

Athens Gets Around: Pedestrian Oriented Development

Sample Athens' efforts to improve accessibility by foot or by bike. Discover what it's like to run errands, get to work, access healthcare, education, and parks without needing a car. At stops along the way we'll talk about what works and what doesn't, and hear from property owners how this system has impacted their businesses and accessibility. Workshop participants will also be asked to comment on their observations in contribution to making the system more effective.

CM: 2

Real World Green Developments

Everyone wants more sustainable development, but making it a reality is a more involved, and sometimes frustrating, process. Learn how the local government and private developers are making this trend more feasible in Athens with a visit to 3 diverse projects: Converting an old bank into the new A-CC Water Business Customer Service Center, a new mixed-use parking facility and the recently completed Hotel Indigo. Representatives from each project will be on hand to discuss LEED certification, the struggles of building "green," and what the end results will mean to the community.

CM: 2

Local Food Planning and Farm Tour

Food is an important, but often overlooked, part of a healthy and sustainable community. How we produce, distribute and consume food directly impacts our personal and community health, our social connections and traditions, and the health of the environment. This workshop will explore the benefits of producing and consuming local food and how planners can support a local food system. The workshop will visit Full Moon Cooperative, a community supported farm and research center offering innovative and community based solutions to food production and distribution. The farm tour will focus on the operational needs of a community supported farm, the benefits of locating a farm in close proximity to an urban market, the land management techniques necessary to create a sustainable farming operation and how different commercial ventures such as community supported agriculture and a restaurant support the farm.

CM: 2

Watkinsville: Preserving a Small Town's Character While Attracting Residential and Commercial Development

Learn about Watkinsville's 3-year planning initiative to protect its small town character and solidify it as a vibrant, yet unique community in a rapidly urbanizing county. Presenters will discuss the award-winning planning effort that led to the first city-wide form-based code in Georgia, how the code is working from the city's perspective and a developer's perspective, and how the city is successfully marking itself and attracting compatible commercial and residential growth even in a struggling economy. Workshop will include a walk around the city's CBD and an in-town neighborhood to demonstrate how the city is achieving its planning goals.

CM: 2

Infill Housing in the Classic City

Athens features many rich, in-town neighborhoods. Can they sustain their character with regular pressures for new housing and re-development? Athens – Clarke County Planning Department staff will review local infill housing trends and recent ordinance amendments that address infill compatibility issues. A local, nonprofit housing developer will also contribute her expertise in affordable, green construction. After the brief presentation, the group will tour in-town neighborhoods to see examples of new infill construction and evaluate their successful integration into the Classic City.

CM: 2
