

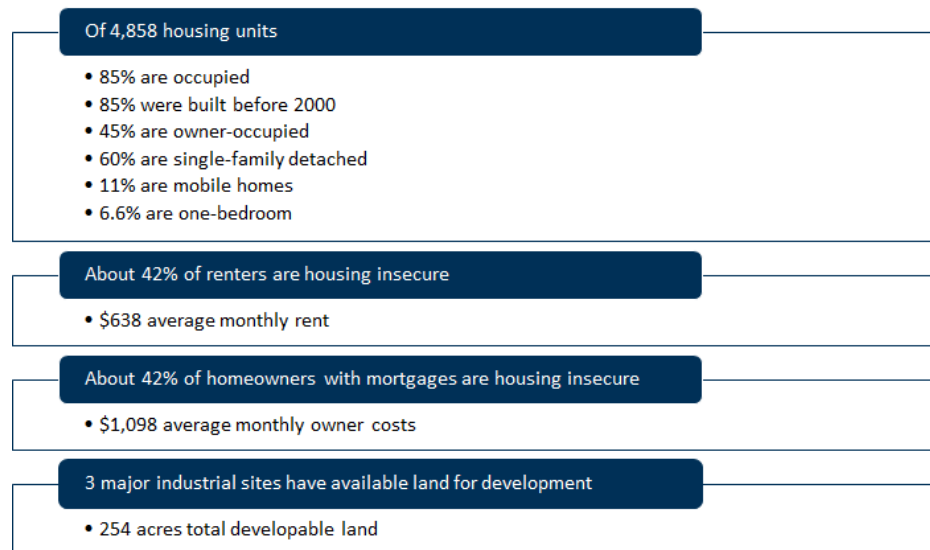


This summer, I worked with the Community Foundation of Coffee County to create a comprehensive profile of the city of Douglas, Georgia as well as recommend strategies that would stimulate economic development in the city. This was an amazing experience for multiple reasons. Firstly, Douglas is my hometown; therefore, the project was especially dear to my heart. I found it interesting to get a closer look at the community in which I grew up. Secondly, I also worked closely with interns whose fields of study differed from my own, therefore I got to learn many things about their majors. Lastly, I learned more about my major, industrial engineering, and how it could be useful in many different sectors.

My work on this project entailed familiarizing myself with plans and development initiatives the city already had in place and identifying the city's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. To be thorough in our examination of Douglas, our investigation ranged from the city's history to the real estate

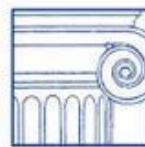
market, community amenities, and the labor market. Our analysis also included community leadership, community resilience, education, and business and industry. It was also important to understand the community's vision of its future. We had to keep this in mind when recommending strategies for economic development.

This summer I had the honor of working with Dr. Nancey Green Leigh, the Community Foundation of Coffee County, and two other amazing interns. It was an unforgettable experience and I learned so much from them. I am very happy to have been a part of their journey to



achieving economic development, and I look forward to being able to use the skills I learned this summer in future endeavors.

Nijah James



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