



## County of Albemarle

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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#### MEMORANDUM

**AGENDA DATE: 05/27/2025**

**TITLE:** AC44 - Cultural Resources Draft Chapter and Resilient Community content

**SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST:**

Request for Planning Commission feedback on the AC44 Cultural Resources draft chapter and Resilient Community content of the Comprehensive Plan document.

**ITEM TYPE:** Work Session

**STAFF CONTACTS:** Richardson, Wall, Filardo, Barnes, McDermott, Swartzendruber, Maliszewski, Benish, Holt

**PRESENTERS:** Tonya Swartzendruber, Planning Manager and Margaret Maliszewski, 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 - Cultural Resources chapter in Attachment B and the Resilient Community content in Attachment C is built upon community input and reflects the Planning Commission's and Board's feedback. Note the content for the Resilient Community chapter has been reallocated to the Environmental Stewardship and Community Facilities and Services chapters. A crosswalk for this content is provided in Attachment C.

Cultural resources make Albemarle the unique county that it is. These resources contribute significantly to the quality of life of residents and business owners, and they form the basis for the experience of tourists. The importance of our cultural resources is reinforced by their inherent value in both climate resilience and placemaking. However, many of these resources are not protected, and some of the protections that are in place are not as effective as they could be. This leaves the county at risk of losing the features that are essential to county character, quality of life, and a strong economy.

The broad variety and extensive quantity of Albemarle's cultural resources make protection a challenge. Analyzing the relationships among the resources and studying how they overlap

could reveal priority protection zones, inform new protection programs - both regulatory and incentive - and suggest updates for existing regulations.

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

**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 focuses on proposed comprehensive plan language within Attachment B and C, with particular emphasis upon the draft actions.

The Board of Supervisors will hold a work session on June 4, 2025, to discuss the draft Cultural Resources chapter and Resilient Community content.

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

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff requests the Commission review and provide feedback on the draft Cultural Resources Actions and Resilient Community content of the Comprehensive Plan document.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

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

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

Attach C – [CPA2021-02 AC44 Comp Plan – Resilient Community Crosswalk](#)

Attach D – [CPA2021-02 AC44 Comp Plan – Cultural Resources - Community Input Themes](#)

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