

VIRTUAL COMMUNITY SURVEY

May 2021



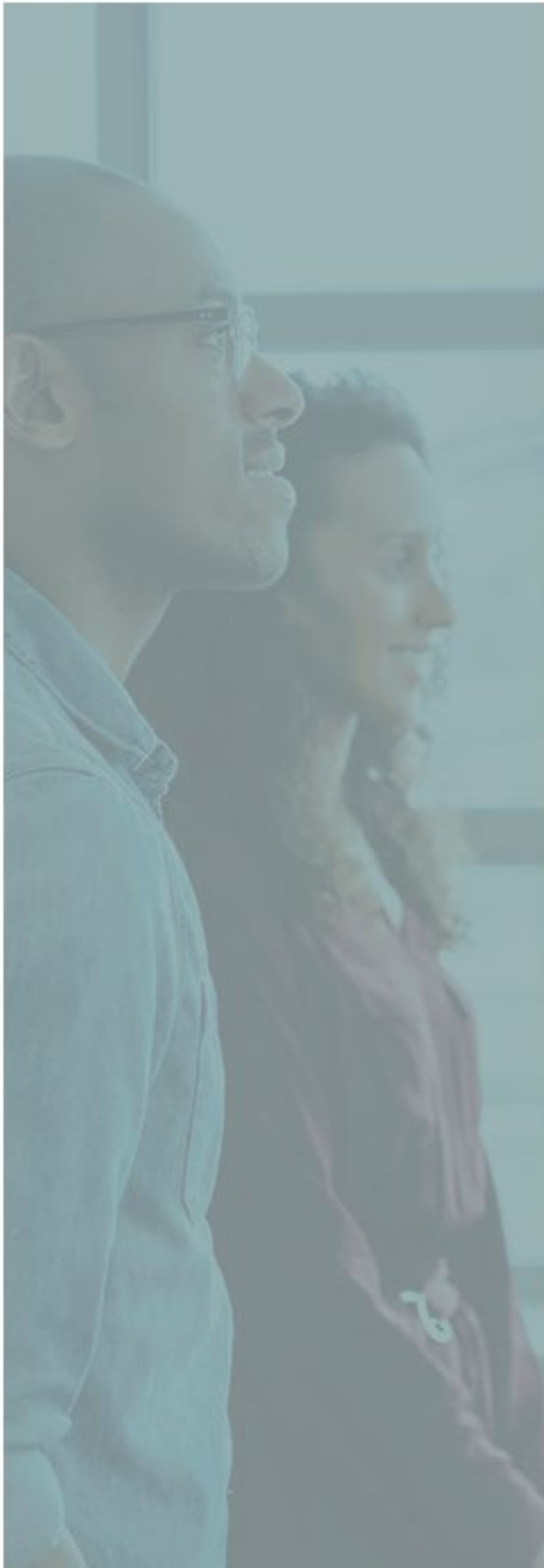


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INTRODUCTION

The City of Andalusia has begun the process of updating the Comprehensive Master Plan. The planning process will build on and surpass expectations set in 2003 with the explicit goal of developing a forward-thinking plan that embodies the vision and goals of Andalusia.

The Planning Commission is committed to authentically engaging the community as a collaborator in this process. Because we seek input from as many citizens as possible, and because of lingering concerns about group meetings in light of COVID-19, we have developed a virtual opportunity for your participation.

Collaboration is essential to how this will work. Please review this entire document and click on noted links to share your thoughts and ideas. We will document your responses and share a summary report with you.

Thank you for your input!



I. EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Background

Planning Team:

- [City of Andalusia](#)
- [Concordia](#) – Planning Consultant

In this Document:

- City Progress Report
- Community Asset Map
- Virtual Community Survey

Reference Materials:

- [2003 Comprehensive Plan](#)

Survey Activity

Directions:

1. There are **6 survey categories** with short descriptions for your consideration. **Please read** in its entirety.
2. Click on the [online survey link](#) provided to begin the survey. Please let us know **what is missing** in each category and **assign a value** on a scale of 1 to 5 (*1 is low priority, 5 is high priority*).
3. After you complete the online survey, we ask you to **fill out an after-action review** to let us know how we are doing.

2. PROGRESS REPORT

Community Values: *Where are we now?*

CITY PROGRAMMING



Christmas in Candyland

Candyland offers a winter wonderland adventure every weekend in December. The event, which is presented in collaboration with the Andalusia Area Chamber of Commerce, offers imaginative play cottages for kids, train rides, snow tubing, ice skating, light shows, musical acts, and snow shows every weekend in December. First launched in 2014, the event has grown to two venues and has gained national attention as one of the best Christmas attractions. Approximately 70,000 people visit the event each year.

Splashpad

Parents asked for it, soon they will have it! The City of Andalusia will officially open its first Splashpad this spring. The 4,500 square foot Splashpad, located at the entrance to Johnson Park on Hwy. 55 S, is handicap-accessible and has areas for children ages toddler to 12. There are shade structures for parents, as well as restrooms for changing. The City is pleased to have support from the Covington County Commission, Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation, the John and Grace Estep Foundation, the Andalusia Rotary Club Foundation, and the Pilot Club of Andalusia for this project.



Capital Improvement Cooperative District

The Capital Improvement Cooperative District of the City of Andalusia was formed in 2016 under the Code of Alabama, 11-99B-1, to help fund redevelopment of Andalusia's historic downtown. Businesses that join the district typically receive financial assistance from the City of Andalusia when opening. Those funds are repaid through an additional district tax. Proceeds beyond repayment go back into the development of additional properties.

CITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

South Basin Sewerage Project

The South Basin Sewerage Project began in 2020 and will be completed by the end of May. The project includes the inspection and upgrade of approximately 143,000 linear feet of sewerage lines, as well as inspection and replacement of the piers that hold above-ground lines in place. The South Basin is loosely designed as the area of the city from the top of the Court Square, south. The project mirrors a similar one completed in the North Basin several years ago.



Sidewalk Improvement Projects

In the past 20 years, the City of Andalusia has added many miles of new sidewalks, making Andalusia among the most walkable cities in Alabama. Most hours of the day and night, pedestrians and fitness buffs alike are taking advantage of the sidewalks on East Three Notch, South Three Notch, River Falls Street, Prestwood Bridge Road, Lindsey Bridge Road, and Stanley Avenue. When members of the Andalusia City Council set its goals for the current term, continued sidewalk expansion ranked high on the list.

Paving/Street improvements

In 2019, the City of Andalusia completed paving projects totaling \$829,000, thanks in part to a Community Development Block Grant. The project resurfaced portions of Stratford Court, W. Meadowbrook Drive, E. Meadowbrook Drive, Ruby Lane, Adams Street, East Three Notch Court, Snead Street, Pecan Street, Spruce Drive, Waites Street, Highland Avenue, Arnold Street, Bagley Street, Thweat, Cawthon Street, and Allen Street. The Andalusia City Council also has set resurfacing streets as a

Trend Scenarios: *Where are we going?*



Zoning

Zoning is a tool that most cities use to govern “uses” (e.g., residential, commercial, or industrial), the size of buildings, and how buildings relate to their surroundings, including other buildings, open spaces, and the street. The City of Andalusia is currently updating the Zoning Ordinance to be more responsive to current needs.



Downtown Development

Major developments supporting the economic and community vitality of downtown Andalusia are in the works. In 2020, the City acquired 18 buildings and six acres in the downtown area. A number of redevelopment projects are already in progress or in the planning stages.



Housing Development

The City of Andalusia is proud to support the development of housing. Appaloosa Run, a new 56-unit apartment complex, opened in late 2020, and Dixon Heights Apartments got a major overhaul. The City also is working with development partners for a garden district in the Church Street area, and apartments downtown.



Park & Greenspace Improvements

The City of Andalusia is committed to maintaining and improving its existing network of city parks and greenspaces, and to developing new park areas like Heritage Park and Rails to Trails.

Community Vision: *Where do we want to be?*

Community visioning is both a process and a statement. This initial process includes discovering the kind of future our community wants by giving you the opportunity to express your goals, desires, and values honestly. Through this discovery, we will learn what you would like the City of Andalusia to look and feel like within the next five to 10 years. This mutually agreed upon vision is an image for our future. It is a means of articulating and describing the opportunities to acknowledge the present, focus on the future and learn from the past.

3. SURVEY ACTIVITY

Step 1

There are 6 survey categories for your consideration. [Please read the short description](#) provided for each category in the next section.

*Once **Step 1** is completed,
please move to **Step 2**.*

*You will find **Step 2's** directions
after the short descriptions.*

4. SIX SURVEY CATEGORIES

PHYSICAL



Physical

This category includes both natural and built conditions such as buildings, transit systems, communication networks, water management, and environmental systems. Examples include streets, bridges, sidewalks, public infrastructure, parks, green space, and waterways.



CULTURAL

Cultural

This category captures community norms, ethics, values, and traditions. Examples includes institutions like museums, theaters, and places of worship, performing and visual arts programs, festivals, music venues, and restaurants.

SOCIAL, HEALTH, WELLBEING



Social, Health, & Wellbeing

This category captures the strengthening of community well-being, including physical health, psychological health, access to health services, food security and safe environments. Examples include a community center, grocery store, pharmacy, gym, and hospitals.



ECONOMIC

Economic

This category captures financial and environmental resiliency. Examples include banking institutions, credit unions, business incubators, retail stores, environmental infrastructure and other sites that promote resource conversation and economic growth.



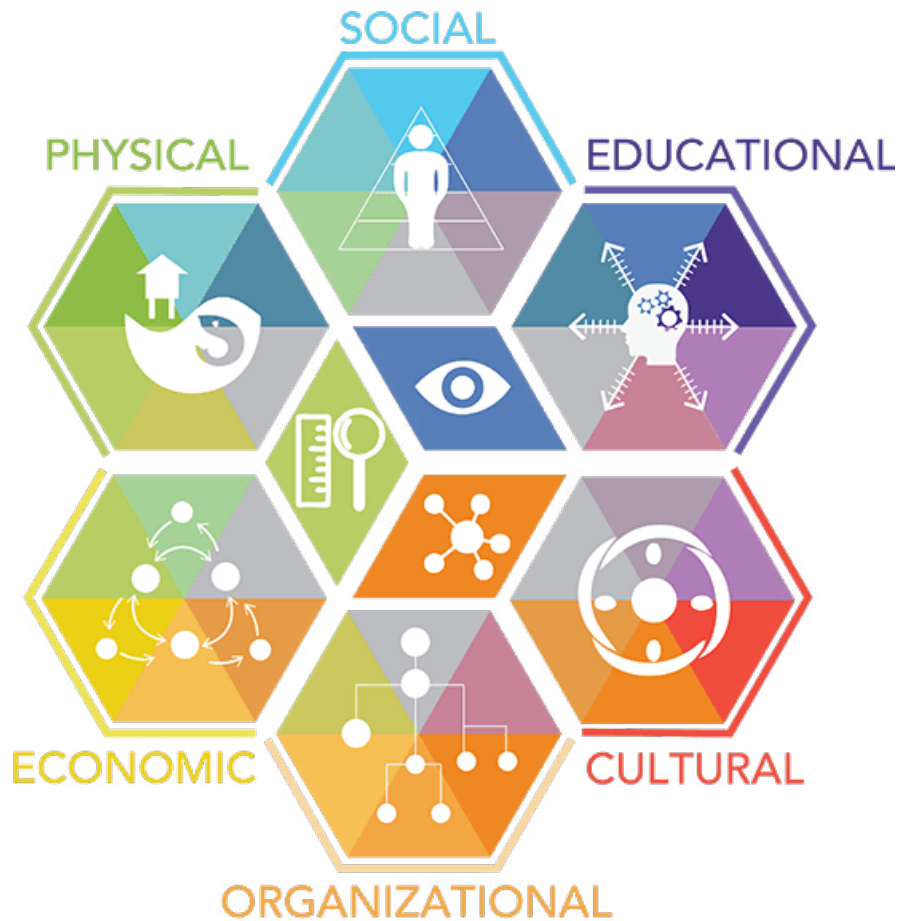
Organizational

This category includes all formal groups, political structures, regulating bodies, private and public/nonprofit organizations, foundations, special interest groups and clubs.



Educational

This category includes all life-long learning programs and activities such as early childhood education, primary and secondary schooling, after school programs, trades and workforce training, community college, university, libraries, and all other opportunities for educational advancement.



5. SIX SURVEY CATEGORIES

Step 2

Click on the online survey link provided below to begin the survey. Please [share your thoughts](#) to let us what is missing in each category and assign a value on a scale of 1 to 5 (*1 is low priority, 5 is high priority*).

Step 3

After you complete the online survey, we would like you to fill out a 4-question After Action Review to let us know your thoughts on the process thus far! You will find it included at the end of the survey.

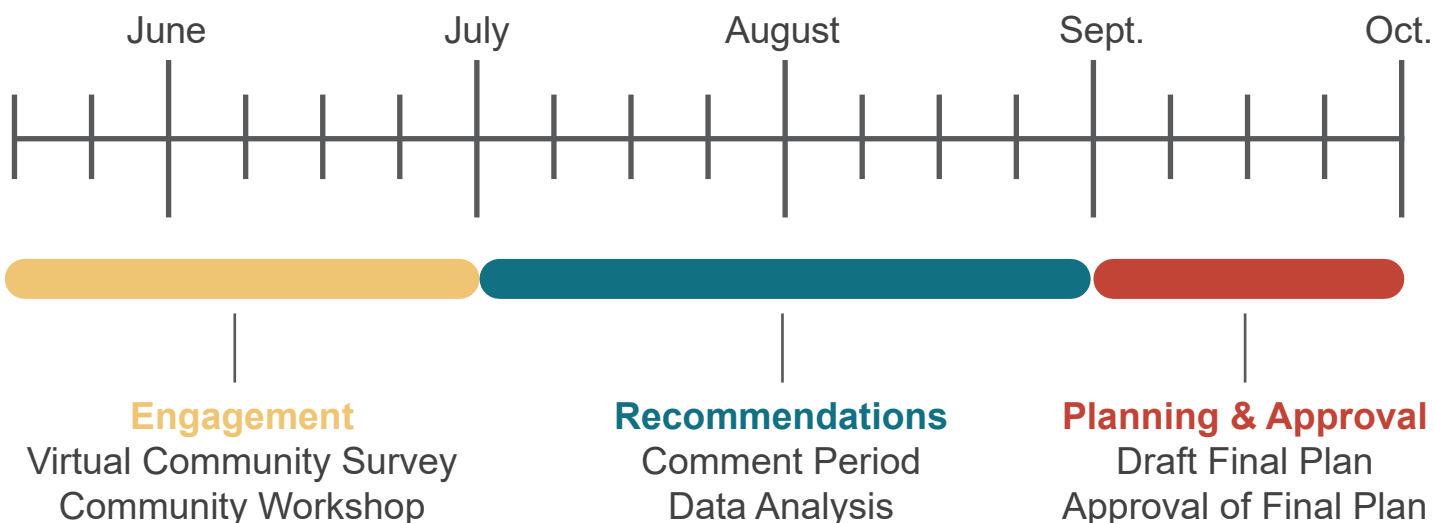
[Click here to take the survey.](#)

6. ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE

Thank you for you participation and insight!

You play an important part in updating a Comprehensive Master Plan that will bring great benefit to the City of Andalusia.

There is more work to get this to the finish line. Be assured that we will continue to engage you through our planning timeline.



7. CONTACT

THANK YOU!

FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

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