

PROSPERITY: Education

GOAL: Effective and respected early childhood through high school education that prepares students for life, including career learning and education opportunities, traditional college, or the workforce. In general, life-long learning is highly valued, resources are widely available, equity in opportunity is improved, and success is communicated.

POLICIES AND ACTIONS:

1. Educate, train and develop young people in Athens-Clarke County so that they will graduate from high school prepared to enter the local workforce, and to be successful in the world of work and in their lives.

2. Enhance the learning environment to provide student support for the variety of needs within our community.

3. Support teachers through a variety of methods in order to retain quality teachers who feel appreciated and valued by the larger community, and are afforded with opportunities for professional growth.

PROSPERITY: Economic Development

GOAL: Greater prosperity for the entire community – individuals, businesses and local government – with diverse, quality jobs and a ready workforce. This also means entrepreneurship and small businesses flourish in a collaborative environment and that unemployment and underemployment are reduced [and full time workers are able to meet daily needs and live in assured, self-sufficiency (housing, food and life necessities).

POLICIES AND ACTIONS:

1. Continued improvement of coordination and cooperation of Athens entities concerned with economic growth and the attraction and creation of jobs which offer wages that support a normal standard of living for Athens-Clarke County workers.

2. Implement ordinances, policies, and infrastructure to address impediments to locating or expanding business and industry.

3. Provide the facilities and services necessary to attract, incubate, and grow businesses across a variety of sectors.

PROSPERITY: Economic Development

GOAL: Greater prosperity for the entire community – individuals, businesses and local government – with diverse, quality jobs and a ready workforce. This also means entrepreneurship and small businesses flourish in a collaborative environment and that unemployment and underemployment are reduced [and full time workers are able to meet daily needs and live in assured, self-sufficiency (housing, food and life necessities).

POLICIES AND ACTIONS:

4. Leverage Athens' most distinctive products - like the music scene - to further position it as a destination and brand.

5. Create a marketing plan that will better position Athens to successfully compete for in-state and regional leisure and conventions travel.

6. Continue building a comprehensive, complementary entrepreneur development program to the existing retention attraction initiatives.

PROSPERITY: Economic Development

GOAL: Greater prosperity for the entire community – individuals, businesses and local government – with diverse, quality jobs and a ready workforce. This also means entrepreneurship and small businesses flourish in a collaborative environment and that unemployment and underemployment are reduced [and full time workers are able to meet daily needs and live in assured, self-sufficiency (housing, food and life necessities)].

POLICIES AND ACTIONS:

7. Improve the accessibility of Downtown as everyone's neighborhood.
