

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.

All Local governments plan to embark on new or existing projects and activities that will make their community unique. For instance, the City of Dasher plans to add a mural to an existing building and new gateway signage. Hahira wishes to inventory their housing stock in order to discern the character of it and amend their zoning to those design standards. Lake Park acquired a historic cemetery and hopes to make their natural resources something they are known for.

Remerton maintained its historic smokestack and plans to encourage food trucks to visit the city on Thursdays. The City of Valdosta plans many events that are closely associated with the city; however, the Bluesberry festival and new gateway signage might grant the city even more popularity.

6. Regional Cooperation

Cooperate with neighboring jurisdictions 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

Lowndes County and the City of Valdosta collaborate on a variety of authorities, boards, commissions, and advisory committees. Authorities include: Development Authority, Hospital Authority, Land Bank Authority, Parks and Recreation, Convention Center and Tourism Authority, and the Airport Authority. Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Organization (VLMPO) and plans (hazard mitigation, comprehensive planning, service delivery strategy). Their collaboration on GIS services lessens the costs on the smaller communities and