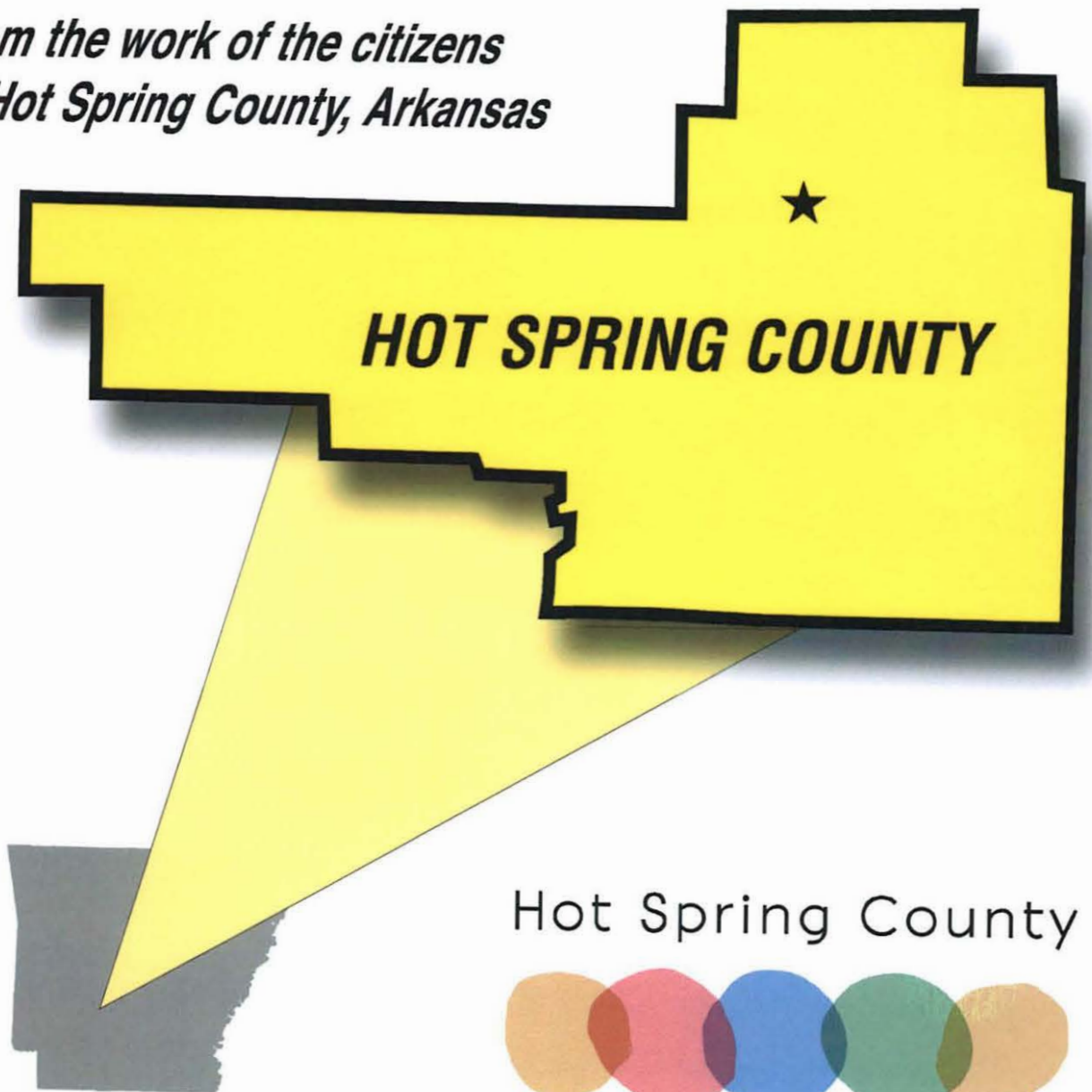


Our Vision for the Future

*From the work of the citizens
of Hot Spring County, Arkansas*



June 1, 2019

Hot Spring County



CONVERSATIONS

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Amy Whitehead, PECD UCA presents Hot Spring County Judge Dennis Thornton with the Arkansas Community Development Society’s 2018 Innovative Community Development Program Award for the Hot Spring County Conversations Initiative.

Hot Spring County Conversations (HSCCC) began as an effort to discover the needs of citizens and to identify community leaders. After two meetings and surveys of representatives throughout the county in November 2017 and February 2018, five strategic priorities for the county were identified. These are listed below in order of importance:

- **Education and Workforce Development**
- **Job Creation**
- **Family Recreation and Youth Activities**
- **Health and Public Safety**
- **Housing and Real Estate (including Downtown Development)**

The Conversations continued with 10 community-wide meetings. These communities were geographically determined to be within the boundaries of the county's five school districts. Citizens from all age groups and occupations presented their vision for moving the county forward. In addition to their ideas for county-wide priorities, citizens identified local priorities and local leaders and established action teams for improvements in their communities. Over 1500 persons participated in both the two-county wide and ten district meetings and surveys. Approximately 3800 more viewed the meetings via live streaming programs. Data collected from all meetings and surveys are reflected in this document along with community action plans.

This report represents the citizens' vision of a 2030 Hot Spring County that is a place where families want to live, work, and play. It envisions a vibrant 2030 Hot Spring County that meets the needs of residents, visitors, and the business community through actions that support families, business friendly environments, beautification, and cultural as well as recreational activities.

The intent of this document is to report the priorities established by the citizens of Hot Spring County during the County Conversations Process.

Tens of thousands of volunteer hours were expended in this effort led by County Judge Dennis Thornton, the county-wide Executive Committee, and Community Steering Committees. The work was recognized by The Arkansas Community Development Society's 2018 Innovative Community Development Program award. Multiple sponsors, especially University of Central Arkansas Center for Community and Economic Development (UCA), assisted us in this endeavor. However, this has been and will continue to be a citizen-led activity in participation with county and municipal elected officials.



Background

County Conversations Structure and Process

Hot Spring County Conversations is a future-focused, positive community development initiative. The initiative began in Fall 2017 with the recognition that engaging county residents, planning for the future, and identifying new leadership opportunities was important for improving the county's quality of life and economic development efforts. The idea for HSCC grew out of discussions in the Judge's Grants Advisory Group. They determined that there was a lack of information on county needs and no organized mechanism for identifying those needs or the leadership available to meet them.

In November 2017, the first county-wide meeting of HSCC was held at College of the Ouachitas (COTO) in Malvern. This was followed by a county-wide survey and second public meeting. At the second meeting, the results of the survey were shared with attendees. That information was used in interactive sessions where the attendees voiced ways to realize the priorities identified from the survey. These ideas along with the survey data were collected, analyzed and reported by UCA staff who continuously guided us through this process.

The success of the county-wide meetings led to the decision that all communities needed to be better heard. In order to achieve this goal, the HSCC Executive Committee implemented a series of school district-based local meetings to hear more clearly the issues and needs of local residents. It was decided to hold two meetings inviting residents of all communities within each of the county's 5 school districts. These meetings were conducted in the same manner as the county-wide meeting and the data from all 12 meetings have been assimilated into a county-wide long range plan along with action plans in the local communities. This community-level outreach also helped to identify citizen-leaders who were ready to step up and take action to improve the quality of life and well-being for the county.

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure of HSCC was designed to engage as many citizens as possible. Local Steering Committees were formed from within the geographic boundaries of the 5 county school districts to initiate outreach with residents and guide any local projects that might be needed to kick start community and economic development. The county-wide Executive Committee led by Judge Thornton included representatives from each steering committee, sponsors, and other county representatives.

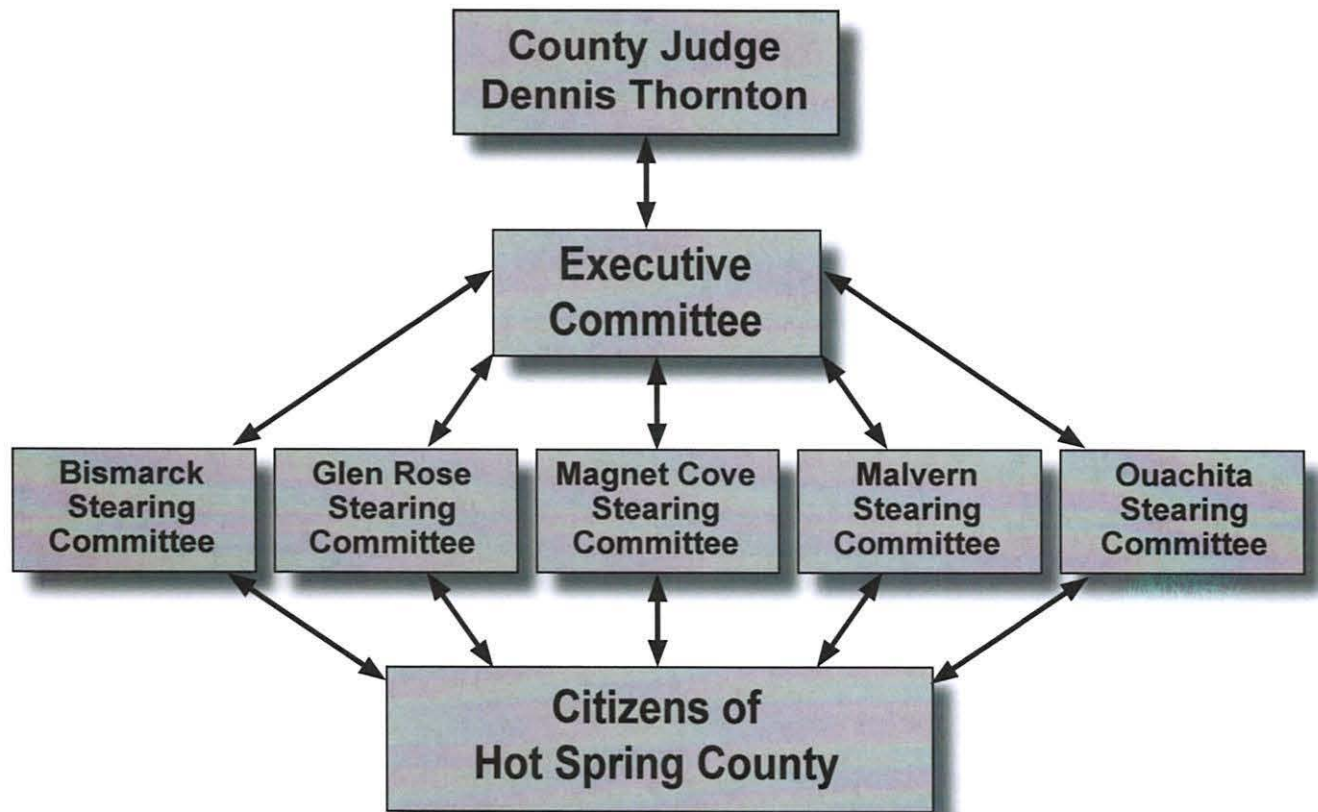
Hot Spring County Conversations' principal partner in this effort has been the staff of UCA. This effort would not have been possible without their guidance. Our other valued sponsors include: Entergy, College of the Ouachitas, Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Hot Spring County Economic Development Corporation, Hot Spring County Chamber of Commerce, Southern Bancorp, Diamond Lakes Federal Credit Union, Baptist Health, Malvern National Bank, Premier Refreshment Service, Hot Spring County Cooperative Extension Service, Malvern Daily Record, and West Central Planning and Development District.

Organizational Chart

Hot Spring County Conversations

Executive Committee Members

The Executive Committee was formed at the beginning of this process to guide decision making for HSCC. The Executive Committee is composed of residents from across the county and sponsors. These individuals gave countless hours of their time to this initiative. Thank you to the following individuals for their service



County Judge Dennis Thornton, Chair

Magen Allen
Brett Ausley
Rachel Bearden
Scott Brown
Gerald Black
Doug Burnett
Danna Carver
Tina Carver
Von Michael
Kathaleen Cole
Steve Cook
Glen Coston
Mary Dillard

Tom Dillard
Chris Fields
Clare Graham
Tony Hardage
Paul Helberg
Scott Helberg
Birdie Holder
Tim Holicer
Lance Howell
Claudine James
Marva Jasper
Susan Kissire
Jenny Lanier

Rick McClure
Larry Newsom
Mason Robinson
Danny Thomas
Leon Thornton
Mark Hunt, *Entergy*
Tandee White, *Entergy*
Amy Whitehead, *UCA*
Moriah Bruner, *UCA*
Shelby Fiegel, *UCA*
Matt Twyford,
*Arkansas Economic
Development Commission*

Hot Spring County Priorities



Education And Workforce Development

By 2030, Hot Spring County will have a skilled workforce that meets the needs of current and future businesses and industries.

Identified focus areas:

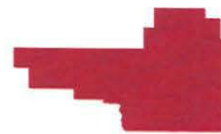
- Conduct a workforce skills gap analysis of the county and the region
- Identify high turnover positions and industries and build employee retention programs
- Identify gaps in broadband infrastructure and improve access throughout the county
- Support College of the Ouachitas and Chamber of Commerce county-wide workforce development and soft skills training programs based on local business needs
- Work with county school districts and College of the Ouachitas to create or expand appropriate youth mentorships, internships, and apprenticeship programs connecting youth and workers to local business leaders
- Identify accredited and affordable online job training and certification programs
- Communicate availability of training programs to the community and local businesses
- Educate parents on incentives available to school systems relating to free and reduced lunches and encourage application for their children

Job Creation

By 2030, Hot Spring County will support new business recruitment, retention and expansion of existing businesses and provide support for entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Identified focus areas:

- Identify key industry gaps in Hot Spring County and actively recruit those industries that are underrepresented
- Establish a county business incubator geared towards speeding up the growth and success of startup and early stage companies
- Prioritize funds for county-wide economic development that provide incentives for new businesses and industries, business retention, and expansion
- Create a communication plan to share available economic development incentives such as opportunity zones and tax credits for historic area restoration
- Support local businesses by creating shop local programs and establish small business development marketing strategies
- Improve county infrastructure to support the needs of businesses and industry and citizen's quality of life
- Create a welcoming environment intended to entice outside investors and business to locate operations throughout the county
- Create a transportation plan that meets the needs of current and future residents, businesses and industries within the county
- Expand the Farmers' Market and develop an advertising strategy to increase patronage



Family Recreation and Youth Activities

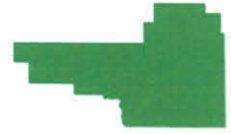
By 2030, Hot Spring County will be known for its youth and family-centered quality of life.

Identified focus areas:

- Identify youth preferences for activities and facilities that would encourage them to reside in Hot Spring County
- Identify and promote county-wide youth leadership programs
- Create fertile ground for a vibrant and sustainable arts and culture community
- Expand and improve indoor and outdoor facilities for recreational activities and community events
- Improve existing parks and develop more parks and recreational areas that include walking, biking, and hiking trails and more opportunities for camping and picnicking
- Create and implement a marketing and communication plan to showcase recreational and youth activities
- Develop, promote, and expand current and new county festivals
- Create public areas with free Wi-Fi and charging stations
- Develop a county communication plan that defines a systematic information sharing mechanism among all audiences and communities within Hot Spring County
- Develop a communication network among county nonprofits and community volunteers to facilitate fundraising, grant writing, cultural and educational events, and to meet civic needs
- Expand library services throughout the county



Waterfall at Falls Branch Trail, Lake Catherine State Park



Health and Public Safety

By 2030, Hot Spring County will be known for improvements in health and public safety.

Identified focus areas:

- Develop programs that reduce or eliminate areas of blight, litter, and abandoned housing
- Improve safe roadway access to all county school complexes
- Work with law enforcement, health providers, and community leaders to develop a plan that addresses prevention of and treatment for substance abuse in the county
- Work with schools, local nonprofits, police, the health department, and medical care providers to host health and safety education sessions and mental health support programs for citizens and youth
- Develop and implement a plan to meet the needs of law enforcement
- Develop and implement a plan to meet the needs of volunteer firefighter departments
- Develop a plan and identify funding for an improved County Justice Facility that will house the courts and have adequate jail facilities for male, female, juvenile and mentally ill offenders
- Make the county more pedestrian friendly
- Build more community shelters and safe rooms
- Improve safety at railroad crossings
- Expand local health facilities and services county-wide
- Identify or provide best practices for Law Enforcement and community safety programs

Housing, Real Estate and Downtown Development

By 2030, Hot Spring County will have land use and development plans that promote smart development.

Identified focus areas:

- Produce a plan that addresses housing needs and mechanisms to bring more housing developers to the county
- Explore potential consolidation or incorporation of key areas in the county
- Produce a beautification plan that results in an area welcoming to visitors and promotes citizens pride in their communities
- Support development of facilities for the homeless population
- Improve upkeep and eliminate or reduce blight and abandoned structures through development of county zoning ordinances and codes enforcement
- Create a plan to support construction, maintenance, and upkeep of roads and bridges
- Support designated roadways and bicycle lanes for shared or designated use for commuter and recreational cyclists

Community Action Plan



Introduction

Communities identified geographically within the 5 school districts developed their own priorities. Local Steering Committees created their own specific action plans. These are listed in the following sections.

Bismarck Community

Communities Represented: Antioch, Bismarck, Bonnerdale, Caney, Social Hill, New DeRoche, DeGray Lake, Percy, Oma, and Point Cedar

Bismarck's Top 10 Priorities

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responses</u>
Entrepreneurship/Small Business Development	144
Infrastructure	115
Job Creation	102
Education and Workforce Development	77
Youth and Family Services and Activities	70
Housing and Real Estate	54
Public Safety and Law Enforcement.....	51
Agriculture and Value-Added Opportunities	47
Poverty	37
Establish Industry	33

Bismarck Steering Committee Members: Chair Tony Hardage, Vice Chair Brett Ausley, Recorder Magen Allen, Birdie Holder, Superintendent Susan Kissire, Ron Wright, Leon Thornton, John Crangle, Brad Depriest, Justin Harper, Phillip Heck, Karigan Beckwith, Terry Miller, Mary Overton and Melissa Walker Neal





The Bismarck Steering Committee identified the following priorities that should be reflected in the County-Wide Plan:

- Family and Student Services
- Public Safety and Law Enforcement
- Business and Community Development
- Job Creation

Initial Action Activities for the Bismarck Area Communities

The Bismarck Steering Committee has selected two main areas to address through a strategic planning process. These two topics are:

- (1) Public Safety and Law enforcement
- (2) Family and Student Services and Activities

BISMARCK COMMUNITY PRIORITIES: PUBLIC SAFETY, LAW ENFORCEMENT, DRUGS, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE - Co-Chairs: Leon Thornton, Brad Depriest, and Mary Overton

Action Teams will address the following focus areas:

- (1) School Safety: Chair-Ron Wright

To achieve the maximum level of safety for Bismarck School students, faculty and staff, campuses, and events through maintaining a positive working relationship (partnership) between school administration, sheriff's department, and Community.

- (2) Neighborhood Crime Watch Program: Chair-Mitch Fendley

Strengthen the Bismarck Community Neighborhood Crime Watch Program.

- (3) Drugs and Substance Abuse

Work with law enforcement, health providers, and community leaders to develop a plan that addresses prevention of and treatment for substance abuse in the community and county.

- (4) Volunteer Fire Departments and First Responders

Develop and implement a plan designed to meet the needs of all volunteer departments within the Bismarck community

- (5) Law Enforcement Services and Resources:

Work with the Sheriff's Department and community leaders to provide information and assistance for the development of a county plan which meets the needs of the Department.

FAMILY AND STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES -Co-Chairs: Birdie Holder and Terry Miller

The Family and Student Services and Activities identified were:

- (1) Develop a Library Annex in the Bismarck community service area

Co-Chairs-Bob and Donna Duncan.

Initial Goal: Identify property to house a library

- (2) Establish Medical Clinic extended hours

Co-Chairs-Birdie Holder and Tony Hardage

Initial Goal: Conduct a feasibility study to determine after hours usage

- (3) Investigate resources to develop a Fun Park and community center complex

Co-Chairs-Walt Reding and Evan Smith

Goal: Identify properties for the placing of a fun park and Community Center

Research Grant applications

Community Action Plan



Glen Rose Community

Communities Represented: Glen Rose, Gifford, Reyburn Creek and Traskwood

Top 10 Priorities

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responses</u>
Internet Access	67
Water and Sewer	33
Education and Workforce Development	32
Job Creation	32
Housing and Real Estate	28
Youth and Family Activities and Services	25
Public Safety	22
Poverty	22
Parks and Recreation	20
Bicycle Paths and Trails	15

Glen Rose Steering Committee Members:

Co-Chair Scott Helberg, Co-Chair Tina Carver, Recorder Mary Dillard, Gerald Black, Superintendent Tim Holicer, Dennis Mitchell, Thomas Henry, Melissa Weatherford, Jerry Dodd Billy Jack Gibson, Jason Chenault, Tom Dillard, Meghan Hays, Jim Houpt, Paul Helberg, Butch Jones, Jon Jones, Mikayla Long, Brittney Wallace, Carroll Rogers, Christian Chandler, Dede Riggan, and Wade Stafford.

The Glen Rose Steering Committee identified the following five priorities that should be reflected in the County-Wide Plan:

- Internet service sufficient to support the needs of the Glen Rose area and the county
- Adequate water and sewer services be a part of future county development
- Education and workforce development programs including outreach activities to students and adults
- Job creation sufficient to sustain population employment needs
- Sufficient recreation opportunities inside the county for its residents

Initial Action Activities for the Glen Rose Area Communities

The Glen Rose Steering Committee has selected two topics to initially address through a strategic planning process. These two topics are:

- (1) Internet Service
- (2) Community Park



Community Action Plan



Magnet Cove Community

Communities Represented: Magnet Cove, Jones Mill, Gourdneck, Rockport, and Butterfield

Magnet Cove Top 10 Priorities

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responses</u>
Broadband (Internet And Cell Coverage).....	72
Housing and Real Estate	67
Job Creation.....	64
Water and Sewer	59
Leadership Development	56
Human Services.....	55
Litter and Blight Removal and General Beautification	46
Parks and Recreation Venues	40
Youth and Family Services	40
Public Safety	34

Magnet Cove Steering Committee Members:

Scott Brown, Co-Chair; Steve Cook, Co-Chair; Von Michael, Recorder; Danny Thomas, Superintendent; Candiss Bennett, Chad Williams, Sheila Williams, Chris Gaines, Cindy Kennerly, Greg Kennerly, Dana Keener, Don Hilyard, Glen Coston, Jack McClaran, Jacquelynn LaBeff, James Kimzey, Jeff Blakeney, Jeff Eskola, Joel Tyner and Richard Tolleson

The Magnet Cove Steering Committee identified the following four priorities that should be reflected in the County-Wide Plan:

- Improve safe roadway access to all county school complexes
- Adequate broadband and cell services are available throughout the County
- Explore mechanisms to provide more housing for all income levels and seniors
- Identify youth preferences for indoor and outdoor recreation

Initial Action Activities for the Magnet Cove Action Plans

School Improvements Action Teams – Co-chairs: Jeff Eskola and Danny Thomas

Goals: Safer schools in Magnet Cove

1. Work with county government to widen the access roads to the school complex
2. Begin plans for a new Elementary School Building
3. Partner with Martin Marietta, Inc. to provide scholarships and training programs

Improve and develop the Jones Mill Area – Co-chairs: Don Hilyard and Greg Kennerly

Goals: Beautify and develop the Jones Mill Area

1. Remove abandoned housing near Jones Mill and seek new development there
2. General cleanup of Jones Mill Area
3. Work with Kimzey Water District to keep utilities in the area
4. Establish a recreational venue within the area

Establish adequate broadband and cell service in the Magnet Cove area

Co-chairs-Steve Cook and James Kimzey

Goal: Adequate broadband and cell service will be available to all residents

1. Establish a task force to survey broadband needs
2. Explore improvements with vendors
3. Partner with other districts like Glen Rose or Ouachita to achieve goal

Expand opportunities for vocational education among Magnet Cove students

Co-chairs- Candiss Bennett and Jacquelynn LaBeff

Goal: Increased availability and communication of trade training opportunities

1. Establish a group that will partner with local businesses, COTO, National Park College (NPC), students and teachers to communicate all opportunities for vocational training from middle school through high school
2. Establish a program for students to shadow or intern in local businesses
3. Promote career training through enrollment of high school students in local 2-year colleges
4. Educate students on wage benefits of trade or certification training

Expand Youth and Family Recreational Activities

Co-chairs-Sonny Crumby and Michelle Schaffer

Goal: Smart development of recreational venues

1. Survey young people to identify the types of recreational activities or venues youth and families would be most likely to frequent
2. Find ways to bring those activities to Magnet Cove

Housing and Real Estate Improvements

Co-chairs-Don Hilyard and Damon Dyer

Goal: Support Developers to increase available housing and initiate growth

1. Create open relationships with developers to help build the area.
2. Look for assistance in removal of blighted areas and buildings to make them attractive for development.
3. Support the county-wide plans for strategic development of housing
4. Work with Martin Marietta, Inc. to improve relationships with property owners
5. Work with Kimzey Water District and Magnet Cove/Butterfield Water Association to provide services to the new developments in the Beaver Lakes area and future developments



Community Action Plan



Malvern Community

Communities Represented: Antioch, Big Creek, Butterfield, Central, Gifford, Harp, Lono, Malvern, Perla, Rockport, and Social Hill

Malvern Top 5 Priorities

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Responses</u>
Education, Job Creation & Workforce Development.....	432
Family Recreation and Youth Activities	383
Beautification and Blight Removal	276
Public Health and Safety.....	270
Downtown Development, Housing and Real Estate	230

Malvern Steering Committee Members:

Chair Clare Graham, Co-Vice Chairs Chris Fields and Dara Casey, Recorder Kathaleen Cole, Mayor Brenda Weldon, Terri Bryant, Jean Harper, Claudine James, Marissa Banks, Audrey Carr, Ben Capes, Virginia Buckner, Donna Ledbetter, Pamela Hall, Carrie Henson, Tony Jenkins, Marva Jasper, Iris McCauley-Clegg, Marion Gibson, Lynette Smith, Laura Hobby, Jennifer Shnaekel, Danny Riggan, Alex Warner, Star Casey, and Danna Carver

The Malvern Steering Committee identified the following four priorities that should be reflected in the County-Wide Plan:

1. Create fertile ground for a vibrant and sustainable arts and culture community
2. Develop a communication plan that defines the approach, objectives, audiences, and messages to ensure systematic information sharing with the community
3. Organize and develop regular opportunities for civic engagement, grant writing workshops, and presentations from economic development experts
4. Establish a local business incubator geared towards speeding up the growth and success of startup and early stage companies

Initial Action Activities for the Malvern Area Communities

Assess and Improve Existing City Parks

Youth and Family Services Action Team: Co-Chairs Dara Casey & Tony Jenkins

Goals:

1. Examine current seating accommodations, lighting, and handicap accessibility at the Bicentennial Park and the Malvern City Park
2. Add opportunities for social interaction, such as painted chess and checker tables to increase community engagement in public spaces
3. Develop and/or improve outdoor basketball facilities for public use
4. Partner with other groups, churches, community agencies, interest groups, schools, etc. to find ways to use and maintain facilities, to gain volunteers, and to engage in advocacy
5. Conduct a survey to receive input from the private sector, including the younger demographic, regarding most desired recreational activities
6. Explore community green spaces and walkability
7. In collaboration with local officials and the Ouachita River Park Commission, research possible city and/or county land available to extend trails and the river walk

Litter Reduction and Beautification

Beautification and Blight Removal Action Team: Co-Chairs Kathaleen Cole & Clare Graham
Goals:

1. Develop a visual campaign to communicate the theme “Keep Malvern Beautiful” through a variety of formats such as print, digital, and video media
2. Determine possible locations for interactive temporary and permanent art installations such as: basketball trash cans, trash ‘art’ sculptures, painting the drains to engage the community and promote education. Involve local artists and young people
3. Coordinate and organize a structured quarterly city-wide cleanup which involves local organizations, groups, and businesses
4. Collaborate with local groups working currently with the city inspector and code enforcement on eradicating blighted properties

Internship Program

Education Action Team: Co-Chairs Claudine James and Donna Ledbetter

Goal:

1. Work with the local college, businesses, and organizations to expand current internship program opportunities.

Downtown Development

Housing and Downtown Development Action Team: Co-Chairs: Danny Riggan and Carrie Henson

Goals:

1. Establish consensus and cooperation by building partnerships among the various groups that have a stake in Malvern downtown and recruit volunteers which represent a broad cross section of the community.
2. Formulate project budget for improving streetscaping in downtown Malvern, to add banners, trash cans, and vegetation.
3. Coordinate, organize, and promote regular community events, such as music performances, farmers market, art classes, and historic tours in the downtown commercial district.

Stabilize and Preserve the Rosenwald (Tuggle) School

Rosenwald Action Team: Co-Chairs Danna Carver, and Glorie Thornton

Goal:

1. Support local efforts to stabilize and preserve the Rosenwald School



Community Action Plan

Ouachita Community



Communities Represented: Donaldson, Brown Springs, Friendship, Lono, Midway, and Social Hill

Ouachita Top 10 Priorities

Priority

Responses

Education and Workforce Development	43
Parks and Recreation	37
Youth and Family Activities and Services	36
Agriculture and Value-Added Opportunities	31
Housing and Real Estate	31
Beautification	30
Public Safety	30
Job Creation.....	27
Internet Access	26
Entrepreneurship/Small Business Development.....	21

Ouachita Steering Committee Members:

Co-Chair Jenny Lanier, Co-Chair Doug Burnett, Recorder Jenny Stafford, Superintendent Larry Newsom, Michelle Riggan, Milton Paredes, Vidal Martinez, Ray Cook, Cathy Dingler, Lyn McDade, Cheryl Whitley, John Floriani, Tristan Knoedl, and Rachel Bearden

The Ouachita Steering Committee identified the following five priorities that should be reflected in the County-Wide Plan:

- Develop a recreational area on the river that includes parking, a walking trail, pavilion, restroom, and create a community festival area
- Educate parents on incentives available to school systems relating to free and reduced lunches and encourage application for their children
- Work with partners and community members to reduce abandoned and neglected property
- Create a safer community by working with others in the county to combat drug issues and explore funding for code enforcement

Initial Action Activities for the Ouachita Area Communities

Recreation Area on River and Downtown Donaldson

Parks and Recreation Co-Chairs Milton & Sharon Parades

Goals:

1. Grant to fund a river trail that could double as cross-country track
2. Parking for river recreation
3. Complete the downtown walking trail
4. Pavilion and restroom in river recreation area
5. Community festival area

Free and Reduced Lunch

Education Action Team

Co-Chairs- Ouachita School Administration Team (Larry Newsom, Tristan Knoedl, and Lyn McDade)

Goals:

1. Publicize for parents what the incentive is for the school beyond just free lunches - "National School Lunch (NSL) Money"-Technology, Professional Development, Academic Enrichment Web link available to make it easier to share with parents - Work toward destigmatization

Abandoned Homes

Community Enhancement Action Team Co-Chairs- Amber Baker & Michelle Riggan

Goals:

1. Find persons willing to rehabilitate structures and community members willing to help such as Habitat for Humanity projects
2. Find community members willing to help demolish older homes at no cost to owners or to take lumber and work with fire departments for controlled burns
3. Reclaim historic buildings, such as Friendship Post Office and Donaldson Brick Store to repurpose as Community Event Centers

Public Safety

Public Safety Action Team Co-Chairs- Jenny Lanier and Doug Burnett

Goals

1. Donaldson Code Enforcement – Explore Funding Options
2. Work with Ouachita Neighborhood Crime Watch to address crime, especially drug related issues



Next Steps for Hot Spring County



Unveiling and Announcement

A county-wide meeting open to the public will introduce the citizens to this document, its vision and initiatives. During that meeting each community will report on its ongoing and proposed activities.

Presentation to the City Councils and Quorum Court

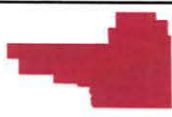
Judge Thornton will present the plan to the Quorum Court and City Councils to orient the elected officials to the communicated wishes of the county and invite them to endorse and participate in the effort. Similar meetings in unincorporated areas will also be planned.

Sustaining the process

The county-wide actions will be overseen by the County Judge, supported by the Executive Committee and task forces formed by the Judge. Partnership opportunities among communities with like needs will be encouraged and supported. Funding for high level opportunities will be sought as necessary. The Executive Committee will explore the development of by-laws.

It is expected that Community Action Teams and Steering Committees will meet at regular time periods to work on the initiatives in this document and those not yet developed. They will report progress back to local stakeholders, the Executive Committee, and the County Judge. Progress reports will be issued annually for the County. Future county-wide and local status meetings are expected. Guest speakers or experts will be identified and invited as needed. New partners for this initiative will be continuously sought.

The Judge's Grants Advisory Group and West Central Planning and Development and other entities such as the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, will serve as resources for grant availability and preparation as needed. All possible resources for implementation of the plan will be explored and reported to the Executive Committee and County Judge.

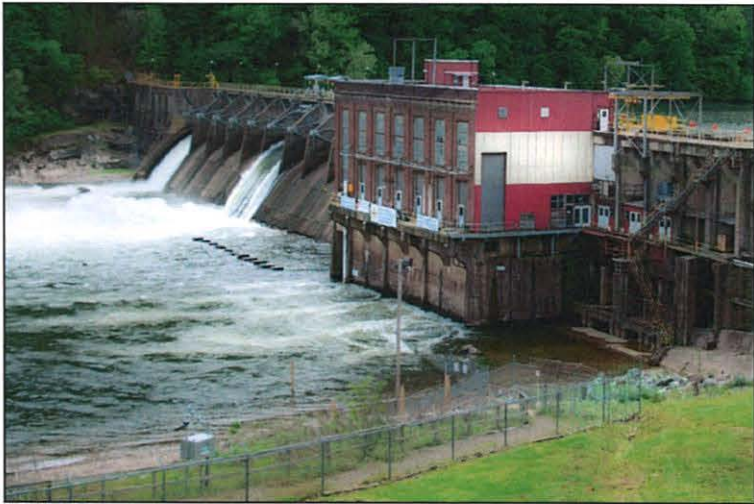


Information sharing

A communication network will be established through the county website currently being developed. Justice of the Peace Gerald Black will lead that effort. An email query to that website will allow all citizens to ask questions or give input to a central place on the website. Those questions can be referred to the appropriate place. Facebook pages will be updated. Information will also be added to local sites such as the Hot Spring County Chamber of Commerce website. Print media notices will be sent as needed.



Grapette International, Inc.



County Leaders

Hot Spring County Judge

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City Leaders

CITY OF MALVERN

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Ward 1 Position 2

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Ward 2 Position 2

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CITY OF ROCKPORT

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Clerk

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Ruth Crites

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Brenda Womble

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Darrell Hughes

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CITY OF DONALDSON

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Jerry Daily

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Mandy Ledbetter

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Keith Rowton

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William Wright

CITY OF FRIENDSHIP

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City Council

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Jon Floriani

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Mark Shearin

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Recorder/Treasurer

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CITY OF MIDWAY

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Clerk/Treasurer

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City Council

Trent Lewis, Jim Bray, Alan Cook,
Jason Tugwell, Dusty Tugwell

CITY OF PERLA

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Clerk

Johnny Willis

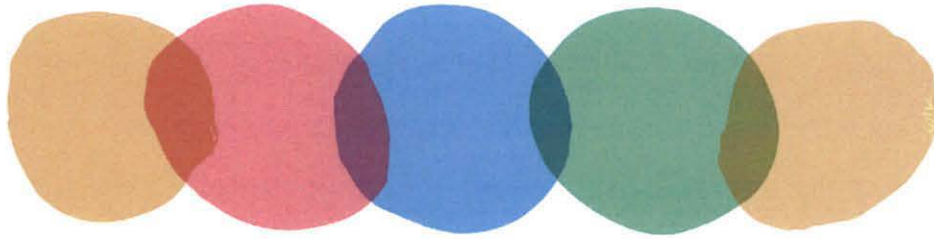
City Council

Barbara Smith, Tyrone Bealer,
Darlene Smith, Mary Child,
Jackie Lawson

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