

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

The Community Participation Program outlines the basic public involvement process that will be used to ensure Goals and Objectives of the Comprehensive Plan represents the values and desires of the residents. Ensuring the participation of a variety of stakeholder groups in developing the Community Agenda will also improve efforts for implementing the Plan by securing wider public understanding, support and cooperation.

The completion of the Community Assessment provides a baseline of information about the community to assist with the public involvement process, assuring the participants have a better understanding of the conditions and issues involved. The Community Participation Program will guide how this information is presented to the open public and various stakeholder groups, whose responses will refine the information, prioritize the issues and goals and identify the preferred alternatives for achieving those goals.

Identification of Stakeholders

Public involvement for developing the Community Agenda will be accomplished by directed measures for three sub-groups: 1) The General Public, 2) a Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee, 3) and Elected Officials and Chief Government Officers. This approach is designed to accommodate the differing levels of understanding of the planning process and to maximize the energy of those involved.

The first sub-group to receive consideration will be the General Public. A variety of open forums, and displays will be used to engage all of the residents, property owners and business owners of Dawsonville to ensure they've full opportunity to review, comment and direct the planning process. The Georgia Mountains Regional Development Center will assist the City staff in educating the public about the planning process and the Comprehensive Plan document, emphasizing the key elements of the Plan that are driven by and wholly about the general public of Dawsonville: The Community Vision and the goals and tasks outlined to achieve that vision.

The second sub-group targeted is the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee. This committee will feature at least 12 different people from a variety of stakeholder groups, but may be larger pending the availability of those invited to participate. The role of this committee will be to assist in analyzing the input received from the General Public and to provide for deeper discussion and analysis than may be allowed through the open public forums. Their participation on this committee will provide an additional layer of perspective on the grand dreams and concerns of the general citizenry.

As a start, representatives will be invited from the following organizations due to their critical roles in Dawsonville:

Dawson County School Board
Chamber of Commerce
Lanier Technical College

Industrial Development Authority
Downtown Development Authority

Additional representatives will be invited from several local key businesses, such as Tyson Foods and Norton Realty. (See attached list of stakeholders within Dawsonville.)

The third sub-group to be addressed will be the Elected and Administrative Officers of Dawsonville. The comprehensive plan process was devised to provide local public discourse and direction about the management of local communities. As the organization principally responsible for implementing the Comprehensive Plan, it is vital that the officials within the City of Dawsonville government not only participate in the process but to also understand the full scope of what's being proposed. They can maximize the opportunity to listen to the public's comments, identify what the government offices can and cannot do and can refine their operations to ensure they match the goals of the residents and business owners.

Public Involvement and Comment

A variety of measures will be employed to secure involvement from each of the three sub-groups. Each measure is designed to provide another layer in the process of identifying and prioritizing the issues, goals and objectives for Dawsonville.

The primary measure will be direct public involvement through open forums. Several public hearings will be held over a three-month period to review and refine the Plan material, beginning with a Vision and progressing towards the action items designed to make that Vision a reality. Ideally these forums will be held in close succession (no more than 4 weeks apart) to help the public more easily see this progression and maintain their level of energy.

In addition to the open forums the public will have additional opportunities to review material and provide comment. Several displays offering information about the Plan and copies of material developed at each stage will be set up throughout the city in places such as the library, City Hall and elsewhere. Citizens will be encouraged to review these items and provide comment to the City at any time during the process. They will also have the opportunity to track the process online via the GMRDC and/or another local web site and to submit comments via email. All comments received will be recorded for the process.

During the public forums GMRDC staff will lead discussion through prioritization of the issues and objectives for Dawsonville and through reviews of the Character Area maps to try and facilitate small area planning. Some survey methods may be used for prioritizing the issues and objectives, both one-time surveys featured at the events and extended period surveys available for completion for up to 2 weeks. Some fashion of extended period surveys will be used to allow for participation by those people unable to attend events and allow others to fully review material at home before responding.

Advertising for the process and public events will be handled through several means. The local newspaper will be used for general advertising and will be contacted directly to provide notice of key events and offer cooperation for the development of any feature articles about the process. Copies of select material will be provided to the press directly and in electronic form for ease of reproduction. In addition to working through the newspaper, flyers advertising the process will be set up in several key public locations such as the Chamber of Commerce and the library.

Businesses will be recruited for assistance as well in hopes of placing flyers in their establishments. These flyers will be designed such that they provide information about the next public event as well as the locations for finding copies of Plan materials at the public displays or online. To assist with recognition and build the brand of the planning process in the public eye, the flyers will be consistent in design and placed in the same locations throughout the process, using different color pages to signify updated information.

The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee will be called upon to provide more direct and detailed levels of participation in this process. Members will be given full copies of the Community Assessment to review and will be contacted directly by the GMRDC and/or City staff about Committee meetings, surveys and public forums. The Committee will meet at least three times: Once to confirm the issues and opportunities identified within the Community Assessment and establish a preliminary Vision and objectives, a second time to refine the Vision and objectives and review comments from the General Public, and a third time to prioritize the objectives and develop the draft Community Agenda.

The Elected and Administrative Officers of Dawsonville receive attention and direct contact same as that afforded the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee with an emphasis on matching the objectives of the Plan to the effective operations of the City government. There will be at least two meetings held during the process exclusively for this sub-group, with additional follow up of individual staff as needed.

Development of the Community Agenda

The overall process for devising the Community Agenda will focus on using the information generated in the Community Assessment for confirming and prioritizing issues and opportunities, developing the Vision and then crafting the goals and objectives that will address the issues and advance Dawsonville towards the stated Vision. The general timeframe for the process will be 10-12 weeks, seeking to capitalize on a high-energy campaign for public involvement but allowing for evolving conditions. The GMRDC staff will work with the Advisory Committee and City staff to develop the actual document throughout the process, allowing everyone to see and understand that the work is contributing to a very tangible product that will be accessible in the near future.

Proposed Community Agenda Development Process

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>
<i>Identify and invite members for Plan Advisory Committee</i>	Week 1
<i>Begin Displays and Promotion</i> Create promotional material, make copies of Plan material available, craft Plan status web page and establish locations for distribution of promotional material	Week 1
<i>Open Forums & Committee meetings - Initial</i> Review Community Assessment, confirm Issues and Opportunities, discuss Vision	Week 2-3
<i>Update Displays/ Communicate with Committee</i> Distribute updated information about draft Vision statement, key issues and goals for Dawsonville	Week 4
<i>Open Forums & Committee Meetings – Follow Up</i> Confirm Vision for Dawsonville, prioritize issues and goals, update Character Area maps and begin crafting Future Development Scenarios	Week 5-6
<i>Update Displays/ Communicate with Committee</i> Create draft Community Agenda and distribute for review	Week 7
<i>Open Forums and Draft Agenda Reviews</i>	Week 8-9
<i>City Hearing and Approval of Community Agenda</i>	Week 10

List of Business owners and potential stakeholders

Owners Names	Business Name	Physical Address
Bob Meyer	380 Allen Street, LLC.	462 Memory Lane
Patricia Jennings	A Matter of Taste Caterers	11 Hwy 9 N
Robert Anderson	A & A Automotive	10 Perimeter Rd
Miko Jones	Abstracts by Miko	5 Hwy 9 S
Carl Gerding	Affordable Rides, Inc.	109 E. First St.
Mark Sosebee	Agora, INC	686 Hwy 9 N
Wayne Melton	American Energy Services, Inc.	78 Howard Ave E Ste 100
Todd Carter	Amicalola Auto Sales	233 Hwy 9 S
Todd Carter	Amicalola Gardens Natural Landscapes	233 Hwy 9 S
Phillip Goodson	Amicalola Pest Control	159 Hwy 53 W
Matthew C. Richardson	Amicalola Propane, INC.	236 Hwy 53 W Bldg. 1
Ted Bearden	Bearden Funeral Home	334 Hwy 53 E
Ben Berry	Berry's Wrecker Service	333 Hwy 53 W
Bradley M. Maple	Bradley M. Maple, CPA, PC	462 Memory Lane, STE. 160
Brenda Lee	Brenda Lee & Assoc. Inc DBA Summit N. GA Real Estate	66 Hwy 53 W. Suite 110
Mark Byrd	Byrd's Mini Storage #2	135 Jack Heard Rd
Gordon Pirkle	Champions Café	415 Hwy 53 E
W. J. Carter	Chek Mek Electronics	233 Hwy 9 S
J. Alan Scott	Classic Homes of Dawson, Inc	660 Gold Creek Dr
Jim Clouser	Clouser Chiropractic	159 Hwy 53 W Ste.B
Sandy A. Craven	Craven's Connection, LLC	75 Hwy 9 N
Gene Branham	Crossroads Recording Studio	59 Hwy 9 S
Kenneth Cruse	Cruse Roofing & Construction	54 Hwy 9 N, Ste C
Dwight D. Gilleland	Custom Gunworks, Inc	117 W Second St
Taki Sabusa	Dairy Queen of Dawsonville	170 Hwy 53 E
Scott Davis	Davis Machine, INC	273 HWY 9 South
Lisa Crow & Missy Clanton	Dawson Center of Performing Arts	422 Hwy 53 E Ste.H
Charlie Auverman	Dawson Community News	514 Academy ST.
Chris Chung	Dawson Country Diner	236 Hwy. 53 W. #5
Cody Boyce	Dawson County Farm Bureau	674 Hwy 53 W
Bo Wilson	Dawson News & Advertiser	40 Hwy 9 N
Todd Gravitt	Dawsonville Apartments	239 Hwy 9 N
Scott Smith	Dawsonville Car Wash	115 Hwy 9 S
Eddie Akbarshahi	Dawsonville Exxon Foodmart	236 Hwy 53 W
Dwight D. Gilleland	Dawsonville Hardware Co. INC.	82 W First St
Bo Seppenfield	Dawsonville Machine Works, INC.	422-A Hwy 53 East Ste. E
Ann Sheffield	Dawsonville Mini Storage	87 Maple St N
Gordon Pirkle	Dawsonville Pool Room	78 E First St
Dwight D. Gilleland	Dawsonville Power Equipment	118 W Second St
Stevie Harben	Dawsonville Service Center	55 Hwy 53 W
Michael & Marsha Waller	Dawsonville's Dogs & Hogs	107 Hwy 9 N
Bob Chezem	December Lights	386 Hwy 53 E
x	Dollar General	161 Shoal Creek Rd
Russell Marcotte	D'ville Service Incorporation	209 W 3rd St.
Candy Adams	DWA Commercial Project Management, LLC.	32 Jack Heard Rd. STE 210
Ricky Cash	EBM	497 Hwy. 53 E
Homero Sanchez	El Rio's Mexican Café	69 Hwy 9 S

Midelvia Macias	Fajita Grill #2	384 Hwy 53 E
Joseph Marszalek	Finish Line Car Wash/Continental Consulting Group	62 Jack Heard Rd
Joseph Homans	Fox, Chandler, Homans, Hicks & McKinnon, LLP	78 Howard Ave. Ste. 110
x	Fred's Store #1450	751 Hwy 53 E
Cathie Waddell	Gathering Place Café	436 Academy Ave. Ste 100
Edith & Junior Gee	Gee's Trailer Park	Flat Creek/Gee's Court
Ben D. Trail	GeoImage, LLC	462 Memory Lane Ste 130
David Sexton	Georgia Softworks	17 Hwy 9 S
Mark Sosebee	Gold Creek Foods, LLC	686 Hwy 9 N
Robert/Jeff Tablak	Gold Creek SL, LLC	One Gold Creek DR.
Craig Goodman	Goodman Accounting Services, INC	686 Hwy 9 North
Wanda Goodson	Goodson's Accounting & Tax Service	159 Hwy 53 W
Phil Goodson	Goodson's Pharmacy	159 Hwy 53 W
Ray Gilliam	Guaranteed Delivery	61 Ridge Water Lane
Hayley Garrett	Hayley's	46 Hwy 9 N
x	Home Furniture Mart, INC.	86 Hwy 53 W, Ste. 120
Ashley Nix & George Hanes	Hometown Foods	83 W. First St
Donny Ray Aiken	Horizon Home Projects	473 Hwy. 53 W.
Jeffrey Cox	Jeffrey Cox, Attorney at Law	74 W. 1st St. Ste. 200
Jeff Mohler	Jeffrey Brooke Salon	74 W. 1st St. Ste. 100
John & Mimi Seibel	John Seibel Photography	24 Bent Ridge Drive S
x	Kangaroo Store # 3318	78 Hwy 9 N
Faye Cleveland	Komes Hair Design	54 Hwy 9 N
Ronald W. Smith	Lake Lanier Auto, INC.	499 HWY 53 East
Hayley Garrett	Lanier Vending Co.	78 E. First St #C
Janice Lee	Magic Scissors Hair Salon	228 Hwy 9 N
Jack Heard	Mark Heard Fuel Co.	103 Jack Heard Rd
Carl Gerding	MB Resources, LLC	103 Hwy 9 N
Linda Posch	Micro Health Solutions	354 Stegall Place
x	Mike's Mowers	333A Hwy. 53 W
Dan Centofani	Mill Creek Environmental Services	1818 Perimeter Rd
x	Movie Gallery US, Inc DBA Movie Gallery #3866	749 Hwy. 53 E Ste 100
Paul Vetrone	North Georgia Herpetological Resources LLC	33 Hwy 9 S
Jedd Maple	North Georgia Paralegal Services	462 Memory Lane Ste 160
Aline McClure	North Georgia Printing	436 Academy Ave Suite 300
Chad Ogletree	Ogletree Sewer & Septic	653 Hwy. 9 South
Paul Tordik	Onsite Mobile Detailing, Inc.	75 Pearl Chambers Dr
Brenda Lee	Paper Moon, Inc	66 Hwy 53 W. Suite 100
Paul Payne	Paul Payne's	334 Hwy 53 W
Mary Ann Dolan	Pine Grove Montessori School	1732 Perimeter Rd
Nathan Hardin	Pioneer Marketing Research, Inc.	86 Hwy 53 W Ste. 210
x	Polatty & Sullivan	76 Hwy 9 S
Rory Puckett	Puckett's Mini Storage	315 Shoal Creek Drive
Rex McClinton	Rex McClinton, Attorney at Law	86 Hwy 53 W
Zoya Sarab	Salon Zoya	34 E. 1st St
Wayne Melton	Seminole Investment Properties, LLC	78 Howard Ave. E, Ste 100
Ann Sheffield	Sheffield Trailer Park	60, 86, 126 Maple St
Karen Ray	Southern Catholic College	330 Southern Catholic Drive
x	Southern Food Service Management	330 Conference Center Drive
Dwight D. Gilleland	Southern Sky Systems of GA, LLC	33 Hwy. 53 W
E.B. Jordan	StarMount Properties, LLC/Alden Trace Apts.	40 Alden Court
William E. Stephens	Stephens Properties / Maple Street Apartments	136 Maple St.
x	Subway @ Kangaroo #3318 (The Pantry)	78 Hwy 9 N

Community Assessment & Participation Program
City of Dawsonville Comprehensive Plan: 2006 - 2030

John Markell	Suncoast Auto Brokers Inc.	462 Memory Lane Ste. 180
Sam Bailey	Syclone Design, INC.	32 Jack Heard Rd, Ste 200
Tim Biggie	T.L. Biggie Construction	422-A Hwy 53 E
Angela Fowler	Texaco Xpress Lube - Car Care Pro	514 Hwy 53 E
R.Ridgely Rairigh, Jr	The Law Offices of R.Ridgely Rairigh,Jr, PC	32 Jack Heard Rd. Ste. 230
x	The Money Tree of Georgia, INC.	86 Hwy 53 W Ste. 120
Aline McClure	Transporation System Design, INC.	436 Academy Ave Suite 200
Brad Cole	Tyson Foods, INC.	169 Hwy 9 S
Carroll Walls	Walls Barber Shop	67 Howard Ave
Dale Campbell	Westside Pizza of Dawsonville	236 Hwy 53 W
Teresa Conowall	Woodbury Enterprises	37 Ridge Water Lane
Caroline Christie	Peach Brandy Cottage	3 Shepherds Lane
Deborah Huggard	Allen Street Study Center, LLC	257 Allen Street
Jennifer Dawkins	TADS Thrift Store	58 Hwy 9 S
James R Hunt II	Sojourn Tours	49 Driftwood Trail
Wilbert Chinchilla	Jenny's Cafe	135 Hwy. 9 S
Jason Allen	McDaniel Allen Homes	3 Hwy. 9 South
Robert Aulet, Jr.	Physique In Home Fitness Training	106 Pearl Chambers Drive