

**City of Dahlonega  
City Council Off-Site Retreat  
March 14 and 15, 2025  
124 EE Butler Parkway  
Gainesville, Georgia 30501**

**Friday, March 14, 2025**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of Agenda**
- III. City of Dahlonega Presentation** .....Allison Martin, City Manager
- IV. Understanding Perspectives Activity (*Timeline Activity*)** .....April Howard, Facilitator
- V. Strategic Plan**
  - a. Review Progress on Existing Plan .....Allison Martin, City Manager and Team
  - b. Preparing for Next Steps .....April Howard, Facilitator  
(*Letter to Community and Council dated March 14, 2030*)
- VI. Strategic Priority of Managing Growth in the City of Dahlonega**...April Howard, Facilitator
  - a. What does “Managing Growth” mean to you?
  - b. Force Field Analysis Process
    - i. Contributing Forces
    - ii. Restraining Forces
  - c. Do we have consensus on how we proceed with balanced growth?
    - i. What is in the best interest of our Residents, Businesses, and Visitors?
    - ii. Guiding Principles Review

*The City of Dahlonega will be an open, honest, and responsive city, balancing preservation and growth, and delivering quality services fairly and equitably by being good stewards of Dahlonega’s resources. To ensure the vibrancy of our community, Dahlonega commits to:*

- i. Transparency and Honesty
- ii. Dedication and Responsibility
- iii. Preservation and Sustainability
- iv. Safety and Welfare ...for ALL!

**VII. Lunch - Welcome Honorable Sam Couvillon, Mayor of Gainesville**



**VIII. Aligning Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles with Contributing and Restraining Forces to Inform Priorities for Managing Growth (*Group Activity*)** .....April Howard, Facilitator

- a. TAD
- b. Annexation Plan
- c. Utilities
- d. Zoning
- e. Parking
- f. Staffing
  - i. Assistant City Manager
  - ii. Public Works Director
  - iii. Planning Director (bring function back into the City)
- g. Alcohol Licensing and Management
- h. Existing Contracts and Renewals

**IX. Addition of Another Foundational Strategic Priority** .....Allison Martin, City Manager

- a. Is it time?
- b. What would the Council choose to add?

**X. Recess**

**Saturday, March 15, 2025**

**I. Reconvene**

**II. Updates from Department Directors** .....April Howard, Facilitator;  
Allison Martin, City Manager; and, Department Directors

- a. Utilities
- b. Zoning
- c. Parking
- d. Alcohol

**III. Next Steps**

**IV. Adjournment**

