Welcome to February! What a January we had with the cold weather and snow! We hope that everyone was able to stay safe and warm! Our Public Works crew and the Police Department did an excellent job of getting our roads passable and keeping our citizens safe. Thank you to everyone for heeding the warnings about staying off the roads. It makes everyone’s job easier in this type of situation and keeps you and your family safe.

As I mentioned in our January newsletter, we are currently working on the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Auburn. We will be forming a steering committee that represents a cross-section of our community, including members of our Boards, volunteers and community leaders. The steering committee will help us plan the roadmap for Auburn. Five elements of our future will be considered. The first step is to evaluate and prioritize our future needs and opportunities. Each of the needs or opportunities that the steering committee identifies will then be followed up with recommendations on how to address the issues.

The second element to be considered are our Community Goals. This will include a vision statement, community goals (long and medium term) that the City wishes to achieve, and community policies. The community policies are intended to provide ongoing guidance and direction to local officials making decisions on reaching community goals.

Land Use is the third element that we have to consider. We will need to evaluate our current land use maps and look to the future. Are we using our lands to their highest potential—are we keeping within our vision statement with the maps as they currently exist?

The fourth element—and a very crucial one—is Transportation. We need to identify any significant issues with the road network including connectivity, signalized intersections or inadequate signage. Alternate modes of transportation need to be looked at. Are there opportunities to improve our connectivity and access to transportation? Is the parking adequate? Railroads and trucking are also under this element. What is the impact of these on our community and transportation network?

The last element to look at is our Community Work Program. This element lays out specific activities the community plans to undertake during the next 5 years to address the priorities identified in the other elements.

The amazing thing about a Comprehensive Work Plan is how all these elements fit together to plan our future as a community! Your help is needed. We need YOU to provide your input on this future roadmap. Want to volunteer to be part of the steering committee? Drop by City Hall and ask to speak to City Planner Jay Miller or Community Development Director Alex Mitcham or send an email to cityplanner@cityofauburn.ga.org. You will be amazed at how much we as a community can accomplish.

As always, I am continually gratified to see our community step up and help each other. I love our City and look forward to working together to plan our future.

Welcome to Auburn Center!
**MEETINGS CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auburn Library Programs &amp; Events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1 at 11:30AM: Between the Pages Adult Book Club</td>
<td>February 1, 8, 15, 22 at 5PM: Teen Nights</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1 at 5:30PM: Auburn Coding Club</td>
<td>February 2, 9, 16, 23 at 11AM: Adult Coloring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 3 at 3PM: Lego Club</td>
<td>February 5, 12, 19, 26 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 5, 12, 19, 26 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles</td>
<td>February 6 at 5PM: Harry Potter Party</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7, 14, 21, 28 at 11:30AM: Auburn Laplis Story Time – up to 2 years</td>
<td>February 10 at 11:30AM: Saturday Craftsmen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 12 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club</td>
<td>February 12 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 13, 27 at 5PM: Teen Writing Club</td>
<td>February 19 at 5PM: Friends of the Library Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 24 at 11AM: Family Storytime.</td>
<td>February 24 at 4PM: Bookworms Book Club for Tweens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 26 at 5PM: Maker Monday</td>
<td>February 26 at 5PM: Pajama Party</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**February 5, 12, 19, 26 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles**

**February 5, 12, 19, 26 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time**

**February 5, 12, 19, 26 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles**

**February 6 at 5PM: Harry Potter Party**

**February 7, 14, 21, 28 at 11:30AM: Auburn Laplis Story Time – up to 2 years**

**February 10 at 11:30AM: Saturday Craftsmen**

**February 12 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club**

**February 13, 27 at 5PM: Teen Writing Club**

**February 19 at 5PM: Friends of the Library Meeting**

**February 24 at 11AM: Family Storytime.**

**February 24 at 4PM: Bookworms Book Club for Tweens**

**February 26 at 5PM: Maker Monday**

**February 5, 12, 19, 26 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club: Bring yarn and knitting needles**

**February 6 at 5PM: Harry Potter Party**

**February 7, 14, 21, 28 at 11:30AM: Auburn Laplis Story Time – up to 2 years**

**February 10 at 11:30AM: Saturday Craftsmen**

**February 12 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club**

**February 13, 27 at 5PM: Teen Writing Club**

**February 19 at 5PM: Friends of the Library Meeting**

**February 24 at 11AM: Family Storytime.**

**February 24 at 4PM: Bookworms Book Club for Tweens**

**February 26 at 5PM: Maker Monday**

---

**Free GED Classes in Auburn**

If you’re among the 39 or more million adults in the U.S. who never graduated from high school, then you’ve probably considered getting your GED® certificate, the adult learner’s alternative to a high school diploma. The GED® certificate is worth considering, and it’s a credential worth getting. The City of Auburn has a successful partnership with Lanier Technical Institute to offer free GED Classes to anyone 16 or over that needs to earn it.

Having the GED® certificate opens up a lot of doors for advanced training. Most specialized training programs require either a high school diploma or a GED®. Also with GED® certificate, you’ll be eligible for most workplace or on-the-job training programs, along with higher educational opportunities.

Consider the impact on your family. Your family benefits because a GED certificate is a way to increase financial security. Research also shows that once parents get a GED® certificate, they’re more likely to encourage their children to seek educational opportunities and complete educational milestones.

Classes are held morning and evenings in Auburn at the J.D. Withers building near Auburn Elementary. These will move to the new Auburn Center in early 2018. There is no cost to attend classes, and there are scholarships available to pay for the GED® test. English as a Second Language (ESL) classes will also be available at the Auburn location. The Winder Campus will offer Citizenship Classes too.

For more information call 770-531-3361 – Start today!