

PRATTVILLE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT REPORT



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PREPARED FOR: **THE CITY OF PRATTVILLE**

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**P R O J E C T
P R A T T V I L L E**

T H E N E X T C H A P T E R



Introduction

The history of the City of Prattville is well-documented. From Daniel Pratt's creation of a manufacturing center on the banks of Autauga Creek in the 1830s through the steady development of the 20th century and into the accelerated growth of the new millennium, Prattville has always had a distinct character. But while the past can be mapped and plotted, it is far more challenging (and equally important) to be able to lay out the future.

Project Prattville seeks to do just that. For a city that walks such a delicate line between a rich historical character and incredible impending growth, the creation of a consensual and binding vision for the future is vital. How does a City whose annals are so long and detailed accommodate the inevitability of change? How does a tight-knit community absorb thousands of new residents while keeping the communal feel? How does the City get in front of growth - adding and expanding infrastructure, schools, etc. - before the development has actually occurred? How does the community balance the types of housing offered with the types of jobs available? Finding answers to these questions, among others identified during the process itself, is key to the success of *Project Prattville*.

This section represents the work of the first part of the process, the *Inventory & Assessment* phase. In this portion of the plan, the focus is on documenting and analyzing the existing conditions and taking a look at initial projections for the future. A broad range of conditions



Main Street Prattville

are examined: Physical - including land use, housing, community facilities, natural resources and sustainability - and Social - including demographics, job growth and economics. Looking at “what is” and “what is projected to be” help guide the development of policy and the design of guidelines as *Project Prattville* moves forward.

A large part of this first phase has been focused on Public Involvement. Though the information gathering process culminated at a public Kickoff Meeting, several committee meetings and scores of individual interviews were used to get a detailed cross-section of opinions and ideas regarding the current state and desired state of the City. Similarly, this process works both ways. It is not purely about information gathering, but information sharing as well. As a government process, the City mandated that *Project Prattville* should exceed standards for transparency. The City set up a website to provide continuing updates and to allow for the submission of inquiries with regard to the plan and its creation. That openness is reflected in this report, and thus can be continued through its implementation.

Based on the work done during the Inventory & Assessment phase, the plan will then proceed into the Plan Development phase. In this phase initial thoughts and ideas for redevelopment and growth in Prattville will be examined and vetted by a variety of civic groups and the general public, via a broad range of forums and media. Pending those efforts, *Project Prattville* wraps up in the third phase, Refinement & Implementation, as the plan is finalized and strategies are developed for enacting the recommendations and projects.



The Prattville Creek Walk

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