

2 COMMUNITY VISION

2.1 General Vision Statement

Throughout the Greater Lowndes 2030 planning process, the public has enjoyed many opportunities for active involvement. Through general public meetings, stakeholder group presentations, one-on-one discussions, bi-monthly newsletters, an informational website, and many dedicated members of the Advisory Committee, we were able to develop a vision statement for the Greater Lowndes community.

Concurrently with the Greater Lowndes 2030 Comprehensive Planning process, the community also underwent an image development campaign. Through the facilitation of two reputable Public Relations Firms, several community preference surveys were completed. Thus, the final vision statement also represents the results of both PR Firms.

Ultimately, the vision statement below addresses the desire to balance Lowndes County's quiet residential nature with progressive commercial and economic development. Through clear-sighted planning for the location, arrangement, and design of growth, Lowndes County can successfully balance its various land use needs and community goals. The following vision statement should serve as a guide in developing this balance.

In the year 2030, the Greater Lowndes Community will be a well-recognized leader in the South Georgia-North Florida region, as well as across the State. Due to the community's entrepreneurial and progressive mindset, it will have experienced substantial growth yet still have an unsurpassed quality of life due to its low cost of living, thriving regional institutions, and growing economic diversity. Recognizing and meeting the needs of a diverse population, the community's quality of life will be sustained through preservation of its natural resources; facilitation of active living through an interconnected system of parks, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities; and enhancement of its vibrant cultural resources. Through cooperation with the various educational institutions, the community will be able to sufficiently meet the employment demands of high-paying industries with high-school, college, and university graduates performing at or above state averages. Overall, the community's attractive family-oriented, small-town, rural nature will have been protected through a continued spirit of open communication and cooperation among our governing bodies and significant citizen engagement and community involvement.

2.2 Future Growth and Development

In projecting future areas of growth and development, quality planning calls for those decisions to be based on infrastructure plans for transportation, water, and sewer; as well as the development suitability of land, existing land uses, and existing zoning.