

HOUSING

- There's not enough affordable housing
- Funds are needed for upkeep and repair
- Need accessible housing for disabled persons
- Need housing for those displaced by development (several examples given, Ruth Street, Rocksprings...)
- Need "REAL" affordable housing: housing designated as affordable oftentimes is not
- Problem with affordable rental properties being demolished and not replaced
- Problem with the City/County's definition of "family" and other limitations on the number of persons allowed to reside in a residence
- New development in traditional low-income neighborhoods has caused increases in property taxes that are beyond the means of many to pay
- Need affordable housing located in close proximity to services available to persons living in poverty
- City/County restrictions on manufactured housing are too restrictive
- Presently, affordable housing is often not also considered "safe" and decent"
- Mortgages for affordable housing need to be in the \$400 to \$500 range
- Persons released from incarceration are ineligible for many affordable housing benefits
- Loan products are often not what they appear to be: mortgage starts out reasonable for a couple of years, but then balloons to payments beyond the ability of many to pay
- Should investigate converting currently vacant housing (e.g. apartment complex) to affordable housing, using the government's power of eminent domain if necessary
- Elderly are being displaced due to gentrification
- Must ensure the basics for those living in poverty: water, power, heat, etc.
- Zoning laws are obstacles to establishing and maintaining affordable housing
- Inclusionary zoning approach to require mixing in affordable units with market-rate units (example: Decatur)
- Need housing counseling
- Need temporary housing for the homeless – could use vacant motels or other rooms
- Need to consider market-based solutions
- We need to physically go to the poverty areas to get more input from the people in poverty

TRANSPORTATION

- Extended hours of service are needed for the transit system
- Transit system should use alternative fuels (like Knoxville) and make more use of smaller buses
- Need properly functioning, fairly priced, and efficient taxi services
- Need voucher system to help those in need pay for transportation (buses and taxis)
- All bus stops need shelters with seating
- Transit system needs to be oriented towards those really in need of transportation versus accommodating UGA students
- Transit system needs routes that provide access to green spaces
- Transit system doesn't serve enough areas and takes too long
- Not convenient for making multiple trips per day
- Request for data on the percentage of the ACC population that are UGA-affiliated
- Request for data on per capita income of student body
- The Bus is a draw for people in poverty to come to Athens
- Car sharing is another alternative (Madison, WI)

- Bike lanes – biking is a cheap form of transportation, though we tend to think of it as just recreation
- Trolley circulator
- Next meeting should be at a time and location where attendees can use Transit
- The county’s transportation funding budget is skewed to serve car owners, not the population in general

GENERAL

- Those in poverty need affordable access to the basics: food, housing, heat, etc.
- The Prosperity project needs a regional approach to incorporate opportunities related to surrounding counties: (1) those who live elsewhere but work in Athens/Clarke and use the services, and (2) those who want to seek employment in other counties but lack transportation.
- A comprehensive listing of services and the scope of those services is needed.