



TOWN OF AUTAUGAVILLE, ALABAMA

2045 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



Acknowledgements

The Autaugaville 2045 Comprehensive Plan is the result of the efforts of the residents of the Town as well as Town officials who helped in crafting the plan. As participants of the planning process, their hard work and dedication to the future of Autaugaville is reflected in a document that not only values and celebrates the rich history of the Town, but creates a vision of how to enhance past successes into future prosperity. This plan is for all the residents of Autaugaville, whether long-term residents, new residents, or prospective residents.

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CHAPTER I: Background/Vision/Demographics



Purpose of the Plan

The Town of Autaugaville 2040 Comprehensive Plan presents a vision of what kind of community the Town would like to be in the future and identifies the steps required to move toward that vision. The Plan provides information about the Town's current conditions, long-term goals, and potential implementation activities. It addresses a wide range of issues, including land use, housing, transportation, infrastructure, the preservation of historic and natural resources, and economic development.

As a long-term guide for the community, the Plan assists Town leaders in making decisions regarding the location, scale, and quality of new development, the improvement of neighborhoods and commercial areas, the revitalization of blighted and deteriorating areas, the extension and upgrade of infrastructure, and the future of the Town's parks, public spaces, and natural areas.

This plan is adopted to set the Town's growth and development policies for the next five years within a long term planning horizon of twenty years. The Town expects to consider occasional revisions to the plan, particularly at its next required review in five years. In the meantime, this plan is meant to set the Town on a course toward meeting its long-term vision.

Importance of a Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan is one of the most essential documents produced by a local government. Section 11-52-8 of the Code of Alabama prescribes that every community (planning commission) prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan to guide its future growth and development. ***This plan must be kept up to date.*** It is recommended that the planning commission review the plan at least once every five years. The Plan is important because it is both comprehensive and long term. It helps to coordinate most Town activities by examining them all together at one time, a "comprehensive" approach. In this way transportation is coordinated with decisions on new development which in turn can be accommodated by planned improvements to water and sewer service. At the same time valued historic and natural resources are identified and considered. Adopting and publishing a comprehensive plan communicates the Town's desires and developmental policies to the public as well as to state, federal and private agencies. A long-term view is necessary so that short-

term solutions in response to a crisis do not preclude the Town from reaching its long-term goals.

In 2008, the Town of Autaugaville adopted *“Town of Autaugaville Comprehensive Plan”*, the first long range planning document for the Town. As with other municipalities in Alabama, during the time period, since the Comprehensive Plan’s adoption, the Town of Autaugaville was affected by a national recession that negatively impacted the economy and as well as how the Town views its goals for the future.

Vision Statement

Town of Autaugaville has identified its vision for the Town of Autaugaville 2040 Comprehensive Plan as follows:

“To improve the quality of life of Autaugaville’s citizens through preservation of our rural character; by protecting our natural, historic and agricultural resources; while bringing about well-planned economic development, improved public services and the long-term fiscal stability of our community.”

The Plan as a Policy Document

It is important for citizens to realize that while the Plan is important it is not a regulating document. Rather, it is a policy document used by the Planning Commission and the City Council to guide decisions about such issues as rezoning proposals, the location of new transportation infrastructure, investments in water and sewer improvements, and the development of parks. The Plan is implemented by the Town through regulatory documents such as a zoning ordinance, the County subdivision regulations, Town code of ordinances, a capital improvement program, and the annual budget.

Community Participation

Key to development of the Plan was input from the general public, stakeholders, and Town staff. Input was gathered through a series of public meetings discussing each

“Element” of the Plan. These Element meetings were held at the Autaugaville Fire Station over a six-month period; each meeting covered one or more Plan elements. These input sessions were advertised as public meetings to allow citizens and community leaders an opportunity to view and actively take part in the deliberations that took place during the formulation of this document.

Demographic Overview

Information on the characteristics of the Town’s population, population growth rate, and income levels is essential in planning for future community needs such as schools, public utilities, recreation facilities, police protection, emergency services, human services, and housing. Chapters within the Comprehensive Plan utilize data from the U.S. Census Bureau and other population studies. This section includes information from several sources including past U.S. Census data, the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2015 – 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, the 2010 U.S. Census of Population, and others as noted below.

The demographic background profile provides a foundation of information on town-wide demographic characteristics, the regional context of Autaugaville’s population, and current trends and projections. The information is presented to put comprehensive plan decisions within the context of where Autaugaville is now, how the Town arrived at this juncture, and what the Town appears to be facing as it moves forward. Additional demographic data may appear in the various sections to which they pertain.

Table 1 Demographic Overview	
Total Population, 2010 Census	870
2019 ACS Estimate	963
Median Age (2010 Census)	38.0
Under 18 Years (2010 Census)	209
18 Years and Older (2010 Census)	661
Labor Force (2019 ACS)	409
Employed (2019 ACS)	375
Unemployed (2019 ACS)	34
Per Capita Income (2019 ACS)	\$23,240
Housing Units (2010 Census)	412
Occupied (2010 Census)	350
Vacant (2010 Census)	62
Median Home value (2019 ACS)	\$54,500
School Enrollment	333 (K-12)

Based on the 2010 US Census, there were 350 households out of which 33.7% of households had children under the age of 18, 26.0% had a female head of household, and 30.6% were non-families; 26.5% of all households were made up of individuals living alone. The average household size was 2.49 and the average family size was 3.00.

Based on the 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the median household income in the Town of Autaugaville was \$32,159, and the median income for a family was \$35,129. The per capita income for the Town was \$23,240. About 17.4% of families and 21.9% of the population were below the poverty line, including 43.8 % of those under age 18 and 5.1% of those age 65 or over.

Population

The 2010 Decennial Census found the Town of Autaugaville with a population of 870 people, an increase of 50 individuals from the 2000 Decennial Census (Census 2000 Population 820). Based on US Census data Autaugaville experienced minor population increases up until the period between 1960 – 1970 when the Town experienced an almost two-fold increase leaping from a population of 440 in 1960 to one of 870 in 1970. Following the 1960s population boom, the population progressively declined into the mid-90s, when, the 2000 census shows it once again rebounding to its 1970s numbers. This population shift is, in part, due to the shifts in job loss and creation of major manufacturing and textile operations in the area. Several paper mills and manufacturing operations have called the Autaugaville area

home over the past one-hundred years. Based on 2019 ACS estimates, the population of Autaugaville has remained increased slightly since the 2010 Census.

Table 2 Historical Population										
Census	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2019*
Population	450	456	459	440	870	843	681	820	870	963
% Change (+/-)	--	1.3%	0.7%	4.1%	97.7%	3.1%	19.2%	20.7%	6.1%	10.7%
<i>Source: US Census and *2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>										

Racial Composition

Autaugaville has maintained a relatively consistent racial composition over the past twenty years. Generally, white residents make up approximately a third and African-Americans make up approximately two-thirds with other and two or more races making up less than two percent.

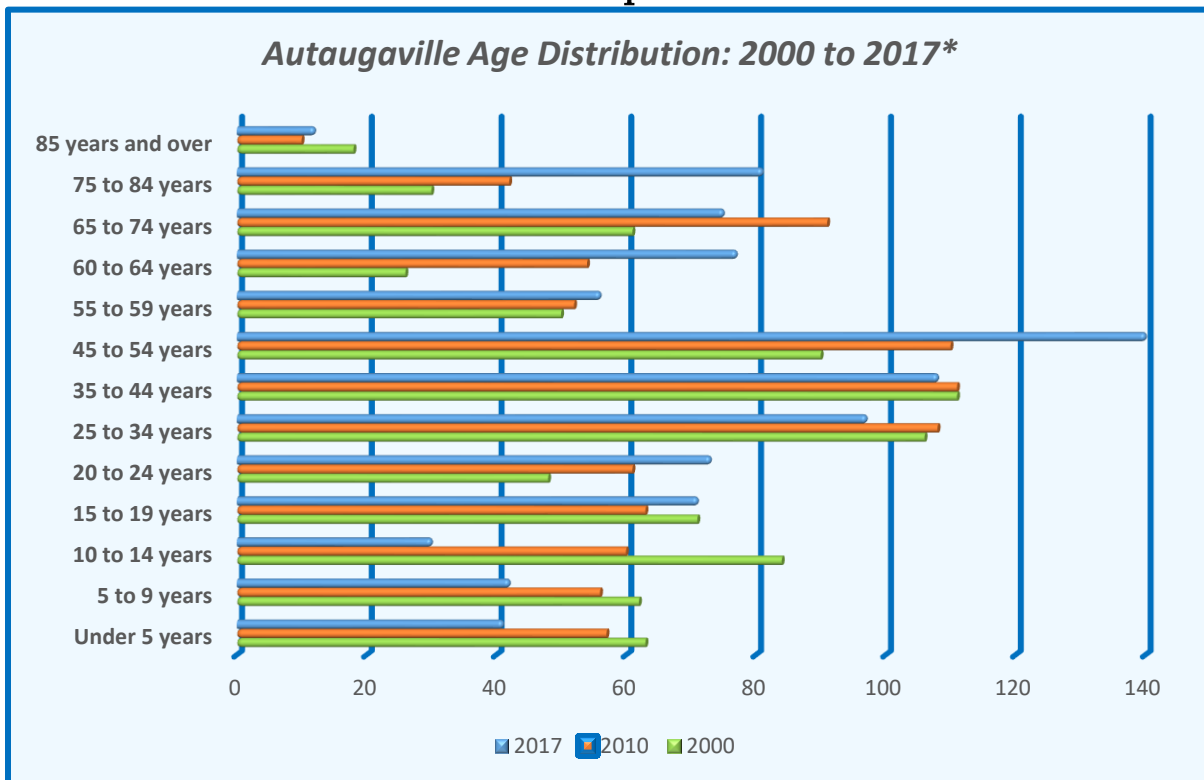
Table 3 Racial Composition						
Census	2000	%	2010	%	2019*	%
Total Population	820	100	870	100	963	100
White	265	32.3	272	31.3	259	26.9
African-American	541	66.0	581	66.8	704	73.1
Other	2	0.2	5	0.5	0	0.0
Two or more races	10	1.2	12	1.4	0	0.0
Hispanic*	8	1.0	7	0.8	4	0.4
<i>*People who classify themselves as "Hispanic" may be any race. Source: US Census and *2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>						

Age Composition

As shown in Graph 1 below, Autaugaville’s population trends upward over the past thirty-year period. The largest age groups are the working adult age groups between 25 and 54 years of age. It is also important to note that the number of persons over the age of 65 has also been trending upward.

The school-age bracket (ages 0-19) appears to be relatively constant in regard to the overall distribution, which represents approximately 16% of the population. Increases in the general population will result in increases to the different population brackets, and thus could result in increased needs for recreation, healthcare, schools, public safety, utilities and retail development.

Graph 1



Source: US Census and *American Community Survey

Housing

Units – Number & Type: As of the 2010 census, there were 870 people, 350 households, and 243 family households residing in the Town. The population density

was approximately 110 people per square mile. There were approximately 412 housing units at an average density of 51 per square mile.

Table 4 Housing Units						
	2000	%	2010	%	2019 *	%
Total Housing Units	384	100	412	100	534	100
Occupied Housing Units	316	82.3	350	85.0	444	83.1
Vacant Housing Units	68	17.7	62	15.0	90	16.9
Occupied Housing Units	316	100	350	100	444	100
Owner-occupied units	258	81.6	262	74.9	322	72.5
Renter-occupied units	58	18.4	88	25.1	122	27.5

*Source: US Census and *2015-2019 American Community Survey*

Table 5 Unit Types		
	Total Estimate	%
Total housing units	534	
1, detached	253	47.4
1, attached	0	0.0
2 apartments	0	0.0
3 or 4 apartments	0	0.0
5 to 9 apartments	23	4.3
10 or more apartments	27	5.1
Mobile home or other type of housing	231	43.2

Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey

Age of Housing: The year a structure was built provides a rough estimate of the quality of the housing stock. Older homes often contain maintenance issues and health hazards not found in newer homes. The largest building boom in Autaugaville was between 1990 and 1999, when 146 homes were built, 27.3% of the existing housing stock. Of more interest is that 55.4% of existing homes were built prior to 1990 making the majority of the existing housing stock over 30 years old, and as the table below shows, most of that is even 40 years or older. An aging housing stock can

indicate the existence of deteriorating or even dilapidated units in a community. This issue can impact a community in a number of negative ways including health and safety concerns, impacts on economic development potential and a general negative affect on community morale.

Table 6 Year Structure Built		
	Total units <i>Estimate</i>	%
TOTAL Housing Units	534	
2014 or later	21	3.9
2010 to 2013	14	2.7
2000 to 2009	57	10.7
1990 to 1999	146	27.3
1980 to 1989	57	10.7
1970 to 1979	124	23.2
1960 to 1969	45	8.4
1950 to 1959	40	7.5
1940 to 1949	8	1.5
1939 or earlier	22	4.1
<i>Source: US Census and *2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>		

Home – Occupancy Size: From 2000 to 2019, the number of housing units in the Town of Autaugaville increased by 21%, while the overall population increased by 4.5%. The rate of housing units increased is significantly more than the rate of population. Nationally, the number of households has increased by 21.5 million (18.6%) between 2000 and 2019. In Autaugaville, the household size is steadily decreasing.

Table 7 Household Size			
	2000	2010	2019*
Owner-occupied units	2.64	2.53	2.21
Renter-occupied units	2.40	2.33	2.07
<i>Source: US Census and *2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>			

Chapter II: Environment



Location

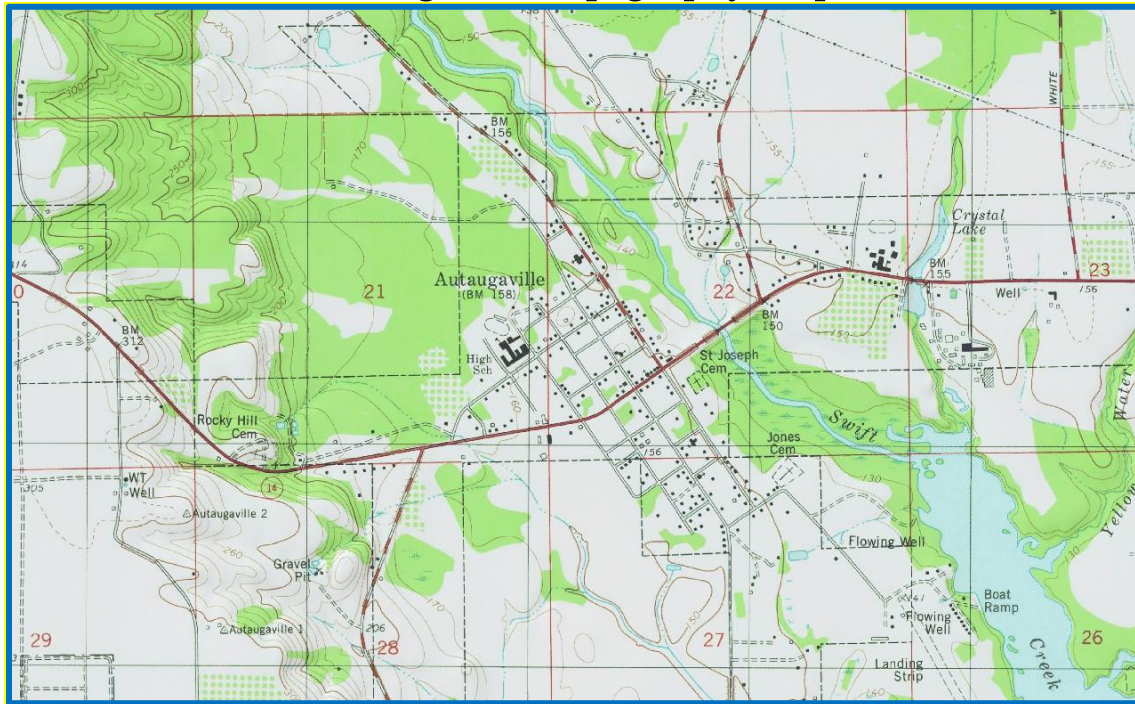
The Town of Autaugaville is located in the southern portion of Autauga County on the east and west sides of Highway 14, along the Alabama River. The Town has easy access to the Montgomery metropolitan area which is situated approximately 20 miles southeast, and via Highway 14 to the Cities of Prattville and Selma approximately 13 miles east and 24 miles west respectively. Additionally, interstates 65 and 85 provide Autaugaville with access to the Birmingham and Atlanta metro areas, 100 miles north and 185 miles east respectively.

Geology/Topography

Geology is the underlying rock formations of a place and is essential to the formation of soils, topography and slopes, and surface and ground water. The State of Alabama is divided into five major geologic provinces: Coastal Plain, Piedmont Valley and Range, Cumberland Plateau, Appalachian Highlands and Highland Rim. Each province has different rock formations, geologic structure, physiographic, and water bearing capacities. Autaugaville is located in a Coastal Plain region. A review of the Soil Survey of Autauga County, AL (USDA Soil Conservation Service), which covers the Town of Autaugaville, reveals that the Town’s soils are dominated by Congaree, Jones, Lucedale, and Mantachie Series.

Topography: Elevations in Autaugaville range from approximately 130 to 300 feet above sea level and can best be described as relatively flat in the central and eastern portions of Town, and a defined North-South ridgeline along the western portion of the Town. Usually topographical changes occur slowly over time due to erosion and weatherization; however, major topographical changes can occur more rapidly due to the inappropriate development of unsuitable areas. One such example is known as cut and fill, or site leveling. Leveling areas with steep slopes for development is expensive and usually has a negative impact on natural drainage systems, which can lead to flooding.

MAP 1 Autaugaville Topography Map



Source: www.topozone.com

Waterways/Flood Areas

The Town of Autaugaville is located in the southern section of Autauga County. It is bordered by the Alabama River. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Town has a total area of 7.8 square miles, of which 7.6 square miles is land and 0.2 square miles is water.

Important Definitions: The following terms are important to be aware of when considering approval of development in or near a wetlands area. Any development proposed in these areas should be carefully studied and the Town should consult with their engineer regarding necessary safeguards to be required as part of any such development approval.

Wetlands: Land areas where saturation with water is the primary factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of fauna and flora living within and on top of the soil. Their common theme is that soil in these areas are periodically saturated, or covered with water.

Emergent Wetland: A wetland habitat dominated by soft-stemmed herbaceous plants called emergent. Water levels can range from a few inches to a few feet. Emergent wetlands, which can occur in isolation or in association with other water bodies, include deep and shallow marshes and wet meadows.

Forested Wetland: A wetland where the soil is saturated and often inundated, and woody plants taller than 20 feet dominate the vegetation, e.g. red maple, tamarack. Water tolerant shrubs and saplings often form a second layer beneath the forest canopy, e.g. red maple saplings, highbush blueberry, with an herbaceous layer below, e.g. cinnamon fern, sensitive fern. Forested wetland are also referred to as wooded swamps.

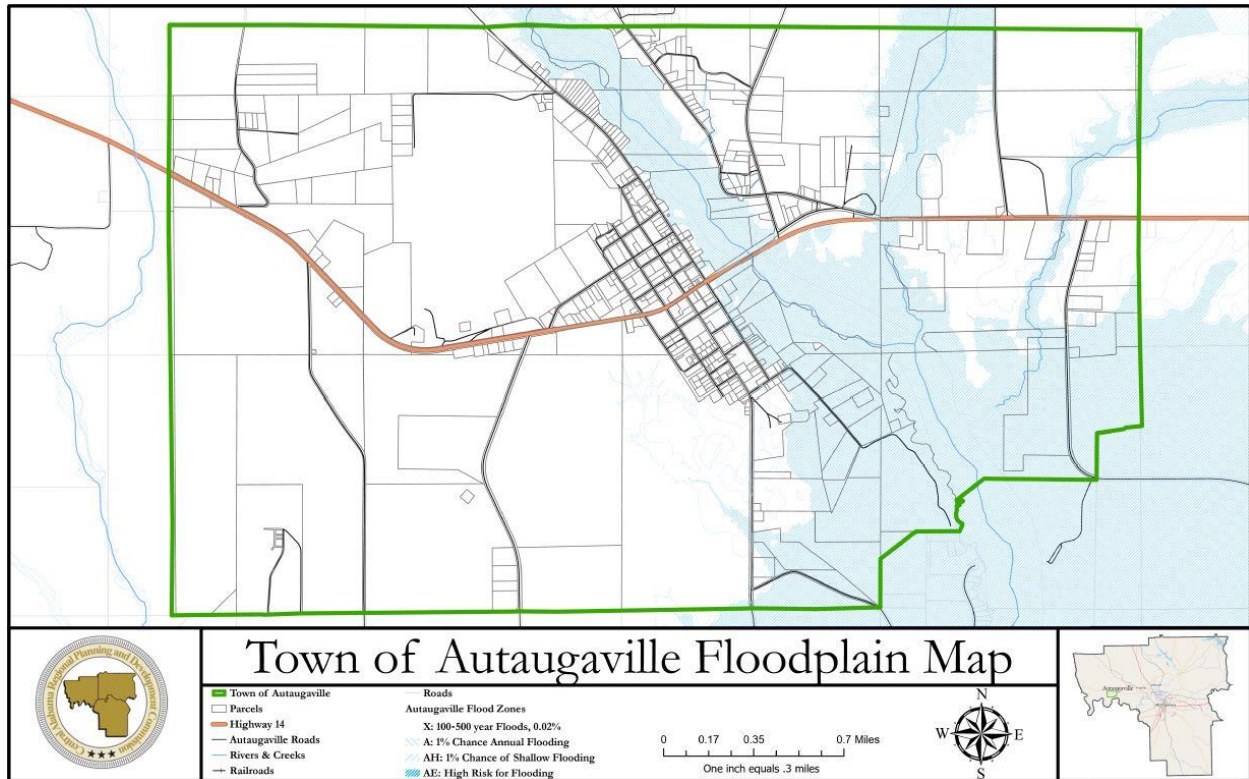
Hydrology and Flood Zones

Autaugaville is dissected by Swift Creek, one of the longest free-flowing creeks in Autauga County. The creek flows into a 296-acre lake that connects to the Alabama River. Boating and fishing are the most common recreational activities along the lake. Yellow Water Creek and Whitewater Creek are the other smaller streams that flow through the Town and feed into Crystal Lake,

Due to topography and the proximity of the town to the lake and river, Autaugaville is very prone to flooding. Areas within 1-mile of the lake and river, and areas within 1,000 feet of creeks and streams, are considered to be flood prone or high risk areas according to flood maps. In recent years, most of the flooding in Town can be attributed to standing water from heavy rain in low lying areas near creeks and the lake. Areas along Strickland's Landing, the west bank of the lake, and the river see the most flooding, which is a result of the overall increases in water level in the Alabama River.

Autaugaville is located within the Alabama River Watershed, a drainage basin where rainwater drains to a common destination. Surface water in Autaugaville flows in a generally southerly direction into the Alabama River, and several creeks and streams, including Swift Creek, drain the area. Floodplains run along each of these creeks and their branches, and in these areas development should be restricted. Construction in floodplains, particularly when wetlands are damaged or destroyed, can lessen the storage capacity of the floodplain thereby contributing to higher flood levels downstream, increased turbidity, and erosion problems. For these reasons the Town should place strict limitations on development in these areas particularly the 100-year floodplain. Encroachment into these areas should not be permitted without review and approval by a registered engineer certifying that the encroachment will not increase flood levels per FEMA regulations.

MAP 2 Autaugaville Flood Zone Map



Soils

Knowledge of the types of soil in an area has a strong effect on the suitability of a land use within an area. Soil types can impact building construction, storm water runoff, the location of septic systems, and other types of development. The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) provides classifications of soils that provide some degree of knowledge in regards to the limitations of soils as a planning tool. The following paragraphs describe the predominant soil units that occur in the Autaugaville area. Other soil types may also be dispersed throughout the Autaugaville area and should be verified before approval of heavy development. Below are the top four soils types in Autaugaville. Most of these soil types should be suitable for development, however, due to alluvial deposits over time, a full depth geotechnical analysis should be completed by a qualified engineer to further assess the structural demands of each site.

There are four primary types of soil within the Town's limits: Congaree, Jones, Lucedale, and Mantachie.

Congaree soil series consists of deep, well to moderately well drained, moderately permeable loamy soils that formed in fluvial sediments. Slopes range from 0 to 4 percent. Depth to bedrock is commonly more than 10 feet. Well to moderately well drained; slow surface runoff; moderate permeability. These soils flood for brief periods, during winter or spring. Most areas have been cleared and are used for growing corn, small grain, vegetables, pasture, and hay. Native vegetation is oak, hickory, gum, poplar, and loblolly pine.

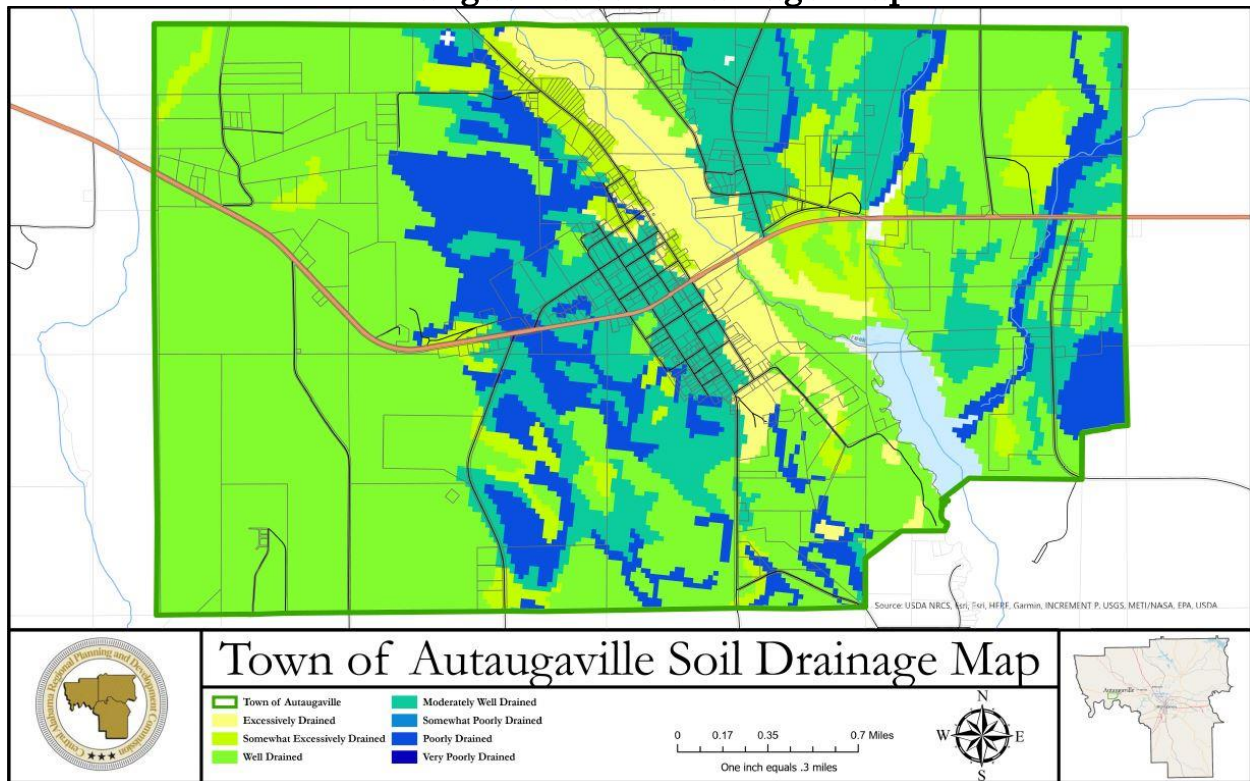
Jones soil series consists of deep, well drained, moderately rapidly permeable soils that formed in loamy marine sediments. These soils occur on uplands and side slopes of the Coastal Plain. Slopes range from 5 to 30 percent. Jones soils are on moderate to steep sloping uplands of the Coastal Plains. The soil formed in thick beds of unconsolidated sandy loams or loamy sands. Much of the soil is in mixed pine-oak forest. Many of the less sloping areas have been cleared and are being used for pastureland. Native vegetation consists of upland oak, longleaf, and loblolly pine and scattered hardwood vegetation was once the common in the area but they are uses to grown row crops, pasture, woodland, and wildlife.

Lucedale soil series consists of deep, well drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in loamy sediments. These are nearly level to strongly sloping soils in uplands of the Southern Coastal Plain. Slopes are from 0 to 15 percent. Thickness of the solum ranges from 60 inches to more than 80 inches. Most areas of Lucedale soils are cropped to cotton, soybeans, corn, and small grains. Some areas are used for growing pasture and hay. Principal vegetation of wooded areas is mixed hardwoods and longleaf, slash, and loblolly pines.

Mantachie soil series consists of very deep, somewhat poorly drained, moderately permeable soils on flood plains of the Southern Coastal Plain. Slope is dominantly less than 1 percent but ranges up to 3 percent. The thickness of the solum ranges from 30 to more than 60 inches. Mantachie soils are on flood plains of streams that drain areas of the Southern Coastal Plain. They formed in loamy alluvium. Somewhat poorly drained. Runoff is slow, and permeability is moderate. Many areas of Mantachie soils have been cleared and are used for growing cotton, soybeans, corn, small grains, pasture, and hay. Some areas are in bottomland hardwoods or in loblolly or slash pine plantations. Common trees are green ash, eastern cottonwood, cherrybark oak, water oak, willow oak, loblolly pine, sweetgum, and yellow-poplar. Mantachie soil encompasses approximately 55% of the Town's total land area and is predominately located in the middle of Town. Due to its poor drainage further development in areas with Mantachie soil should be strictly regulated and require detailed engineering and stormwater management drawings approved by the County and/or Town Engineer.

As indicated above, all development review should include a consideration of soils on the property and their suitability for the development type. In many instances accommodations can be made for unsuitable soils through on-site engineering. The Town should always consult with their engineers and County officials regarding development on sites with less than ideal soils and possible resolutions to development issues. More detailed soil survey information and maps can be found at the United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resource Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) website See Autaugaville's soil survey at (<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>).

MAP 3
Autaugaville Soil Drainage Map



Climate

Autaugaville lies within a humid subtropical climate zone characterized by hot, humid summers and generally mild to cool winters. On average, there are 213 days of sunshine and 69 days of measurable precipitation, overwhelming in the form of rain, with the average annual rainfall of approximately 54 inches. The average annual temperatures range from a high of 92 degrees in July to a low of 35 degrees in January.

Air Quality

The Town of Autaugaville continues to maintain excellent air quality and is under no compliance order with federal ambient air quality standards. It is, however, interesting to note, that On December 14, 2012, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) significantly tightened the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for PM_{2.5}, revising the standard from 15 to 12 ug/m³ (micrograms per cubic meter), averaged over a year. Upon finalizing a new standard, the Clean Air Act requires all counties in the U.S. to be formally designated by EPA as either an “attainment” area, (in compliance of the new standard) or a “non-attainment area (not meeting the standard). On March 3, 2014, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management sent a letter to EPA stating that based on recent ambient air monitoring data, all monitors in the State of Alabama meet the new annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS. This letter recommended to EPA that the entire State of Alabama be designated as “attainment” for the new standard. *(From: ADEM Memorandum dated For Immediate Release: Wednesday, March 12, 2014).*

Resource Management & Protection

If the Town desires to improve the protection and management of its natural systems there are a number of approaches from which to choose. The Town may want to consider including environmental performance standards, such as best management practices and stormwater impact studies, as part of their requirements for site plan review in their zoning ordinance. This should be done for both new development and redevelopment, not only to ensure compliance with state and federal standards, but also to address the protection and management of important natural resources. Through the application of reasonable standards limiting the development of floodplains, wetlands, and streamside steep slopes, important resources could be preserved.

Standards for the construction and maintenance of stormwater management facilities would ensure that flooding levels are kept in check and that the water quality of stormwater discharges is addressed. Of major concern is the design, quality and upkeep of existing stormwater management facilities.

As new development occurs, the Town should institute and enforce post construction maintenance agreements on private stormwater best management practices to ensure that they are performing as designed.

There are also softer techniques for natural resource protection that may be employed, such as educational programs and programs to recognize private environmental initiatives. Awards programs are also a way to promote green

development. These programs could be used to highlight a variety of topics including the eradication of invasive plant species, developments that incorporate green building techniques, water conservation initiatives, and various efforts to protect stream valleys and woodlands.

Finally, the Town itself could become actively involved in natural resource protection and management. The Town should incorporate green development techniques such as well-landscaped public facilities, use of bioswales and properly maintained stormwater management and other public facilities. Additionally, when considering development approval, the Town should strive to protect wooded areas, steep slopes, and floodplains to the extent feasible. These not only serve as good examples of best management practices but also provide visually pleasing amenities for the community.

The exploration of a greenway program, connecting various community amenities, such as town hall/library, commercial areas, and parks, is another way for Autaugaville to demonstrate its support of environmentally friendly development practices. Such a program should promote the purchase, and accept donations, of open space for resource protection along streams.

Understanding the Value of Natural Systems

There is an avid interest among citizens in improving the environmental quality and protecting natural and agricultural resources. The first step in protecting these resources is to understand their value in providing a healthy environment. Town officials and citizens could benefit from more comprehensive information about effective



environmental protection techniques. Town staff and public officials should be kept abreast of environmental trends and practices through training, conferences, workshops, and other educational forums. The Town should consider establishing a panel of local experts to serve on a Natural Resources Advisory Committee, and/or a Stormwater Advisory Committee, to evaluate and comment on natural resource-related policies.

A few of the resources available to Autaugaville and her citizens to help provide environmental education are:

- **Legacy**, located in Montgomery County, whose mission is “To be Alabama’s primary source for science-based, environmental information and education,

while cultivating a legacy of environmental stewardship for generations to come.” www.legacyenvd.org

- **The Environmental Education Association of Alabama (EEAA)**, located at Joe Wheeler State Park in Rogersville, Alabama, designed to “enhance the ability of formal and informal educators to connect people to the natural world in order to foster responsible stewardship.” www.eeaa.us
- **Project Learning Tree**, a program through the Alabama Forestry Service, with an office located in Autaugaville, is an environmental education program that presents educators with a balanced approach to teaching our children about our forests, forestry, and the environment. www.plt.org
- **The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)** also provides occasional workshops and training materials with regard to stormwater management approaches and regulations. www.adem.state.al.us

A Regional Approach

Since nature does not respect political boundaries, regional cooperation is essential in addressing environmental problems and managing natural systems. The expansion of existing partnerships should be encouraged to address regional environmental issues such as stormwater, greenways, scenic and agricultural resources, water and air quality, and invasive species. Collaboration between state, county and local agencies, local and regional environmental groups, and colleges and universities may prove effective in addressing resource protection and management.

Regional stormwater management efforts are good examples of environmental planning that extend across jurisdictions and utilizes grant funds from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). The Town should consider pursuing a variety of funding opportunities to monitor and manage environmental resources.

Autaugaville is very proud of the large agricultural presence in their community. In an effort to make the most of these relationships, consideration should be given to forming an alliance with community agriculture leaders to foster preservation and education regarding this important element of the Town’s character.

Recommendations:

- Place developmental limitations on flood prone areas particularly those located in the 100-year floodplain. *(Waterways/Flood Areas)*
- The Town should always consult with their engineers and County officials regarding development on sites with less-than-ideal soils and for possible resolutions to development issues. *(Soils)*
- All development review should include a consideration of soils and their suitability for the type of development proposed. *(Soils)*
- The Town should institute and enforce post construction maintenance agreements on private stormwater best management practices to ensure that they are performing as designed. *(Resource Management & Protection)*
- Promote the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and consider offering incentives for the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites. *(Resource Management & Protection)*
- Employ educational programs and recognition of private environmental initiatives to encourage natural resource protection efforts. *(Resource Management & Protection)*
- The Town should become actively involved in natural resource protection and management by:
 - Incorporating landscaping, bioswales and proper maintenance of stormwater management and other public facilities;
 - Striving to protect woodland areas, steep slopes and floodplains, to the extent feasible, as part of overall development approval process;
 - Exploration of a greenway program which connects various community amenities/activities.*(Resource Management & Protection)*
- Encourage the protection of Autaugaville’s natural and agricultural resources by:
 - Providing Town officials, staff and citizens with comprehensive information about the town’s environment and effective techniques for its protection.

- Supporting the attendance of public officials and staff at locally available training opportunities regarding environmental and agricultural protection practices.
(Understanding the Value of Natural Systems)
- Encourage the expansion of existing partnerships to address regional environmental issues such as stormwater, greenways, scenic and agricultural resources, etc. *(A Regional Approach)*
- Pursue a variety of funding opportunities for the monitoring and management of environmental resources. *(A Regional Approach)*

ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS:

Goal #1: Preserve and Enhance the Town’s Natural Environment.

Policy: Developmental regulations will provide options to protect wetlands, streams, Lake Frontage and other environmentally sensitive areas.

Objectives:

- Require developers to identify environmentally sensitive areas on site plans as part of review process.
- Carry out a regular review of developmental regulations for compatibility, implementation, and effectiveness.
- Adopt a zoning ordinance to include standards for protection of environmentally sensitive areas.

Goal #2: Increase accessibility to the Town’s natural environment.

Policy: Expand the amount of open space, trails, walkways and passive recreation activities.

Objectives:

- Explore connecting significant areas of public access to one another through a system of walking trail and sidewalks.
- Work with private developers to promote public open spaces within their developments, trails through the development, or access to waterfronts where applicable.

Policy: Work with Agricultural Community to find opportunities for public engagement in the Industry.

Goal #3: Encourage development that is compatible with the natural environment.

Policy: Improve the quality and compatibility of land uses and development.

Objectives:

- Ensure that developmental regulations are compatible with land uses as part of developing new zoning standards.

- Encourage council and planning commission members to become familiar with County subdivision regulations to promote uniform development standards for the Town.
- Require new development to implement Storm Water Management techniques, erosion controls measures and other environmental protection best practices.

Policy: ***Promote development that is sensitive to the natural environment.***

Objectives:

- Work with developers or private property owners through the site planning processes to take advantage of and work with the natural terrain and the property’s environmental features when planning developments.
- Encourage the use of rain gardens, bio-swales and other nontraditional forms of stormwater retention/detention.

Goal #4: Improve the visual appearance of the Town.

Policy: ***Work to enhance Town gateways and public facilities through landscaping and maintenance.***

Objectives:

- Implement landscaping improvement demonstration projects at Town gateways and other appropriate locations including signage.
- Provide proper maintenance of Town landscaping projects.
- Prepare and implement landscape plans for Town existing facilities, streetscapes and development projects.
- Include local garden clubs, County Extension Master Gardener Programs, etc. in the planning, installation and maintaining of Town landscaped areas.

Policy: Continue to promote and expand proper private property maintenance and upkeep.

Objectives:

- Fully enforce current nuisance and property maintenance ordinances including:
 - Clearance and removal of dilapidated structures.
 - Lot maintenance, i.e., cutting of grass, removal of dead trees, clearance of abandoned/junk vehicles and equipment, etc.
 - Encourage individual/organizational litter pickup efforts such as an adopt-a-road program.

Policy: Continue and enhance the current Town Clean-up Campaigns.

Objectives:

- Fully engage all communities, neighborhoods, civic organizations, businesses and individuals in clean-up days.
- Support a “No Littering” educational campaign.

CHAPTER III: Economic Development



Introduction

Economic development is an essential activity of local governments. As part of this activity, local governments act to make local markets work more efficiently through the provision of infrastructure, tax collection and regulation of land uses, buildings, and activities. Economic development involves public sector collaboration with private entities to promote and improve local economies. Successful economic development requires cooperation among governments, businesses, educational institutions, and civic organizations.

In today's economies, businesses and industries have a wide range of choices in which to locate. As a result, in order to attract those businesses, a community must capitalize on local assets, such as a skilled workforce, quality transportation resources, telecommunications services, good climate; proximity to cultural, educational, natural, and recreational resources, and availability of attractive housing and retail opportunities. Many of these assets are interconnected. For example, a quality public education system is an essential prerequisite for a skilled workforce. The importance of Autauga County Public Schools, as well as the close proximity of a large number of colleges and technical schools within driving distance of Autaugaville, cannot be understated as a means of maintaining a skilled workforce.

The goals of an economic development program include a combination of job creation, job retention, tax-base creation, increasing property values, wealth retention, reducing poverty, economic stability, and economic self-sufficiency. A community whose economic development objectives complement those of the surrounding localities will have a stronger base to attract new business and retain existing businesses.

Existing Conditions

The median household income in Autaugaville increased 42.5% between 2000 and 2019 from \$22,563 to \$32,159 (2019 ACS estimate). During this same timeframe, households with incomes of \$100,000 to \$149,999 grew 450%, while households with incomes of less than \$10,000 decreased about 31%. All households with incomes of at least \$10,000 experienced double-digit percent changes. The income range from \$150,000 to \$199,999 experienced a 100% negative percentage change of from one household to zero households in 2019. However, those in the \$200,000+ range

increased by 3, indicating that the previous range could have been affected by a salary increase.

Based on an average annual population growth of 10.7% from 2000-2019, and annual growth in total households of approximately 60% since 2000, Autaugaville should continue to see moderate growth in the future. This growth is of course dependent on a strong economy and access to quality jobs, excellent education opportunities, and improving quality of life amenities offered by the Town.

TABLE 8							
Autaugaville Household Income							
Income	2000	2010	% Change	2015	% Change from 2010	2019	% Change from 2000
Total households	277	251	-9.4%	462	84.1%	444	60.3%
Less than \$10,000	70	46	-34.3%	75	63.0%	48	-31.4%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	41	24	-41.5%	83	245.8%	51	24.4%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	47	42	-10.6%	76	81.0%	28	-40.4%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	21	17	-19.0%	37	117.6%	112	433.3%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	40	41	2.5%	56	36.6%	93	132.5%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	30	48	60.0%	75	56.3%	46	53.3%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	20	15	-25.0%	42	180.0%	38	90.0%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	4	14	250.0%	18	28.6%	22	450.0%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1	4	300.0%	0	-100.0%	0	-100.0%
\$200,000 or more	3	0	-100.0%	0	-	6	100.0%
Median household income (\$)	\$22,563	\$33,750	49.6%	\$24,833	-26.4%	\$32,159	42.5%
Mean household income (\$)	\$38,682	\$40,843	5.6%	\$36,815	-9.9%	\$48,553	25.5%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

In recent years a few new commercial developments have occurred in Autaugaville, particularly the MRaine Industries bottling plant on County Road 165 and the Dollar General on State Highway 14. In addition to attempting to recruit new commercial or industrial investment, the Town should make every effort to support existing businesses. This should be done through the efforts of the Town leadership and the Prattville-Autauga Chamber of Commerce.

Business, Industry and Employment Profile

Autaugaville is a very small community with significant ties to its agricultural base. Additionally, there are a variety of small businesses in Town that provide goods and services to citizens and visitors. Some of the business and industry currently located in Autaugaville consist of:

- **Autauga Farming Company:** is a multi-generational family farm, established in 1919, located in Autaugaville. Autauga Farming Company farms crops including cotton, feed grains, seed crops, pecans, hay and cattle in Autauga and Montgomery Counties. Autauga Farming Company **employs about 15** individuals.
- **Autauga Pharmacy:** is a local pharmacy and boutique shop located on State Highway 14. Autauga Pharmacy serves the greater Autaugaville area for all their prescription needs. It has been open since 2012 and **employs 4** individuals.
- **Autauga Place Event Center:** is a historic home built in 1896 in central Autaugaville that has been converted into an event center and wedding venue. Autauga Place has been open as an event center since 2009 and **employs 4** individuals.
- **Dollar General:** is a major retailer that **employs 6 - 8** individuals at the Autaugaville location. The Autaugaville Dollar General opened in 2014 and provides general household and convenience merchandise.
- **Autauga Medical Clinic:** is a regional healthcare provider that has a location in Autaugaville. Autauga Medical Clinic specializes in Family Medical to the greater Autaugaville area. The Autaugaville location **employs 2** physicians and approximately **15** support staff. Ivey Creek Family Care opened the Autaugaville location in 2007.
- **Shell Gas Station (Country Kitchen and Deli):** is a recently opened gas station with food and a seating area on the inside. It is located at 104 S Taylor Street, which is along Highway 14 across from the Fire Station.
- **Minnow Bucket Gas Station and Bait Shop & Ken's Deer and Wildlife Processing:** is a local convenience store, bait and tackle shop, gas station and wildlife processing business located on State Highway 14. The Minnow Bucket caters primarily to the fishing, hunting, and recreational customers in the Autaugaville area. The Minnow Bucket has been in business since 1975 and

Ken's Deer and Wildlife Processing has been in business since 1995, together these businesses jointly **employ 9** individuals.

- **MRaine Industries (MRI):** is a local bottled water distribution company located on County Road 165 that bottles and distributes Eleven86 Water. Water is sourced from the local artesian aquifer and is reported to be one of the "Purest Water Sources on the Planet." MRaine Industries started production in 2018 and **employs 10** individuals at the bottling plant.
- **Town of Autaugaville:** A municipal governmental entity that **employs 8** full-time and part-time individuals, plus **approximately 15** volunteer firefighters throughout Autaugaville. The Autaugaville Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1973.

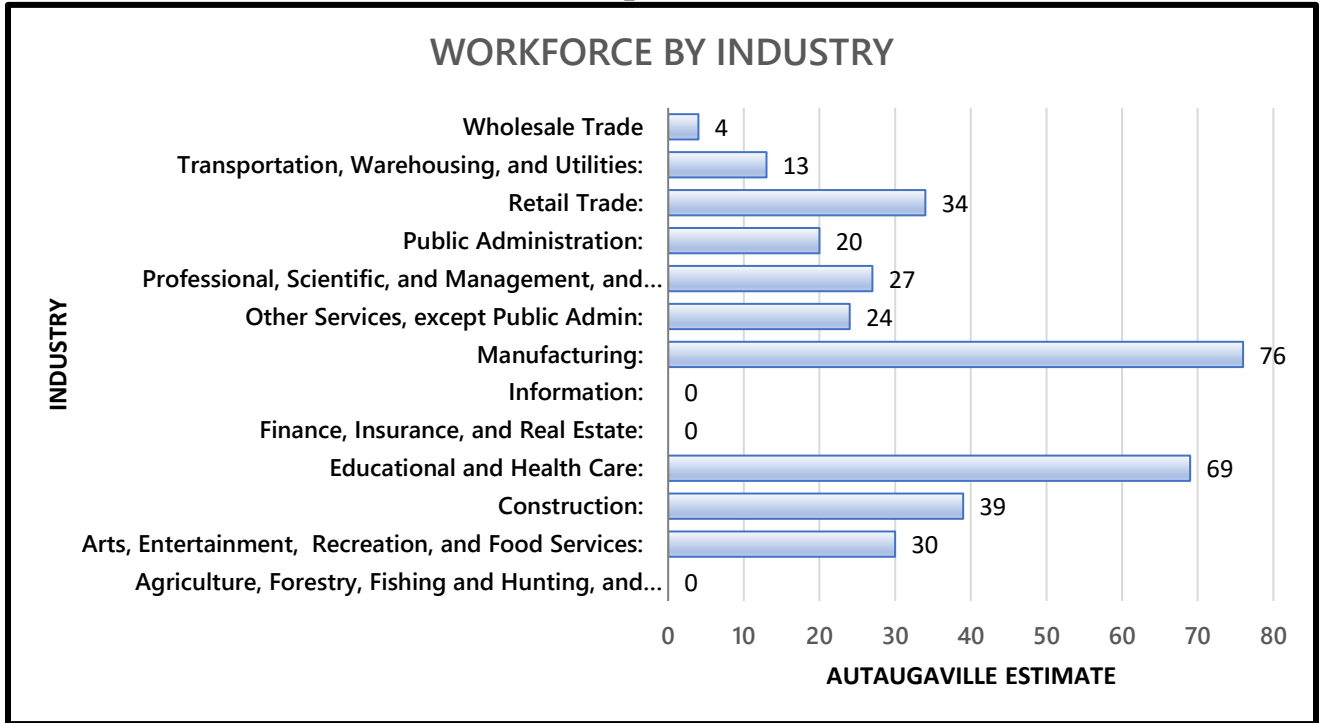
Autaugaville has approximately 15 business, government, and medical establishments within the municipal limits.

Workforce

The US Census defines the workforce (labor force) as those 16 years of age and older who are employed, looking for employment, or are in the armed forces. The 2017 American Community Survey estimated Autaugaville's labor force at 336, approximately 37.2% of the total population. This is a comparatively small number based on the total population of Autaugaville, this could reflect the number of retirees and youth within the community. By comparison, Alabama's labor force is 52.3%. The largest employment sectors are manufacturing, educational services, healthcare, and construction.

According to the US Census, Autaugaville residents have a mean travel time to work of 36.9 minutes, thirteen minutes more than the State of Alabama mean of 24.7 minutes. This can be attributed to the Town's rural location, the small number of employers located within the communities and the wage rates available to citizens in close proximity to where they reside.

Graph 2

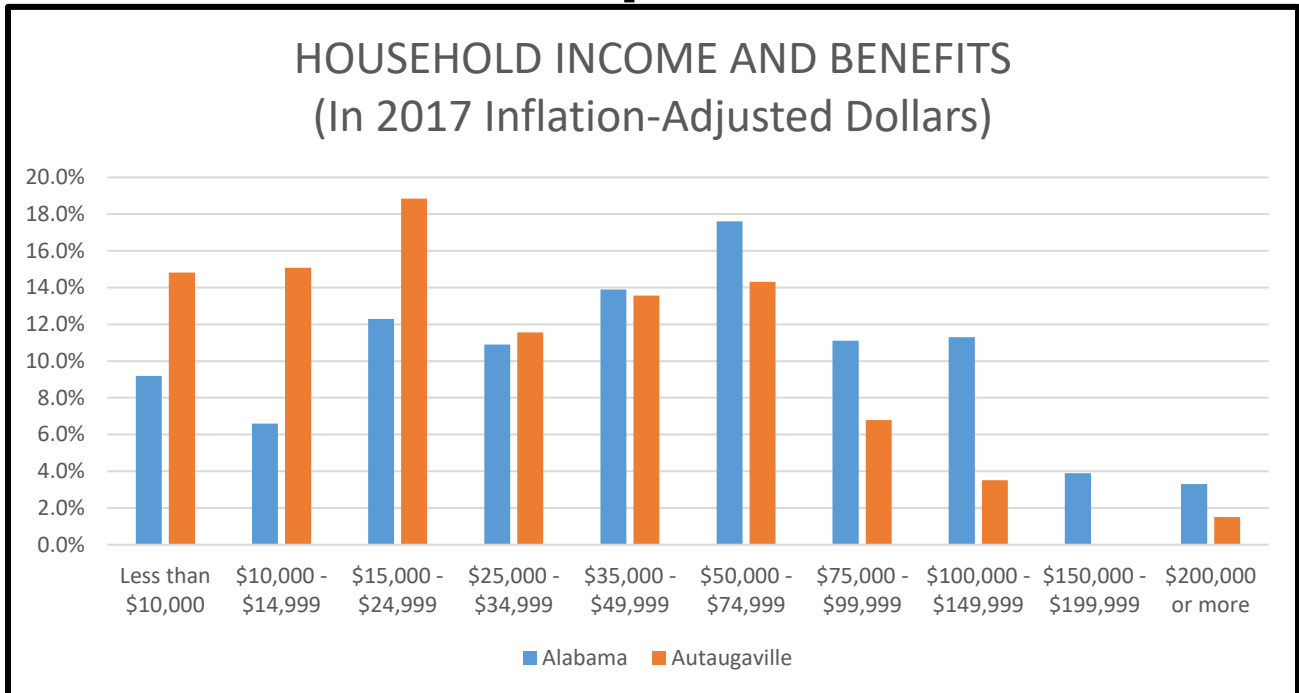


Source: US Census and *American Community Survey

Income by Household

Based on the chart below, Autaugaville's income ratios skew to lower incomes compared with the State average of household income. Autaugaville's median and average household incomes are \$25,833 and \$50,644, respectively. Autaugaville has proportionally more low-income households, \$0 to \$24,999 as compared to the State of Alabama's which are \$46,472 and \$64,476, respectively. In addition, the Town's average resident retirement income is \$21,080 and per capita income is \$21,719.

Graph 3



Source: US Census and *American Community Survey

Historic Preservation and Redevelopment

Autaugaville lacks a traditional downtown core, the primary commercial core is along State Highway 14, where most of the Town’s businesses are located. While a number of historic structures are scattered throughout town there are no real significant historic neighborhoods. Of particular note is an area along Dutch Bend Street between Autauga Street and North Pickett Street, which was nominated in 1998 for inclusion on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage.

Historic preservation is an important asset in many communities and can contribute to attracting visitors thereby impacting the economies. However, without community investment in its few historic assets Autaugaville has little chance of capitalizing on this area of economic development.

Autaugaville should instead look at making improvements to its more contemporary structures and housing stock, in the form of housing rehab projects and encouraging community reinvestment in private property.

Waterfront Access & Tourism

There is a substantial amount of creek frontage, within Autaugaville's corporate limits, on Swift Creek and water frontage on Gun Island Chute leading to the Alabama River; however, there is limited public access. The Creek and River are large economic development assets and should be heavily promoted as a tourist destination.

There are two public access boat landings just outside Autaugaville town limits, Swift Creek Boat Landing at Swift Creek Park and Strickland Landing. The Town neither owns nor manages either of these accesses. Should an opportunity become available for the Town to acquire one of these accesses, or to purchase land for the construction of an additional access, Town leaders should give serious consideration to making such an acquisition. A publicly owned water access would provide the Town with significant revenue generating opportunities.

Business Retention & Development

As with most communities, economic development is one of Autaugaville's priorities. Closely related priorities are increasing the businesses and services offered, improved workforce development, and the enhancement of recreational opportunities throughout the Town. In a community like Autaugaville with available vacant land and few topographical constraints, redevelopment of previously developed sites and underutilized or vacant buildings are important considerations as they relate to economic development.

Current economic development efforts should be focused on retention and expansion of existing businesses throughout the Town, as well as attracting businesses that are a good fit for the community, such as a bank or grocery store. Continued efforts to improve existing structures, and redevelopment and/or elimination of blighted commercial and residential areas, will help make Autaugaville more attractive to potential businesses.

Partners in economic development efforts continue to be the major industry sectors in the Town, as well as other smaller businesses, Alabama Department of Commerce, Central Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission, Prattville Area Chamber of Commerce, Alabama Power, Central Alabama Electric Cooperative and Town government. In addition to coordinating with economic development entities throughout the region, the Town should emphasize the importance of coordinating economic development with the Town's long-range planning and community development efforts.

Areas along major roadways such as Highways 14 should be considered prime business and employment corridors. Care should be taken when planning for these areas to encourage the most appropriate land uses based on the type of businesses anticipated, and the traffic they might generate.

The presence of large tracts of land within Autaugaville could provide opportunities for sighting new industrial development. Concentrating industrial development into “parks” allows for more efficient accommodation of their unique infrastructure requirements and the movement of industrial traffic, both employee and transport trucks, can be handled more safely.

There are three levels of market-based retail: neighborhood, community, and regional.

Neighborhood Businesses would provide services to the immediate adjacent residential developments and would allow patrons to either walk or drive a short distance. These businesses should be low intensity activities that have minimal impact on adjacent residential uses.

Community Commercial will feature those businesses that will attract customers from throughout the Town; a customer might drive across town to avail themselves of the products and services of these retailers.

Regional Retailers are the largest of the three and will attract customers from throughout the region, well beyond the Town limits.

The Town should focus its attention primarily on neighborhood and community level businesses.

Autaugaville leadership should express its concern for the economic health of the community through its economic development programs. The promotion of business and industrial retention and investment, along with jobs retention and creation, supports the Town’s tax base, increases property values, and provides work opportunities for its citizens. This in turn helps reduce poverty, and moves the Town toward economic stability and lasting self-sufficiency.

Economic Development Recommendations:

- Explore how the Town can capitalize on local assets. (*Introduction*)
- Focused on supporting existing businesses and encouraging their retention and expansion. (*Existing Conditions/Business Retention & Development*)
- Work to attract and recruit businesses that are a good fit for the community and that fill voids in goods and services not currently provided locally. (*Business Retention & Development*)
- Continue efforts to improve existing structures, and redevelopment and/or elimination of blighted commercial and residential areas/structures. (*Business Retention & Development*)
- Place emphasis on the importance of coordinating economic development with the Town's long-range planning and community development efforts. (*Business Retention & Development*)
- Areas along major roadways (Highway 14) should be considered prime business and employment corridors. (*Business Retention & Development*)
- Focus attention primarily on attracting neighborhood and community level businesses. (*Business Retention & Development*)
- Consider improvements to public access to the Gun Island Chute, Alabama River, and other water recreation in the area. (*Waterfront Access and Tourism*)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Goal #1: Retain Existing Businesses.

Policy: Promote local business expansion opportunities.

Objectives:

- Provide information on state and federal programs available for local business expansion.
- Be a conduit of information sharing between businesses.
- Build productive and collaborative relationships with existing businesses.
- Improve interactions with businesses.
- Annually (or more frequently) recognize an existing business for its positive impact on the community.

Goal #2: Promote Tourism

Policy: Capitalize on Town’s geographic assets to encourage recreational tourism.

Objectives:

- Market the Town’s location along the Alabama River as a prime destination for recreational activities.
- Promote Autaugaville’s “Swift Creek” portion of the Alabama Birding Trail.
- Promote and hosting fishing events and expanding opportunities to grow these type events.

Policy: Develop educational marketing materials on Autaugaville’s activities, special events and facilities.

Policy: Work with area Chamber of Commerce to promote Autaugaville’s tourism opportunities.

GOAL #3: Strengthen Autaugaville Economically and Fiscally through the Pursuit of a more Self-contained Economy

Policy: Identify target business development (i.e., office complexes, retail, etc.) that fit Autaugaville's market

Policy: Strengthen relationships with County Commission, Area Chamber of Commerce, ALDOT, ADECA, CARPDC(EDD), and State Representatives

Policy: Continue to support and begin requiring business licenses for home-based businesses that do not impact the residential neighborhoods where they are located

CHAPTER IV: Land Use



Existing Land Use

Autaugaville is comprised of approximately 7.6 square miles or approximately 4,864 acres. Existing uses of land can be divided into the broad land use classifications of residential, commercial, institutional, industrial, utilities, recreational, mining, agricultural and undeveloped. These land use classifications and their areas have not changed significantly in Autaugaville since previous land-use data was collected in 2009. A brief description of these land use classifications is provided below. This information is based on the data gathered from the 2009 Comprehensive Plan and field surveys conducted to update that data as part of this Comprehensive Plan. It should be noted that a land use classification should not be confused with a zoning classification as they are not necessarily the same.

Land use classifications depicted on *Map 4 – Existing Land Use* are defined below and a narrative description is provided of the existing land use patterns found in Autaugaville. ****NOTE: Acreages and percentages shown below include areas inside the Town limits however, the Existing Land Use Map may also incorporate areas outside the Town limits for future planning efforts.***

Residential. This land use classification is defined as single-family homes, multi-family dwellings, manufactured homes and housing for the elderly at a variety of densities. Residential land use represents approximately 752 acres or fifteen percent (15%) of the total land area in Autaugaville.



Existing Residential Land Use

Agricultural/Forestry. This land use classification is defined as establishments that grow crops, raise animals, harvest timber and harvest fish and other animals from a farm, ranch, greenhouse, nursery, orchard, hatchery or their natural habitats. Agricultural/Forestry land use represents approximately 3,885 acres or seventy-five percent (75 %) of the total land area in Autaugaville. Included in this number may be land that has not been associated with any particular use (i.e., undeveloped) but

may be extensions of farm, forest, or even residential or commercial, land that has not entered active use.

Commercial. This land use classification is defined by a wide range of establishments such as retail sales and service; automobile sales or service; finance and insurance; business, professional, scientific and technical services; food services and personal services. Commercial land uses are the smallest group represented in this plan and make up approximately 9.98 acres or .18% of the total land area in Autaugaville.



Industrial. This land use classification is defined as manufacturing establishments such as plants, factories and mills that employ power driven machines, materials handling equipment and workers who create new products by hand and mining. Differentiating industrial from commercial can sometimes be confusing. Industrial land use represents approximately 41 acres or .82% of the total land area in Autaugaville.



Differentiating industrial from commercial can sometimes be confusing. Industrial land use represents approximately 41 acres or .82% of the total land area in Autaugaville.

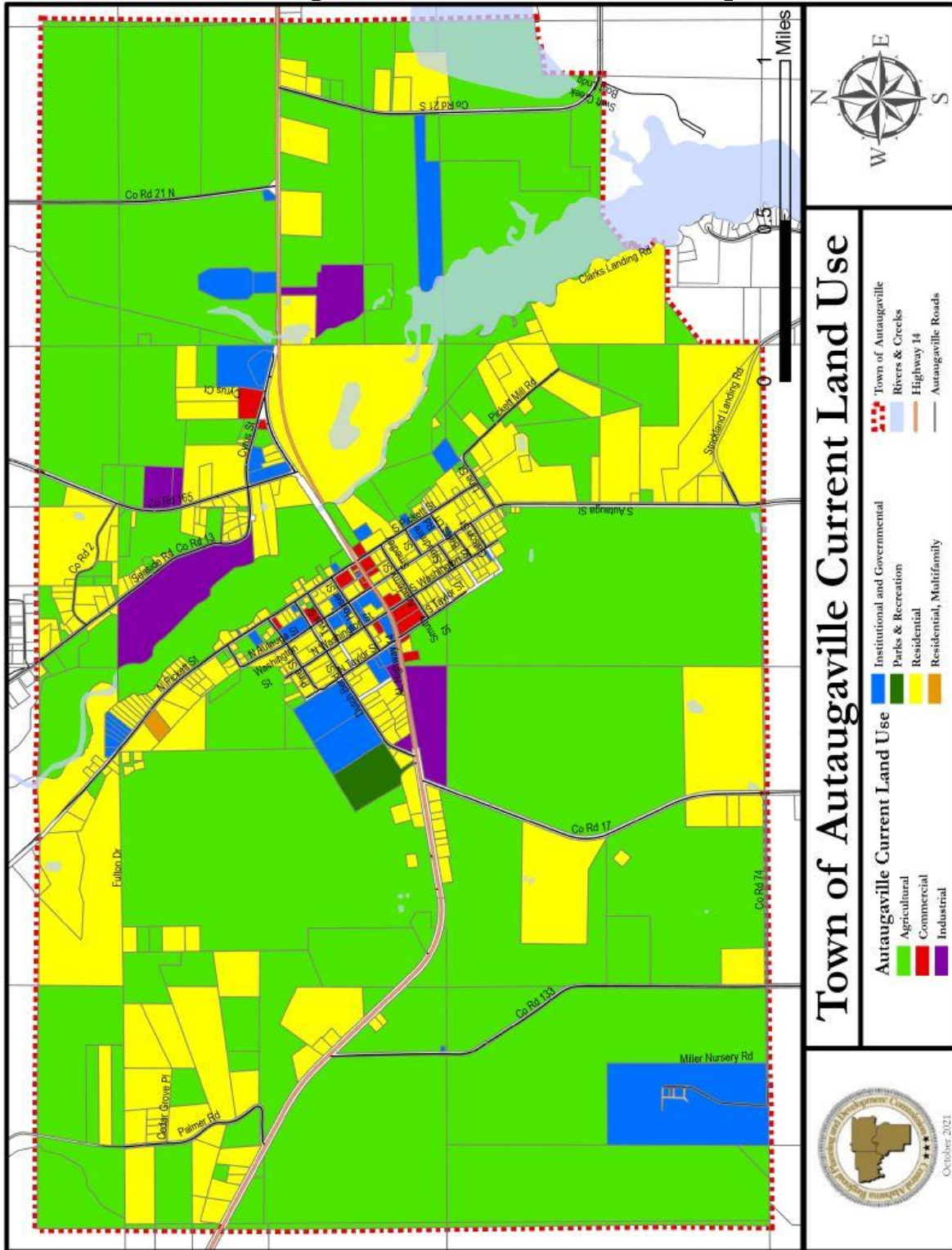
Institutional. This land use classification is defined as establishments used by public agencies of federal, state and local government such as administrative buildings, fire stations, police stations, public utilities and post offices; educational facilities such as public schools, colleges, vocational schools and libraries, civic and religious facilities and cemeteries. Institutional land use represents approximately 137 acres or 2.76 percent of the total land area in Autaugaville.



Recreational. This land use classification is defined as establishments that operate facilities or provide services for a variety of cultural, entertainment and recreational functions such as ball fields, active and passive parks, golf courses, wildlife management areas and museums. Recreational land use represents approximately 166 acres or 3.33% of the total land area of Autaugaville*.



MAP 4 Autaugaville Current Land Use Map



Future Land Use

As the landscape of Autaugaville continues to change between updates of the Comprehensive Plan, so too will the Future Land Use Plan need to change to reflect newly annexed areas, as well as changes to development and transportation patterns. As stated earlier “Land Use” is not zoning, and therefore it should be understood that all “Future Land Use” concepts are considered fluid in that they are recommendations of the general areas of such proposed land uses. Thus the reason for the chiefly irregular pattern of land uses shown on *Map 5 - Future Land Use* as opposed to the *Map 4 - Current Land Use* which specifically follows property boundaries.

The future land use concept for Autaugaville is shown in the following *Map 5 – “Future Land Use”* and is roughly based on the some of the same land use classifications as the existing land use map including commercial, residential, institutional, industrial, and agricultural. The future land use map depicts the Town’s vision for future growth and development in Autaugaville over the next 20 years. The Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council should refer to this Plan as they make land use decisions to ensure that the spirit and intent of the Comprehensive Plan is followed.

Additionally, as development, redevelopment and rezoning to accommodate the Future Land Use Concept are considered, the Planning Commission and Council should take into account the availability of adequate infrastructure including both utilities and transportation networks.

Descriptions of the various future land use classifications, patterns and key concepts are discussed below.

Residential Land Uses. Areas represented as residential on the *Future Land Use Map* encompass all possible types of residential development. Town zoning policies will determine where various development densities are appropriate. Residential areas are intended to provide the continuation of stable, healthy residential environments in all their forms. Additionally, these areas will encourage the development of appropriate, and discourage the encroachment of inappropriate, commercial development through the implementation of master plan developments.

Commercial Land Uses. Should be located in the core of Autaugaville along Highways 14. Strip patterns of commercial development should be strongly discouraged in favor of development patterns with visually pleasing layouts and architectural elements. In this way Autaugaville can preserve and in some instances reestablish the small-town atmosphere that is so strongly valued by her citizens.

Institutional Land Uses. Due to their nature and variety, institutional uses are shown scattered throughout the Town. The largest pockets are concentrated north of Highway 14 near Town Hall and Autaugaville School. Other areas include the site of the Fitzpatrick Arena, Autaugaville Fire Station, and area churches. Uses such as cemeteries, public schools, and fire and police stations are also included in this land use category.

Industrial Land Uses. Areas of industrial land uses have been shown on the Future Land Use Map as locating in Southeast Autaugaville along Highway 14. This pattern of land use provides the most desirable access to the Highway 14 corridor to transport goods to the east and west to major distribution and transportation corridors.

Agricultural Land Uses. Large areas of agricultural land uses surround the Town of Autaugaville serving as a greenbelt to protect the gateways to the Town and preserving the rural landscape. Those areas closest to the Town limits are the most likely to annex as the Town grows, and future versions of the Comprehensive Plan should reflect the Town’s desires regarding development patterns in these areas.

Gateways. A Town’s entry points or “gateways” serve as the community’s front door, establishing first impressions and reinforcing images and perceptions of



Autaugaville’s character, quality of life and vitality. Gateways are currently marked on Highway 14 East and Highway 14 West at the edge of the Town limits. Because gateways are more than just a “welcome” sign, the Town should prepare an evaluation of the surrounding visual quality and entry experience at each gateway and plan for appropriate

improvements. Such improvements could include updated entry signage, landscape plantings, screening of unsightly views, and new development and redevelopment recommendations.

Other Future Land Use Considerations

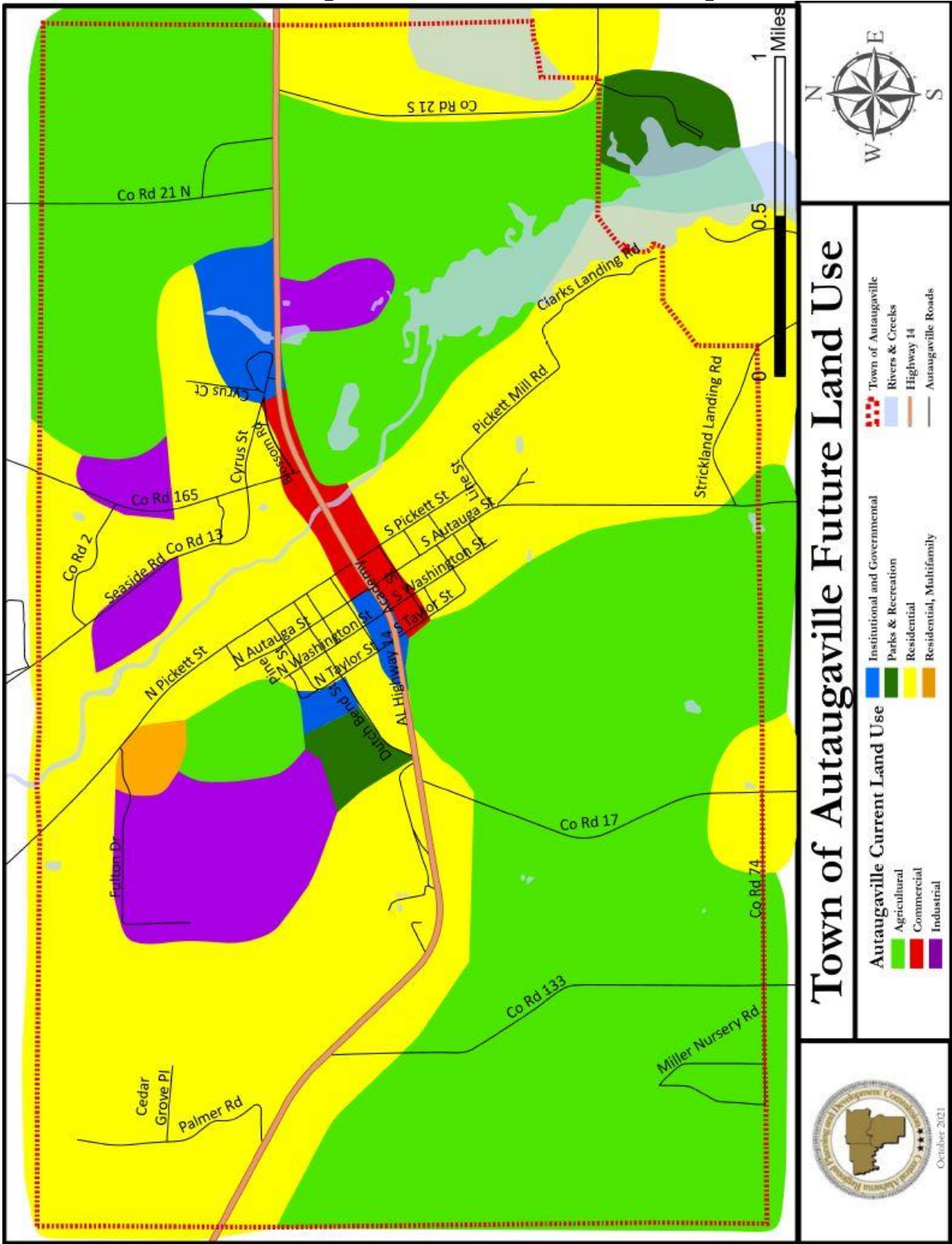
Neighborhood Areas

Autaugaville’s residential neighborhoods face the same challenges as many others across the state. Some struggle to attract reinvestment, others are in need of rehabilitation and yet others confront preservation issues. In some cases, all three are issues. Areas were observed that are suffering from poorly maintained,

deteriorating, or vacant homes. In many of these there are signs of rehabilitation being attempted; however, owners who do reinvest are confronted by abandoned and dilapidated structures surrounding them which in turn negatively impacts their property values. It is important that the Town exercise its authority to repair, or to demolish, unsafe structures under the Code of Alabama 11-53B.

While there are a number of neighborhoods that require rehabilitation, Autaugaville also has areas of well established, and new, housing development that are in excellent condition. In these areas it is important to continue maintenance and upgrades to their supporting infrastructure and to monitor them for signs of neglect so that it can be caught early before regulatory actions are needed.

MAP 5 Autaugaville Future Land Use Map



Land Use Recommendations:

- The Comprehensive Plan should be referenced by the Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council during consideration of all land use decisions. *(Future Land Use)*
- Consider the availability and capacity of appropriate utilities and transportation networks before considering approval of new developments, redevelopments and rezoning requests. *(Future Land Use)*
- Discourage strip patterns of commercial development in favor of development patterns with visually pleasing layouts and architectural elements. *(Future Land Use – Commercial Uses)*
- Prepare an evaluation of the visual quality and entry experience at each Town gateway and their surroundings and plan for appropriate improvements. *(Future Land Use – Gateways)*
- Exercise the Town’s authority under 11-53B of the Code of Alabama to have repaired or to demolish unsafe/abandoned/dilapidated structures. *(Other Future Land Use Considerations-Revitalization Areas)*
- Continue maintenance and upgrades of infrastructure in existing residential neighborhoods and monitor for signs of neglect to head-off the need for regulatory measures. *(Other Future Land Use Considerations-Revitalization Areas)*

LAND USE GOALS:

- Goal #1: Discourage strip patterns of commercial development in favor of development patterns with visually pleasing layouts and architectural elements.
- Goal #2: Prepare an evaluation of the visual quality and entry experience at each Town gateway and their surroundings and plan for appropriate improvements.
- Goal #3: Exercise the Town's authority under 11-53B of the Code of Alabama to have unsafe/abandoned/dilapidated structures repaired or demolished.

CHAPTER V: Transportation



Overview of Transportation Planning

Transportation planning deals with the movement of people and goods throughout a community or a region and is not limited to only automobiles and streets. In fact, it is multi-faceted and includes several systems; a road network for motorized vehicles, pedestrian and bicycle networks, transit and networks for rail, freight, and aviation. Autaugaville’s 2040 Comprehensive Plan recognizes that all of these networks are vital to maintaining a healthy and well-connected mobile region in the future.

While the Autaugaville 2040 Comprehensive Plan focuses on transportation systems for the Town of Autaugaville, it acknowledges that local transportation systems are part of a larger system of transportation networks in the region. The local transportation network connects to major transportation hubs in Montgomery, Tuscaloosa, Birmingham, and the Atlanta area.

Autaugaville has access to air travel through Montgomery Regional Airport, Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport, and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Locally, flights come to Autaugaville directly by way of the Autauga County Airport, a County-owned public-use airport just nine miles east of Autaugaville.

Passenger rail service is provided by Amtrak via the Crescent line connecting New Orleans, and New York. The closest stations to Autaugaville are in Tuscaloosa and Birmingham, Alabama as well as Atlanta, Georgia. The Federal Government continues to consider high speed rail service that would follow the basic route currently used by the existing Amtrak line. Alabama is a member of the Southern Rail Commission (SRC) established in 1982 with a mission to support the establishment and advancement of high speed and other passenger rail service in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Long distance bus service is available along the I-85 corridor with stations in Tuskegee, Opelika and Montgomery. Airport shuttle service to the Atlanta Hartsfield –Jackson Airport and Montgomery Regional Airport can be accessed in Auburn and Montgomery.

Transportation and the Environment

The convenience and economic value of transportation systems come with environmental tradeoffs. Construction and maintenance of transportation systems often affect one or more of the following: air quality, water quality, noise, wildlife, natural resources, cultural and historic resources, wetlands, floodplains, agricultural land, parks, and open space. Additionally, because the location of transportation systems is so closely linked to economic development and land use, there has been growing attention paid to environmental justice in the field of transportation planning. Environmental justice seeks to avoid, minimize, or mitigate negative, disproportionately high impacts on minorities and low-income populations.

Local Street Network

The existing road network in the Town of Autaugaville will continue to grow as new development occurs. This network is composed of streets of varying classifications broken down by types as follows:

Arterials

Arterial: a facility that serves as a primary artery of the community intended to mainly carry through traffic and to connect major activity centers in the community and its planning jurisdiction. Its function is to move intra-city and intercity traffic. The streets that are classified as arterials may also serve abutting property; however, their primary purpose is to carry traffic. Arterials should not be bordered by uncontrolled strip development. Access to these facilities should be carefully managed to ensure the capacity of the facility is not compromised by driveways. Arterials vary in width and parking on-street is prohibited.

Collector Streets

Collector: a street whose primary function is to collect traffic from an area and move it to the arterial street system while also providing substantial service to abutting land uses. A collector roadway will generally have lower design speeds than arterial roadways but higher than local streets.

Residential Collector Street: a street whose primary function is to provide direct access to residential properties as well as residential subdivisions. Typically, residential collector streets collect traffic from

local streets in residential neighborhoods and channel it to the arterial and collector system.

Local Streets

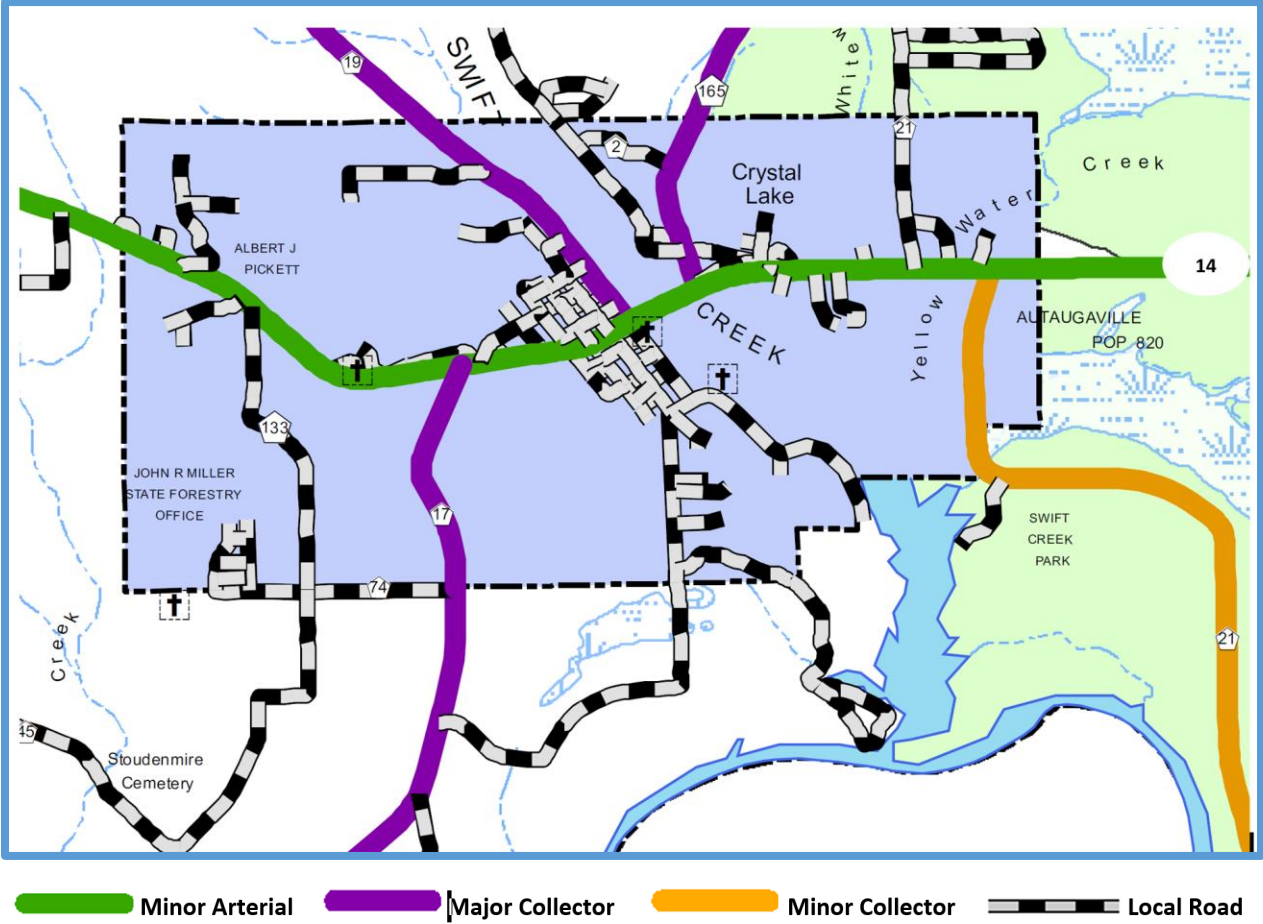
Local Commercial Street: all minor streets, marginal access streets and cul-de-sacs serving primarily commercial developed property.

Local Residential Streets: all minor streets, marginal access streets and cul-de-sacs serving primarily residential property.

Cul-de-sac: a local street with one outlet and having an appropriate terminal for the safe and convenient reversal of traffic movement.

Alley: a public right-of-way primarily designed to provide a secondary access to the side or rear of properties.

**MAP 6
Autaugaville Road Classification Map**



Traffic Volume

Traffic volumes on state routes and federal highways are monitored with annual average daily traffic counts (AADT) by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). Table 9 below shows volumes for the key arterial roadway in Autaugaville, Alabama Highway 14. Counts have been provided for the most current reported six-year period 2013-2018. A review of these numbers shows that there have been moderate changes in traffic along these roadways during these reporting periods.

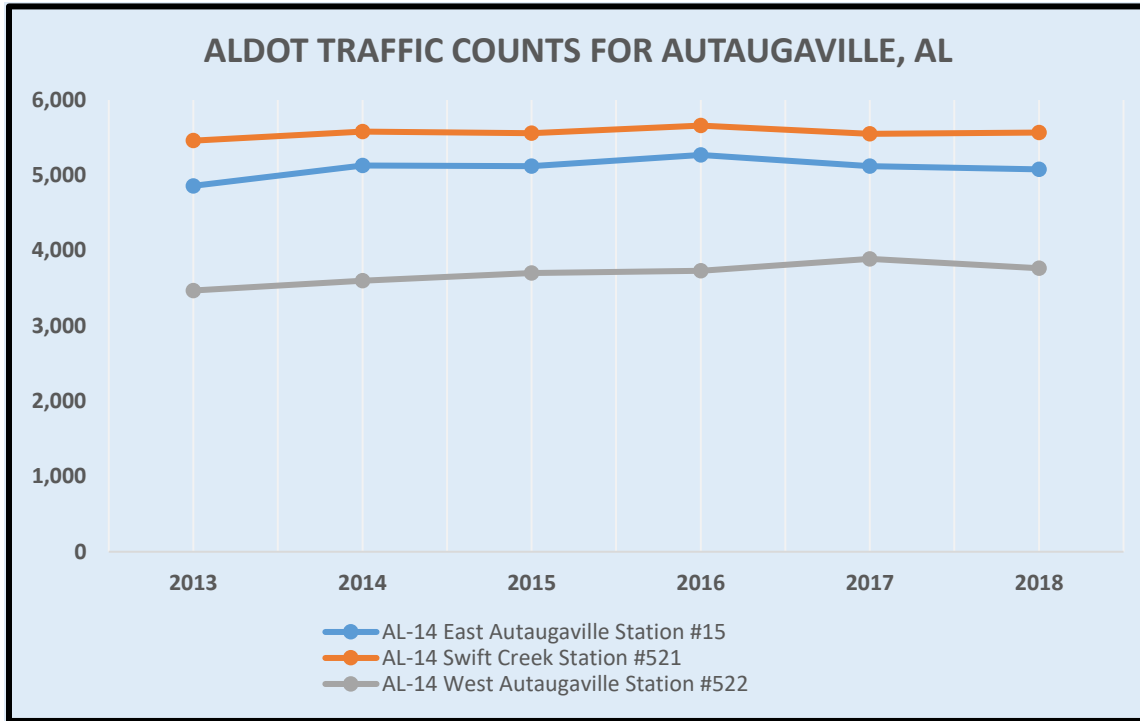
Not surprisingly, the highest counts in the Town and surrounding area occur along Alabama Highway 14 near Swift Creek, where several access points merge. For the most part, traffic counts have remained relatively consistent over the six year period, with slight increases.

While volumes have not shown a great deal of change, a review of this key arterial will provide indicators of traffic dispersal throughout the Town. Additionally, monitoring of annual traffic counts will allow Town leaders to be proactive in planning future infrastructure improvements.

TABLE 9 ALDOT Traffic Counts			
YEAR	AL-14 East Autaugaville Station #15	AL-14 Swift Creek Station #521	AL-14 West Autaugaville Station #522
Map Location	A	B	C
2013	4,860	5,460	3,470
2014	5,130	5,580	3,600
2015	5,120	5,560	3,700
2016	5,270	5,660	3,730
2017	5,120	5,550	3,890
2018	5,079	5,567	3,766

Source: ALDOT Traffic Monitoring Data

Graph 4



Note from ALDOT: "Traffic Monitoring data provided are the most current available as developed by the Alabama Department of Transportation and are provided "as is" with the understanding that they are not guaranteed to be correct or complete, any conclusions drawn from the data are the sole responsibility of the user."

Design Standards and Access Management

Access management deals with how transportation users gain access to the transportation system, where and at what frequency. This is often done through examination of road standards for intersections and driveway placement. The more access points there are on a road, the more likely conflicts arise that can affect traffic flow and safety. The Town should help the County maintain access management standards, including the development of standards for driveway spacing and cross access standards, particularly for development on Alabama Highway 14.

Pedestrian and Cycling Network

Regardless of one's mode of transportation, at some point in their trip, everyone becomes a pedestrian. Since its founding, walking has been the most common mode of transportation for Autaugaville citizens. For the most part, Autaugaville's rural character lends itself to walking. However, along Highway 14, where the majority of the Town's businesses reside, walking can be hazardous. Efforts should be made to ensure that this area is equipped with usable sidewalks and crosswalks where necessary.

Low density, auto-centric development predominant in the 21st century provides challenges for biking and walking in any community and Autaugaville is no exception. As part of this Comprehensive Plan, Autaugaville should formally recognize the need for a community network of sidewalks that will allow citizens to utilize alternative modes of transportation.

Additionally, the Town Council should support the construction of new sidewalks in areas of high pedestrian movements. With added interest and awareness of health and environmental benefits, and as gas prices continue to fluctuate, it is reasonable to expect that, if they are provided, the use of sidewalks will increase and become part of the daily routine for many citizens.

The Town should establish a policy to have sidewalks on Town streets wherever needed for the benefit of health, safety, and welfare of the citizens. This policy should focus attention on areas of high pedestrian movement, particularly around schools, and on "missing links" in the sidewalk network. Priority should be given to upgrading and maintenance of existing sidewalks and the expansion of existing sidewalk networks.

At the State level, the Department of Transportation has been tasked, through the Statewide Transportation Plan, with a statewide bicycle and pedestrian planning effort that will address statewide needs as well as include each urbanized area's plan for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

The latest transportation bill, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, was signed into law December of 2015 and was slated to end in 2020. FAST combined the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program with others as part of the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG). The STBG program authorizes funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity;

recreational trail projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former divided highways.

In addition, federal legislation permits municipalities constructing bicycle and sidewalk facilities to dip into several other funding sources including those set aside for congestion mitigation, improvements to air quality, and other transportation enhancement funds. Other federal aid funds can be used as appropriate.

Surface transportation reauthorization acts fund federal highway and public transportation programs, along with transportation research, intercity passenger rail, and other programs. The five-year Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act; P.L. 114-94) authorized federal spending on highways and public transportation for FY2016-FY2020. A one-year FAST Act extension, through September 30, 2021, was enacted as part of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021, and other Extensions Act (P.L. 116-159). Infrastructure legislation could be considered in conjunction with FAST Act reauthorization

Short-term issues. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that the HTF has sufficient balances to cover expected outlays until summer 2022. Unless Congress authorizes additional revenues or transfers by then, the balance in the HTF could fall so low that the Department of Transportation may have to delay payments to states and transit agencies for work completed. In addition, highway tax revenues have declined due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as Americans have driven less.

Long-term issues. More money will likely be needed if Congress wishes to continue the highway and public transportation programs at or above their current levels, adjusted for inflation, in a future multiyear reauthorization. CBO projects the annual difference between revenues and outlays to rise from \$13 billion in FY2022 to \$22 billion in FY2027. Based on this information it is unlikely that any new project requests will be approved at this time. Any future request will be dependent on extensions of the existing Act to cover current outlays and new funding or some new funding source.

Analysis

For the most part, planning for transportation facilities in the Town of Autaugaville takes place outside of the comprehensive planning process. The focus of this transportation section is on those aspects of transportation that are most closely tied to land use, and vice versa. There are opportunities in future iterations of the plan to more comprehensively integrate land use and transportation planning.

Connectivity

Connectivity is the overall connectedness of a street network. Fortunately for Autaugaville, the Town's original street network was laid out in a traditional grid pattern and for the most part that pattern has been maintained. It is also important that new development be required to continue this grid pattern to maintain the Town's historic character and to provide for ease of future installation and maintenance of utilities and efficient services delivery. Connectivity is important because the more connected a street network is the more travel options exist. This limits the strain on any particular route or intersection, and allows traffic to take alternate routes as primary routes become congested. A lack of connectedness in a street network, over time, forces collectors and arterials to become more congested. This will often result in a requirement for public investment in widening or otherwise improving those routes to handle more traffic. Those improvements, through a process known as induced demand, will then draw new traffic to the routes, reducing the value of the improvements considerably sooner than might be expected. Providing a higher level of street connectivity as development occurs will help reduce the long-term strain on the road network.

Transportation Choices

The automobile is the dominant form of transportation in Autaugaville. That is not expected to change, now or in the future. In a future of increasing fiscal constraints, searching for lower cost, alternate ways to relieve pressure on the road network is desirable. Connectivity, mentioned earlier, is one method. Reducing vehicle trips is another. In part these methods seek to reduce vehicle trips through reducing trip lengths and frequency; this is accomplished by providing daily needs in close proximity to the places where people live. One of Autaugaville's advantages is that, as a small rural community, it has not been significantly impacted by urban sprawl. This has kept businesses and residents in close proximity to one another in what is called a "traditional neighborhood" development style – something more urbanized areas are now trying to recapture.

Providing for alternate forms of transportation is another way to reduce vehicle trips. Alternate forms of transportation include walking, biking, and public transit. At present, walking is a viable transportation choice in most parts of Town. Most of the sidewalks in Autaugaville are in the grid section of Town north of Highway 14, often on both sides of the street. However, this sidewalk network is sparse once outside of the northern core, is often disconnected and disjointed, is aging and repairs are needed in many places. Sidewalks are basically non-existent south of Highway 14.

A walkable community has benefits beyond providing an alternate form of transportation: walking is demonstrably good for public health, provides improved accessibility, and is necessary for the creation of the vibrant mixed-use neighborhoods discussed in the land use section. The Town should, when and where possible, work to expand the network of sidewalks. The on-street sidewalk network, in particular, should be expanded in, and to, locations where walkability is desirable.

Bicycles represent an efficient, non-polluting transportation alternative that is particularly viable for commuting in and around the Autaugaville central core. Currently, bicycle infrastructure is non-existent in Autaugaville. The bicycling community is made up of both recreational users as well as bicycle commuters.

Public Transportation

The Autaugaville Senior Center provides limited transportation to its clients via the Autauga County Rural Transportation (ACRT) system. The ACRT is funded through the Alabama Department of Transportation through the 5311 grant program. ACRT has 14 public transit vehicles in the system covering all of Autauga County. The Autaugaville Senior Center does not have access to its own vehicle. ACRT transports senior center clients to and from the senior center for activities and lunch, delivers hot meals to home-bound seniors, and transports seniors for senior field trips.

In addition to its services to the Senior Center the ACRT transports citizens of Autauga County, including those in Autaugaville, using a demand-response model. Demand Response Transportation is a type of transportation that provides service at the passenger's request and is also called dial-a-ride or paratransit. This service is available to all citizens of Autaugaville needing transportation within Autauga County. Citizens should be encouraged to take advantage of this transit service – increase in usage by citizens will encourage more frequent routes in and around Town.

Town-wide Signage

Autaugaville can benefit by forming a unified identity through developing a cohesive theme and design for all directional signage within the Town. Creating this platform for municipal directional signage is called “Way-finding” in many communities and is a more holistic approach to traditional directional signage. The content of these signs is unique to each place where the method is implemented. Wayfinding may acknowledge a variety of community assets, including: Parks, Schools, Churches,

Restaurants, Stores, Downtown, Commercial district, Library, and other notable community assets

By directing travelers to these destinations, not only does it aid in navigation, but it also serves as a method of advertisement by promoting existing features within the Town.

Image Corridors

Image corridors are the most traveled and visible areas of a community. When visitors and travelers come through Autaugaville, they will develop an impression based on what they have seen. By improving the aesthetic appearance of these corridors, people who are unfamiliar with Autaugaville will have a better impression and respect for the Town and what it has to offer. Image corridors within Autaugaville exist, primarily along Highway 14. Most of the strategies for improving image corridors fall within the context of improving the streetscape through the addition of trees and other landscaping, sidewalks, lighting, cohesive signage and other methods.

Gateways

The location at which a citizen, visitor, or traveler enters Autaugaville, should reflect a place distinctly different from the area they have been traveling up to that point, a “gateway”. Autaugaville’s gateways should be developed so as to be recognized when arriving or leaving the Town. As entry and exit points they should be visually appealing and promote the values and character of Autaugaville. These areas mark the first or last point at which Autaugaville has an opportunity to make an impression on visitors, and whether or not that impression convinces them to stop or make a return visit in the future. Research has shown that an impression is formed within seconds of entering an environment and we want people to perceive Autaugaville as an interesting place with a sense of community pride.

A gateway should be located somewhere significant and more than just an invisible line on a map, such as the municipal boundary. They are most effective when located where visitors can realize a physical difference in the environment.

Land Use-Transportation Connection

One of the organizing principles of Comprehensive Planning is that land use influences the transportation network, and vice-versa. Fundamentally, traffic demand is driven by two factors: employment and housing. All trips, vehicular or otherwise, have origins and destinations. Determining where people want to go, when they want to do it, and in what order, is at the heart of traffic demand modeling. It follows, then, that employment is a function of the presence of employers, which can be commercial, industrial, or institutional establishments or may be home

occupations. The actual locations of those establishments, as well as the housing that is the second factor driving traffic demand, are determined by the market. The market in turn operates within a framework established by zoning which is administered by local governments. Zoning should ideally reflect a jurisdiction's Future Land Use Plan so that the locations of future development, and redevelopment, align with planned future investments. Investments in infrastructure and the goals established in the comprehensive plan, such as promoting infill and mixed-use development, recruitment of new businesses, improved drainage and transportation connectivity all reflect the desires of the Town's citizens. While all of those alignments do not yet exist, completing the Autaugaville 2040 Comprehensive Plan is the first step to beginning the align of civic investment with community vision.

Parking

A transportation network that relies on automobiles will always need a place to put them when they are not in use. It is important to balance the amount of parking provided for development to ensure that adequate parking exists, but also so that excessive parking is not required. Excessive parking has many negative effects including increasing impervious surfaces, thus increasing the amount of storm water runoff. Excessive parking also reduces the amount of land available for actual development, limiting investment in that land and thus reducing tax revenue to local governments.

Stand-alone surface parking lots should be strongly discouraged, particularly at street intersection corners. The use of prime developable land purely for parking is a misuse of resources. Parking should be in line with the development needs.

Transportation Recommendations:

- Monitor annual traffic counts to enable a more proactive approach to input into future infrastructure improvements. (*Traffic Volume*)
- Include some form of access management standards in the development of a new zoning ordinance, particularly along Highway 14. (*Design Standards and Access Management*)
- Support construction of new sidewalks in areas of high pedestrian movements. (*Pedestrian and Cycling Network*) (*Transportation Choices*)
- Establish a policy to include sidewalks on Town streets wherever needed for the benefit of citizens health, safety and welfare. (*Pedestrian and Cycling Network*) (*Transportation Choices*)
- Give priority to upgrading and maintenance of existing sidewalks and the expansion of existing sidewalk networks. (*Pedestrian and Cycling Network*) (*Transportation Choices*)
- New development should be encouraged to maintain the existing grid pattern of development that is key to the town's historic character. (*Connectivity*)
- Encourage higher levels of street connectivity as new development occurs. (*Connectivity*)
- Improve and maintain the appearance of the Town's gateways and Image Corridors in order to create a favorable impression for businesses and visitors to the community. (*Town Wide Signage*)

TRANSPORTATION GOALS

Goal #1: Support alternate forms of transportation to augment vehicular transportation.

Policy: Encourage the use of the Autauga County demand response transportation system and the future increase of routes to and from Autaugaville.

Policy: Improve Town’s walkability and connectivity.

Objectives:

- Work with County to require construction of new sidewalks in Autaugaville as development occurs on new and existing streets.
- Develop and execute a “Share the Road” Program for cyclists.

Goal #2: Work with County to develop a Transportation Maintenance and Improvement Plan.

Policy: Conduct an inventory of street maintenance issues and pavement needs.

Policy: Develop a rotating schedule for inspection and maintenance/paving of town streets.

Policy: Include plans for annual funds to contribute toward on-going street maintenance/paving in Town’s Capital Outlay Budget.

Goal #3: Develop standards to improve streetscapes and community character.

Policy: Provide an effective and attractive system of Town-wide signage and lighting to safely convey and direct visitors and residents to a full-range of destinations.

Policy: Evaluate the existing streetlight system to determine if improvements are needed.

Policy: Require that street lighting and sidewalks be provided as part of new development.

CHAPTER VI: Public Utilities



Introduction

The Town of Autaugaville, like many small communities, depends heavily on the revenue from Town owned utilities. Therefore, the need to maintain and upgrade these systems is vitally important. Because of its small size and limited revenues, a small crew of dedicated employees perform nearly all Autaugaville’s public services. For this document, these employees are referred to as the “Public Works Crew” who are responsible for water, sewer, parks & recreation and maintenance of other public services as needed.

For the most part the Town’s systems are capable of handling current and projected water and sewer needs; however, the Town must continue to expand, improve maintenance, and upgrade its facilities. The goals, objectives, and strategies of this section are intended to enhance the Town’s ability to provide its citizens with safe, reliable, and cost-effective public utilities.

Autaugaville’s current municipal utilities coverage area is primarily contained within the town limits, with the exception of a few properties located outside the corporate limits.

Water Treatment and Distribution

The Autaugaville Water System, operated by the Public Works Crew, provides service to every household in Town and the immediate outlying area. Autaugaville gets its water supply from groundwater and processes approximately 45 million gallons each year and approximately 23 million gallons make it to the end user. The Autaugaville Water Works maintains two (2) wells and three (3) water storage tanks with a total capacity of 500,000 gallons and delivers approximately 65,000 gallons per day of water to approximately 534 Autaugaville Water Works customers. Storage capacity of the water system is more than adequate and will only require moderate expansion to deal with population growth over the next twenty years.

The Town employs six individuals that are involved with utilities including a Grade-3 water operator, a grade-4 sewer operator and the Public Works Crew that splits time between utilities, parks and recreation and other Town duties. The department maintains a few pieces of equipment and vehicles used to carry out regular

maintenance and repair of utilities, including a backhoe, two pickup trucks, and a dump truck. This equipment is in reasonable condition, however, it is aging with no immediate replacement plan.

The primary concern for all water systems is aging infrastructure. A Service Development and Maintenance Plan needs to be created to assist the Utility Department in evaluation, maintenance, expansion, operations, and capital budgeting.

The Autaugaville Water Works has noted that their biggest deficiency is significant water loss. Autaugaville Water is experiencing an estimated 50% water loss, believed to be lost in older brittle piping. Old PVC water lines lead to leaks that could be alleviated by replacing older pipes, which would also result in better water quality. Construction of new service is also needed to support growth as it occurs.

The water system is bordered by West Autauga Water Authority to the west and north, Prattville Water Works to the east and the Alabama River to the south. Autaugaville Water Works has one (1) interconnection with West Autauga Water Authority on the north side of system. This interconnection was constructed within the past five years and is for emergencies only, in the event Autaugaville has a water system failure. The interconnection will supply the Autaugaville water storage tank located at intersection of Co Rd 21N and Co Rd 165.

The Town's two water wells are old, but in good mechanical condition. Each has undergone extensive rehabilitation in the past several years. In addition to wells, the Town's three water storage tanks are believed to be in good condition but are in need of routine maintenance and inspection. The tanks have not been maintained as recommended due to the expense, and lack of funds needed to fix and improve them. Eventually, the Town will have to invest in painting, lining, and replacing water tank infrastructure to maintain the safety and quality of the water system.

The Town should continue to adequately invest in the water system. Not only is water an essential service, the availability and quality of Municipal water is a significant economic development tool; a major benefit to attract new businesses and industries. As part of, and to help with, future investments in the Town's water and sewer systems, utility rates and fees should be monitored to ensure an adequate rate structure is in place to support utility investments. The Town should consider having a rates survey conducted to determine if Autaugaville's utility rates are in keeping with other communities in the region.

Wastewater Collection and Treatment

Autaugaville’s sewer system was established in approximately 1989. Sanitary sewer collection and treatment is provided, to approximately 222 customers. The Town also operates a wastewater treatment facility located in the southeast section of Autaugaville on South Pickett Street across from Greater St. Joseph A.M.E. Church. The treated discharge from this facility is released into Swift Creek. The treatment and collection system serves industrial, commercial and domestic residential waste throughout the Town. This system consists of sewer mains, lift stations and a sewer treatment facility, all are approximately 25 years old. Typical sanitary sewer system infrastructure components are designed with a service life ranging from as little as 20 to as great as 50 years. Autaugaville’s infrastructure is still within that service life.

The wastewater collection and treatment system has undergone extensive renovation and expansion over the past decade. A new treatment plant was constructed in 2012 and expansion of sewer service in 2020 along County roads 2 and 13 in north Autaugaville. These expansions will connect most Autaugaville households to public sewer.

The primary concern for all sewer systems is aging infrastructure, and Autaugaville’s system is no exception. Because of this, adequate resources need to be devoted to maintenance and/or replacement. Particular attention needs to be paid to continued capital resources for maintenance and improvement projects. Inadequate sewer capacity could essentially halt development in affected areas and unplanned repairs could place an undue burden on the Town’s finances, as it has in the past.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater management has increasingly become a concern to municipalities all over the state. Questions are being asked regarding who is responsible for the management of the stormwater run-off, who created the problem and who owns the stormwater management systems (drainage ways, ditches, inlets, and retention and detention ponds).

Much of Autaugaville has a drainage problem. Many older areas of Town have existing drainage issues and aging stormwater infrastructure, including piping that is too small to handle run-off during heavy rain events. Standing water in many areas can pose a public health and safety problem that should be dealt with.

Portions of the system need to be replaced to alleviate these flooding and slow run-off problems. Additionally, the Town needs to ensure that new private development plans, both residential and commercial, are reviewed by a qualified engineer for proper stormwater, grading and other engineering parameters. Flooding due to insufficient capacity of the storm sewer system is a concern along many roadways and residential areas of Autaugaville.

The Town needs to examine this issue in detail with the Autauga County Engineer to determine ownership policies and regulations. These regulations should then be incorporated into developmental regulations. The Town may also want to take a holistic approach to managing its stormwater program and should work with CARPDC and the County on the development of a stormwater management plan.

Solid Waste Services

Solid waste collection service in Autaugaville is currently provided through Advanced Disposal through an Autauga County contract. The Town should strongly encourage citizens to take advantage of this service. Educational materials regarding recycling and the hazards of burning household trash and debris should be distributed to citizens. Further, the Town should institute fines for the burning of trash/debris inside the Town limits.

Electricity Services

Alabama Power Company and Central Alabama Electric Cooperative provide electricity for the Town of Autaugaville and surrounding areas. Generally, Alabama Power Company provides electricity within the Town limits of Autaugaville and Central Alabama Electric Cooperative provides electricity to the outlying county areas. Alabama Power Company pays the City of Autaugaville a franchise fee of approximately \$34,000 per year. One concern expressed by citizens during public input sessions was the inconsistencies of power in the Town. Autaugaville's electricity services are not part of a loop, therefore, if the line is damaged, everything after that damage will lose power because it doesn't come in from the opposite direction. There are frequent power surges and outages within the Autaugaville service area and infrastructure is challenging to access due to its location in heavily wooded and swampy areas. Town officials should continue to work with electric providers to encourage the improvement of electric service to Autaugaville.

Cable and Internet Services

The Town of Autaugaville is currently only serviced by satellite cable and internet service providers. There are presently no hard line providers that provide services to the citizens of the Town. The community would like to see additional providers serve the Town of Autaugaville, to increase competition, improve services and ensure competitive rates for residents of Autaugaville.

The Town has fiber optic infrastructure connected to the Autaugaville School System and Town Hall. The Central Alabama Electric Cooperative is in the process of expanding fiber infrastructure throughout their coverage area, including the Autaugaville area. This is a multi-year process being pushed by the electric cooperative to provide broadband internet services to rural areas of Alabama.

High-speed internet has become a necessity for many industrial and commercial facilities to conduct general business.

Summary

The Town of Autaugaville, like many small communities, depends heavily on the revenue from Town owned utilities. Therefore, the need to maintain and upgrade these systems is vitally important. Years of neglect have led the utilities infrastructure in the Town of Autaugaville to have various deficiencies that must be corrected before they become catastrophic for the Town. The Town should consider developing a comprehensive utilities maintenance and repair plan to guide long range planning and maintenance of utility infrastructure. Additionally, the Town needs to work with electric providers to improve consistency of power service in the Town and reduce power outages. Broadband internet has become a necessary utility for business and industry and has significant impacts on economic development for the community. Working with cable and internet providers, and supporting CAEC broadband measures, will help encourage expansion of services to the citizens and businesses of Autaugaville.

Public Utilities Recommendations:

- Create a Service Development and Maintenance Plan to assist the Public Works Crew with long range planning and maintenance of infrastructure. *(Water Treatment and Distribution)*
- Continue to invest in water system improvements particularly those that will reduce and alleviate the significant water losses. *(Water Treatment and Distribution)*
- Invest in painting, lining, and replacing water tank infrastructure to maintain the safety and quality of the water system. *(Water Treatment and Distribution)*
- Evaluate current utility fees and consider having a rate survey conducted to determine if Autaugaville fees are in keep with those of similar towns in Alabama. *(Water Treatment and Distribution)*
- Create long range maintenance and improvement plan for Autaugaville sanitary sewer system to ensure that funds are available when maintenance and repair issues occur. *(Wastewater Collection and Treatment)*
- Ensure that stormwater infrastructure plans for new private residential and commercial development are reviewed by a qualified engineer. *(Stormwater Management)*
- Take a holistic approach to managing stormwater through the development of a stormwater management plan. *(Stormwater Management)*
- Provide educational materials/programs to inform citizens regarding the benefits of recycling, the hazards of burning trash, etc. *(Solid Waste Services)*
- Encourage the use of Solid Waste services provide through contracted services by the County and Institute fines for the burning of trash/debris inside the Town limits. *(Solid Waste Services)*
- Continue to work with electricity providers to improve the power services in Autaugaville. *(Electricity Services)*
- Work with cable/internet providers, CAEC and local industry to expand cable and broadband internet infrastructure *(Cable & Internet Services)*

PUBLIC UTILITIES GOALS:

Goal #1: Continue to provide safe and abundant water for drinking and for fire protection for the community.

Policy: Require that new growth be consistent with the developmental standards of City ordinances, regulations and policies.

Objectives:

- Work with developers to ensure that all new development or redevelopment complies with minimum developmental requirements as they apply to pipe sizing, flush valve placement, etc.

- Ensure that the City maintains the best practical fire protection rating by consistently enforcing water pressure standards.

- Update and maintain waterline mapping.

- Monitor utility rates and fees to ensure an adequate rate structure to support future utility investments.

Goal #2: Develop Sanitary Sewer Improvement Plan to address existing and future system needs.

Policy: Establish a schedule for inspection of City sanitary sewer system and documentation of needed improvements.

Policy: Include annual funds for on-going sanitary sewer system maintenance and repair in Capital Improvements Budget.

Policy: Incorporate needed upgrades to, and/or replacement of, aging lift stations in Sanitary Sewer Improvement Plan.

Policy: Develop educational information advising property owners of their responsibility for sewer and water lines on private property and the risks of clay piping, etc.

Goal #3: Examine potential resolution to Storm Drainage issues.

Policy: Work with County on possible improvements to storm drainage systems in county right-of-way.

Policy: Ensure that current development regulations include requirements for on-site handling of stormwater run-off.

Objectives:

- Institute consistent enforcement of stormwater management standards for both residential and commercial development.

Policy: Develop a schedule for replacement of aging storm pipes and inlets and include annual funding in the Capital Improvement Budget.

Policy: Include provisions for alternative forms of handling stormwater (i.e., rain gardens, bio-swales, open flow structures, etc.)

Goal #4: Explore opportunities to Improve Internet and Cable Services.

Policy: Work with internet providers to increase quality of residential and commercial internet service.

Policy: Work with cable providers to improve cable TV service city-wide.

CHAPTER VII: Public Safety



Introduction

The Town of Autaugaville provides quality police and fire protection throughout the incorporated areas. Additionally, the Autauga County Sheriff's Department and Autauga County EMA serve Autaugaville as part of their jurisdiction. Overall, there is strong community and government support for public safety in the Town.

Police Protection

The Autaugaville Police Department is comprised of two part-time police officers and several reserve officers, one of which is a certified officer. Autaugaville police are assisted by the Autauga County Sheriff's office through a deputy assigned to the area around Autaugaville.

Autaugaville Police Department is housed within Town Hall at 109 N. Taylor St. Those arrested in Autaugaville are sent to the Autauga County jail facility in Prattville. Autaugaville Police provide law enforcement protection and services to approximately 855 residents over a 7.8 square mile area.

The Police Department maintains a fleet of 2 cruisers. Officers share these vehicles and do not have their own. The Police Department does not have a formalized vehicle replacement plan in place. Police department vehicles are currently in good condition.

The Town provides all equipment needed for officers to perform their duties including body armor and other safety equipment. This equipment should be routinely inspected, maintained in good working order, and replaced as it ages or becomes deficient.

Dispatch services for Autaugaville Police Department, Autaugaville Fire Department and Emergency Medical Transportation are provided by Autauga County 911. Communication equipment should be evaluated regularly, maintained in good condition, and upgraded, as necessary.

Fire Protection

Autaugaville Volunteer Fire Department was founded in the early 1970s. Their response area covers the municipal limits of Autaugaville plus the following areas:

- approximately 7 miles west of Town limits,
- approximately 7 miles east of Town limits to the Prattville City limits,
- approximately 2 miles north of Town limits to the neighboring volunteer fire districts, and
- south to the Alabama River, in Autauga County.

Autaugaville Volunteer Fire Department responds to approximately 300 medical and fire calls each year. There are several other fire departments who participate with Autaugaville in mutual aid agreements. These include:

- Independence Volunteer Fire Department, approximately 7 miles north of Autaugaville;
- Booth Volunteer Fire Department, approximately 7 miles northeast of Autaugaville;
- Prattville Fire Department, approximately 10 miles east of Autaugaville, and
- Jones Volunteer Fire Department, approximately 20 miles west of Autaugaville.

The Department has one (1) fire station, located at 2710 Highway 14 in central Autaugaville.



Autaugaville Volunteer Fire & Rescue – 2710 Highway 14



The Autaugaville Volunteer Fire Department is an all-volunteer fire department with a 5 & 5x Fire Rating. They currently maintain a volunteer roster of approximately 13 firefighters. All volunteers are CPR certified and range in age between 22 to 69 years of age. Currently 2 of the registered volunteers are retired fire fighters, and

the others are a mixture of those that work in public service, are retired, or do not work. Autaugaville Fire Department is part of a County-wide mutual aid agreement in which surrounding volunteer fire fighters will respond to calls for assistance. Autaugaville Fire Department calls upon mutual aid agreements regularly to have enough fire fighters to address the Town's needs. Optimally, the fire department would have a roster of at least 20 volunteers to meet the needs of the Fire Department and reduce the number of mutual-aid requests from surrounding departments. The department provides training for its volunteers through the Autauga County Firefighters Association and the Alabama Fire College resources. Autaugaville Firefighters regularly train to maintain the department's efficiency and protect the well-being of the community.

The Autaugaville Fire Department is primarily funded by an Autauga County Fire Service Fee. This fee is levied on all properties, residential and commercial, in Autauga County and funds the majority of equipment, trucks, and training. The citizens of Autauga County voted for the service fee to support the fire service across the county. Currently the service fee is collected through a 3-mil property tax assessment on properties within Autauga County. The Town of Autaugaville also contributes in-kind services to the Fire Department, including water and sewer services to the building, lawn maintenance, along with a previous donation of the land for the Fire Department building. The Department is currently working to re-establish their tax-exempt status which will allow them to qualify for various funding opportunities and save the department money on a variety of purchases.

The fleet currently includes: one pumper truck, one tanker truck, one brush truck and one quick response pickup truck. The Fire Department does not have a replacement plan for vehicles and equipment. One goal of the department is to purchase a newer combination pumper/tanker truck in the next year.

Fire Department Future Plans and Needs

One of the most pressing issues that affects the department's ability to perform their duties efficiently and effectively is the availability of volunteers. Autaugaville

Volunteer Fire Department has historically had difficulty getting enough qualified and available, individuals to volunteer for the fire department. This puts a significant strain on the public safety of Autaugaville area residents and structures.

To enhance fire protection services, it is important that the Town's water pressure is maintained at a level adequate to ensure the best possible fire suppression. The Town is encouraged to establish a minimum water pressure rate and require that new developments meet that rate at time of construction. Further, the Town should have the Fire Department regularly inspect pressure at fire hydrants to ensure this level is maintained.

In addition to the Police and Fire services provided by the Town of Autaugaville, Hanes Ambulance provides ambulance services. Hanes Ambulance has a hub just outside of Autaugaville corporate limits, making their response time relatively low for a rural community.

Public Safety Recommendations:

- Work to upgrade communications hardware and software to serve the police and fire departments. (*Public Safety – Policed Protection*)
- Maintain body armor and safety equipment for the Police Department and work to replace other aging and deficient equipment. (*Public Safety – Policed Protection*)
- Continue to recruit additional volunteer fire fighters to reduce the number of calls for mutual aid. (*Fire Department*)
- Continue to replace vehicles and equipment to meet the needs of the community. (*Fire Department*)

PUBLIC SAFETY GOALS

PS Goal #1: Continue to ensure that adequate water pressure needed for community fire protection is provided.

Policy: Require that new growth comply with developmental standards including but not limited to zoning and subdivision regulations and engineering standards.

Policy: Work with Utility Department to upgrade and maintain water delivery system.

Policy: Have Fire Department regularly inspect water pressure at hydrants to ensure adequate pressure is maintained.

PS Goal #2: Upgrade or replace Police and Fire equipment as needed.

Policy: Establish a rotating vehicle replacement program for all public safety vehicles.

Policy: Maintain police safety equipment in good working order and replace as needed.

Policy: Expand fire personnel and police presence as needed to accommodate community growth.

Policy: Install new fire hydrants in various locations as needed.

PS Goal #3: Endeavor to resolve possible causes for gaps in services.

Policy: Discuss with surrounding fire departments ways to reduce number of mutual aid calls.

Policy: Create a recruitment program to encourage new volunteers for fire department

CHAPTER VIII: Recreation and Senior Services



RECREATION

Parks and Recreation services play a vital role in enhancing the quality of life for a community's residents. These services increase a community's economic value; enrich health and environmental benefits; and enhance an area's social importance. Notable benefits of a strong parks and recreation program include:

- An improved local tax base and increased property values.
- A number of studies show that quality parks and recreation facilities are one of the top three reasons that businesses cite when making relocation decisions.
- Parks and recreation programs and services contribute to the health of children, youth, adults, and seniors.
- Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide a sense of identity for citizens and are a major factor in the perception of the quality of life in a given community. ¹

The Town of Autaugaville currently maintains approximately 31 acres of parks and recreational facilities within the Town limits. Residents also have nearby access to State, National, and privately maintained park land and multi-use trail facilities such as the RH Kirkpatrick Agricultural Arena and Pavilion and Swift Creek Park. Town recreational facilities include playgrounds, walking trails, ball fields, and basketball courts. Citizens view these recreational activities as vital to quality of life in the Town. Autaugaville's largest crowd-drawing activities are rooted in sports and opportunities to engage with local natural resources. Some of those activities include school sports, the *All-Class Reunion*, Community Worship Services, Bass Tournaments, and many varied activities held at the R.H. Kirkpatrick Agricultural Center.

Existing Conditions

Town-Managed Properties:

Autaugaville Town Park: This 31-acre park is Autaugaville's single Town-managed recreational facility and is located a short distance from Town Hall and adjacent to Autaugaville School on Dutch Bend Street. It features two baseball/softball fields, a

walking trail, playground equipment, pavilion, basketball courts, tennis courts, and other recreation and natural facilities.



The Town of Autaugaville currently employs 6 individuals working part time in parks and recreation. These are the same employees referred to elsewhere as the Public Works Crew; parks and recreation maintenance is only one of their many town-wide duties.

Half of the Parks and Recreation Department’s vehicles/equipment are in fair to poor condition. The Town should consider creating a plan to address updating the Town’s vehicles and equipment as these tools are instrumental in maintaining the community’s recreational assets.

County, State, Federal, and Board of Education Properties:

Swift Creek Park is a 225-acre park just outside of the Autaugaville town limits on County Road 21 South managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Swift Creek Park is located along the banks of Swift Creek, where it joins the Alabama River. The Park has a boat ramp and forested trails through bottomland forests, open to the public. Swift Creek Park is part of the Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail, the central Alabama portion of the Alabama Birding Trail.



RH Kirkpatrick Agricultural Pavilion and Arena is a County owned and managed property that hosts various functions throughout the year, including rodeos, dog agility competitions, remote controlled car competitions, motocross competitions and community events. The facilities are also available to host meetings and workshops.

Swift Creek and Alabama River provides extensive opportunities for boating, fishing, and leisure activities on the water. There are multiple boat ramps and access points around the Autaugaville area.

Autaugaville Elementary School ballfields: The former Autaugaville Elementary has two baseball/softball fields on its campus, owned by the Autauga County Board of Education. Autaugaville Elementary is located in east Autaugaville, just off Highway 14.

Together, these facilities provide an abundance of opportunities for the community to stay active. At various times, Autaugaville offers organized youth sports and adult recreation opportunities.

Cultural Venues in and near Autaugaville include:

The advantage of Autaugaville's location is not only its pastoral rural setting but also its proximity to the City of Prattville and metropolitan Montgomery. The facilities listed below are only a handful of the cultural and sports activities within easy access of Autaugaville.

- **Autaugaville Public Library** – located in Autaugaville Town Hall, Autaugaville Public Library provides access to public computers, a small collection of books, faxing services and a photocopier, best sellers, research materials or other resources can be requested from the other three libraries in Autauga County and will be delivered as quickly as possible. <https://www.appl.info/autaugaville.asp>
- **Autauga Place Event Center** - located off Highway 14, Autauga Place sits at the historic crossroad of Autauga Street and Academy Street. The house was built by Swift Creek Mills Co. in 1896. It was home to various prominent Autaugaville families until Dr. Shanks bought it in 1917, and the Shanks' family continued to reside in it until recently. Autauga Place was converted to an event center and wedding venue in 2009. www.autaugaplace.com
- **Autauga Creek Walk – Prattville** - The Autauga Creek Walk meanders along the banks of the peaceful Autauga Creek adjacent to the quaint shops and

restaurants in Historic Downtown Prattville. Beautiful gardens are found along the Creek Walk, including the beautiful Art Garden next to the Prattville Creative Arts Center and Gallery. <https://alabama.travel/places-to-go/autauga-creek-walk>

- **Alabama Department of Archives & History – Museum of Alabama:** Located in downtown Montgomery, the Museum of Alabama is the only destination where you can explore Alabama's past from prehistory to the present. The Museum is located at the Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH), the nation's oldest state-funded, independent archival and historical agency. <https://archives.alabama.gov>
- **Alabama Shakespeare Festival Theatre** -- The Alabama Shakespeare Festival is among the ten largest Shakespeare festivals in the world. The festival is permanently housed in the Carolyn Blount Theatre in Montgomery, Alabama. ASF puts on 6-9 productions annually, typically including three works of William Shakespeare. Other plays sample various genres and playwrights, classical and modern, sometimes with an emphasis on Southern works. ASF's Southern Writers Project nurtures the creation of new plays that reflect Southern themes. The festival stages more than 400 performances each year that attract more than 300,000 visitors from throughout the United States and more than 60 countries. <https://asf.net>
- **Fort Toulouse / Jackson State Park** -- This attraction, located in the city of Wetumpka, is the recreated site of Fort Toulouse and the American Fort Jackson. It is also the sight a 1,000-year-old Indian mound and one of the William Bartram Nature Trails. The site hosts a variety of 'living history weekends' as well as reenactments of key battles in American history. <https://fttoulousejackson.org>
- **The Legacy Museum and The National Memorial for Peace and Justice:** located in downtown Montgomery, just 24 miles from Autaugaville, the Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice is a museum and national memorial to display the history of slavery and racism in America and commemorate the victims of lynching in the United States. The museum and memorial are intended to acknowledge past racial terrorism and advocate for social justice in America. <https://museumandmemorial.eji.org>
- **The Montgomery Biscuits** -- located in downtown Montgomery, the Montgomery Biscuits minor league baseball team plays in Riverwalk stadium.

The team is the Double-A affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays and plays in the Southern League. <https://www.milb.com/montgomery>

- **Prattaugan Museum** – This 1848 Greek Revival style home known as the McWilliams-Smith-Rice House was donated to the City of Prattville for a museum. Operated by the Autauga County Heritage Association, the Prattaugan Museum is filled with a varied collection of artifacts and objects pertaining to Autauga County; a county that is one year older than the state of Alabama. <https://autaugahistory.org>
- **R.H. Kirkpatrick Agricultural Pavilion and Arena** – This County owned and managed property, located just outside the Town limits, hosts various functions throughout the year, including rodeos, dog agility competitions, remote controlled car competitions, motocross competitions and community events. The facilities are also available to host meetings and workshops. <https://www.autaugaco.org>
- **The Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald Museum** is the only museum dedicated to the lives and legacies of F. Scott & Zelda Fitzgerald in the world. The Fitzgeralds lived in Montgomery from 1931 until 1932, writing portions of their respective novels, *Save Me the Waltz* and *Tender Is the Night* during their time in Montgomery. Museum hours are Wednesday thru Sunday, 10am to 3pm. Please contact us in advance for large group tours. <https://www.thefitzgeraldmuseum.org>

Park Standards

Many communities have adopted standards based on the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) guidelines. The NRPA recommends a total of 6.25 to 10.5 acres of open space per 1,000 people; Autaugaville more than meets this standard. It also suggests a classification system for parks. These range from mini-parks to regional and national parks. In addition to NRPA criteria, Park and Recreation standards should be based on the following:

- **Relevance.** They should reflect the needs and lifestyles of today's residents.
- **People Orientation.** They should reflect the unique needs and preferences of people in the area being served.
- **Performance Standards.** They should provide a basis for measuring achievement of community objectives. They should measure the quality of recreation service rather than simply the quantity.

- **Feasibility.** They should be attainable within a reasonable timeframe and with available funding sources.
- **Practicality.** They should be simple to understand and apply. They should be based on sound planning principles, information and a credible development process. They should also be flexible enough to handle unanticipated situations and rapidly changing needs.

The following table shows the classification and standards per NRPA. These should be considered guidelines until such time as Town Officials determines if they fit the Town’s needs or should be modified.

Table 10 NRPA Park Classifications and Standards			
Park Type	Acres/1000 population	Minimum Size	Service Area Radius
Mini Park	0.25 – 0.50	1 Acre or Less	<0.25 mile/5 minute walk
Neighborhood Park	1.0 – 2.0	15 Acres	0.5 mile/12 minute walk
Community Park	5.0 – 8.0	25 Acres	1-2 miles/5 minute drive
Regional Park	Variable	Variable	30 miles/1 hour drive
<i>Source: www.nrpa.org</i>			

Funding and Incorporating Open Space into New Development

With the implementation of a Future Land Use Plan, it will be easier for the Town to justify land purchases in certain areas established by this plan. The Town can also acquire land to expand existing facilities through: development agreements, donation or by first right-of-refusal agreements with surrounding property owners.

One way to help fund open space programs is the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. In 2016 this program handed out \$95 million across the United States and its territories to support conservation and recreation projects in local communities. Funding for this program is funneled through the State government, and is quite limited. “To be eligible for grants, every State must prepare and regularly update a statewide recreation plan (sometimes called a SCORP, for Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan). Most SCORPs address the demand for and supply of recreation resources (local, state and federal) within a state, identify needs and new opportunities for recreation improvements and set forth an implementation program to meet the goals identified by its citizens and elected leaders.” While this program would require cooperation with the state, it is still an attractive option for additional funding.

Funding Sources

In order to maintain a high level of service for an increasing population, funding will need to increase as new parks are developed and/or new programs instituted. A well-maintained park system can be an economic development tool in the form of higher property values and through hosting of regional tournaments for soccer, baseball, and softball. These sports are becoming a large industry and local tournaments bring in significant revenue in the form of entry fees, hotels, and support of local businesses.

There are a number of ways to acquire funding for park and recreation maintenance and development. Funding sources may include tax revenue, user fees, fundraisers, and donations. Additionally, grant funding is available from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) Recreation Division, through Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF), and the Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

Maintenance and Improvement of Facilities

Maintenance is important for aesthetic value and for the health of those using the facilities. While the general consensus of the community is that parks and facilities are well maintained, it is very easy for these facilities to rapidly decline if this is not kept up. As the footprint of park facilities increases, it may become necessary to prioritize maintenance of grounds, structures, and equipment if staff and budget resources are stretched.

Among the improvements that have been suggested is the addition of a fish pond to the current Autaugaville Park. Such an endeavor would enhance the park's appeal and allow for small fishing events, particularly those geared toward children. However, safety issues must be examined as well, and Town officials should discuss with their insurance providers how best to minimize any risk involved with installing such an attraction.

SENIOR SERVICES PROGRAMS

The American Community Survey, conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, estimates that those 65 and older represent approximately 18.6% of Autaugaville's total population. This trend is mirrored at the State and National levels. This figure is expected to increase substantially over the next two decades as baby boomers and their children grow older. Providing different types of services for these individuals

will be a high priority. Keeping this in mind, local officials and the parks and recreation department should work diligently to make sure that the senior citizen population is given special attention in future planning for the community.

TABLE 11 Elderly Population (2019)						
Age Range	United States	%	Alabama	%	Autaugaville	%
Total Population	324,697,795		4,876,250		903	
65-69	16,840,799	5.2	267,037	5.5	22	2.4
70-74	12,701,467	3.9	209,644	4.3	74	8.2
75-79	8,913,936	2.7	145,096	3.0	81	9.0
80-84	6,058,577	1.9	98,755	2.0	24	2.7
85+	6,269,017	1.9	84,349	1.7	14	1.6
Total 65+	50,783,796	15.6	804,881	16.5	215	23.8

Elderly Population Statistics (ACS 2015-2019)

The Autaugaville Senior Center, operated by Autauga County Senior Services, is located on the corner of South Autauga Street and Dutch Bend Street, in central Autaugaville. The center is the hub of activity for local card and domino players, crafters, and social clubs. Patrons of the Center often engage in opportunities to increase awareness of key health issues such as glaucoma, heart disease, and diabetes. The Center also provides daily meals both on site and for homebound seniors, pharmacist/health services, shopping and day trips, and bus transportation to the center.

Transporting older adults can be challenging, especially those with disabilities. However, with the proper equipment, a senior citizens program can provide this function efficiently. The Autaugaville Senior Center uses the services of the Autauga County Rural Transportation system to provide transportation for patrons and to support certain senior activities.

The Autaugaville Senior Center provides basic facilities and programs for seniors including meeting space, hot lunches, table games, and planned trips to nearby venues.

The Town of Autaugaville was recently awarded a CDBG grant to construct a new Senior Center to replace the existing center which has been in need of significant repair or replacement for some time. The new Center will be located across Dutch

Bend Street from the existing center on an empty lot at the southeast corner of Dutch Bend Street and South Autauga Street.

The new Senior Center will have much more space for activities as well as ensuring the basic safety and wellbeing of patrons. The new center will follow ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Accessibility Guidelines and be designed to fit the needs of an aging, less mobile population. The community's senior citizen population has a significant number of persons with ambulatory difficulties. This means items such as entrances, water fountains, seating, tables, and restrooms will require special attention in the new Center.

The Center will also better accommodate today's more active senior adults. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), generally fit older adults, that do not have limiting health conditions, need at least two hours and thirty minutes a week of moderate-intensity aerobic activity. When considering the impending growth of elderly populations across the nation, the needs of the senior services program are paramount. Thus, the Town should make the senior center an integral component of plans related to future growth.

Exercise of all types benefit people with arthritis, heart disease, diabetes, or high blood pressure. Some options that might be considered for inclusion in Autaugaville's recreation programming for seniors include: walking, jogging, cycling, yoga, Pilates, strength training, square dancing, and volunteerism. There are many examples of cities in Alabama providing a variety of recreational and cultural activities for seniors. These activities should be explored and considered for inclusion in future recreation plans.

Recreation/Senior Services Recommendations:

- Give consideration to enhancements at the Autaugaville Park facility. *(Maintenance and Improvement of Facilities)*
- Explore construction of a public fish pond in the Autaugaville Park. *(Maintenance and Improvement of Facilities)*
- Explore options for updating Town's maintenance equipment and develop long term plan for same. *(Existing Conditions/Town-Managed Property)*
- Expand Senior Center programs to include today's more active senior adults. *(Senior Services Programs)*
- Give special attention to senior citizens in future long-range planning for the Town. *(Senior Services Programs)*
- Provide exercise and activities for seniors at all stages of life including those more active seniors who prefer more challenging activities. *(Senior Services Programs)*

RECREATION/SENIOR SERVICES GOALS:

Goal #1: **Ensure that the facility maintenance program is well managed and funded for all parks, recreational facilities, athletic fields, vehicles, and maintenance equipment.**

Policy: *Provide safe facilities for patrons by providing adequate and well-maintained lighting, regular police patrols and other security monitoring devices.*

Policy: *Maintain a current list of maintenance priorities, updated annually.*

Goal #2: **Develop partnerships within the community and region to make better use of available resources and increase funding sources through sponsorships for recreation facilities, special events, athletic tournaments, and other exhibitions.**

Policy: *Market the Parks and Recreation system as an economic development strategy tool.*

Goal #3: **Continue to improve Senior Services**

Policy: *Continue to work with other agencies to provide continuing education opportunities for topics such as healthcare, finances, estate planning, etc. Include options for Lunch and Learns, Educational Lectures and Support Groups.*

Policy: *Expand programing to include activities and exercise programs for seniors with a more active lifestyle.*

Chapter IX - Housing



Introduction

This section addresses the current and future housing needs of Autaugaville. Housing concerns focus on the availability of residential structures in the Town and whether there is adequate housing to meet the needs of residents.

Total Housing Units

Housing, or dwelling units, are defined as one or more rooms, designed, occupied, or intended for occupancy, as a separate living quarter with cooking, sleeping, and sanitary facilities provided within the dwelling unit for the exclusive use of a single family maintaining a household.

Table 12 displays basic data on housing occupancy for the Town. Policies and regulations regarding local housing and residential areas should be aimed at preserving the integrity, quality, and sustainability of the existing housing stock of Autaugaville.

Table 12 Housing Occupancy		
	Estimate	Percent
Total housing units	534	
Occupied housing units	444	83.1
Vacant housing units	90	16.9
Homeowner vacancy rate		2.9
Rental vacancy rate		12.2
<i>Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>		

Housing Types

Table 13 provides data regarding the types of residential structures located in Autaugaville. Of the detached and attached dwelling types in the Town traditional

detached single-family units are the dominant housing type. Manufactured housing is the second most dominant housing type in Autaugaville, accounting for 42.5 percent of the housing stock. Manufactured housing makes up a significantly higher proportion of the housing stock in Autaugaville than it does in either the County or State. Standards for placement of manufactured housing in residential districts should be set out in proposed Zoning Ordinance. Multi-family units, including duplexes, make-up a total of 9.4 percent of the Town’s housing, which is higher than that of Autauga County, but significantly lower than that of the State of Alabama. This can be attributed to the rural nature of Autaugaville and Autauga County.

Table 13 Housing Types				
Unit Type	Estimated Number	Percentages		
		Autaugaville	County	State
1-unit, detached	253	47.4%	71.3%	68.6%
1-unit, attached	0	0.0%	0.9%	1.6%
2 units	0	0.0%	0.5%	2.0%
3 or 4 units	0	0.0%	1.9%	2.9%
5 to 9 units	23	4.3%	2.9%	4.3%
10 to 19 units	25	4.7%	1.7%	3.3%
20 or more units	2	0.4%	1.9%	4.0%
Manufactured Homes	227	42.5%	18.8%	13.2%
Boat, RV, van, etc.	4	0.7%	0.2%	0.1%
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>534</i>			
<i>Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>				

Age of Housing Stock

Table 14 provides data regarding the age of local housing stock compared to the County and State. In general, housing construction in Autaugaville has followed a similar path as that in Autauga County and the State. However, during the decade between 1990 and 1999 construction in the Town was significantly higher than that of the County and State, increasing by over 50 percent. Beginning in the early 2000s construction slowed significantly compared to the County and State. Still fewer homes have been constructed since 2010, partly due to the economic downturn, and also due to the shift of industry away from Autaugaville.

Table 14 Age Of Housing Stock				
Unit Type	Estimated Number	Percentages		
		Autaugaville	County	State
Built 2014 or later	21	3.9%	2.8%	2.5%
Built 2010 to 2013	14	2.6%	4.9%	3.7%
Built 2000 to 2009	57	10.7%	21.9%	15.8%
Built 1990 to 1999	146	27.3%	23.3%	18.1%
Built 1980 to 1989	57	10.7%	14.3%	14.6%
Built 1970 to 1979	124	23.2%	14.5%	16.3%
Built 1960 to 1969	45	8.4%	11.5%	11.2%
Built 1950 to 1959	40	7.5%	3.5%	8.5%
Built 1940 to 1949	8	1.5%	1.3%	4.0%
Built 1939 or earlier	22	4.1%	2.1%	5.2%
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>534</i>			
<i>Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>				

Occupancy

The data in Table 15 provides information regarding occupied and vacant housing units in Autaugaville. In 2019, Autaugaville had a 16.9 percent overall vacancy rate, which was higher than that of Autauga County, and lower than that of the State of Alabama. The percentage of renter-occupied units is lower than that of Autauga County and the State of Alabama.

Table 15 Housing Occupancy/Vacancy Status				
Occupancy	Number Autaugaville	Percentage Autaugaville	Percentage County	Percentage State
Owner-occupied	322	72.5%	73.3%	68.8%
Renter-occupied	122	27.5%	26.7%	31.2%
<i>Total Occupied Units</i>	<i>444</i>	<i>83.1%</i>	<i>91.1%</i>	<i>82.8%</i>
Vacant Units	90	16.9%	8.9%	17.2%
<i>TOTAL UNITS</i>	<i>534</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>				

Housing Value

The data in Table 16 shows the value of what the census refers to as “owner occupied housing” units in Autaugaville. This Table also includes data on the median housing value in Autaugaville according to the 2019 ACS. The median value of homes in Autaugaville was \$54,700, that is more than 65% lower than the median value of homes in Autauga County, which is \$154,500, and nearly 62% lower than those for the State of Alabama. Housing in Autaugaville remains very affordable.

Table 16 Housing Value Owner-Occupied Units		
Value	Units (322 total units)	Percent Units
Less than \$50,000	153	47.5%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	77	23.9%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	22	6.8%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	18	5.6%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	26	8.1%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	14	4.3%
\$500,000 to \$999,999	9	2.8%
\$1,000,000 or more	3	0.9%
Median (dollars)	54,700	(X)
<i>Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey</i>		

Aging in Place

Demographics show that between 2000 and 2010 the population of citizens over 60 increased from 16.5 percent to 22.1 percent and based on ACS estimates, continued to grow to a 2019 estimate of 28.7 percent of the population. These numbers will continue to increase as the population continues to age.

The Town may, in the future, need to develop additional services to accommodate the needs of the aging segments of its community. In terms of housing, the Town can encourage Universal Design principles in new home construction. Universal Design

includes installing universal features in homes like wider entranceways and wider doors that can accommodate wheelchairs, flat entrances and door and drawer knobs that don't require twisting or gripping. Universal Design also involves constructing homes so that first-floor spaces can be easily converted into additional bedroom and bathroom facilities. These basic construction techniques can provide seniors with the option to stay in their homes longer and promote "aging in place".

Key Issues

Currently, there are large tracts of undeveloped land in Autaugaville that can potentially support new development. Therefore, new home construction will be a contributing factor of future population growth. As part of this future development the Town should consider a managed-growth position. Such a position would include careful planning to ensure that infrastructure meets future development demands and that new growth does not over burden infrastructure or open space thus impacting the Town's rural quality of life.

There is a demand in Autaugaville for quality, multi-family, income-based rental housing. The only multi-family facility in Autaugaville is consistently leased and maintains a waiting list. Additional multi-family housing could be developed to satisfy the demand for affordable housing not being met by traditional single-family detached housing stock. There is also a critical need to clean up the significant number of abandoned and dilapidated structures that are scattered throughout the community. These conditions are detrimental to the aesthetics and morale of the entire community and are among the most pressing issues facing Autaugaville.

Autaugaville has a variety of assets for attracting future residential development led not only by its small town, rural atmosphere, but also its proximity to major employment areas. The Town also has adequate central sewer and water capacity and low property taxes. Autaugaville's leaders and citizens recognize that future growth will likely occur and should plan to ensure that future growth will fit with, and complement, community character.

Housing Recommendations:

- Consider developing new ways of accommodating the increase the Town's elderly population, such as encouraging the use of Universal Design Principles in new housing construction. (*Aging in Place*)
- Consider a Managed-Growth position to ensure that infrastructure will continue to meet future development demands. (*Key Issues*)
- Work to clean up abandoned, dilapidated, slummed and blighted structures and properties scattered throughout Autaugaville. (*Key Issues*)

HOUSING GOALS

Goal #1: Promote the availability of diverse, high-quality, affordable, and attractive residential neighborhoods.

Policy: Ensure that adequate amounts of suitable land in appropriate locations are planned to meet future housing needs.

Policy: Encourage development that mixes land uses and housing types to accommodate various income levels.

Policy: Work with developers to find ways of accommodating the increase in the Town’s elderly population in new housing construction (i.e., Universal Design Principles, transitional housing, etc.)

Goal #2: Provide clean, well maintained and safe residential neighborhoods.

Policy: Work to clean up abandoned, dilapidated, slummed and blighted structures and properties scattered throughout Autaugaville.

Policy: Explore Opportunities for grant funding to assist with the elimination of slum and blight.

Policy: Encourage property maintenance through enforcement of Alabama State Code and property-maintenance ordinances.

Chapter X: Quality of Life



Introduction

The term “quality of life” is used to indicate the general well-being of people and societies; while often associated with the term "standard of living", the two do not necessarily mean the same thing. A standard of living merely is the evaluation of the wealth and employment status of a person in a society. Though both are factors to determine quality of life, these are not its sole indicator. A person’s environment, physical and mental health, education, recreation, social well-being, freedom, human rights, and happiness also are significant factors.

Healthcare

Providing good quality healthcare is a challenge for most small communities in Alabama, especially those in rural Alabama. The nearest hospital facility to Autaugaville is Prattville Baptist Hospital, approximately 15 miles north in Prattville. Prattville Baptist Hospital is an acute care, 85-bed community hospital, part of the Baptist Health network. The Prattville location provides a wide range of services including: General medical, surgical care, emergency care, cardiopulmonary services, dialysis services, radiology, sleep disorder services, among others.



Within the Autaugaville Town limits there are also two medical offices providing basic, general family medical services and a full-service pharmacy.

Healthy Lifestyles

Children: Alabama has the 6th highest rate of overweight and obese children in the nation, as a result it has been recognized that the current generation of children is the first in American history to have a shorter lifespan than their parents. In order to prepare children for good jobs, they must first have a good foundation: healthy food, a healthy living environment, regular exercise, and a good education. It is well known that healthy children are better equipped to succeed in school and that translates into the fact that better educated persons tend to be healthier. It is also

easier to teach children healthy habits than it is to change unhealthy habits already developed in adults. The first step to a healthier Autaugaville lies in educating children to make healthy choices.

Senior Citizens: According to a 2016 report by The Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics, people who reach age 65 will live another 19.3 years, nearly 15 years longer than in 1960.

- From 2012 to 2014, 78% of those 65 and older reported being in good to excellent health, and levels of health reported by older women and older men were similar.
- The percentage of older Americans meeting the 2008 Federal physical activity guidelines increased over time. In 1998, about 6 percent of people age 65 and over met the guidelines, compared with 12 percent in 2014.

Today's senior citizens, while healthier and more active overall than those of several decades ago, need to have access to activities and resources to support and encourage healthy lifestyles. Because older adults make up the highest percentage of persons with chronic health conditions it makes sense to begin by creating healthy lifestyle programs with them in mind.

Autaugaville's Senior Center provides an array of activities for the City's senior citizens including games, daily meals both on site and for homebound seniors, shopping and day trips for entertainment, and other activities. The Senior Center use Autauga County Rural Transportation to transport seniors to the center and for day trip transportation.

Overall, Autaugaville provides an array of senior services, however there is definitely room for improvement in the areas of importance such as physical and social activities as well as lifelong learning opportunities for the Town's senior population.

Recreation: Parks and Recreation services play a vital role in enhancing the quality of life for a community's residents. Among the benefits of a strong parks and recreation program are:

- Improved quality of life through recreation programming, leisure activities, and resource conservation.
- Parks, recreation and leisure activities provide our youth with opportunities to develop healthy lifestyle habits and grow into strong community participants.
- Parks, recreation and leisure activities create lifelines and ongoing life experiences for older members of our community and generate opportunities for citizens to come together around common activities.

- Public parks and recreation facilities create enormous economic value through increased partnerships, which improves the job base and the economic viability of the local economy, including business relocation and expansion in the community, generation of new jobs, increasing home values and increased tourism.

A healthy lifestyle begins with physical activity. Autaugaville currently provides a limited number of athletic programs for youth in the form of organized sports and there are a few adult programs, however this area needs to be expanded upon. The City should strive to offer programs and facilities for those children not interested or able to participate in the currently offered activities. Likewise, more adult and senior adult activities should be added to Autaugaville's recreation program in order to provide a more well-rounded and inclusive curriculum for citizens to select from. There are a number of cities in Alabama from which to draw inspiration for additional programs and activities for all ages, a few of which include Auburn, Cullman and Decatur.

Walkability: Recent studies show that in addition to the physical benefits associated with healthy communities, walkable communities can also provide economic and environmental benefits.

Economically, a town or city can benefit from having a more walkable environment. The presence of sidewalks and other walking facilities is shown to increase property value and promote tourism. Sidewalks and connected, well-maintained pedestrian networks allow citizens the ability to safely and conveniently patronize local shops, businesses and restaurants.

Environmentally, increasing walkability can also have positive impacts on the community. Walking or biking can decrease car travel and thereby decrease harmful auto emissions.

In addition to economic and environmental benefits, walkable communities also provide advantages for residents. Safe, walkable, environments can provide opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to stay socially connected and engaged. Walking is an easy and inexpensive way to stay fit.

Community Gardens and Farmers' Markets: Access to fresh food is an important element of achieving a healthy lifestyle. Community gardens are places



where children and adults alike can have fun, while exercising and learning about farming, nutrition, self-reliance and how to become entrepreneurs through firsthand experience. These gardens also provide additional social opportunities, and a point of unity for local residents as well as a potential point of income to the community. There are numerous examples of community gardens across the state that may be drawn from should Autaugaville wish to explore establishing a program of its own.

Autaugaville should consider organizing a farmers' market for the citizens of the community. Farmers' Markets allow citizens to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables as well as other home grown/homemade items. A market of this kind not only provides fresh produce to a community; it also helps keep local dollars in the community and supports local farmers and small business.

As with community gardens, mentioned above, there are a large number of farmers' markets across the State which the Town may explore to get ideas should they, or a local organization, wish to explore establishing an Autaugaville Farmers' Market. Additionally, the State of Alabama's Farmers' Market Authority can provide advice and assistance on becoming and managing a certified farmers' market, should organizers wish to pursue this certification.

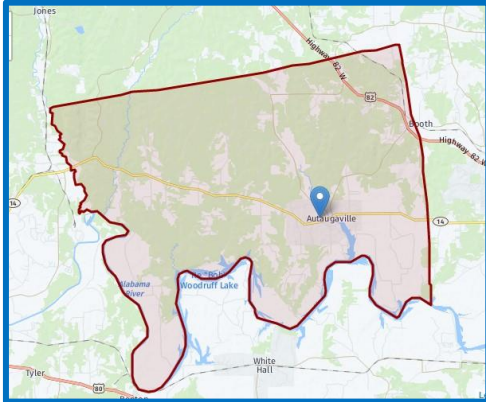
Education

Quality schools make Autaugaville a desirable place to live, work, and raise a family. An accredited county public school system along with multiple community colleges, and major universities nearby put the emphasis on education. The offerings for academics and workforce development training are all within a few minutes' drive.

The Autauga County School System (ACSS) is a County wide school system in Autauga County. The ACSS consists of thirteen schools and has approximate enrollment of 9,150 students. Autaugaville School is one of the thirteen schools that are part of the ACSS. Autaugaville School serves students in Autaugaville and the surrounding rural areas of southwestern Autauga County. Autaugaville School is one facility separated by building wings and serves students in grades Kindergarten through Twelve.



The Autaugaville School District encompasses the corporate limits of the Town of Autaugaville, as well as southwestern Autauga County. More than half of students enrolled in the System reside outside the corporate limits of the Town.



Autaugaville School District

Built in 1996, **Autaugaville School** is one of the Autauga County system's newer educational structures. Located on approximately 15 acres at the corner of North Taylor and Dutch Bend Streets, the school is only two blocks from central Autaugaville. The school has approximately 333 students, employs 24 teachers and has a student/teacher ratio of 13:9.

Autaugaville School offers advanced coursework through a variety of programs, as well as online programs. Autauga County School System also offers Dual Enrollment and co-op programs through partnerships with career centers, area community and trade schools, and local industries.



Autaugaville School

Mission Statement:

"The mission of Autaugaville School is to engage the mind and encourage the imagination of all students in a safe and caring environment."

Colleges & Universities

Studies show that cities and states with a well-educated workforce outperform in terms of median wages and economy. Economically secure individuals are better able to purchase goods and services within their local communities. Higher wages translate into stronger property values, more tax revenue, better infrastructure, and more opportunities for investment. Areas that lack access to quality education resources are less likely to flourish economically.

Autaugaville is strategically located in driving distance to a number of higher education and advanced learning institutions. There are more than fifteen colleges,

universities, and technical schools located within approximately 50 miles of Autaugaville, including:

Central Alabama Community College (CACC) – Prattville Campus – located approximately 18 miles from Autaugaville in Prattville, CACC Prattville Campus is a two-year institution. The CACC system enrolls approximately 2,200 students across four campuses. CACC offers a variety of traditional, adult education, and workforce education programs including cosmetology, medical assistants and technicians, drafting and design, welding, truck driver training, GED programs, and others. Their mission is to promote student success in comprehensive and diverse academic and career learning environments to advance quality of life through economic, community and workforce development.

Trenholm State Community College (TSCC) – located approximately 20 miles from Autaugaville in Montgomery, is a community college that offers associates degrees and career technical training and certification programs. TSCC currently enrolls approximately 1,800 students. They offer programs in health, dental and medical assisting, EMS certification, sonography, radiology, massage therapy, and nursing. Trenholm also offers coursework in technical fields such as automotive technology & transportation, business & services, and engineering technologies, as well as, workforce development programs to include adult education, continuing education, and training for existing business and industry.

Huntingdon College is a liberal arts core curriculum institution located in Montgomery, Alabama approximately 22 miles from Autaugaville. Huntingdon has a broad range of academic majors, pre-professional programs, and teacher education programs, and is consistently listed among U.S. News and World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges,” and in 2019 appeared among the top 10 regional colleges in the South and among the top 6 regional Best Buy colleges.

Alabama State University is a public historically black university located in Montgomery, approximately 25 miles from Autaugaville. Founded in 1867, ASU is a member-school of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. It has a total undergraduate enrollment of 3,903, its setting is urban, and the campus size is 172 acres. It utilizes a semester-based academic calendar. Alabama State University's ranking in the 2020 edition of Best Colleges and Regional Universities in the South was #87.

Auburn University Montgomery (AUM) – located approximately 30 miles from Autaugaville on Taylor Road in Montgomery, is a public university governed by the Auburn University Board of Trustees. AUM enrolls approximately 5,000 students and offers bachelor, master, and specialist degree programs. AUM offers a joint doctorate program with Auburn University in Public Administration. AUM also has a continuing education program that enrolls over 10,000 students annually. AUM’s

College of Business ranks in the top 5% of business schools in the world, and approximately 25% of AUM students graduate with business degrees.

Troy University – Montgomery: Located in the heart of Montgomery approximately 20 miles from Autaugaville, the Troy Montgomery Campus includes facilities like the Rosa Parks Library, Rosa Parks Museum, Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts and the W.A. Gayle Planetarium. Their faculty and staff are dedicated primarily to serving the "non-traditional student," by providing the widest variety of learning options that can be completed by attending evening classes. Online and blended classes are also available, allowing students to select what's best for them. Troy Montgomery is preparing students to take advantage of the area's incredible growth and opportunity. By providing students the personal attention and education they need to succeed, we accelerate the growth of Montgomery, opening new doors to success for our graduates.

Fortis College – Montgomery Location – located approximately 30 miles from Autaugaville with two campuses in Montgomery, Atlanta Highway and Eastdale Circle, is a for-profit institution established in 1969. Fortis offers career-based certificate, diploma, and associate degree programs. The Montgomery campuses offer programs in dental assisting, medical assisting, HVAC, and medical office administration. Fortis College also offers online degree programs for adults and members of the military community.

Additional colleges and universities within approximately 50 miles of Autaugaville include: Amridge University, Community College of the Air Force, Faulkner University, Lomax Hannon Bible College, South University Montgomery, Southern Union State Community College, and Wallace Community College.

These institutions provide Autaugaville's citizens and businesses with the resources necessary to further their education and have access to skilled, productive employees.

Autauga County Extension Office, Alabama Cooperative Extension System – located in the governmental complex with the RH Kirkpatrick Agricultural Pavilion and Arena, the Autauga County Extension Office is an outreach program providing researched based programs to help families improve their lives and well-being. This office brings residents and visitors from around the county and region to Autaugaville for various events and activities.

Cultural Enrichment

Library: Americans strongly value the role of public libraries in their communities, both for providing access to materials and resources and, for improving the overall quality of life in their communities. Many library resources are particularly valued by those who are unemployed, retired, or searching for a job, as well as those living with a disability, and internet users who lack home internet access.

The Autaugaville Public Library is located within Autaugaville Town Hall. The Library offers a collection of books in print, a small selection of DVDs, as well as two computers available to the public for research. Currently, the library is open to the public three days each week.

Autaugaville's library exceeds its capacity at the current location. Additionally, the location of the library, within Town Hall, is very restrictive in terms of operating hours and access. The library currently occupies one central room within Town Hall that is only accessible through the Town Hall counter. Being in the Town Hall, the library regularly doubles as the Town Council chamber and meeting room. This limits the people willing to access the resources of the library. Town leadership has goals to move the library to its own building in the future, however, funding is the most significant challenge.

Festivals, Performing Arts, Museums and Churches:

Autaugaville boasts a couple of cultural enrichment opportunities. Among them are community celebrations, regional recreational activities, and family and class reunions that attract both locals and out-of-towners alike. These activities are perfect opportunities to showcase Autaugaville's hometown atmosphere and quality of life. During these activities businesses and restaurants should put on their best face and welcome newcomers to their establishment and the community.

There are also a number of old, historic churches within the town limits of Autaugaville. These include Autaugaville United Methodist Church, Autaugaville Baptist Church, Greater St. Joseph A.M.E. Church, and First Missionary Baptist Church. Having places of worship such as these that tie the community together are integral for Autaugaville and provide spiritual opportunities for residents to be engaged.