

GREENE COUNTY

Arkansas



Plan "Snapshot"

In Greene County, "action" is our middle name. We get things done time and time again, using our resources, our people and our own hard work to do it.

Some might say we've done enough, that our county is pretty close to perfect. We say that the finish line is always in front of us. Even though what we've accomplished is worth celebrating, there is still much more that we want to do. This planning process has allowed us to think about how we want to move forward, where we should focus our efforts and how to define the "what's next" for our community.

We are proud of our past – it's the foundation laid by generations of citizens who chose to make Greene County the epitome of small-town living. Those before us taught us all lessons about how to give back to our community. They instilled within us a passion to excel through cooperation and collaboration, and this is a legacy that we wish to pass on. When a need is identified, our community rises to meet it. This is not a new phenomenon but rather one that has been demonstrated repeatedly.

Now, we must focus on our future. We have a tremendous industrial base, a sterling health care industry, excellent school systems, quality local government and superb community amenities. All of these require forward-thinking, progressive leadership to continue at the highest of standards. Cultivating new leaders of all ages will be an important aspect of our implementation strategy.

Growth brings many opportunities but can also yield costs. Effective planning for land use, infrastructure, housing, education, tourism and new amenities will help to mitigate these costs while producing the maximum benefit to each of our communities and to future generations.

There is a saying that we constantly keep in mind: "It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark." Indeed, this speaks to our own philosophy about the importance of preparation. We're not strangers to planning. Without it, we wouldn't be where we are today. Greene County is our community, a place of families, of neighbors, of friends. When we plan for the future, it isn't for the facilities we want to build. It's for the people who share this wonderful place and who call Greene County home.

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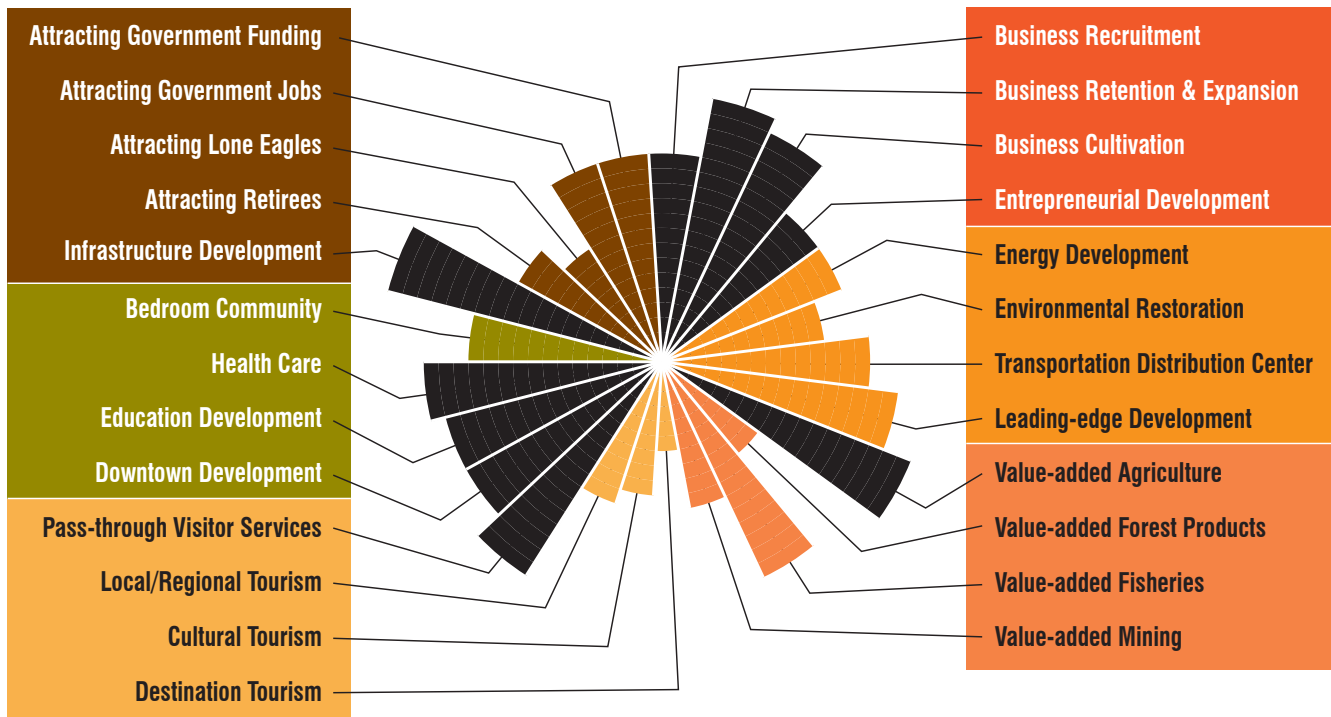
Tori Thompson

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GREENE COUNTY STRATEGY “THUMBPRINT”

The strategy “thumbprint” depicts twenty-five community and economic development strategies in terms of Greene County’s potential to successfully implement each of the strategies. The longer the “spoke,” the greater the likelihood that Green County could see success in pursuing that strategy. Black spokes indicate strategies that have been selected for implementation by the Green County Steering Committee.



SELECTED STRATEGIES & INITIATIVES

Beautification	Expansion of beautification program countywide; arts development.
Business Cultivation	Continuation of outreach and industrial cluster development.
Business Recruitment	Continuation of recruitment efforts and website enhancement.
Business Retention & Expansion	Expansion of outreach program to include company headquarters.
Communications – Website Development	Enhancement of major websites for both marketing and informational purposes.
Downtown Development	Continuation of National Main Street Four-Point Approach.
Education Development	Partnerships between schools and employers to improve skills.
Entrepreneurial Development	Launch of entrepreneurial training program.
Farmers’ Market	Development of a local producer farmers’ market.
Health Care Expansion	Continued expansion of available health care services.
Housing	Development of mid-range housing for workers and seniors.
Infrastructure Development	Expansion and improvement of services in all communities.
Pass-through Visitor Services	Coordinated promotion of tourism assets and amenities countywide.
Retail Development	Recruitment of national retailers and development of local retailers.
Value-added Agriculture	Determination of opportunities to grow this industry.

