

# **Sustainability and Long-Term Recovery in Alabama—ARC Workshop in Tuscaloosa**

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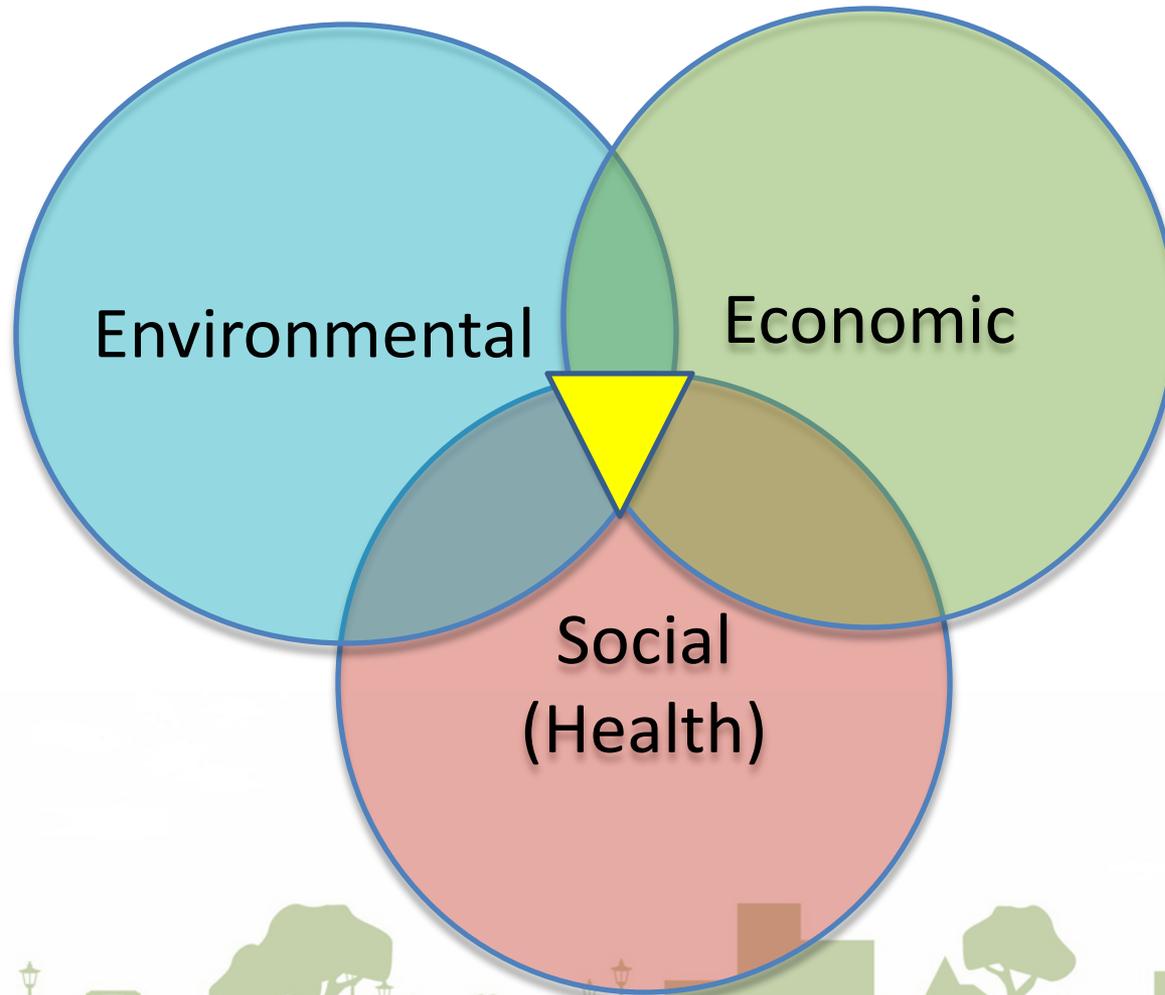


# What does Sustain(able) mean?

- To endure; to nourish; and support the spirit, vitality and resolution of
- Community that lasts through good times and challenging ones
- Evolves but keeps its character--provides place for change within context



# Elements of a Sustainable Community Plan



# FEMA-EPA MOU

- Sustainable design in rebuilds
- Better use of green infrastructure
- More energy efficient WWTP and other basic community facilities
- Foster use of brownfields
- Also looking at climate impacts and adaptation approaches—pilot in NC



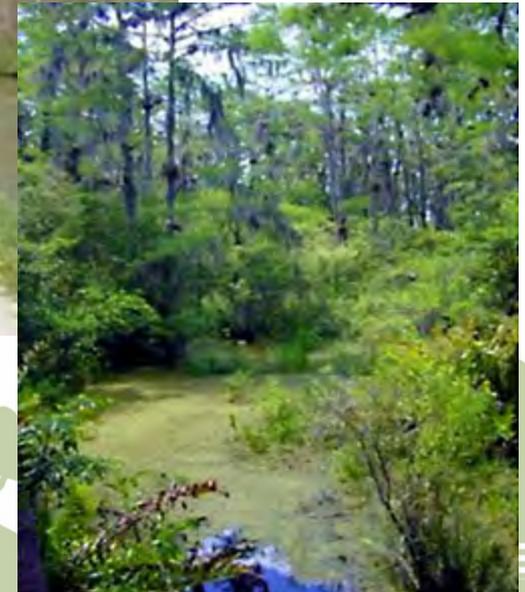
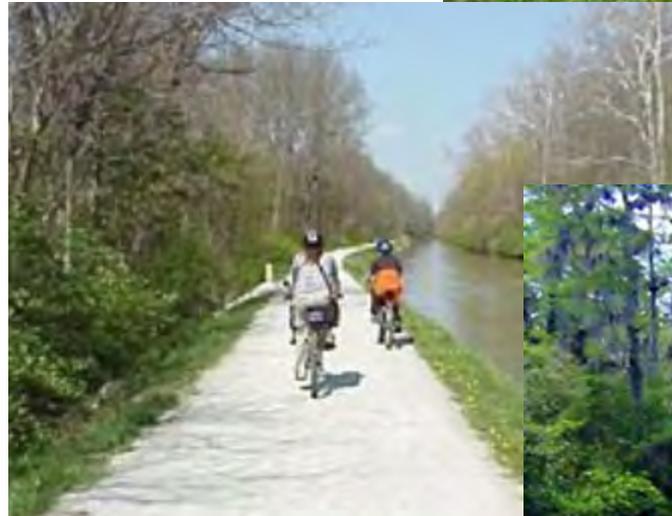






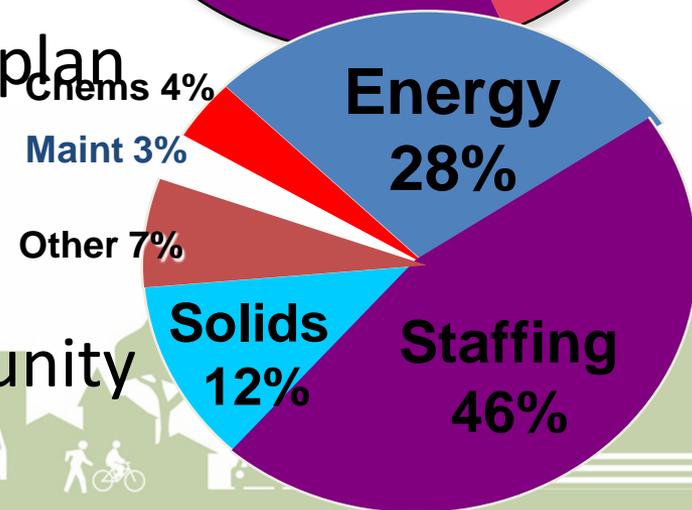
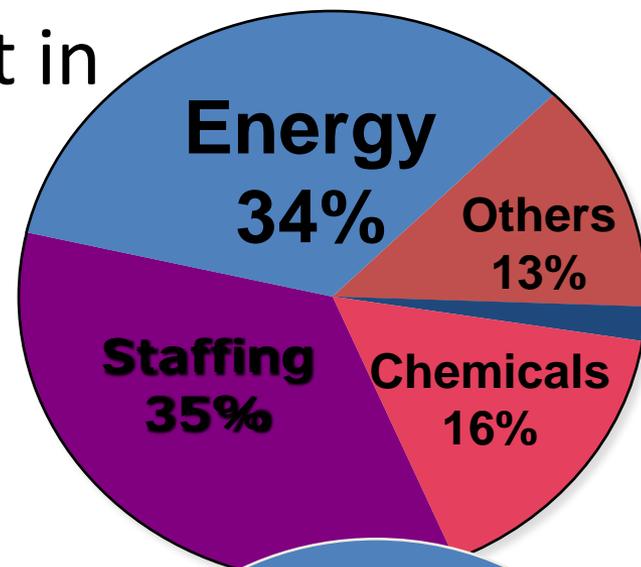
# Environmental Priorities in Rural Communities

- Rain gardens
- Green infrastructure—  
stormwater  
improvements
- Greenways and trails
- Parks
- WWTP—energy  
efficient facilities and  
management



# Energy Management at Water and Wastewater Utilities

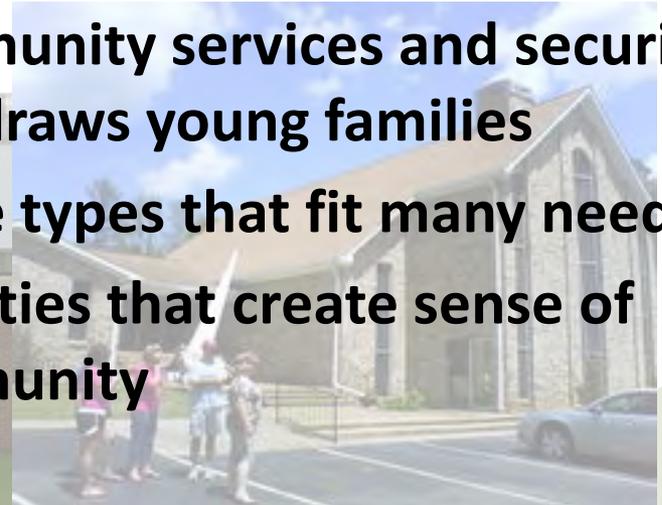
- Focus on energy management in WWTP and DWP
- Phased approach
  - Visit the site and evaluate potential ways to save energy
  - Provide training and develop plan
  - Implement plan and monitor results
  - Report to officials and community



# Social Considerations



- Places that support the needs of a variety of people
- Homes and services for older generation
- Activities that attract young people
- Community services and security that draws young families
- Home types that fit many needs
- Activities that create sense of community

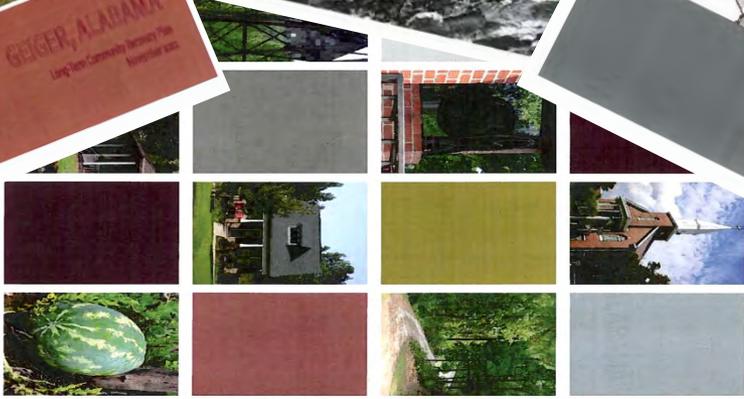
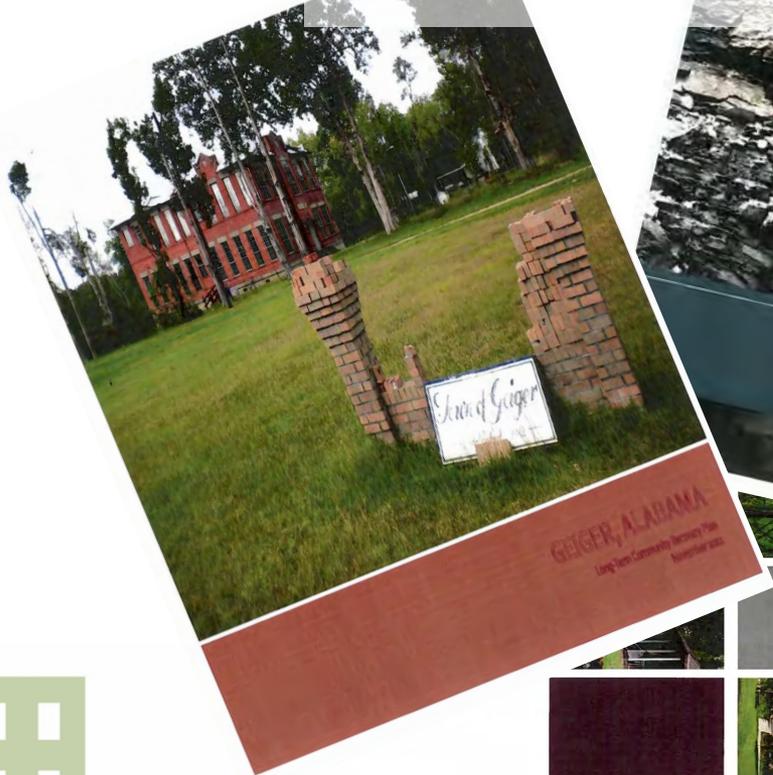


# Economic

- Build in many dimensions, use local/regional assets
- Low impact to infrastructure
- Attract non-profits, artists or small businesses
- Establish community-run businesses that invest in local priorities
- Energy efficient civic buildings, clustering
- Provide opportunity to make a decent living



# Some Priorities Identified by Alabama Communities



# Phil Campbell and Holt

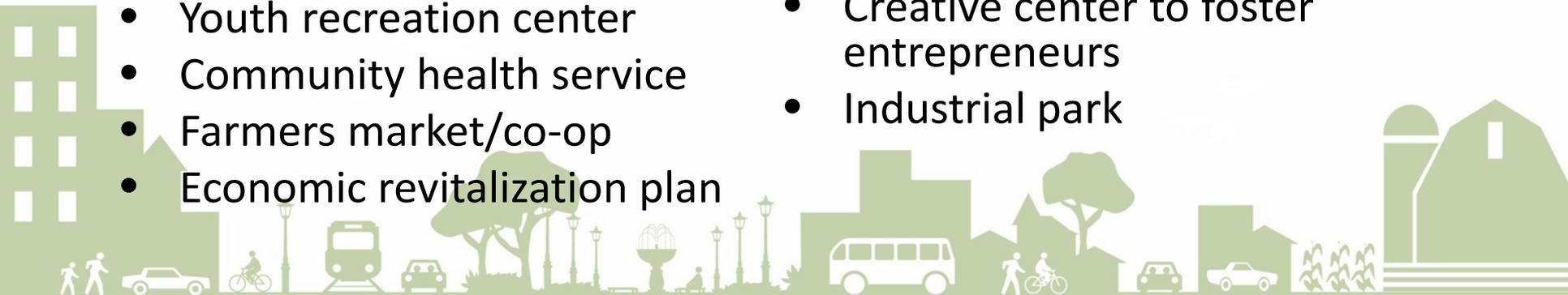
## Phil Campbell

- Land use/zoning
- Jobs
- Return of food store
- Sewer system
- Memorial park
- Pocket parks and playgrounds
- New gateway to community
- Walking and bike trails
- Youth recreation center
- Community health service
- Farmers market/co-op
- Economic revitalization plan

- Outdoor track/basketball
- School technology
- Small business cooperative

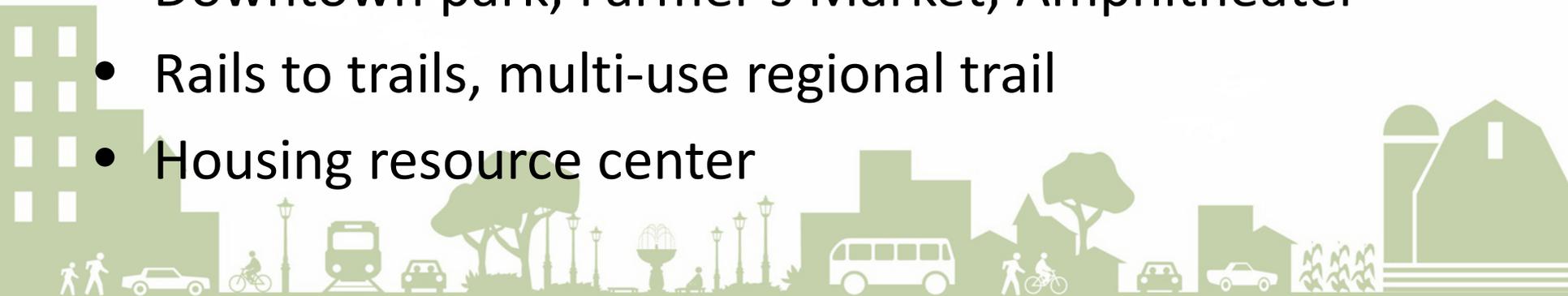
## Holt

- Housing market analysis
- Capacity building for housing and human services
- Community redesign
- Creative center to foster entrepreneurs
- Industrial park



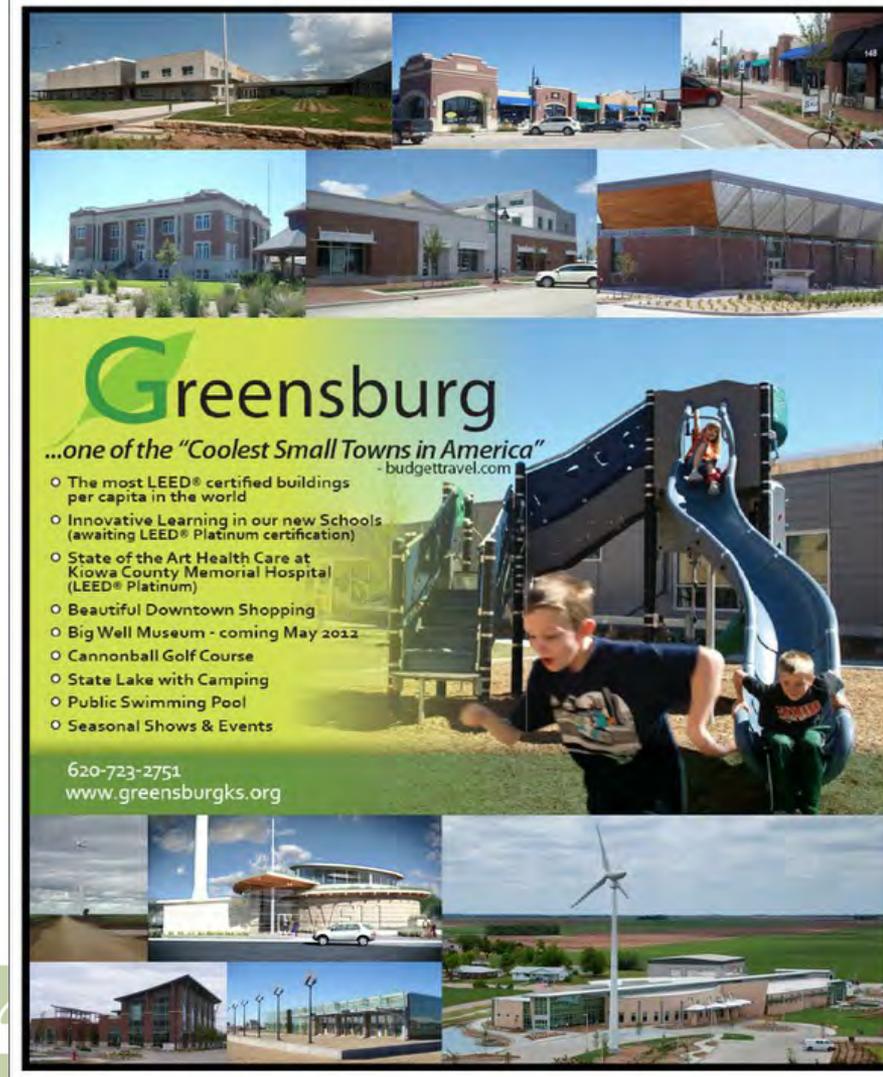
# Hackleburg

- Establish Hackleburg CDC
- Economic and housing market analysis—status and needs
- Main street corridor study
- Sewer
- History center
- Downtown park, Farmer's Market, Amphitheater
- Rails to trails, multi-use regional trail
- Housing resource center



# Greensburg, KS

- New industry—wind turbines
- Trademark for area
- Green buildings—energy efficient and LEED certified
- Tourism—green solution is drawing visitors from around the world



# Miner County, SD

ReImagine Rural: Rural Learning Center - Windows Internet Explorer  
http://rurallearningcenter.org/

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Rural Learning Center 

**REINVENT** TAKING HOLD OF NEW IDEAS.  
MAKING THINGS BETTER.

A movement of change is rolling across the landscape as many rural communities pioneer a new future. Rural is taking on an exciting new meaning. Small communities are coming alive with big ideas. People are connecting to each other and to a world of opportunity.

Renewed hope is the driving force. And nobody knows it better than the people of Miner County, South Dakota.

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# East Tennessee River Valley Geotourism MapGuide



HOME | DISCOVER PLACES | EVENTS | LOCAL VOICES | ABOUT | ADD PLACES | MY FAVORITES | LOGIN

## Interactive MapGuide

List of Places [View](#)

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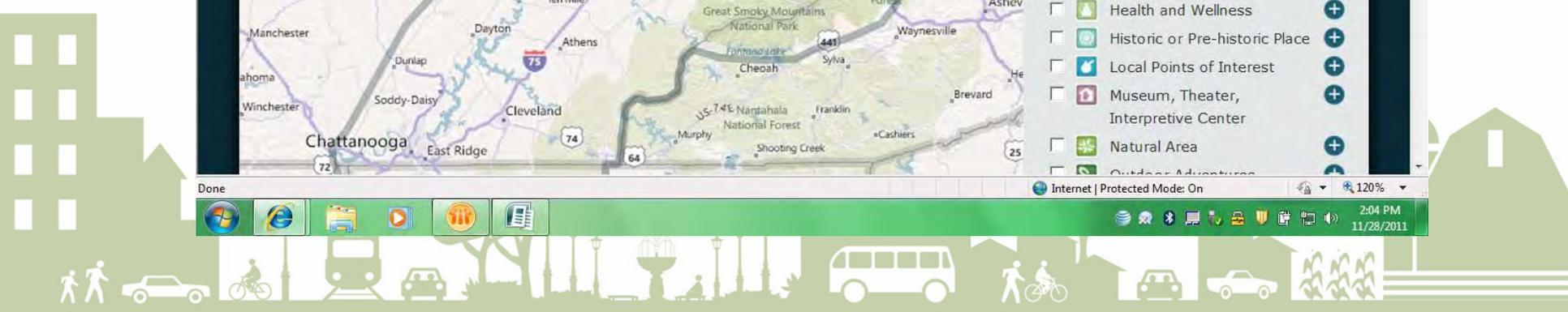


## Show & Search Places

- Show All Places
- Show Only Featured Places
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## Category Legend

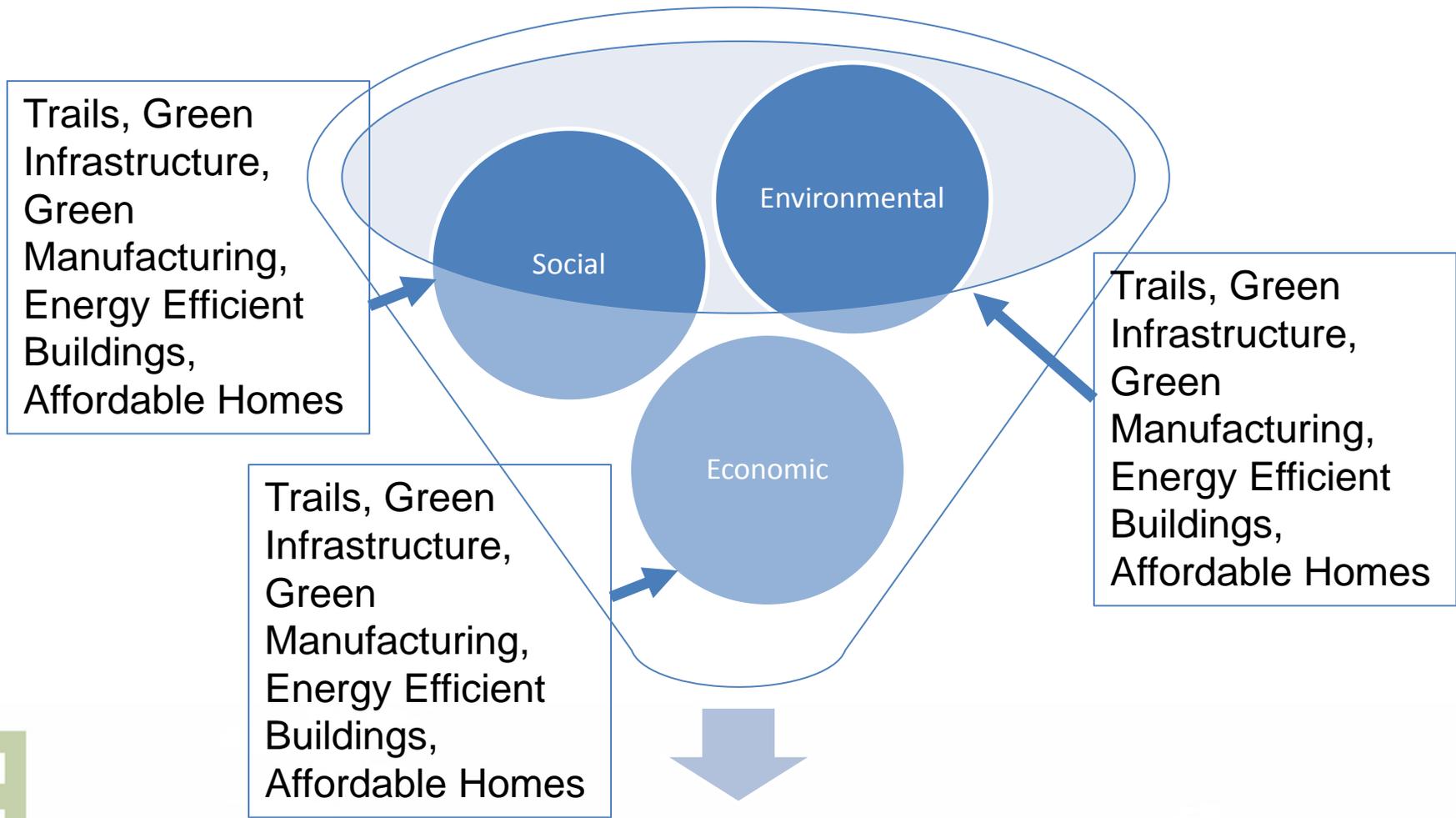
- Select / Deselect All
- Accommodation
- Action Opportunities
- Community
- Festival or Event
- Food or Drink
- Health and Wellness
- Historic or Pre-historic Place
- Local Points of Interest
- Museum, Theater, Interpretive Center
- Natural Area
- Outdoor Adventure



# How Can Rural and Small Town Alabama Build Economic Sustainability?

- Farming—vegetables, cattle, dairy, nuts, fruit
- Value-added products
- Green/light industry
- Tourism
- Warehousing
- Phone banks





Sustainable Community



# One Last Thought

Change is the price for rural survival.

(Rural Development in the United States,  
William Galston, Karen Baehler; 1994)

