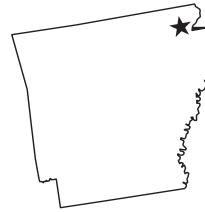


# GREENE COUNTY

## 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.

### PLAN DIRECTOR

**Sue McGowan**

*Director*

*Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce*

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Pat Austin**

*Director*

*Paragould Parks and Recreation Department*

**Jeremy Biggs**

*Development Director*

*Mission Outreach of Northeast Arkansas, Inc.*

**Neely Branch**

*Vice President*

*Business Development First National Bank*

**Jerry Crocker**

*Owner*

*Northeast Electronics*

**Barry Davis**

*President & CEO*

*Arkansas Methodist Medical Center*

**Steve Dixon**

*Mayor*

*City of Marmaduke*

**Chip Dortch**

*Vice President/Branch*

*Manager, Unico Bank*

**Brian Duncan**

*CEO, Craighead Electric*

*Cooperative*

**Mike Gaskill**

*Mayor*

*City of Paragould*

**Jason Gazaway**

*Executive Broker*

*Gazaway & White Real Estate*

**Brooksie Hartness**

*Principal Broker and Owner*

*Image Realty*

**Lesley Hobbs**

*Membership Manager*

*Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce*

**Gina Jarrett**

*Director*

*Main Street Paragould*

**Bobby Kasserman**

*Liberty Bank of Arkansas*

**Kevin Lang**

*Fire Chief*

*City of Paragould*

**David Lange**

*Director*

*Greene County, Paragould*

*Housing Authority*

**Dina Mason**

*Co-owner*

*MOR Media, Inc.*

**Brad Nelson**

*Craighead Electric*

*Cooperative*

**Jerry Noble**

*Superintendent*

*Greene County Tech School*

*District*

**Darrell Phillips**

*Chief Operating Officer*

*Paragould Light, Water & Cable*

**Keith Richey**

*Federal Programs Director*

*Marmaduke School District*

**Jerry Shipman**

*County Judge*

*Greene County*

**Todd Stovall**

*Chief of Police*

*City of Paragould*

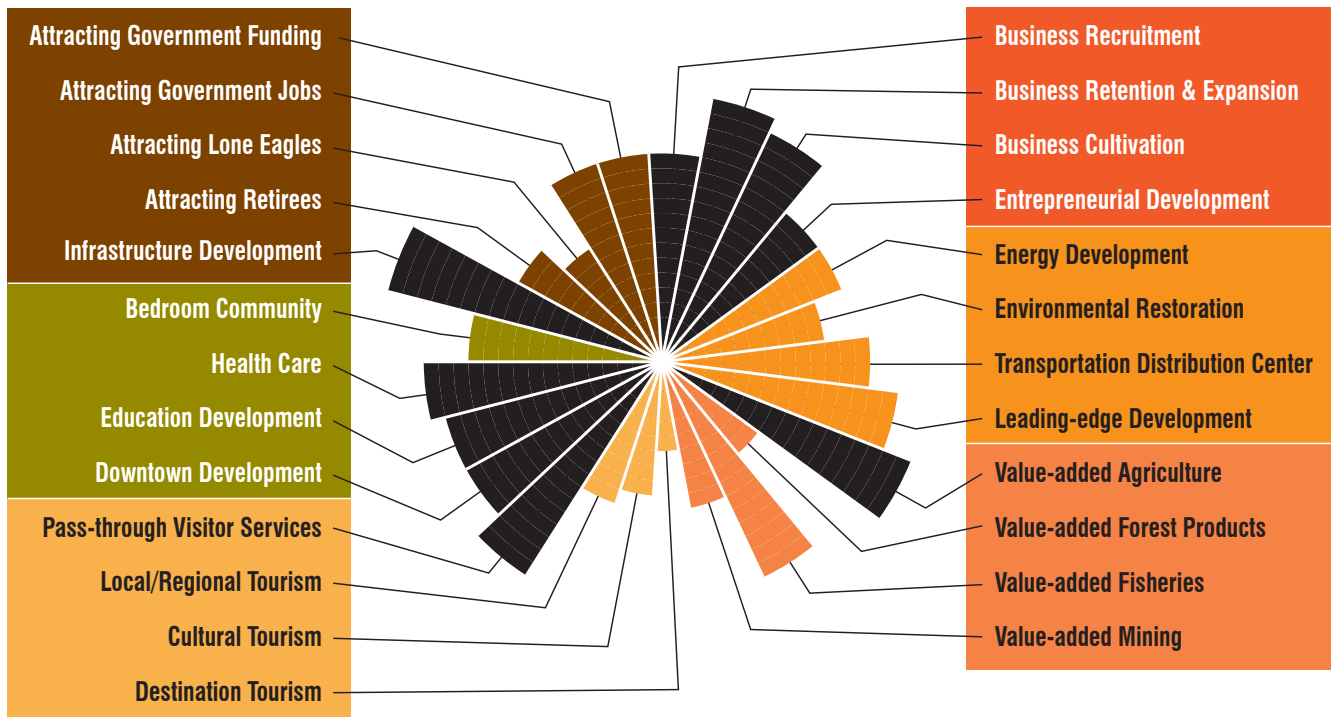
**Tori Thompson**

*Public Relations Director*

*Paragould School District*

## 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

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

