



County of Albemarle

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

401 McIntire Road, North Wing
Charlottesville, VA 22902-4579

phone: 434-296-5832

www.albemarle.org

MEMORANDUM

AGENDA DATE: 05/06/2025

TITLE: AC44 Draft Transportation Chapter

SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST:

Request for Planning Commission feedback on the AC44 Transportation draft chapter, with particular emphasis upon the draft actions.

ITEM TYPE: Work Session

STAFF CONTACTS: Richardson, Wall, Filardo, Barnes, McDermott, Swartzendruber, Hersh-Ballering, Karina-Plun, Kanellopoulos, Benish, Holt

PRESENTERS: Kevin McDermott, Deputy Director of Planning, Tonya Swartzendruber, Planning Manager

LEGAL REVIEW: Not Required

REVIEWED BY: Jeffrey B. Richardson

BACKGROUND: Albemarle County is updating the Comprehensive Plan through the Albemarle County 2044 (AC44) project. The project is in Phase 3: drafting language for the four-part Comprehensive Plan document and developing Plan actions.

The draft language for the Part III – Transportation chapter in Attachments B is built upon community input and reflects the Planning Commission's and Board's feedback.

Multimodal transportation planning in Albemarle County aims to create safe, accessible, and efficient travel options to support the movement of people and goods. Effective transportation planning is critical to maintaining quality of life and affordability in the county, as housing and transportation costs are highly linked; combined housing and transportation costs accounted for nearly half of household expenses in Albemarle County in 2024. Effective transportation planning is also critical for the achievement of County commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; the transportation sector accounted for over 40% of total county greenhouse gas emissions in 2022. Further, effective transportation planning improves safety and accessibility for road users of all ages and abilities.

Creating a robust multimodal network requires overcoming challenges created by historical trends in transportation and land use planning, such as an emphasis on moving cars quickly at the expense of other transportation modes and the need for coordinated urban design and land use planning. Other challenges include high peak-hour demand, a fragmented multimodal

network, state ownership (VDOT) of public roadways within the county, an increasing proportion of older residents (especially in the Rural Area), and limited funding. This chapter acknowledges the differing challenges and priorities within the Development and Rural Areas, with distinct recommendations for each. Albemarle's transportation policies place an emphasis on developing a robust multimodal transportation system within the Development Areas while striving to maintain safe and efficient travel within the Rural Area.

In addition to the mode-specific priorities outlined in this chapter for both the Development and Rural Areas, this chapter describes the development and implementation of a Multimodal Transportation Plan to expand on the priorities, goals, and actions described in the Comprehensive Plan. The Multimodal Transportation Plan will be a strategic document that integrates land use and transportation planning to delineate modal networks and articulate a long-term strategy for transportation planning given limited resources and other constraints.

For reference, Community input themes associated with this topic are summarized in Attachment C. A summary of previous Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors feedback on Transportation is provided as Attachment D.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Quality of life – Encourage a vibrant community with economic and recreational opportunities that serve all community members.

DISCUSSION:

An updated AC44 outline is provided as Attachment A. As a reminder, the topics within the red box will be the focus of today's work session. This work session is focused on the proposed comprehensive plan language within Attachment B, with particular emphasis upon the draft actions.

The Board of Supervisors will hold a work session on May 28, 2025, to discuss the draft Transportation chapter.

BUDGET IMPACT: There is no budget impact associated with this agenda item.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff requests the Commission review and provide feedback on draft Transportation Actions.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attach A – [CPA2021-02 AC44 Comp Plan Update- AC44 Outline](#)

Attach B – [CPA2021-02 AC44 Comp Plan Update - Draft Chapter - Transportation](#)

Attach C – [CPA2021-02 AC44 Comp Plan Update - Transportation - Community Input Themes](#)

Attach D – [CPA2021-02 AC44 Comp Plan Update - Summary of Planning Commission and Board Feedback](#)