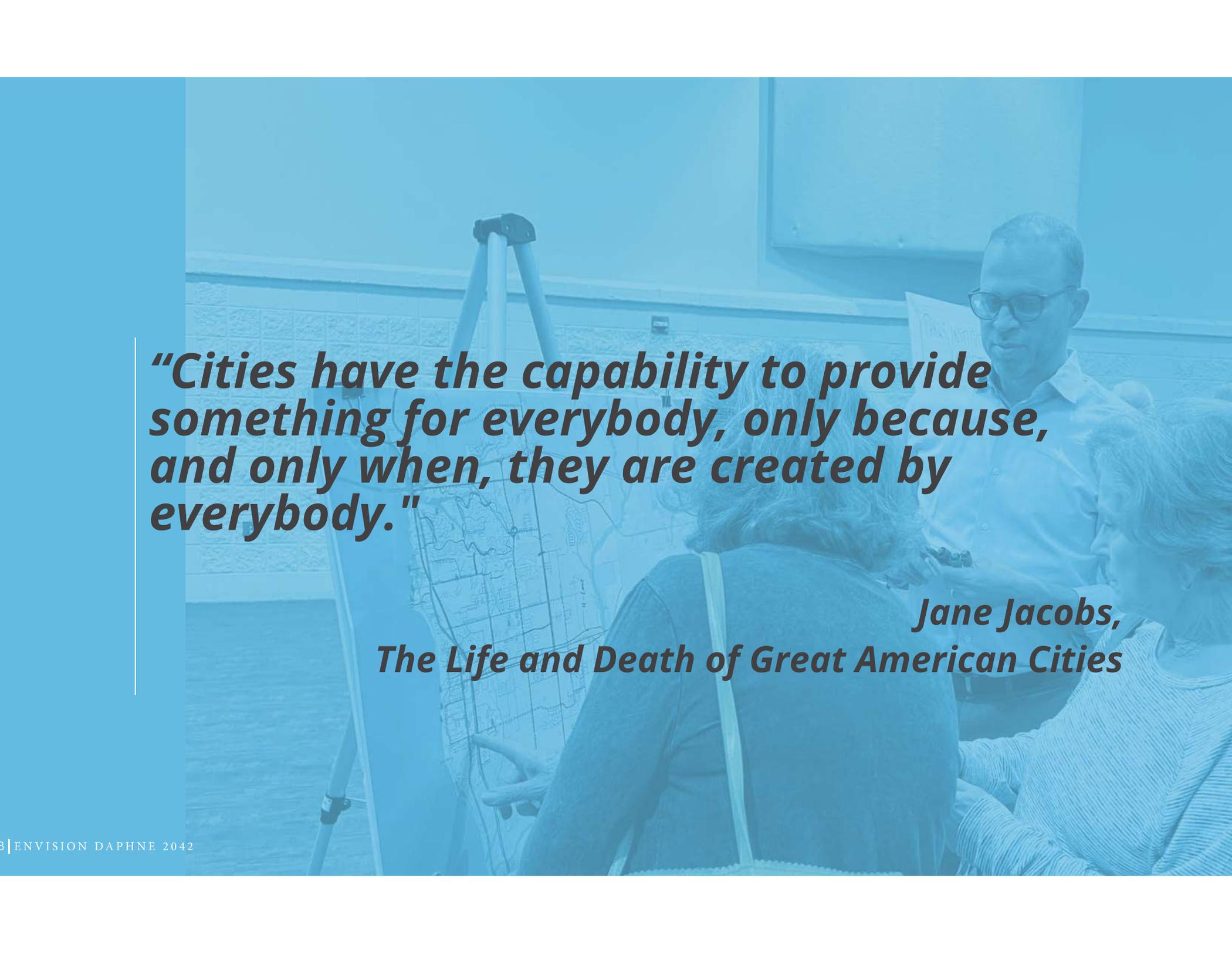




3. ENGAGING DAPHNE'S FUTURE



“Cities have the capability to provide something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.”

***Jane Jacobs,
The Life and Death of Great American Cities***

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN VISION

Community vision is the foundation for planning and achieving an excellent community. Planning vision must inspire and motivate action by community leadership, citizens, civic-minded organizations, and investors. Generating an inspiring and motivational vision requires a realistic assessment of current circumstances and the creation of achievable, yet challenging, goals for the best long-term future.

This section provides an overview of the process used by Daphne to develop planning vision for Envision Daphne 2042. Detailed results of the vision development process are included in the Appendix section of the plan. These include survey results, focus group summaries, and other information from which the vision was derived.

Engagement Structure

The first step in developing long-term planning vision is community engagement. The underlying principle of Daphne's community engagement process was to solicit as much input as possible from the broadest possible cross section of the community. To achieve this, Daphne developed a multilevel strategy that involved a planning advisory group, topic-oriented focus groups, the Daphne Planning Commission, planning staff, and the community at large. Each of these engagement components is discussed below.

Community vision is the foundation for planning and achieving community excellence.

*Below: Community Open House participants discuss Daphne's future.
Right: Central Park*



KEY TOPICS COVERED IN THIS CHAPTER:

- » *Community Driven Vision*
- » *Discovery Engagement*
- » *Planning Week*
- » *Daphne's Planning Vision Themes*



Envision Daphne 2042 Advisory Group

The Envision Daphne 2042 Advisory Group was appointed from a diverse array of community stakeholders that included business representatives, neighborhood organizations, environmental interests, city staff, and more. The Envision Daphne 2042 Advisory Group was charged with:

- Assisting the planning team with the identification of stakeholders
- Guiding Daphne engagement methods
- Providing input and feedback on process milestones
- Vetting overall planning themes as they emerged.

The Envision Daphne 2042 Advisory Group met on four different occasions, both in person and

remotely, to carry out its responsibilities, and maintained advisory communications between meetings.

Focus Groups

Based on initial study results in the discovery process of the previous section, focus group meetings were convened to assist the planning team in developing a precise framework for Envision Daphne 2042. Convened on November 16 through November 19, 2021, the facilitated discussions were used to identify, explore, and document critical community development factors related to specific topics. Groups were convened around the following subjects:

- Local Economy
- Mobility
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Natural Environment
- Infrastructure
- Neighborhoods and Community Character
- Extraterritorial Jurisdiction

These groups were invaluable in establishing the groundwork and organization for the plan, and in identifying key aspects of Daphne's vision and planning focus. Focus group results are included in the Appendix.

Daphne's Community Input

General community input was achieved through multiple online engagement methods. These methods included crowd sourced mapping, online interaction, and general community surveys. Public meetings were convened during the Envision Daphne 2042 kickoff on November 18, 2021 and twice during Planning Week which occurred the week of March 21 through March 25, 2022.



Photos above: Focus group participants

JOIN US!
ENVISION DAPHNE 2042
KICK-OFF MEETING

November 17, 2021
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
@ City Hall

- Learn about the Envision Daphne 2042 planning process
- Help identify the best aspects of Daphne now
- Discuss the opportunities ahead for a vibrant, flourishing community

Help frame Daphne's planning direction for the long term

envision
Daphne 2042
ALABAMA

www.envisiondaphne2042.com

Discovery Engagement

As mentioned previously, the initial community engagement occurred in November of 2021. Focus Groups were convened on November 17th and 18th. A community meeting was held on the evening of the 18th. The specific results of the focus groups are included in the Appendix and were used to guide subsequent efforts of the planning team. Community input was also used to validate the specific information gathered in the focus groups.

Daphne's Planning Vision and Themes

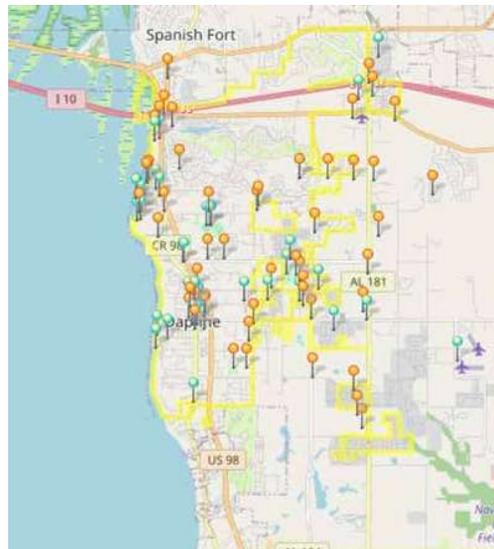
Community engagement for Envision Daphne 2042 was significant. Thousands participated in the planning process at some point, either in person or virtually. From this participation, clear planning vision themes emerged from the Discovery and Direction phases of the process.

The vision and themes were validated with the Advisory Group, presented at the Daphne Futures Workshop and used to guide the overall direction of planning. This high-quality engagement forms the basis for Envision Daphne 2042. The vision and themes represent the guiding philosophy of Envision Daphne 2042. In the sections that follow, these themes drive the planned future of Daphne by incorporating environmental stewardship, community character building, place connection, growth management, and best practice implementation.

Community Engagement Opportunities

- Advisory Group Oversight
- Onsite Engagement Opportunities
- Website Interaction
- Live Streamed Presentations
- 8 Focus Groups
- Community-wide Survey
- Ongoing Staff Collaboration

Photos Clockwise from top left: Online crowd sourced mapping exercise, Participants in kick-off meeting (3 photos, results of online community mapping



Planning Week

The core element of the planning process for Daphne was Planning Week, conducted the week of March 21 through March 25. During this week the entire planning team was assembled on site with the purpose of identifying the specific elements to be included in the plan, developing a framework plan, vetting the framework with the community, and launching into the final steps of plan production. Planning week began with a Community Open House, followed by the Daphne Futures Workshop, and ended with the presentation of the Envision Daphne Concepts and Framework Plan.

Community Open House

Planning week began with a community open house on the afternoon of March 21. The purpose was to further publicize the planning



Above: Community open house participants

Right: Engagement promotional material

DAPHNE'S PLANNING VISION THEMES

Stewarding the Future of Daphne's Core Places

- ◆ Preserving legacy neighborhoods
- ◆ Envisioning strategic infill sites
- ◆ Establishing ideal future development patterns
- ◆ Stewarding natural environment

Building and Reinforcing Daphne Community Character

- ◆ Functionally strengthening prime corridors, nodes, and gateways
- ◆ Enhancing the design quality of prime corridors, nodes, and gateways

Connecting Daphne's People and Places

- ◆ Increasing east/west connectivity with new complete streets
- ◆ Improving intra-neighborhood connections
- ◆ Creating continuity between Olde Towne Daphne and growth areas
- ◆ Connecting existing trails and recreational resources
- ◆ Designating and creating a bike/ped network
- ◆ Evaluating alternative growth scenarios and their impacts
- ◆ Establishing ideal future development patterns
- ◆ Identifying and envisioning emerging and future community nodes

Implementing Daphne's Community Development Vision

- ◆ Formulating and recommending best development policies and practices
- ◆ Conceptualizing and recommending catalytic projects
- ◆ Creating an actionable implementation agenda

process and gather informal input. The format of the open house allowed participants to interact with Daphne's growth scenarios, economic prospects, and mobility conditions. The come and go format offered an informal opportunity for input and feedback.

Daphne Futures Workshop

During Planning Week the planning team also engaged the stakeholders and citizens who took part in the Community Futures Workshop. This unique exercise explored growth scenarios based on Daphne's growth projections over the next 20 years. The workshop used Legos to represent various development options and to model desired growth patterns. Online engagement was offered for those who could not or did not wish to be present on site. The results of the exercise were used to begin the process of design.

Community Futures Workshop Results

Participants in the Community Futures Workshop were divided into groups and presented with the

**WHAT'S YOUR VISION FOR DAPHNE?
HELP PLAN OUR FUTURE!**

**Envision Daphne 2042
Open House**
March 21, 2022 | 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Daphne Civic Center
2603 U.S. Hwy. 98

**Daphne Futures
Workshop**
March 21, 2022 | 7:00-8:30 p.m.
City Hall - 1705 Main Street
(following the City Council meeting)

**Envision Daphne 2042
Concept Plan Presentation**
March 24, 2022 | 6:00-7:15 p.m. (Note Time Change)
City Hall - 1705 Main Street
(following the Planning Commission meeting)

Take the Daphne Planning Survey at
www.EnvisionDaphne2042.com or scan
the code.

The workshop and presentations are a part of Daphne Planning Week. Planning week builds on the study of Daphne's community characteristics, initial community engagement, and overall project guidance. The results of planning week set the stage for in-depth design of the future. Join in one of the engagement opportunities in person or online.

**envision
Daphne 2042**
Find out more at: www.envisiondaphne2042.com

BUILDING DAPHNE'S FUTURE

CITY BUILDING RULES				
DAPHNE		GROWTH AREA		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop neighborhoods for 2,000 people in the City limits. Use any combination of the residential or mixed use blocks to meet the goal. 2. Place only 4 commercial blocks. 3. Place any number of parks, Institutions, and employers you think feasible. 4. Blocks MAY be placed on built areas representing future infill and redevelopment. 5. Blocks MAY be stacked to represent height. 6. Blocks MAY NOT be placed in environmentally constrained areas. 7. Have an ending bank balance of <u>at least</u> \$300. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop neighborhoods for 6,000 people in the growth area. Use any combination of the residential or mixed use blocks to reach the goal. 2. Develop shopping, parks, institutions, and employer developments in desirable locations. Place all the blocks provided for these developments. 3. Blocks must be placed in UNBUILT land only. 4. Blocks MAY NOT be placed in environmentally constrained areas. 5. Have an ending bank balance of <u>at least</u> \$300. 		
OBSERVATIONS, CHALLENGES, WHAT WORKS, WHAT DOESN'T				
As you build the future of Daphne, note the challenges and opportunities in carrying out the assignment:				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What combination of housing was most financially advantageous? 2. What was the impact on forest lands or farm lands? 3. Where were the most advantageous locations for commercial development? 4. Was your overall development pattern compact, dispersed, or something in between? 5. Were there other successes or challenges of note? 6. What are three takeaways about the future of Daphne from the exercise? 				
TYPE	LEGO	PEOPLE	\$\$	EXAMPLE
Low Density Residential (Yellow or Lime Green)		100	-100	
Medium Density Residential (Orange)		200	+100	
High Density Residential (Brown)		400	+100	

TYPE	LEGO	PEOPLE	\$\$	EXAMPLE
Mixed-Use Residential/ Commercial (Aqua)		300 1/2 Comm.	+700	
Major Commercial (Deep Red)		0	+300	
Neighborhood Commercial (Pink)		0	+200	
Park (Green)		0	+0	
Institution (Blue)		0	+0	
Employer (Purple)		0	+0	

worksheet on the previous page. The worksheet provides for varying types of development and the amount of each type scaled to Daphne's projected growth.

Participants were asked to place the most desired and feasible development type in appropriate locations. Each development was associated with its public costs (or benefits) to the city. The overall object was to configure future development patterns while maintaining a positive public benefit.

The results of the exercise are shown on the following page. Highlights include:

- ◆ The introduction of mixed-use development at key nodes
- ◆ Density increases in selected locations to temper sprawl development patterns
- ◆ Concentration of new neighborhoods along major transportation corridors
- ◆ Redevelopment in established and soon to be aging corridors
- ◆ Concentration of major commercial development in a pattern of nodes at intersections
- ◆ Dispersal of parks throughout the planning area
- ◆ Placement of employment centers in areas of regional access

These and other observations were combined with the results of the engagement process, Daphne's planning principles, and the planning team's guidance, to create the specific planning vision and provisions of Envision Daphne 2042 detailed in Section 4, The City Plan.






Daphne **envision**
ALABAMA *2042*