



PLAN
RUSSELL COUNTY

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

2050

Strong Roots. Bright Future.

Community Meeting

September 2026

 **Matrix**

Introductions – Project Team



Chandra Wright
Russell County Administrator



Ben McGarr, AICP
Military Community
Resilience Manager



Sarah Jones, AICP, PMP
Deputy Project Manager
Stakeholder Engagement



LEE-RUSSELL
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Lisa Sandt
Lee-Russell COG
Executive Director

Ileeia Smith
Public Service Faculty

Grace Brenize
Stakeholder Engagement

J. Scott Pippin
Senior Public Service
Associate

Katie Hall
Stakeholder Engagement

Agenda

- **What is the Comprehensive Plan**
- **Plan Components**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Tonight's Activities**
- **Next Steps**



What is the Comprehensive Plan?

What is the Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan IS

- **Comprehensive**
Addresses land use, housing, transportation, infrastructure, Fort Benning compatibility, and more
- **Long-Range**
Provides guidance for the next 10–20 years or more
- **Community-Driven**
Informed by residents, businesses, and stakeholders
- **Flexible**
Updated over time to respond to changing conditions

A Comprehensive Plan IS NOT

- A zoning map
- A tool to promote special interests
- A detailed policy for specific properties or areas
- A capital improvement program
- An unchangeable document

Why Update the Existing Plan?

- **Existing Plan is 14 years old**
- **Address current opportunities and challenges**
- **Restructure for ease of use**
- **Capture changes in population and demographics**
- **Establish a shared playbook for County departments and partners**
- **Address military compatibility with Fort Benning operations**



Plan Components

Vision Statement

The Vision will be the guiding statement and source of inspiration for the 2050 Plan.

**Aspirational
Descriptive
Long-term**

Comprehensive Plan Elements



Land Use



Transportation



**Public Facilities
and Services**



**Economic
Development**



**Natural Resources,
Conservation, and
Resilience**



Housing

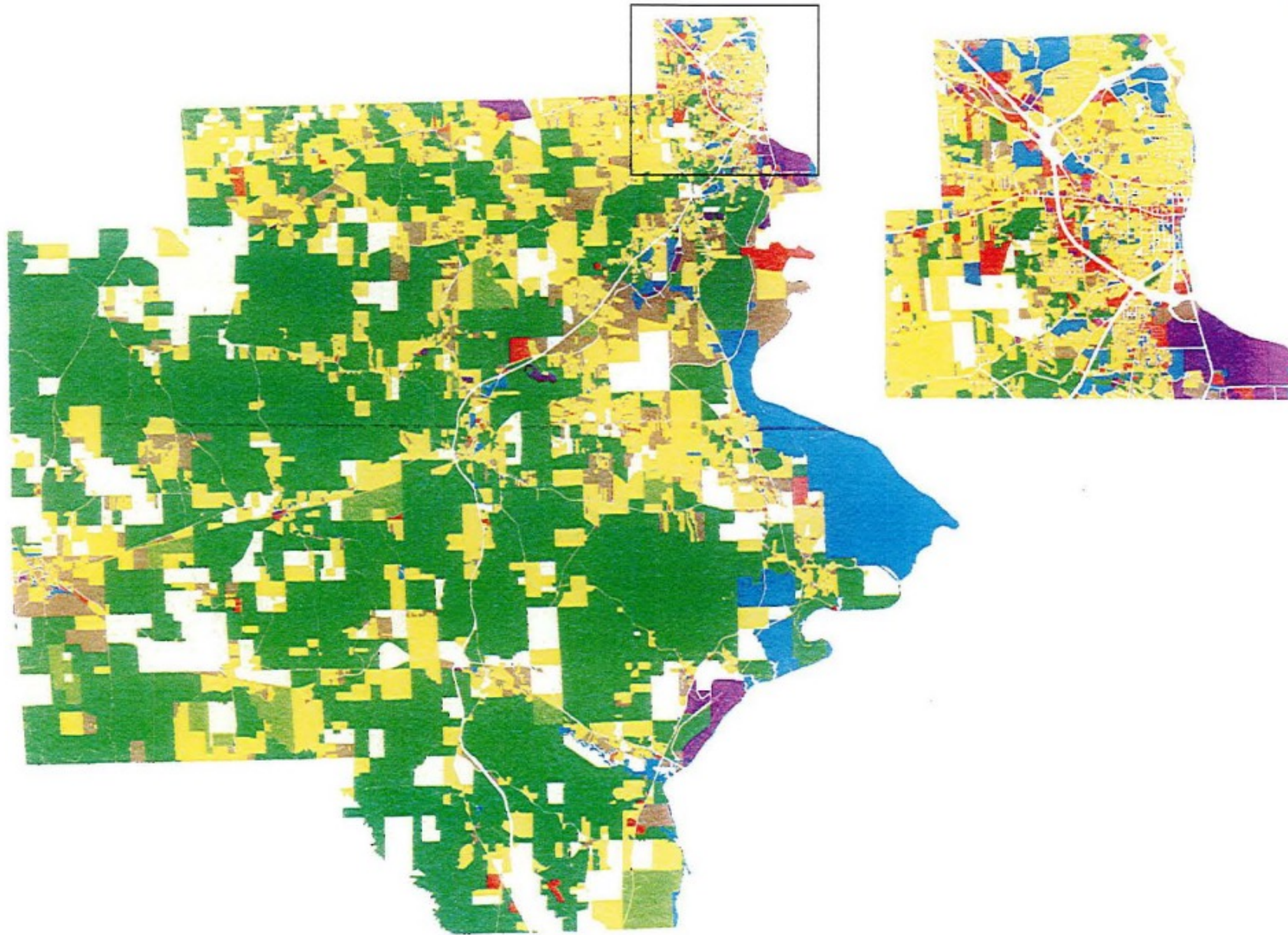


**Military
Compatibility**



**Implementation
Framework**

Future Land Use Map



Goals and Policies



**GUIDE DECISION
MAKING**



**INFLUENCE
BUDGETS**



**TAILORED FOR
EACH ELEMENT**

Community Engagement



Public Engagement



Project Website

- **Main source for updates**
- **Informational materials**
- **ID Places**
- **Questionnaire**
- **Comment form**
- **Email signup**
- **FAQs**

www.RussellCounty2050.com

[About the Comprehensive Plan](#) [Get Involved](#) [Map Your Opportunities/Concerns](#) [Resources/Documents](#) [FAQ](#) [Contact Us](#)

Welcome

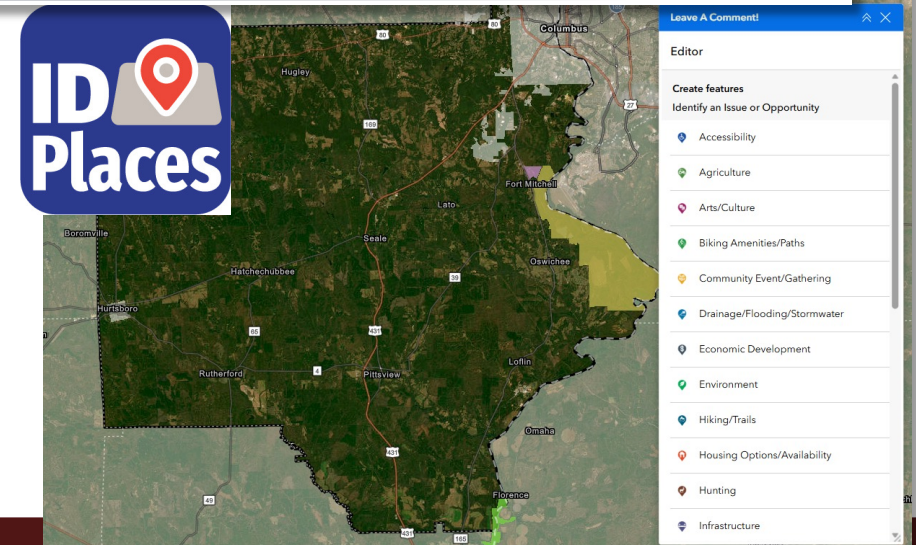
The Russell County Comprehensive Plan is a long-range policy document that guides the County's future growth and development. It establishes a shared vision for Russell County's land use, housing, transportation, economic development, infrastructure, and community character, while providing a framework for informed decision-making over the next 20 years.

The Comprehensive Plan is designed to reflect the values, priorities, and aspirations of Russell County's residents, businesses, property owners, and other stakeholders. Through data-driven analysis and robust public engagement, the Plan will balance growth and development with the preservation of community character and quality of life.

The Plan will be developed from June 2026 through November 2027 and will present several opportunities for the community to provide input. Check back regularly for the latest project updates.

What's New?

[CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT THE COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE](#)



Timeline & Next Steps



Project Timeline



What Comes Next?

- **Website Input**

- Questionnaires – September – November
- IDPlaces mapping comments – September – November
- Email signup
- Comment submission

- **Compile initial community feedback**

- October – December

- **Existing Conditions Report**

- December

- **Second set of community meetings**

- January/February



Tonight's Activities

Interactive and Information Boards

■ **Visioning**

- Info: What is a vision statement?
- What do you love about Russell County?
- What do you want Russell County to be like in 2050?

■ **Housing Perspectives**

- How do you feel about these statements regarding Russell County?
- Multifamily housing preferences

Interactive and Information Boards

- **Where do you live map**
- **Community Perspectives**
 - Sharing input on housing, transportation, environment, and more!

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What is a Vision Statement?

The Vision Statement will inspire and guide the Russell County Comprehensive Plan 2050 Update, reflecting the key values and aspirations shaped by input from the residents, property owners, business owners, and County staff. *Your feedback plays a vital role in its development!*

To help develop the vision statement, we invite you to share your thoughts around themes that reflect Russell County's unique identity.

What characteristics make Russell County unique?

What aspirations do you have for Russell County that might feel out of reach today?

Which features or amenities of Russell County do you believe should be preserved and protected?

What aspects of the community would you like to see enhanced?

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Housing Perspectives

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
There are diverse housing types distributed across Russell County.			
Current housing options in Russell County are generally high-quality.			
Russell County needs more housing options tailored to young families, professionals, and the workforce population.			
There is a need for more housing options that support multigenerational living (ADUs, duplex, triplex).			
There is a growing need for more housing options tailored to seniors in the community.			

Additional Engagement Materials

- **General Plan questionnaire**
- **Housing questionnaire**
- **Youth activities**
 - Questionnaire
 - Coloring/drawing activities
- **1-on-1 conversations with project team**
- **Comment cards**
- **Take-home brochure**

The image displays two engagement materials. The top card is a 'COMMENTS' form with a header featuring the 'PLAN RUSSELL COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2050' logo. It includes a text box for comments and a 'Please return' label. The bottom card is a questionnaire titled 'Section 2. Community Strengths and Challenges'. It contains two sections: '6. What do you see as the top three greatest strengths of Russell County?' and '7. What do you see as the top three greatest challenges for Russell County?'. Each section lists various community attributes with checkboxes for selection.

COMMENTS

Your comments are very important to the development of this Comprehensive Plan and will be taken into consideration throughout the project duration.

Please return

Section 2. Community Strengths and Challenges

6. What do you see as the top three greatest strengths of Russell County?

- ☐ Housing affordability and availability
- ☐ Safe neighborhoods / low crime rates
- ☐ Quality schools and educational programs
- ☐ Parks, open space, and outdoor recreation opportunities
- ☐ Strong sense of community and civic pride
- ☐ Diversity of the population
- ☐ Well-maintained infrastructure (roads, water, public facilities)
- ☐ Economic vitality and local business opportunities
- ☐ Arts, culture, history, and local heritage
- ☐ Rural character
- ☐ Efficient public services (police, fire, EMS, libraries, sanitation)
- ☐ Commitment to environmental stewardship and conservation
- ☐ Community events and festivals
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

7. What do you see as the top three greatest challenges for Russell County?

- ☐ Housing affordability and availability
- ☐ Housing quality and/or aging housing stock
- ☐ Traffic congestion and transportation infrastructure



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Thank You!

Any questions?

