

ATHENS HOUSING AUTHORITY RESIDENTS

# Share your ideas for making Athens-Clarke County an even better place in the future.

Attend a Focus on the Future Workshop.

**WE WANT  
TO HEAR  
FROM YOU!**

**EVERYONE  
IS INVITED**

## FOCUS ON THE FUTURE WORKSHOPS

Attend the session most convenient to you.

Help ENVISION the future!

The Focus on the Future Workshops are an opportunity for you to share your ideas, concerns, and hopes about the future of Athens Clarke-County within a casual, small-group setting.

To learn more visit:

**[EnvisionAthens.com](http://EnvisionAthens.com)**

**JAN 30** (Mon.) **6:00-7:30pm**

Classic Center  
300 N. Thomas Street

**JAN 31** (Tue.) **12:30-2:00pm**

Lyndon House Arts Center  
293 Hoyt Street

**JAN 31** (Tue.) **6:00-7:30pm\***

Cedar Shoals High School  
1300 Cedar Shoals Drive

**FEB 1** (Wed.) **10:30am-12:00pm**

Classic Center  
300 N. Thomas Street

**FEB 2** (Thu.) **6:00-7:30pm\***

Clarke Central High School  
350 S. Milledge Avenue

*\*These workshops will provide childcare for school-age children.*

**envision**  
ATHENS our community • our future

## Answers to Common Questions about Envision Athens

**What is Envision Athens?** Envision Athens is a community-wide effort to develop a common vision for the future of Athens-Clarke County. This process will create a visionary and attainable strategy to guide community and economic development for the next 20 years. This is not an exercise to create “another plan.” Instead, it is a community-wide effort to develop accountability and a commitment to implement change.

**Why does ACC need to do this plan?** In general, planning such as this is good stewardship. Communities – like businesses - cannot reach their potential without a deliberate and thoughtful blueprint. The community has many significant assets and the potential to change dynamically in the future. This potential has a much better chance of succeeding with a thoughtful planning process.

**How will the Envision Athens plan be different from the ACC Unified Government’s comprehensive plan?** The State of Georgia requires local governments to review and update their comprehensive plans every ten years. That plan is limited to actions the Unified Government will take in the community. Envision Athens will include many other stakeholders from all areas of the community who will contribute ideas and recommendations. These contributions will establish the larger community-based vision which will help with the development of the comprehensive plan.

**Why should I care?** As a resident of ACC, you have already made a choice to live and invest in the community. If you like the community as it is, you should care because change is always happening. If, as an AHA resident, you want aspects of the community improved, you should help identify and discuss issues and concerns. This is your opportunity to discuss issues that concern you – jobs, housing, transportation, educational opportunities and anything else on your mind.

**Who will lead the planning process?** A 38-member citizen steering committee will help guide the public process and the plan’s recommendations. These individuals applied to be part of the process. Some members of the steering committee include AHA staff and commissioners. The steering committee is representative of the community’s diverse interests. The ACC staff is working closely with an outside organization to facilitate the steering committee’s work, hold public workshops, conduct technical work, and review all recommendations in order to draft the plan.

**Is there a role for residents to get involved?** Yes, especially AHA residents! Leaders are committed to an open and inclusive process. Anyone who cares about the future of the community may attend meetings and participate and contribute their ideas at public meetings and through web-based technology.

**What will happen at the Focus on the Future Workshops?** The meetings will include a brief presentation of the planning process and the timeline. Meeting participants will work together in small groups to look at the community’s strengths and opportunities for change. The meetings will be facilitated to ensure all attending are comfortable sharing and that all ideas are captured.

**Do I have to be an expert to contribute ideas?** You are an expert because you live in Athens-Clarke County. You know the community because you make your home here. Who is best at representing what you like about Athens or what you think would benefit Athens? Be part of this process!

For more information visit

[www.EnvisionAthens.com](http://www.EnvisionAthens.com) or contact Cynthia Lambright at 706-613-3020 or [info@envisionathens.com](mailto:info@envisionathens.com)