

LEE COUNTY

Arkansas



Plan "Snapshot"

Henry Ford once said, "If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." It is in this spirit of unity, determination and drive that Lee County has developed a strategic plan for our future.

We believe our future is one of optimism and opportunity. We believe our future holds promise for everyone who is willing to work. We believe in our youth, in our leaders and in ourselves. We believe that we have the power to make Lee County great.

We must not forget our past. The booms and the busts, the hardships and hurts, the good times and the bad – all have led us down the path we're on today. For years, we have struggled to sustain our communities. Poverty has driven people away from Lee County, and those remaining have had to make do with scarcer resources.

We must not forget but we must also look forward to a new day dawning. Our past is but one chapter of a larger work. What we do now will write the chapters of our future.

Building a better economy through small business, tourism and better education is one step forward. Building a better society through healthy choices and community engagement is another. If we keep these goals in mind as we progress, the chapters we write will be legendary.

These chapters will not write themselves. We are all bound to participate in their creation. It is up to us to determine our future. Moving forward together, we can make a real positive difference in Lee County.

PLAN DIRECTOR

Pat Audirsch

Lee County Chamber of Commerce

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Mildred Barnes Griggs

Community Member

Gail Broadway

Merchants Bank

Sue Colinger

First National Bank of Eastern Arkansas

Clifton Collier

Director

Lee County Cooperative Clinic

Jim Keasler

County Judge

Lee County

Mary Maercklein

Deputy District Ranger

St. Francis National Forest

Tammy Miller

Community Member

John Morrow

Former Director

Mississippi River State Park

Linda Reeves

Community Member

Evelyn Shackelford

Community Member

Mark Smith

Principal

Smith Insurance

Rob Walker

Photographer & Community Member

Doris Wallace

Community Member

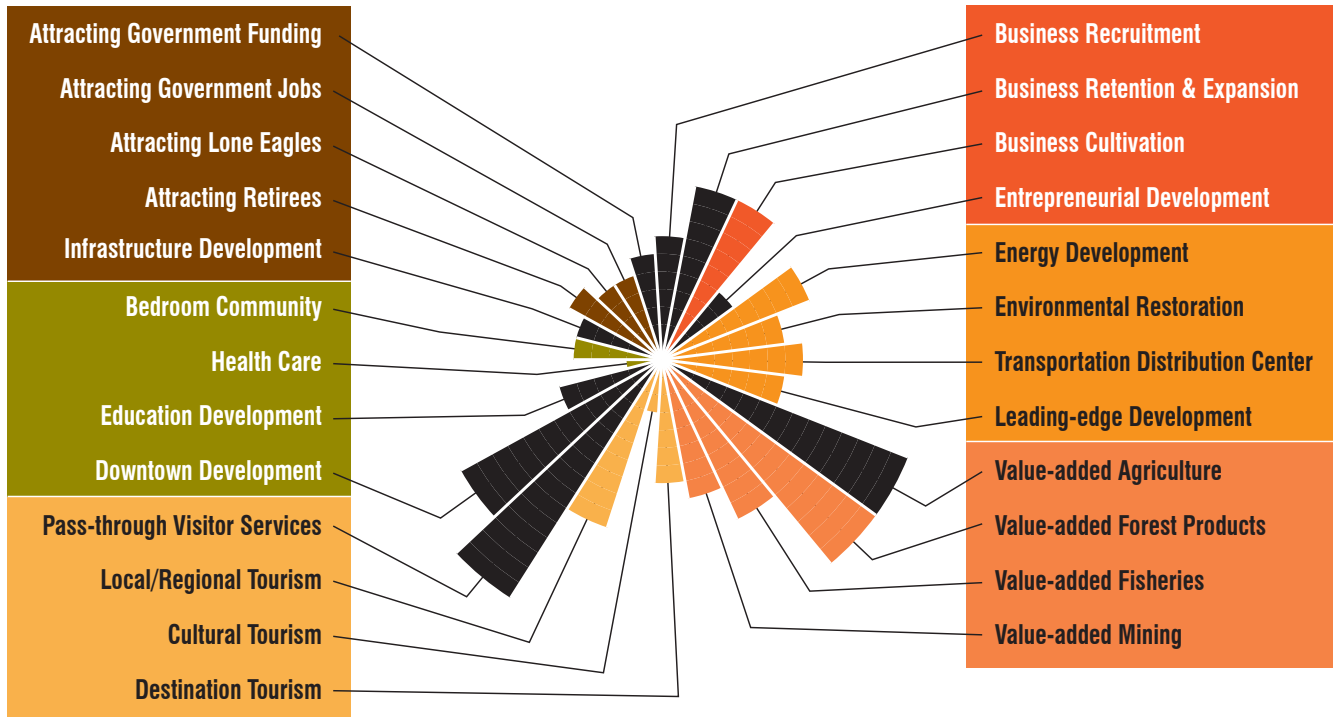
Jimmy Williams

Mayor

City of Marianna

LEE COUNTY STRATEGY “THUMBPRINT”

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



SELECTED STRATEGIES & INITIATIVES	
Attracting Funding	Development and promotion of priority project list.
Beautification	Clean-up of dilapidated and abandoned properties.
Business Recruitment	Preparation of industrial sites and promotional materials.
Business Retention & Expansion	Development of an outreach program for local businesses.
Daycare	Expansion of daycare options for our citizens.
Downtown Development	Creation of preservation, marketing and volunteer programs.
Education Development	Improvement of K-12 educational system.
Entrepreneurial Development	Establishment of business coaching and mentoring program.
Healthy Youth and Community	Development of exercise and nutritional programs for all ages.
Infrastructure Development	Street, highway, telecommunications and Internet improvements.
Pass-through Visitor Services	Development of tourism assets, including lodging facilities.

