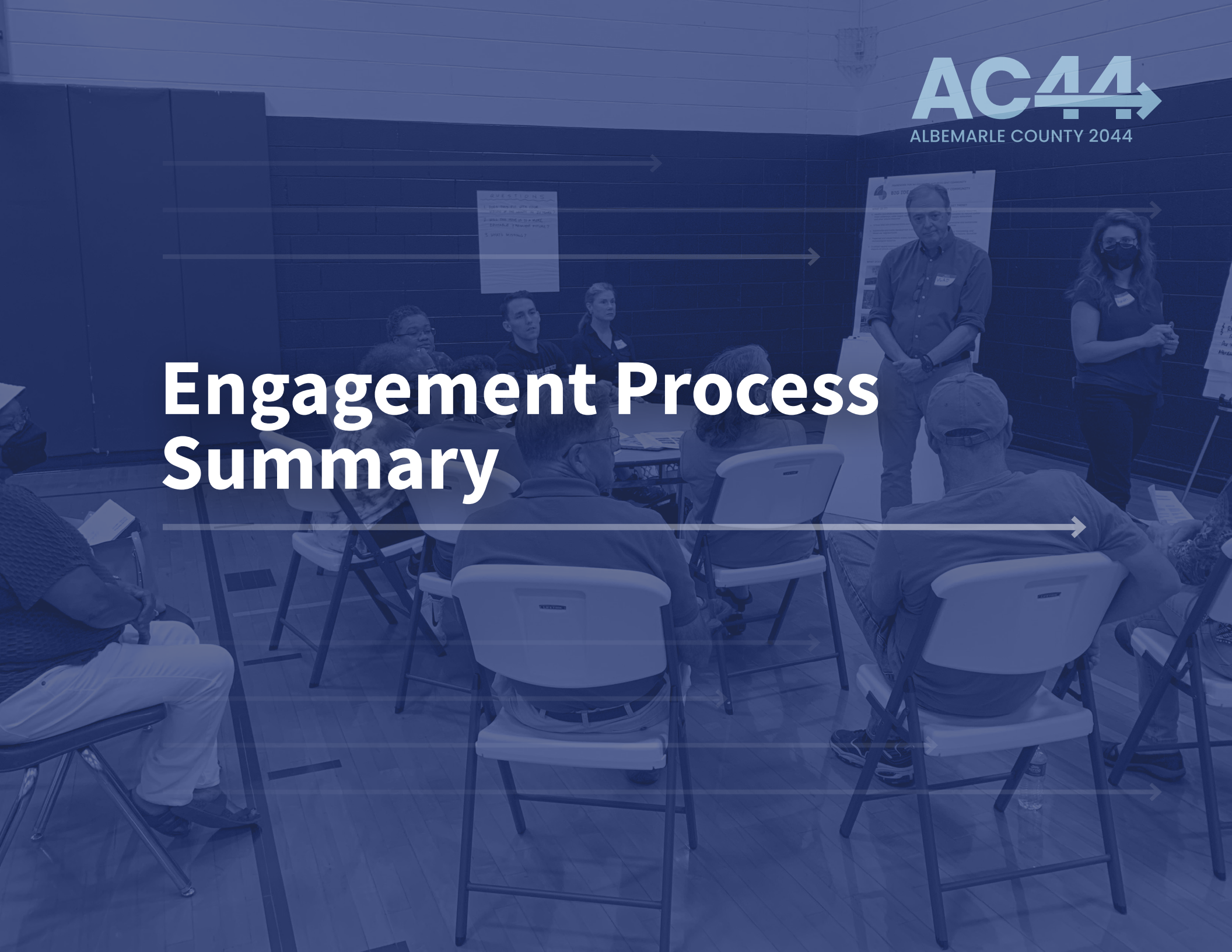
AC44
ALBEMARLE COUNTY 2044

Engagement Process Summary



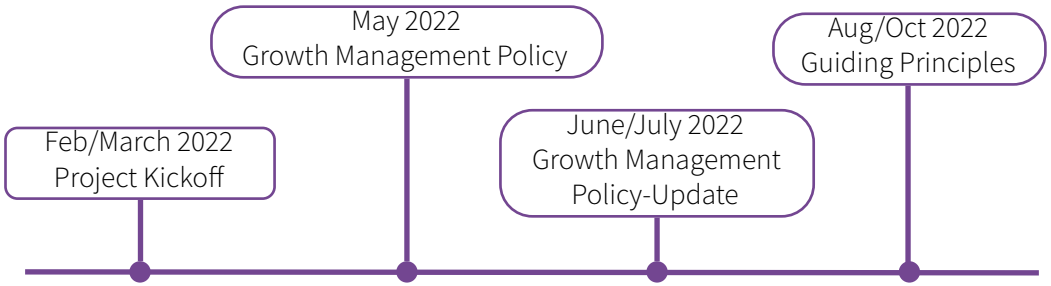
PHASE 1 ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

In AC44 Phase 1 we evaluated whether we should update our Growth Management Policy to support goals for equity, climate action, and planning for growth. We also established the AC44 Framework for an Equitable and Resilient Community to guide the development of the rest of the Comprehensive Plan.

First, we shared information on the 2015 Comp Plan Growth Management Policy, how the Policy is implemented, and why it is important to periodically review the Policy. Community members were asked to share their feedback and experiences related to the 2015 Growth Management policy. Participants were asked to rate the policy in supporting goals for equity and climate action and asked what updates (if any) could advance equity and climate action.

Second, Community members were asked to share their feedback on seven possible "Growth Management options" to help meet goals related to equity, climate action, and accommodating 20 years of projected growth. Participants were asked how each option supports these goals and to share which option(s) we should continue to explore and why. Input on these options was used to inform relevant Plan recommendations in Phases 2 and 3, especially for the land use and transportation chapters.

Finally, community members were invited to share their feedback on four "Big Ideas" (now called the AC44 Framework) for an equitable and resilient community through a series of roundtables and an online questionnaire. Community members were asked to consider whether the Big Ideas reflect their vision of our community in 20 years, if they guide us towards a more equitable and resilient community, and what was missing.









Project Kickoff

February/March 2022

Purpose

Share thougts on the current growth management policy and what should be prioritized with potential updates. Learn about the history of the policy and how it has been applied.



Questions Asked

- How well does the current Policy capture your vision for the future growth of the County?
- What has been your experience with Growth Management in the County? How has it impacted your life, in beneficial or challenging ways?
- How successful has the current Policy been at achieving its objectives? E.g. protecting the Rural Area, promoting dense/mixed use development in the Development Areas
- What should we prioritize as we update the Policy? E.g. public parks/ trails planning, community facilities, housing types, protecting resources
- How can we update the Policy to provide more equitable service provision and build a more resilient community?

Engagement

- **Online Questionnaire**
- **5 In-Person pop-ups**
- **2 Virtual Event**

Work Sessions: Planning Commission + Board of Supervisors

- PC (5/22/2022): Review initial findings from the draft land use buildout analysis.
- BOS (6/1/2022): Review initial findings from the draft land use buildout analysis.

2015 Growth Management Policy

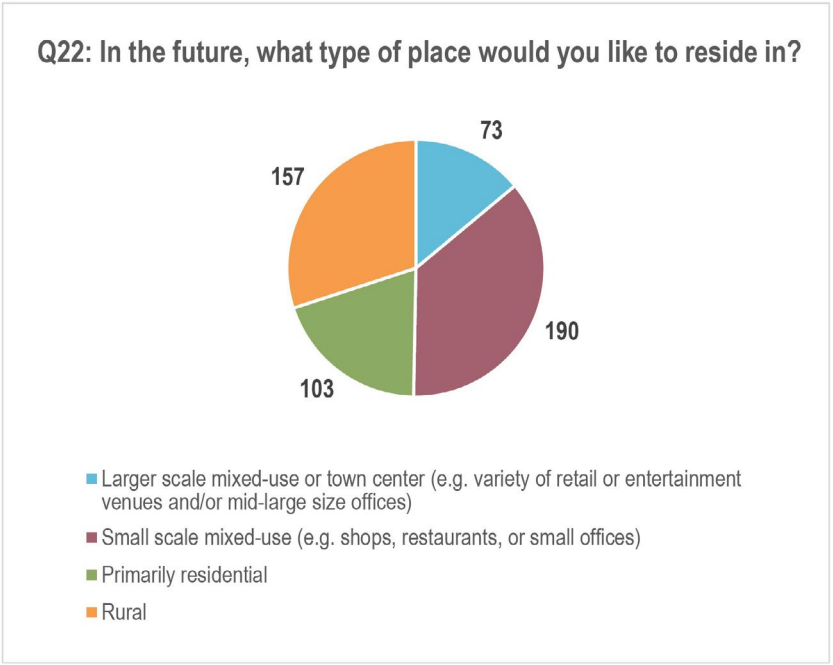
May 2022

Purpose

Share thougts on the current growth management policy and what should be prioritized with potential updates. Learn about the history of the policy and how it has been applied.

Questions Asked

- How well does the current Policy capture your vision for the future growth of the County?
- What has been your experience with Growth Management in the County? How has it impacted your life, in beneficial or challenging ways?
- How successful has the current Policy been at achieving its objectives? E.g. protecting the Rural Area, promoting dense/mixed use development in the Development Areas
- What should we prioritize as we update the Policy? E.g. public parks/ trails planning, community facilities, housing types, protecting resources
- How can we update the Policy to provide more equitable service provision and build a more resilient community?



Engagement

- **Online Questionnaire**
- **4 In-Person pop-ups**
- **1 Virtual event**
- **Working Group Meeting**

Work Sessions: Planning Commission + Board of Supervisors

- PC (5/24/2022): Review initial findings from the draft land use buildout analysis
- BOS (6/1/2022): Review initial findings from the draft land use buildout analysis

Growth Management Policy - Options for Updating

June/July 2022

Purpose

Share seven options for updating the Growth Management Policy to address:

- Projected demand and population growth;
- Equitable access to services/resources;
- Implement the Climate Action Plan and build community resilience.

For each, explained why we should consider it and how it could be implemented if pursued.

Questions Asked

- For each of the options: how well it aligns with projected demand/growth; equitable access to services/resources; Climate Action/resilience.
- Which options should we continue to explore? Can choose multiple. Explain rationale.
- Are there other options we should consider?

Engagement

- **Online Questionnaire**
- **3 In-Person Roundtables**
- **1 Online open house**
- **Working group meeting**

Work Sessions: Planning Commission + Board of Supervisors

PC (7/26/2022): Discuss community input on the seven options and how those could be used to develop common themes and a Plan framework (which became the Guiding Principles). Multiple options could be pursued and included:

- More density and infill in the Development Areas paired with green infrastructure.
- Align future land use designations with what is actually being built (which is typically not achieving desired density but may be more realistic).
- Draft criteria that would identify when, where, and how the Development Aeras should be expanded.
- Consider opportunities for non-residential development around I-64 interstate interchanges to support jobs growth and Economic Development Goals.
- Explore the possibility of 'rural villages' within the Rural Area to promote small-scale commercial and service uses to serve nearby Rural Area residents.
- More equitable service provision focused on essential services and community health.
- Promote forest retention and regenerative land uses in the Rural Area to support climate action goals.

AC44 Guiding Principles:

Green and Resilient, Welcoming and Equitable, Connected and Accessible, and Thriving and Prosperous

August - October 2022

Purpose

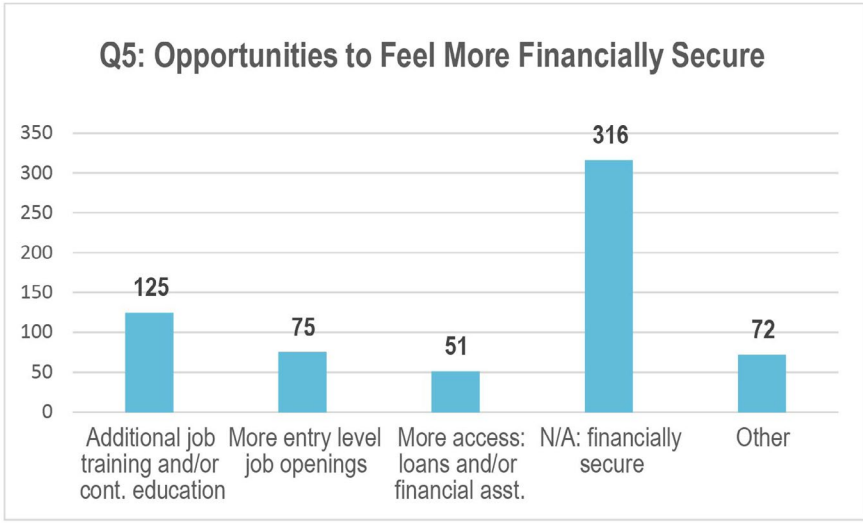
Develop Guiding Principles for the Comp Plan. Draft Guiding Principles were developed based on input from the Growth Management Options round and then refined during this round of engagement.

Questions Asked

- Do the draft Guiding Principles reflect your vision of our community in 20 years?
- Do they guide us towards a more equitable and resilient community?
- If not, what's missing? What changes are needed?



AC44 Guiding Principles



Work Sessions: Planning Commission + Board of Supervisors

- PC (9/27/2022): Planning Commission input on draft Guiding Principles
- BOS (10/19/2022): Board of Supervisors input on the draft Guiding Principles

Engagement

- **Online Questionnaire**
- **2 In-Person roundtables**
- **2 Virtual roundtables**
- **Working Group Meeting**

PHASE 2 ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

In AC44 Phase 2, we reviewed existing conditions and recent trends for each Comprehensive Plan chapter by sharing a series of topic reports. We drafted Goals and Objectives for each chapter using community, Planning Commission, and Board input, collaboration between County staff and partner agencies, review of the 2015 Comprehensive Plan, incorporating best practices, and the Framework for an Equitable and Resilient Community. We also developed draft planning toolkits for coordinated land use and transportation planning, including Activity Centers and rural communities.

In the first round of engagement, we asked for community input on challenges and opportunities for each Comprehensive Plan chapter. Along with quantitative data, this feedback informed which issues Plan recommendations needed to address.

Then, we asked for community feedback on the draft Planning Toolkits: Activity Centers, Development Areas expansion considerations, Rural Communities, and Rural Interstate Interchanges. These were topics that were first discussed during Phase 1 ('growth management options') that could be used to support coordinated land use and transportation planning, build on current Comp Plan recommendations including the Growth Management Policy, and implement the AC44 Framework. These toolkit topics needed significant community input and guidance from the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors prior to drafting updated Goals, Objectives, and Actions for these topics.







Challenges and Opportunities by Plan Topic

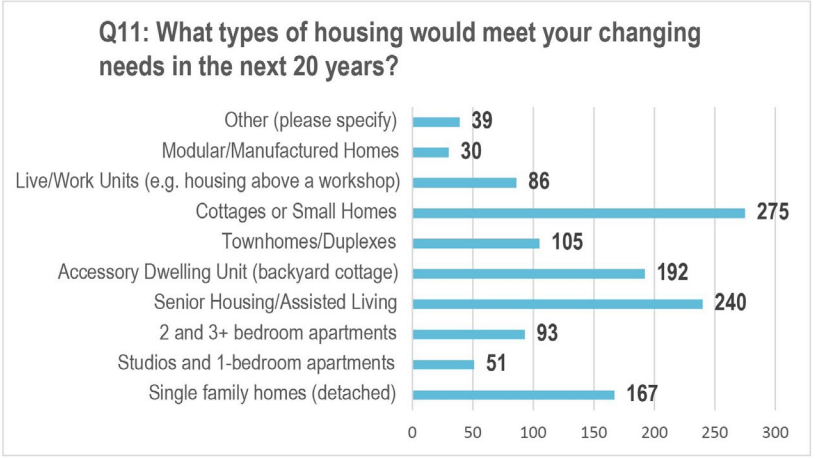
February/March 2023

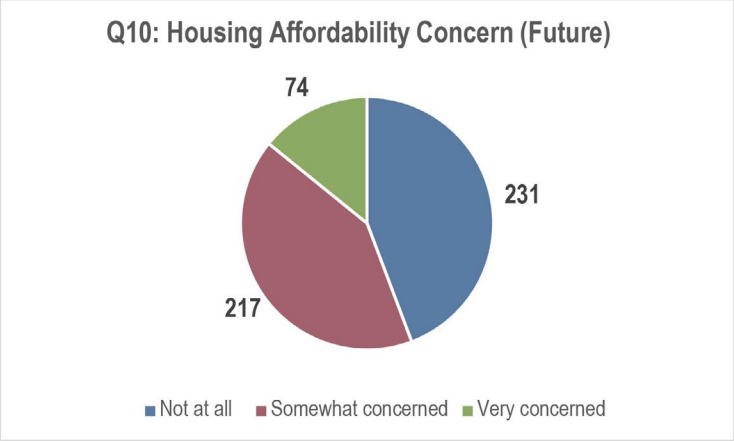
Purpose

Identify community needs and priorities by Plan topic. Share information about each Plan topic for background information and relevant context/ data.

Questions Asked

- How you want get around the County in the future, assuming adequate infrastructure and service?
  - » What options might support your transportation preference? Rank in order of priority
- What opportunities would help you feel more financially stable and secure?
- What options might support your future career or business needs? Rank in order of priority
- Are you concerned about being able to afford your current housing in the future?
- Consider how your housing needs could change in the next 20 years (e.g. changes in access needs or mobility, a relative moving in, needing a larger or smaller home). What types of housing may be needed to meet your needs?
- What options might support your future housing needs? Rank in order of priority
- Rank how important different historic/scenic/cultural/natural resources are for our community
- How would you prioritize ways to protect our natural resources in order to improve our community's resilience to climate change? Rank in order of priority
- How would you prioritize the following ways to protect our historic and cultural resources? Rank in order of priority.





Questions Asked Continued

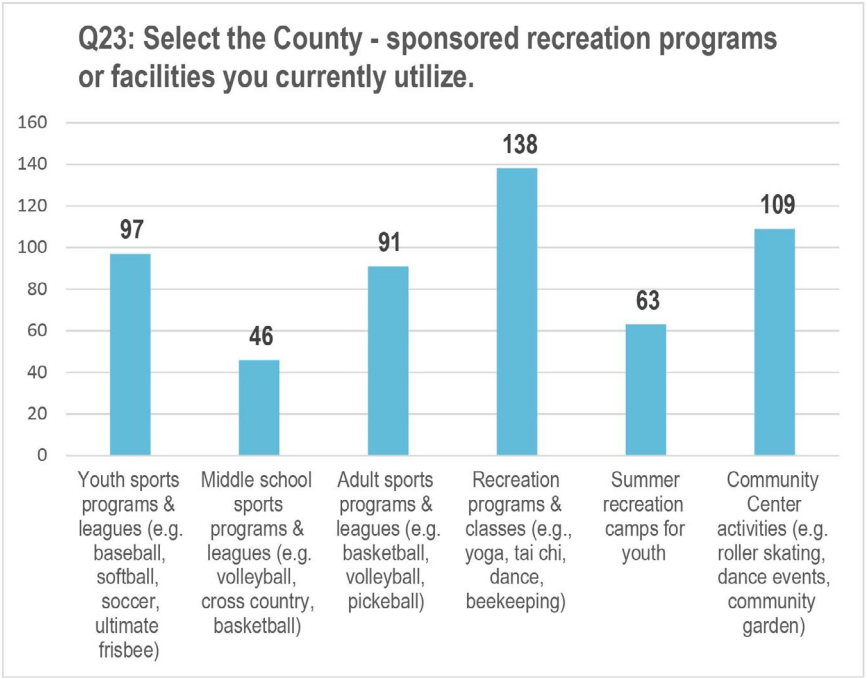
- Which services and amenities (community facilities) would you like to have closer to your home?
- What might improve your access to public services and amenities (e.g. community centers, libraries, recycling locations, parks)?
- What challenges (if any) do you have with accessing existing recreation facilities (parks, trails, athletic complexes, programs) in Albemarle County?
- What options might support your recreation needs in the future? Rank in order of priority
- What options could make our community services/resources more equitable?
- What options could make our community more resilient?
- For all the above – is anything missing? If so, how would you prioritize?
- Where should future growth be directed? Current DAs, RA with existing development/uses, expanding the DAs
- In the future, what type of place would you like to reside in? Large mixed-use centers, small scale mixed-use centers, primarily residential, rural.

Engagement

- **Online Questionnaire**
- **6 In-Person pop-ups**
- **Working Group Meeting**
- **Community Chat Kits**

Chat Kits/In-Person Events

- How do you want to get around the County in 2044 (e.g. walk, bike, drive, take transit)?
- What business or job opportunities do you need to ensure you are financially stable and secure in 2044?
- How might your housing needs change between now and 2044?
- What types of businesses, amenities, recreational opportunities and housing do you wish you had closer to where you live?
- How do you think your life will be different in the next 20 years as a result of climate change, and what should local government due to address future climate change impacts?



Planning Toolkits for Coordinated Land Use and Transportation Planning

Topic includes: Activity Centers, Multimodal Plan, Future Land Use, Process for Potential Future Development Areas Expansion, Rural Crossroads Communities, Rural Interstate Interchanges (all within the context of Growth Management Policy)

May - September 2023

Purpose

Develop Plan recommendations for coordinated land use and transportation planning in both the Development Areas and Rural Area to implement the Growth Management Policy. Share approach and draft recommendations for future land use designations (and how will be applied to FLUM), Activity Centers, Multimodal Systems Plan + modal emphasis mapping, and Rural Area communities.

Questions Asked

Activity Centers

- What feedback do you have on the recommended scale, form, level of development, public spaces, and multimodal transportation for the draft Activity Center types (Neighborhood, Town, Destination)?
- What feedback do you have on the draft Activity Center locations and how the draft Center types have been applied?
- Are there transportation connections that you would add or change for any of the draft Centers?

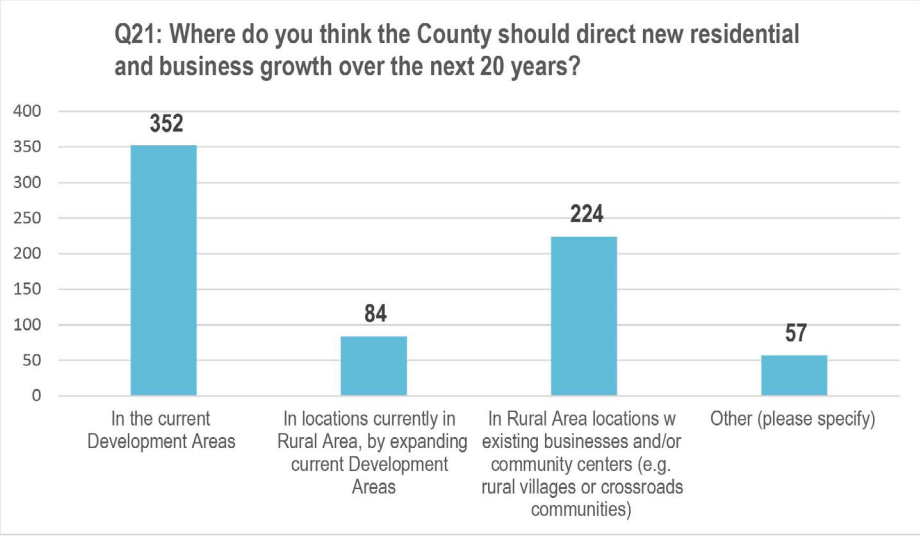
Potential Future DA Expansion Factors

- Are there considerations for 'where' and 'how' to expand that you would change? What's missing?
- Are there considerations for 'when' to expand that you would change? What's missing?

Q2: Preferred mode of travel in future (Avg. ranked priority order, 1=highest)	
Walk	1
Bike, e-bike, or bikeshare service	2
Primarily drive alone	3
Use transit (CAT, JAUNT)	4
Use shared services (carshare, rideshare, bikeshare, scootershare)	5
Electric personal mobility device (scooter, one wheel, other)	6
Carpool	7

Engagement

- Online Questionnaire
- 4 In-Person open houses
- 1 Virtual Open House/CAC Meeting
- Community Chat Kits
- Think like a Planner Activity
- CADRe Meeting
- Economic Development Authority Meeting
- JABA Workshop
- Meetings with County Committees (e.g. NHC, ARB, HPC)
- CVRHP Meeting



Rural Crossroads Communities

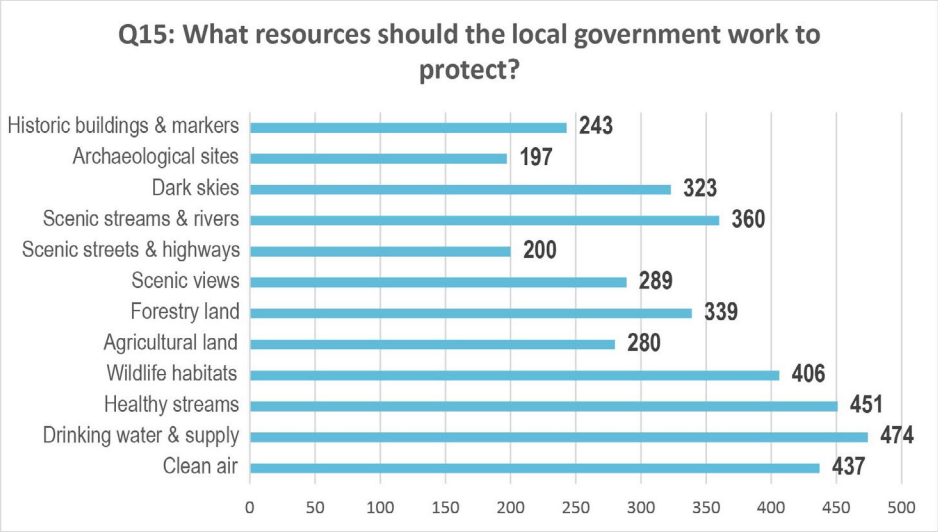
- What small-scale services or businesses are most needed in crossroads communities for nearby community members?
- What natural or cultural resources do you feel the County's conservation programs should focus on protecting?
- Along with Advance Mills, Batesville, Covesville, Free Union, Greenwood, Proffit, and White Hall, are there other places in the Rural Area that you would consider crossroads communities?
- If the updated Comp Plan has recommendations for community 'hubs' in the Rural Area, in part to prepare for and respond to weather events and other potential events/ emergencies, what other uses of these spaces would you hope to see?

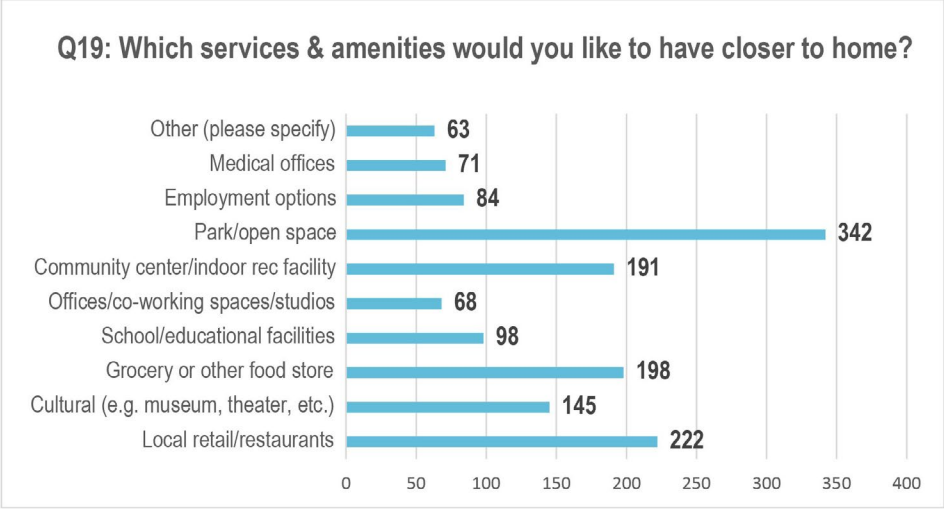
Rural Interstate Interchanges

- If not, please share why not.
- If yes, please share what land uses and/or businesses you would like to see. Include the rural interstate interchange location(s) in your comments.

CAC Specific Questions

- What are your preferred transportation modes for getting around [insert CAC area]?
- iDo any major bicycle or transit modal emphases seem to be missing?
- iiWhat destinations (within this area or elsewhere) do you want to be able to walk, bike, or take transit to?
- iAre there any terms or recommendations we can clarify?
- Do you have any initial feedback on the draft proposed updates to the land use designations?





Work Sessions: Planning Commission + Board of Supervisors

- PC (4/25/2023): PC input on the proposed approach for the planning toolkits and if these are the right topics for this round of engagement.
- PC (8/8/2023): PC direction on which options to pursue for each of the planning toolkits. Staff report shared 2-3 options for each, with the first option being 'no change from 2015 Plan'.
- BOS (9/6/23): BOS direction on which options to pursue for each of the planning toolkits. BOS considered community and PC input. BOS gave the following direction:
  - » Continue to map and identify Activity Centers and connect with multimodal transportation options. Consolidate the 50 centers across the 5 Area Plans.
  - » Develop a policy for potential future Development Areas expansion, but do not map potential areas at this time.
  - » Allow small-scale professional and doctors/dentist offices in rural communities by SP, and other appropriate small-scale uses that serve surrounding community members' essential needs. Small area planning should be used to identify other potential changes for individual communities.
  - » Draft an Action for future small area plans for the Shadwell and Yancey Mills interstate interchanges, prioritizing Shadwell, to study appropriate land uses and needed infrastructure. Consider what ag/ forestry or supporting uses could locate there.

Goals and Objectives by Plan Topic

September 2023 - March 2024

Purpose

Share and finalize draft Goals and Objectives for each Plan topic. Share updated topic reports for each. Share draft updated future land use designations, Activity centers/modal emphases, and community design guidelines.

Questions Asked

- How well does each Goal support the Guiding Principles?
- Is there anything you feel is missing from the draft Goals and Objectives for this chapter? What change(s) would you suggest?

Chapter-specific questions for DAs

» Do you have any feedback on any of the draft future land use designations?

» Do the draft Community Design Guidelines support the type of development you would hope to see in the Development Areas? Does anything seem to be missing?

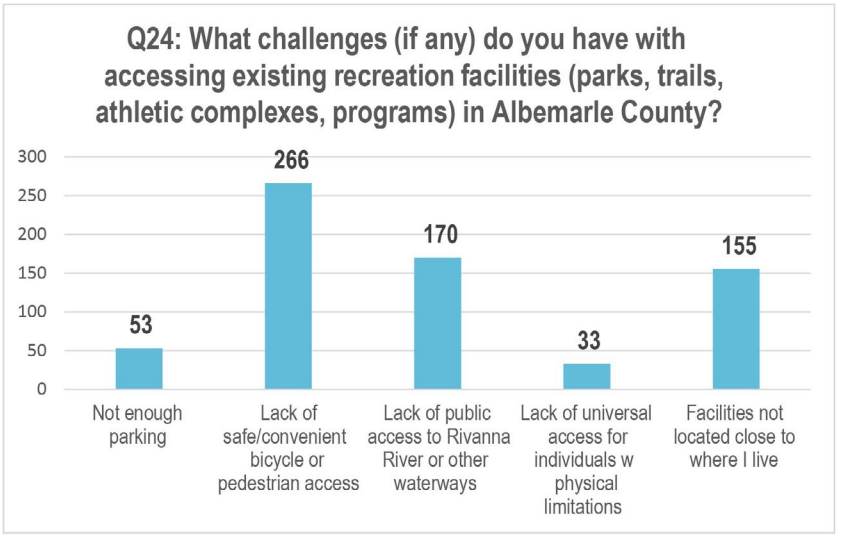
» What are your preferred transportation modes for getting around the Development Areas? Consider specific locations (e.g. where you live, or work, or go for activities) that you frequently go (or would like to go).

» Do any major bicycle or transit modal emphases seem to be missing from any of the draft modal emphasis maps? If so, please describe where (e.g. a street name, or a location/ landmark).

» What destinations do you want to be able to walk, bike, or take transit to in the future?

» Do you have any feedback on the draft Activity Center place types (Neighborhood, Town, Destination) or how they have been applied in the Development Areas?





RA Meeting Questions

- Crossroads communities
  - » What should a crossroads community have in it?
    - » Follow up: What do you value about crossroads communities (e.g. historic resources)?
    - » Follow up: prioritization
  - » What opportunities are there to increase community resilience here?
    - » Follow up: What would you like to see?
- Transportation in the RA
  - » We have heard from the community that they want better bicycle pedestrian and transit accommodations in the rural areas. What would make it safer to walk and bike in the rural area?
  - » Follow up: What would the benefit to you/the community be?
  - » What are your transit or ride-share needs? Where do you want to take transit to/what destinations/what services?
- Land conservation in the RA
  - » What features of the County's Rural Area do you feel are important to protect through land conservation?
  - » Are the tools in our toolkit (Conservation easements and Ag-forestal districts) doing a good job of protecting what's important? What should we be considering for future conservation efforts?

Engagement

- **Online Questionnaire (each chapter topic)**
- **6 CAC meetings**
- **2 In-Person Rural Area Workshops**
- **1 Pop-up (in coordination with Loop De'Ville**
- **1 Working group meeting**
- **1 Virtual Open House**
- **3 Office hours**

Work Sessions: Planning Commission + Board of Supervisors

- PC (10/10/2023): Goals and Objectives for Environmental Stewardship, Parks, Historic Resources.
- PC (11/14/2023): Goals and Objectives for Housing and Thriving Economy.
- BOS (1/17/2024): Goals and Objectives for Environmental Stewardship, Parks, Historic Resources, Housing, and Thriving Economy.
- PC (2/13/2024): Goals and Objectives for the Development Areas (LUT) and Community Facilities.
- PC (2/27/2024): Goals and Objectives for the Rural Area (LUT).
- PC (3/12/2024): Goals and Objectives for the Rural Area (LUT).
- BOS (3/20/2024): Goals and Objectives for the Development Areas (LUT) and Rural Area (LUT).
- BOS (4/3/2024): Goals and Objectives for Community Facilities.

PHASE 3 ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Phase 3 of Albemarle County's AC44 Comprehensive Plan update focused on translating the plan's goals and objectives into actionable strategies. These actions encompass capital projects, policy updates, code revisions, programs, and partnerships aimed at guiding the county's development through 2044.

From May 2024 to May 2025, nine topic area chapters were drafted and released to the public one at a time on the project website. Each chapter highlighted key issues and outlined goals and specific actions to implement the plan's objectives. Community members were encouraged to review, upvote, and comment on the actions proposed for each chapter online, as well review objectives for each chapter and share opinions on how to prioritize the implementation of these objectives.

In addition to the online activities, the county organized various events, such as community check-ins and virtual lunch and learn sessions, to preview draft chapters and gather feedback. For instance, a community check-in on October 30, 2024, focused on the Growth Management Policy and Land Use Topics. These sessions were held monthly starting in October 2024.



AC44 TOPIC CHAPTERS



The AC44 website allowed visitors to read draft chapters and share feedback on chapter content

Plan Actions

May 2024 - June 2025

Purpose

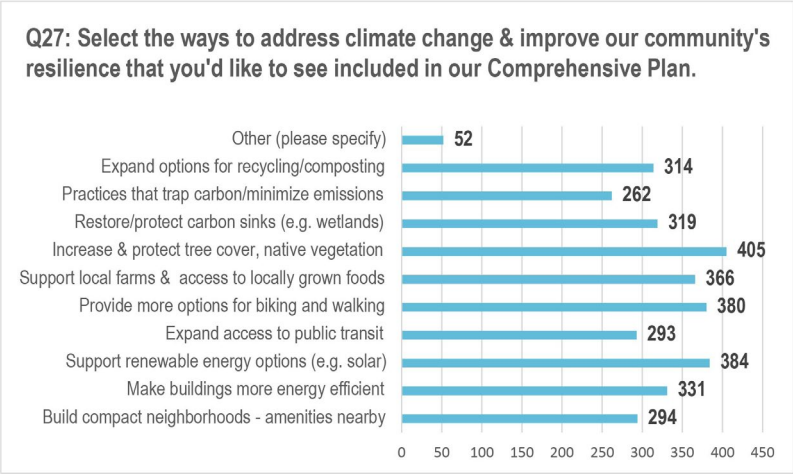
Share and finalize draft Actions for each Plan chapter.

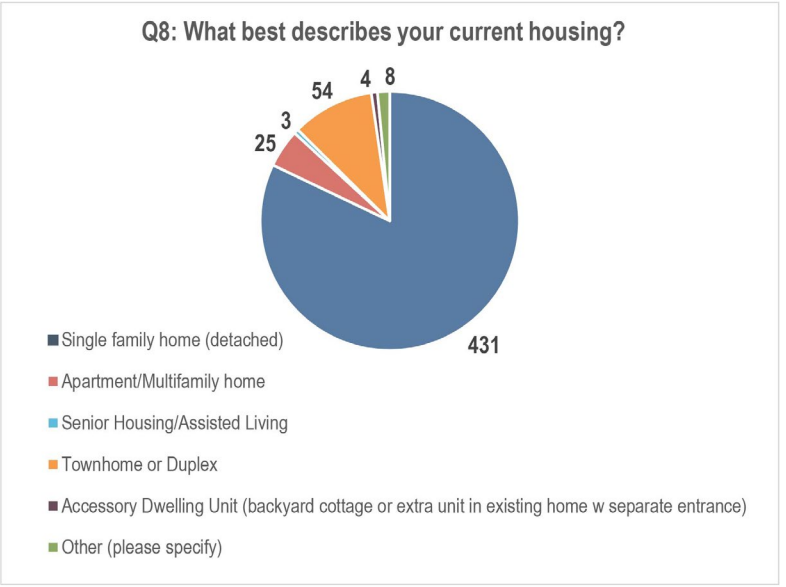
Questions Asked

- Actions

  Community members were able to review, upvote, and comment on draft actions for each chapter

- Ranking Objectives
  - » Rank the chapter objectives in the order you would prioritize implementation.
  - » When considering the implementation of your top priorities, what challenges do you anticipate?
  - » When considering the implementation of your top priorities, what opportunities do you anticipate?
  - » What overlapping chapters do you think are the most important for implementation of this chapter?
  - » Share additional feedback for our project team (open ended).





Engagement

Working group meeting

Online Questionnaire: feedback on draft actions

Online questionnaire: rank objectives

Community Check In (3)

- **(10/30/24) GMP/Land Use**
- **(1/29/25) Environmental Stewardship, Parks**
- **(5/22/25) Transportation**

Lunch and Learns (5)

- **(11/21/24) Development Areas Land Use**
- **(12/12/24) Rural Area Land Use**
- **(2/27/25) Thriving Economy**
- **(4/24/25) Housing & Community Facilities**
- **(6/26/25) Cultural Resources**

Planning Commision / Board of Supervisor Work Sessions

- PC (10/08/2024): Draft Growth Management Policy and draft factors for Development Areas utilization.
- BOS (10/16/2024): Draft Growth Management Policy and draft factors for Development Areas utilization.
- PC (10/22/2024): Draft Development Areas Land Use chapter topics: Future Land Use Map, Future Land Use Categories, and Activity Centers.
- BOS (11/06/2024): Draft Development Areas Land Use chapter topics: Future Land Use Map, Future Land Use Categories, and Activity Centers.
- PC (11/12/2024): Draft Development Areas Land Use chapter.
- PC (11/19/2024): Draft Rural Area Land Use policies from the draft chapter.
- BOS (11/20/2024): Draft Development Areas Land Use chapter – focused on actions.
- PC (12/10/2024): Draft Rural Area Land Use chapter – focused on actions.
- PC 12/17/2024): Draft Environmental Stewardship chapter.
- BOS (1/08/2025): Draft Rural Area Land Use chapter.
- BOS (1/22/2025): Draft Environmental Stewardship chapter.
- BOS (2/19/2025): Draft Development Areas Land Use chapter, Rural Area Land Use chapter, and Growth Management Policy.
- PC (2/25/2025): Draft Parks, Recreation, and Open Space chapter.
- BOS (3/05/2025): Draft Parks, Recreation, and Open Space chapter.
- PC 3/11/2025: Draft Community Facilities and Thriving Economy chapters.
- BOS (4/02/2025): Draft Community Facilities and Thriving Economy chapters.
- BOS (4/08/2025): Draft Housing chapter.
- PC (5/06/2025): Draft Transportation chapter.
- BOS (5/07/2025): Draft Housing chapter.
- PC (5/27/2025): Cultural Resources and Resilient Community chapter.
- BOS (5/28/2025): Transportation chapter.
- BOS (6/4/2025): Cultural Resources and Resilient Community chapter.

