertising/Communication to it's existing and potential users would make this a more viable transportation option for the citizens of Canton.

3. **Regional Transit**

-Transit Station/Hub:

As our city grows, our members will continue to travel to Atlanta for work and other activities. It is important that we provide public/mass transit options in an effort to combat congestion, pollution and wasted hours commuting to and fro. We will need more stops between Canton and downtown Atlanta, with more buses to allow for people to ride and enjoy reading, chatting or catching up on work during their travel.

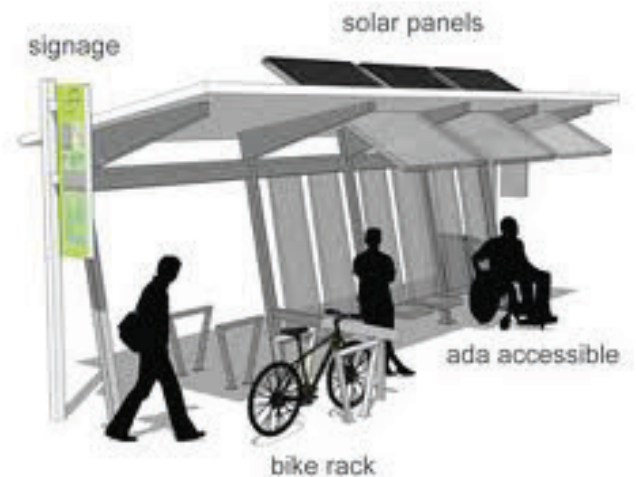
A Transit Station could become the transportation hub of our city and also provide visitor information, shops/restaurants, overnight accommodations, community space, etc. Our proposed Park and Ride location would take over the existing RT Jones Memorial Library and Canton Drivers Department. This central location makes it an appealing and viable option as it intersects primary E/W and N/S connectors and ties directly back in to the heart of Historic Downtown Canton and Etowah Park/Trail.



**Canton Transit Station
CCF 2050
Exit 19**



Regional Transit Concept



Local Transit Concept