

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE  
"A World Class City"

**Department of Neighborhood Development Services**

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September 7, 2012

**TO: Charlottesville Planning Commission, Neighborhood Associations &  
News Media**

# Please Take Notice

A Joint Work Session of the Charlottesville City and Albemarle County Planning Commissions will be held on **Tuesday September 18 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 241 at the Albemarle County Office building (401 McIntire Road)**

## AGENDA

1. Presentation of Community Priorities Questionnaire Findings
2. Joint City/ County Goals
3. Public Comment – 15 minutes

cc: City Council  
Maurice Jones  
Aubrey Watts  
Jim Tolbert  
Neighborhood Planners  
Melissa Thackston, Kathy McHugh  
Mary Joy Scala  
Craig Brown, Rich Harris

## **Community Priorities Questionnaire Report Cover**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Livable Communities Planning Project (Project) conducted a Public Outreach Workshop Series (Workshops) from September 2011 through March 2012, receiving 700+ comments related to goals found in both the City of Charlottesville and the County of Albemarle's existing comprehensive plans. When presented with a summary and finding of these comments in April 2012, both Planning Commissions requested that staff seek additional public input.

Subsequently, Project staff developed a Community Priorities Questionnaire, which included 55 priorities reflective of topics presented and comments received during the Workshops. The questionnaire was distributed through the Livability Partnership, the Project website, and at several local venues from April through June 2012. Participants were requested to select and rank their top ten priorities from those found on the questionnaire. A total of 620 questionnaires were received through this outreach effort.

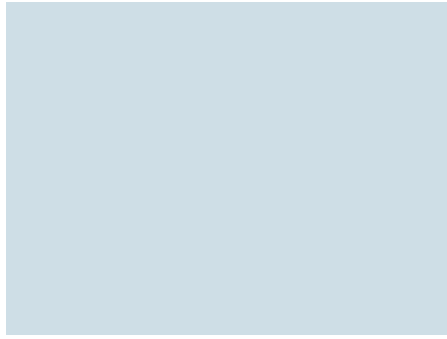
### **DISCUSSION:**

The attached report provides an analysis of the information gathered from the questionnaire responses. Three types of analysis were performed – aggregate ranking, average ranking, and frequency ranking – for four different groupings of the questionnaires – the Project Area, the City of Charlottesville, the County of Albemarle, and All Questionnaires.

Staff believes the findings within the report generally validate the findings of the Workshops, and provide additional insight into the relative importance of particular issues to resident of the City of Charlottesville, the County of Albemarle, and the broader community. It is staff's intention that the findings outlined in the report will provide valuable insights regarding community members' priorities related to comprehensive plan goals, and help form the framework for future discussions and decision.

### **ATTACHEMENTS:**

Attachment A: Community Priorities Questionnaire Findings



# Community Priorities Questionnaire Findings

**Livable Communities Planning Project  
Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission  
September 2012**

401 East Water Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902 ▪ (434) 979-7310 ▪ [www.1-community.org](http://www.1-community.org)

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## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	1
Methodology .....	2
Project Area Findings .....	3
Albemarle County Findings .....	6
Charlottesville Findings .....	9
All Questionnaire Findings .....	12
Write-In Priorities .....	15
Conclusion .....	15
Appendix .....	16
Community Priorities Questionnaire .....	17
Summary Results Tables .....	18
Write-In Priorities .....	20
Livability Partnership Member Organizations .....	23

## Introduction

The Livable Communities Planning Project conducted six public outreach workshops from September 2011 through March 2012. Each workshop covered a particular topic related to the Comprehensive Plan: Environment, Land Use, Transportation, Housing, Economic Drivers, Community Facilities, and Historic Resources. Over 700 comments were received during these public workshops. Input from the workshops was presented to the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County planning commissions at a joint planning commission meeting held on April 17, 2012. At the meeting, members of the commissions requested that project staff seek additional public input on City and County goals relating to the public outreach workshop topics.

In response to the planning commissioners' request, Livability project staff developed a Community Priorities Questionnaire that included priorities derived from the goals presented and comments received during the public outreach workshop series. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in the Appendix. The purpose of the questionnaire was to create an easy way for community members to provide input by identifying their top ten planning priorities for the future of the community.

A total of 620 questionnaires were completed during the outreach period. Despite the fact that the questionnaire was not designed as a scientific survey and respondents were not a randomized sample of the Charlottesville-Albemarle County population, the fact that 620 individuals took the time to share their perspective on the community's most important planning priorities should not be ignored. The intent of this report is to lend their voices to those of the individuals who have participated in the community outreach process since the Livable Communities Planning Project began. It is hoped that the results contained within this report will provide valuable insights about what matters to members of this community and will inform local decision makers as they shape the policies that impact our future.

## Methodology

The Community Priorities Questionnaire included 55 priorities organized in categories corresponding to the public outreach workshop topics. Respondents were asked to rank their top ten priorities across all of the categories, using each number 1-10 only once. An "Other" category invited participants to list priorities that were important to them, but not included on the questionnaire. Respondents were asked to identify their place of residence and to initial the questionnaire to indicate that they had only completed it once. Formatted in Excel, the original questionnaire was not compatible with online viewing and printing, so it was converted to a pdf format to be more easily accessible through the project website. The priorities were not changed during this process, only the layout of the page and the addition of a question identifying the place of residence for the participant.

The questionnaire was initially given to the Livability Partnership at their April 23, 2012 meeting for distribution to the membership of groups represented in the Partnership. A list of these groups can be found in the Appendix. The questionnaire was made available to the general public beginning on June 1, 2012 and was distributed at area farmers markets, Fridays after Five, the Tom Tom Festival Community Field Day, and through the project website, *1-community.org*. Completed questionnaires were accepted through July 2, 2012.

As mentioned in the Introduction, a total of 620 questionnaires were completed during the outreach period. Residents of Albemarle County completed the most questionnaires, contributing nearly 40

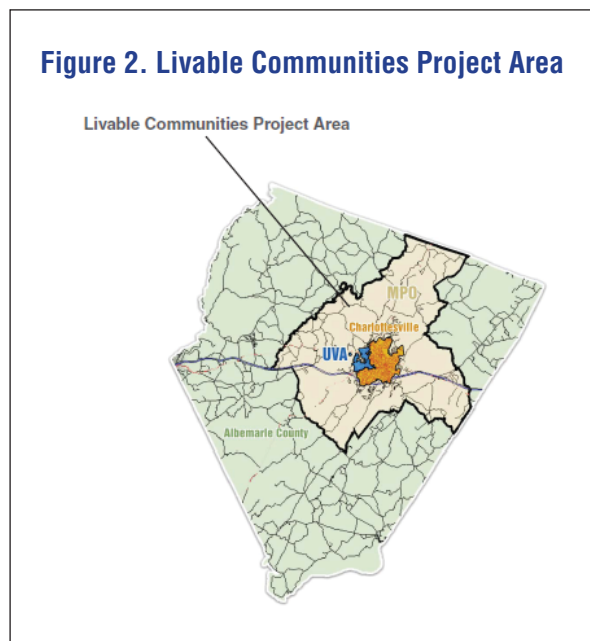
**Figure 1. Questionnaire Responses by Place of Residence**

Residence	Responses	% of Responses
Albemarle	244	39.35%
Charlottesville	183	29.52%
No Residence	171	27.58%
Other	22	3.55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

percent of the total. Charlottesville residents completed approximately 30 percent, while questionnaires without a residence given accounted for nearly 28 percent. The earliest version of the questionnaire did not ask the participant to list a residence; therefore, the total for the “No Residence” group is inflated. The “Other” residence category contains questionnaires from Fluvanna County (4), Greene County (15), Hanover County (1) and Nelson County (1).

Instructions on the questionnaire directed participants to rank their top ten priorities using each of the numbers 1-10 only once. Questionnaires that were filled out incorrectly were not included in the analysis. Examples of the 49 incorrectly completed questionnaires included those that used any of the numbers 1 through 10 more than once, and those that used a check mark or an “X” to indicate their priorities rather than a number 1-10. Without a clear indication of how the individual wished to rank the priorities, these questionnaires were rendered invalid.

Correctly completed questionnaires were analyzed in four groups: the Project Area (Charlottesville & Albemarle County), the City of Charlottesville, Albemarle County, and All Questionnaires. The Project Area is most similar to the Livability Project area, which is defined as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) area, encompassing the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County’s Development Areas, with the exception of Crozet. For each group, priorities were analyzed based upon an **Aggregate Ranking**, an **Average Ranking**, and a **Frequency of Ranking**. Each analysis provides a unique perspective on the relative importance of a priority within a particular area.



### Aggregate Ranking

The Aggregate Ranking was calculated based upon the sum of rankings assigned to each priority by all questionnaires in a particular group. For the purpose of calculating the sum, the ranking numbers were inverted so that a ranking of 1 was assigned a value of 10 and a ranking of 10 was assigned a value of 1. The values for each were then summed to provide the Aggregate Ranking for each priority. For each group of questionnaires, the top ten Aggregate priorities are listed, in addition to the top three for each category listed on the questionnaire.

### Average Ranking

The Average Ranking describes the average rank a priority received within each group of questionnaires. The Average Ranking was calculated by dividing the Aggregate Ranking by the total number of times a priority was ranked. The Average Ranking is provided for the top ten Aggregate priorities and the top three Aggregate priorities for each category listed on the questionnaire.

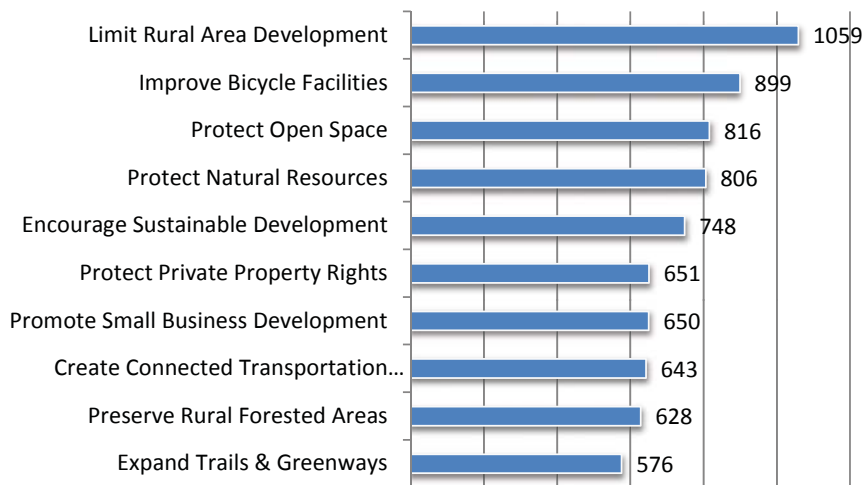
### Frequency of Ranking

The Frequency of Ranking indicates the total number of times a priority was ranked within a group of questionnaires and does not take into account what ranking the priority received. For each group of questionnaires, the top ten most frequently ranked priorities are expressed as both a number and a percentage.

## Project Area Findings (Charlottesville & Albemarle County)

The Project Area findings include combined results for the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County. The two jurisdictions made up 427, or approximately 69%, of all questionnaires. As **Figure 3** depicts, *Limit Rural Area Development* was the highest priority for the Project Area. Five of the top ten priorities came from the Environment category of the questionnaire. Four of the priorities pertain to protecting and preserving rural assets such as natural resources and open space. The results show that protecting the rural characteristics are important for both County and City residents. *Protect Private Property Rights* had the highest average ranking among the top ten priorities for the Project Area.

**Figure 3. Top Ten Project Area Priorities by Aggregate Ranking**

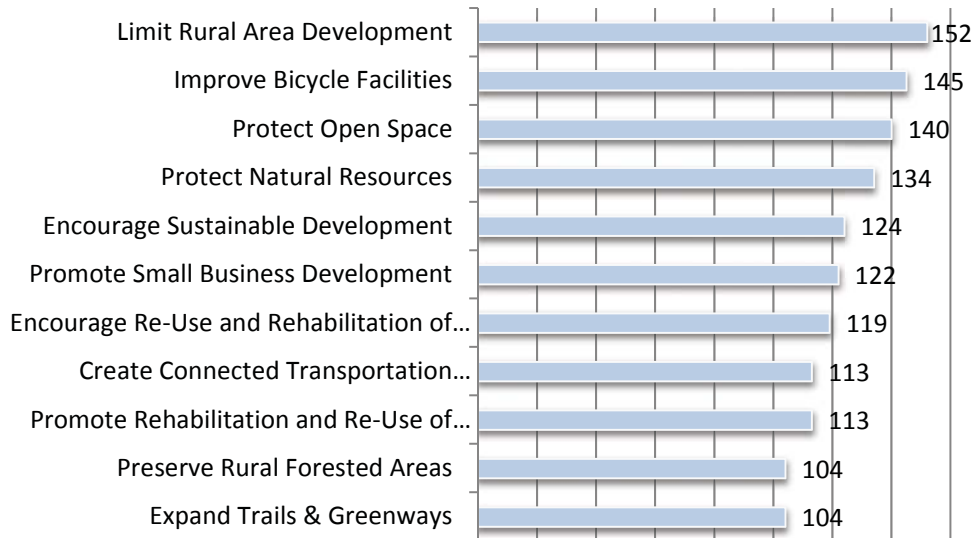


Priority	Aggregate Ranking	Average Ranking
1 Limit Rural Area Development	1,059	6.97
2 Improve Bicycle Facilities	899	6.20
3 Protect Open Space	816	5.83
4 Protect Natural Resources	806	6.01
5 Encourage Sustainable Development	748	6.03
6 Protect Private Property Rights	651	8.04
7 Promote Small Business Development	650	5.33
8 Create Connected Transportation Network	643	5.69
9 Preserve Rural Forested Areas	628	6.04
10 Expand Trails & Greenways	576	5.54



**Figure 4** contains the most frequently ranked priorities for the Project Area. The Frequency of Ranking refers to the number of times a particular priority was selected within a particular group of questionnaires. Eleven priorities are included because *Preserve Rural Forested Areas* and *Expand Trails & Greenways* received an equal number of rankings. The top five Frequency of Ranking results are identical to the top five Aggregate Ranking results for the Project Area, with over one third of Project Area respondents ranking *Limit Rural Area Development*, *Improve Bicycle Facilities*, and *Protect Open Space* as a priority. Although they did not appear in the top ten aggregate ranking, two priorities relating to historic preservation and adaptive reuse were a priority for over one quarter of respondents, meaning that it was a priority for many, just not their most important issue.

**Figure 4. Top Eleven Most Frequently Ranked Priorities for the Project Area**



Priority	Frequency of Ranking
1 Limit Rural Area Development	152 36%
2 Improve Bicycle Facilities	145 34%
3 Protect Open Space	140 33%
4 Protect Natural Resources	134 31%
5 Encourage Sustainable Development	124 29%
6 Promote Small Business Development	122 29%
7 Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	119 28%
8 Create Connected Transportation Network	113 26%
9 Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	113 26%
10 Preserve Rural Forested Areas	104 24%
11 Expand Trails & Greenways	104 24%



**Figure 5** depicts the top three priorities for each category on the questionnaire according to their aggregate ranking. Environment, Land Use, and Transportation priorities tended to receive high aggregate rankings, with *Protect Open Space* ranked as the most important Environment priority, *Limit Rural Area Development* the most important Land Use priority, and *Improve Bicycle Facilities* the most important Transportation priority. Economic Development priorities also received high rankings, with *Promote Small Business Development* ranked as the most important. Although Housing, Historic Resources, and Community Facilities priorities did not rank as highly as other categories, *Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing* was the highest ranked Housing priority, *Encourage Re-Use & Rehabilitation of Historic Structures* was overwhelmingly the highest Historic Resources priority, and *Improve Water and Sewer Utilities* was the most important Community Facilities priority. *Protect Private Property Rights* was the top priority in the Other category, also achieving the highest average ranking.

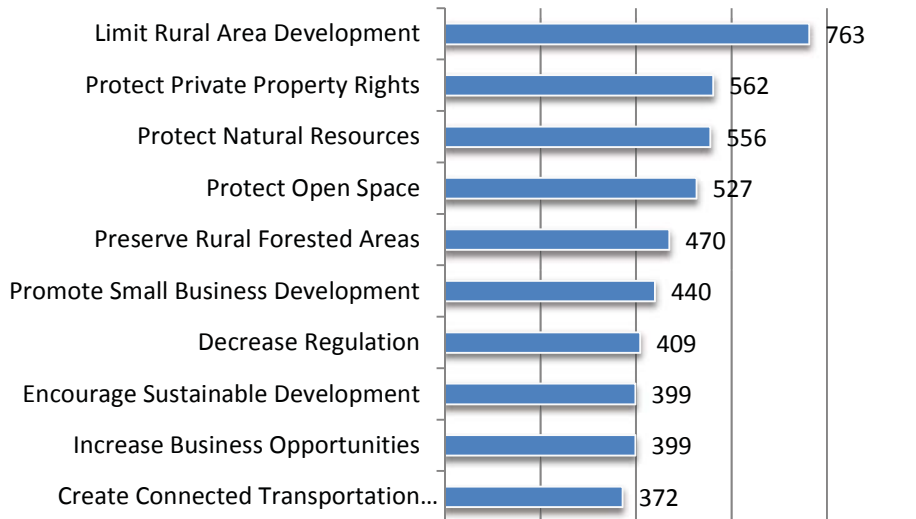
**Figure 5. Top Three Priorities by Category for the Project Area**

	<b>Aggregate Ranking</b>	<b>Average Ranking</b>
<b>Environment</b>		
Protect Open Space	816	5.83
Protect Natural Resources	806	6.01
Encourage Sustainable Development	748	6.03
<b>Land Use</b>		
Limit Rural Area Development	1059	6.97
Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	556	4.92
Create Vibrant Urban Centers	458	5.52
<b>Transportation</b>		
Improve Bicycle Facilities	899	6.20
Create Connected Transportation Network	643	5.69
Improve Pedestrian Facilities	482	5.30
<b>Economic Development</b>		
Promote Small Business Development	650	5.33
Increase Business Opportunities	565	6.42
Increase Workforce Development Efforts	412	6.44
<b>Community Facilities</b>		
Improve Water and Sewer Utilities	320	5.16
Improve Library Facilities	301	4.63
Expand Police Force	256	5.45
<b>Historic Resources</b>		
Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	462	3.88
Increase Community Education	168	4.67
Adopt Historic District Ordinance	85	3.54
<b>Housing</b>		
Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing	496	6.36
Increase Workforce Affordable Housing	475	5.94
Develop Balanced Housing Type Mix	282	5.53
<b>Other</b>		
Protect Private Property Rights	651	8.04
Limit Regional Growth	473	6.14
Decrease Regulation	462	7.22

## Albemarle County Findings

**Figure 6** includes results for the 244 questionnaires that indicated Albemarle County as their place of residence, or 39% of the total. *Limit Rural Area Development* was the highest priority for Albemarle County respondents. *Protect Private Property Rights*, *Protect Natural Resources*, and *Protect Open Space* each scored closely as high priorities for residents of Albemarle County. *Protect Private Property Rights* and *Decrease Regulation* had the highest average rankings in this grouping. Four of the top five priorities refer specifically to protections for the Rural Areas.

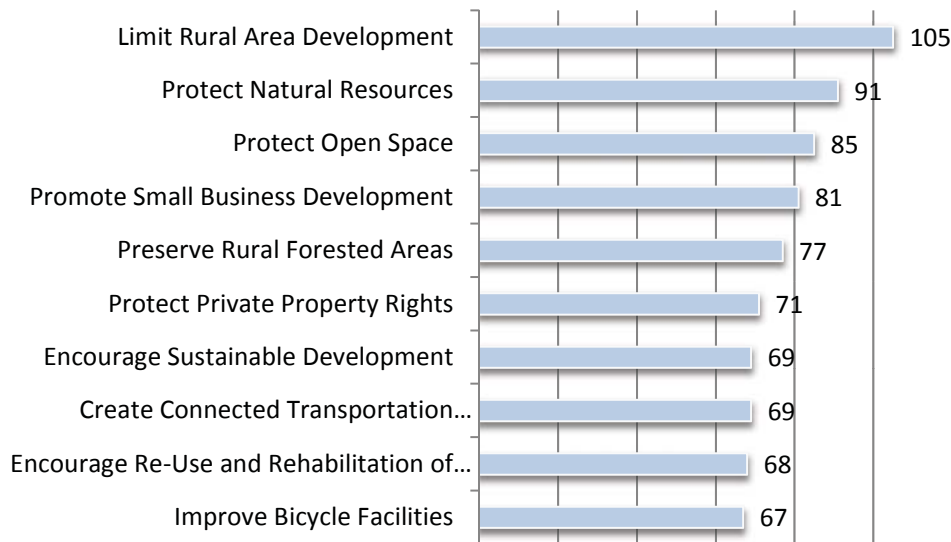
**Figure 6. Top Ten Albemarle County Priorities by Aggregate Ranking**



Priority	Aggregate Ranking	Average Ranking
1 Limit Rural Area Development	763	7.27
2 Protect Private Property Rights	562	8.03
3 Protect Natural Resources	556	6.11
4 Protect Open Space	527	6.20
5 Preserve Rural Forested Areas	470	6.10
6 Promote Small Business Development	440	5.43
7 Decrease Regulation	409	7.57
8 Encourage Sustainable Development	399	5.78
9 Increase Business Opportunities	399	6.44
10 Create Connected Transportation Network	372	5.39

As seen in **Figure 7**, *Limit Rural Area Development* was the most frequently ranked priority for Albemarle County respondents and was prioritized on 43 percent of Albemarle questionnaires. As in the top ten aggregate list, four of the top five most frequently ranked priorities seek protection for Rural Area resources, with nearly one third of respondents ranking these as a priority. This shows that County residents feel strongly about protecting the Rural Areas. Other priorities selected on over one quarter of the questionnaires sought to safeguard property rights, encourage sustainable development and adaptive reuse, and make improvements to the transportation network.

**Figure 7. Top Ten Most Frequently Ranked Priorities for Albemarle County**



Priority	Frequency of Ranking
1 Limit Rural Area Development	105 43%
2 Protect Natural Resources	91 37%
3 Protect Open Space	85 35%
4 Promote Small Business Development	81 33%
5 Preserve Rural Forested Areas	77 32%
6 Protect Private Property Rights	71 29%
7 Encourage Sustainable Development	69 28%
8 Create Connected Transportation Network	69 28%
9 Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	68 28%
10 Improve Bicycle Facilities	67 27%

**Figure 8** shows the top three priorities for each category on the questionnaire according to their aggregate ranking. Priorities in the Environment, Land Use, and Other categories received high aggregate rankings, with *Protect Natural Resources* ranked as the most important Environment priority, *Limit Rural Area Development* as the most important Land Use priority, and *Protect Private Property Rights* as the most important in the Other category. *Promote Small Business Development* was the most important priority related to Economic Development, while *Increase Workforce Affordable Housing* was the highest ranked Housing priority. *Create Connected Transportation Network* achieved the highest ranking in the Transportation category. Like the Project Area, *Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures* was the highest Historic Resources priority. *Expand Police Force* was the most important priority in the Community Facilities category.

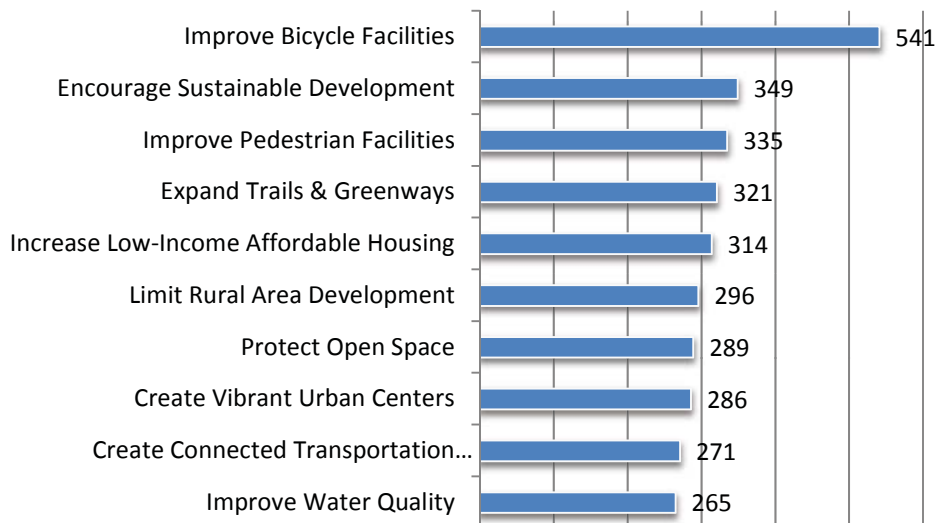
**Figure 8. Top Three Priorities by Category for Albemarle County**

	Aggregate Ranking	Average Ranking
<b>Environment</b>		
Protect Natural Resources	556	6.11
Protect Open Space	527	6.20
Preserve Rural Forested Areas	470	6.10
<b>Land Use</b>		
Limit Rural Area Development	763	7.27
Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	317	5.03
Create Vibrant Urban Centers	172	5.21
<b>Transportation</b>		
Create Connected Transportation Network	372	5.39
Improve Bicycle Facilities	358	5.34
Improve Road Condition	228	5.07
<b>Economic Development</b>		
Promote Small Business Development	440	5.43
Increase Business Opportunities	399	6.44
Diversify Regional Economy	228	6.33
<b>Community Facilities</b>		
Expand Police Force	173	5.58
Improve Water and Sewer Utilities	167	5.22
Improve Library Facilities	159	4.30
<b>Historic Resources</b>		
Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	269	3.96
Increase Community Education	90	4.74
Adopt Historic District Ordinance	56	4.00
<b>Housing</b>		
Increase Workforce Affordable Housing	220	5.50
Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing	182	5.52
Develop Balanced Housing Type Mix	129	5.38
<b>Other</b>		
Protect Private Property Rights	562	8.03
Decrease Regulation	409	7.57
Limit Regional Growth	359	6.30

## Charlottesville Findings

Figure 9 shows Aggregate Ranking results for participants that listed Charlottesville as their place of residence. There were 183 questionnaires from Charlottesville respondents, or approximately 30% of the total. Three of the top four priorities addressed bicycle and pedestrian facilities, with *Improve Bicycle Facilities* ranked as the number one priority. This shows that bicycle and pedestrian issues are important to Charlottesville residents. *Encouraging Sustainable Development* and *Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing* were also among the top five Charlottesville priorities.

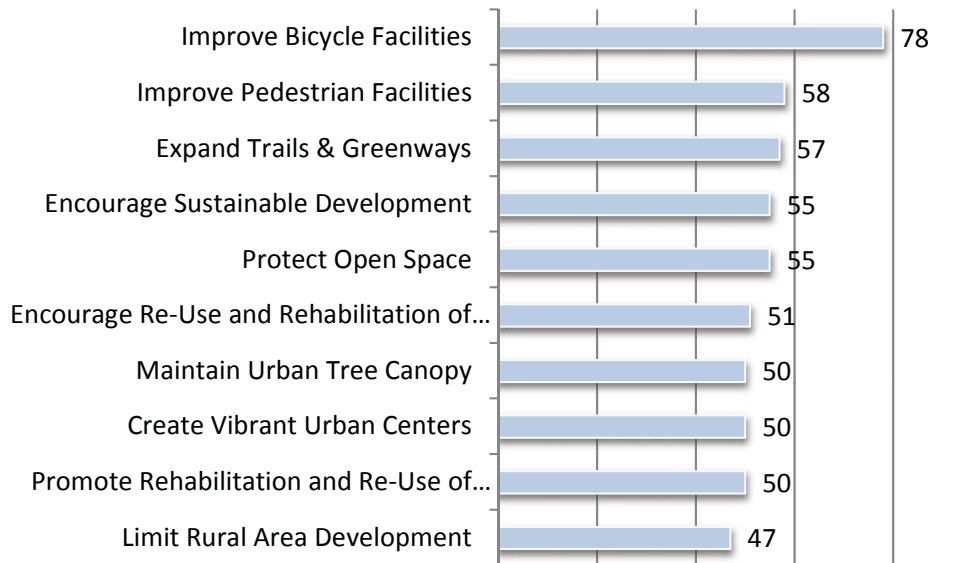
**Figure 9. Top Ten Charlottesville Priorities by Aggregate Ranking**



Priority	Aggregate Ranking	Average Ranking
1 Improve Bicycle Facilities	541	6.94
2 Encourage Sustainable Development	349	6.35
3 Improve Pedestrian Facilities	335	5.78
4 Expand Trails & Greenways	321	5.63
5 Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing	314	6.98
6 Limit Rural Area Development	296	6.30
7 Protect Open Space	289	5.25
8 Create Vibrant Urban Centers	286	5.72
9 Create Connected Transportation Network	271	6.16
10 Improve Water Quality	265	6.79

**Figure 10** shows that bicycle and pedestrian facility improvements were also the top three most frequently ranked priorities for Charlottesville. *Improve Bicycle Facilities* was the most frequently ranked priority with 43% of City questionnaires listing it as a priority. Over one quarter of City respondents ranked Rural Area issues a priority, while other frequently ranked priorities related to historic preservation, sustainable development, and urban tree canopy.

**Figure 10. Top Ten Most Frequently Ranked Priorities for Charlottesville**



Priority	Frequency of Ranking
1 Improve Bicycle Facilities	78 43%
2 Improve Pedestrian Facilities	58 32%
3 Expand Trails & Greenways	57 31%
4 Encourage Sustainable Development	55 30%
5 Protect Open Space	55 30%
6 Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	51 28%
7 Maintain Urban Tree Canopy	50 27%
8 Create Vibrant Urban Centers	50 27%
9 Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	50 27%
10 Limit Rural Area Development	47 26%

**Figure 11** shows the top three priorities for each category on the questionnaire according to their aggregate ranking. Environment, Land Use, and Transportation priorities tended to receive high aggregate rankings. *Encourage Sustainable Development* ranked as the most important Environment priority, while *Limit Rural Area Development* ranked highest in the Land Use category. *Improve Bicycle Facilities* was overwhelmingly the most important Transportation priority. Housing priorities also received high rankings, with *Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing* ranked as the most important in that category. Like Albemarle County, *Promote Small Business Development* was the most highly ranked Economic Development priority. Although Community Facilities, Historic Resources, and the Other priorities did not rank as highly as other categories, *Improve Water and Sewer Utilities* ranked highest in the Community Facilities category, *Encourage Re-Use & Rehabilitation of Historic Structures* ranked as the overwhelmingly highest Historic Resources priority, while *Limit Regional Growth* ranked highest of the Other priorities.

**Figure 11. Top Three Priorities by Category for Charlottesville**

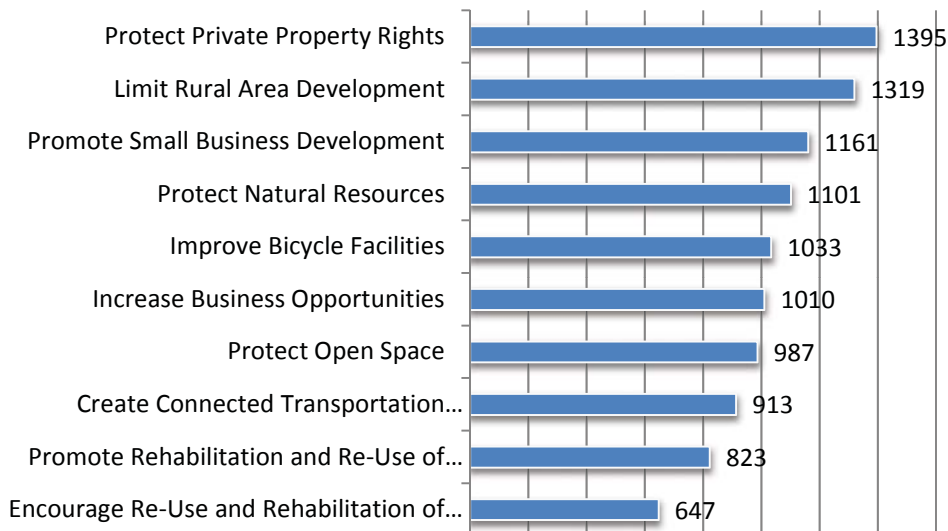
	Aggregate Ranking	Average Ranking
<b>Environment</b>		
Encourage Sustainable Development	349	6.35
Expand Trails & Greenways	321	5.63
Protect Open Space	289	5.25
<b>Land Use</b>		
Limit Rural Area Development	296	6.30
Create Vibrant Urban Centers	286	5.72
Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	239	4.78
<b>Transportation</b>		
Improve Bicycle Facilities	541	6.94
Improve Pedestrian Facilities	335	5.78
Create Connected Transportation Network	271	6.16
<b>Economic Development</b>		
Promote Small Business Development	210	5.12
Increase Workforce Development Efforts	193	6.89
Increase Business Opportunities	166	6.38
<b>Community Facilities</b>		
Improve Water and Sewer Utilities	153	5.10
Improve Library Facilities	142	5.07
Expand Police Force	83	5.19
<b>Historic Resources</b>		
Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	193	3.78
Increase Community Education	78	4.59
Coordinate Preservation Activity	36	4.50
<b>Housing</b>		
Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing	314	6.98
Increase Workforce Affordable Housing	255	6.38
Develop Balanced Housing Type Mix	153	5.67
<b>Other</b>		
Limit Regional Growth	114	5.70
Protect Private Property Rights	89	8.09
Decrease Regulation	53	5.30



## All Questionnaire Findings

Figure 12 contains results for all participants that completed a questionnaire. There were 620 questionnaires completed from six localities, including Albemarle County, Charlottesville, Fluvanna County, Greene County, Hanover County and Nelson County. Questionnaires with no place of residence indicated were also included in this grouping. *Protect Private Property Rights* and *Limit Rural Area Development* were the two highest ranking priorities from all completed questionnaires, with *Promote Small Business Development*, *Protect Natural Resources*, and *Improve Bicycle Facilities* ranked in the top five. Other priorities ranked in the top ten included business development, open space protection, increasing transportation connectivity, and encouraging historic preservation.

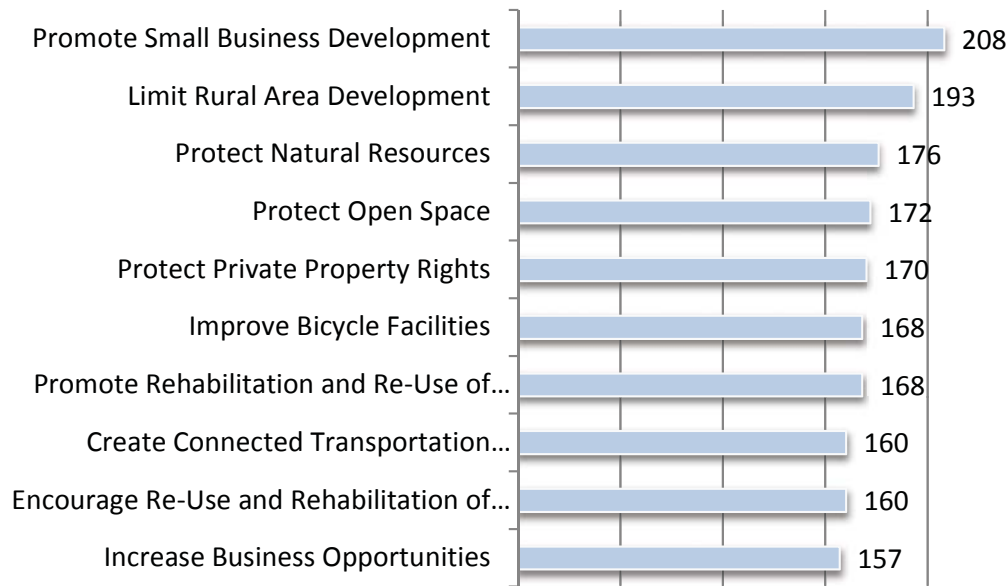
**Figure 12. Top Ten Priorities for All Questionnaires by Aggregate Ranking**



Priority	Aggregate Ranking	Average Ranking
1 Protect Private Property Rights	1395	8.25
2 Limit Rural Area Development	1319	6.83
3 Promote Small Business Development	1161	5.58
4 Protect Natural Resources	1101	6.26
5 Improve Bicycle Facilities	1033	6.15
6 Increase Business Opportunities	1010	6.43
7 Protect Open Space	987	5.74
8 Create Connected Transportation Network	913	5.71
9 Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	823	4.90
10 Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	647	4.04

**Figure 13** shows *Promote Small Business Development* was ranked most frequently, with over one third of respondents ranking it as a priority. Rural Area protections were among the top five most frequently ranked priorities, as was *Protect Private Property Rights*. Frequently ranked transportation priorities included *Improve Bicycle Facilities* and *Create a Connected Transportation Network*. Other frequently ranked priorities included historic preservation and business development.

**Figure 13. Top Ten Most Frequently Ranked Priorities for All Questionnaires**



Priority	Frequency of Ranking
1 Promote Small Business Development	208 34%
2 Limit Rural Area Development	193 31%
3 Protect Natural Resources	176 28%
4 Protect Open Space	172 28%
5 Protect Private Property Rights	170 27%
6 Improve Bicycle Facilities	168 27%
7 Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	168 27%
8 Create Connected Transportation Network	160 26%
9 Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	160 26%
10 Increase Business Opportunities	157 25%

**Figure 14** depicts the top three priorities for each category on the questionnaire according to their aggregate ranking. Environment, Land Use, Economic Development, and Other priorities tended to receive high aggregate rankings, with *Protect Open Space* ranked as the most important Environment priority, *Limit Rural Area Development* the most important Land Use priority, and *Promote Small Business Development* the most important Economic Development priority. *Protect Private Property Rights* was the most important Other priority and the highest ranked priority for all questionnaires. Transportation priorities also received high rankings, with *Improve Bicycle Facilities* ranked as the most important. Although Housing, Community Facilities, and Historic Resources priorities did not rank as highly as other categories, *Increase Workforce Affordable Housing* and *Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing* were highly ranked Housing priorities. *Encourage Re-Use & Rehabilitation of Historic Structures* was the highest Historic Resources priority, by a significant margin. The top three Community Facilities priorities ranked very closely with *Improve Water & Sewer Utilities* ranked as most important in this category.

**Figure 14. Top Three Priorities by Category for All Questionnaires**

	Aggregate Ranking	Average Ranking
<b>Environment</b>		
Protect Natural Resources	1101	6.26
Protect Open Space	987	5.74
Encourage Sustainable Development	938	6.09
<b>Land Use</b>		
Limit Rural Area Development	1319	6.83
Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	823	4.90
Create Vibrant Urban Centers	567	5.15
<b>Transportation</b>		
Improve Bicycle Facilities	1033	6.15
Create Connected Transportation Network	913	5.71
Improve Pedestrian Facilities	596	5.37
<b>Economic Development</b>		
Promote Small Business Development	1161	5.58
Increase Business Opportunities	1010	6.43
Increase Workforce Development Efforts	546	6.07
<b>Community Facilities</b>		
Improve Water and Sewer Utilities	433	4.81
Improve Library Facilities	414	4.81
Expand Police Force	407	5.50
<b>Historic Resources</b>		
Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	647	4.04
Increase Community Education	258	4.87
Coordinate Preservation Activity	98	4.45
<b>Housing</b>		
Increase Workforce Affordable Housing	718	6.08
Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing	708	6.38
Promote Housing Accessibility for All Ages and Abilities	436	5.25
<b>Other</b>		
Protect Private Property Rights	1395	8.25
Decrease Regulation	957	7.42
Limit Regional Growth	578	6.15

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## Write-In Priorities

The questionnaires allowed participants to write in priorities that were not listed on the worksheet and just over 200 write-in priorities were received. A transcript of all write-in priorities can be found in the Appendix. These priorities covered a wide array of topics but three general topic areas were mentioned many times. Transportation related priorities were written down 36 times, the most frequently mentioned in the 'other' category. Comments noted the Western By-Pass, the need to build more roads, and improvements to public transportation. Funding for public education was mentioned 17 times, while land use and zoning related priorities were mentioned 12 times. Other priority areas included lowering taxes, increasing bicycle facilities, increasing business opportunities, decreasing government, and supporting senior and disability services.

## Conclusion

*Limit Rural Area Development* was a high priority for participants as it appeared in the top ten for all four groups. It was the top priority for the Project Area and for Albemarle County. It ranked second for all participants who completed a questionnaire and was the top Land Use priority for Charlottesville residents. *Protect Private Property Rights* was a high priority for respondents from all localities except Charlottesville and received high average rankings by those who selected it as a priority. It was the top aggregated priority for all questionnaires and was included in the top ten priorities for the Project Area as a result of high rankings by Albemarle County respondents. Similarly, *Improve Bicycle Facilities* was the highest priority for Charlottesville respondents and appears in the top ten for the Project Area and for All Questionnaires. However, *Improve Bicycle Facilities* was not on the Albemarle County top ten list. Four priorities were listed in the top ten for all areas of analysis: *Limit Rural Area Development*, *Protect Open Space*, *Encourage Sustainable Development*, and *Create Connected Transportation Network*.

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# Appendix

## Community Priorities Questionnaire

This questionnaire was created by the Livable Communities Planning Project to determine what issues are most important to local residents in planning for the future of our community. Please take a moment to let us know what you think. **All three sections must be completed to be included in the final results.**

1. **Where do you live? (circle one)** Charlottesville Albemarle County Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. The following issues have been identified as important by local residents who have participated in the Livable Communities planning process. **From the entire list below, please rank the top ten issues you believe are most important in planning for our community's future, with 1 being most important.** Use the additional space provided if you wish to include other issues in the ranking. Use each number 1-10 only once.

### Community Facilities

- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand Police Force
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand Fire Department
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand Emergency Response
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Library Facilities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Water and Sewer Utilities

### Economic Development

- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Workforce Development Efforts
- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Business Opportunities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Diversify Regional Economy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Promote Small Business Development
- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Tourism
- \_\_\_\_\_ Encourage Public/Private Partnerships

### Environment

- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Water Quality
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Air Quality
- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Energy Efficiency
- \_\_\_\_\_ Preserve Biological Diversity
- \_\_\_\_\_ Maintain Urban Tree Canopy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Preserve Rural Forested Areas
- \_\_\_\_\_ Protect Natural Resources
- \_\_\_\_\_ Encourage Sustainable Development
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand Trails & Greenways
- \_\_\_\_\_ Protect Open Space
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

### Historic Resources

- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Community Education
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coordinate Preservation Activity
- \_\_\_\_\_ Adopt Historic District Ordinance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures

### Housing

- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Workforce Affordable Housing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Develop Balanced Housing Type Mix
- \_\_\_\_\_ Promote Housing Accessibility for All Ages and Abilities

### Land Use

- \_\_\_\_\_ Limit Rural Area Development
- \_\_\_\_\_ Promote Mixed Use Development
- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Urban Residential Densities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Encourage Non-Residential Development
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create Vibrant Urban Centers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures
- \_\_\_\_\_ Encourage Strong Neighborhoods
- \_\_\_\_\_ Promote Infill Development
- \_\_\_\_\_ Align Zoning and Designated Future Land Uses

### Transportation

- \_\_\_\_\_ Create Connected Transportation Network
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Road Condition
- \_\_\_\_\_ Expand Transit Network
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reduce Single-Occupancy Vehicle Trips
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Pedestrian Facilities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Bicycle Facilities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Transportation Network Safety
- \_\_\_\_\_ Promote Regional Transportation Projects
- \_\_\_\_\_ Increase Downtown Parking
- \_\_\_\_\_ Improve Streetscapes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Promote Rideshare and Travel Demand Management

### Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Protect Private Property Rights
- \_\_\_\_\_ Limit Regional Growth
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create Measurable Goals
- \_\_\_\_\_ Consider Economic Feasibility of Goals
- \_\_\_\_\_ Decrease Regulation
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Please initial to confirm that to the best of your knowledge, you have completed this survey only once. \_\_\_\_\_



Thank you for your input! Please mail or hand deliver completed survey to the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission, 401 East Water Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902.

## Summary Results Tables

Environment	All (620 responses)			Charlottesville (183 responses)			Albemarle County (244 responses)		
	Average Score	Times Selected	% of All Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Cville Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Alb Co Responses
Improve Water Quality	6.54	115	19%	6.79	39	21%	5.95	41	17%
Improve Air Quality	5.64	61	10%	6.20	20	11%	4.76	25	10%
Increase Energy Efficiency	5.28	130	21%	5.00	37	20%	5.12	59	24%
Preserve Biological Diversity	5.55	87	14%	5.26	31	17%	5.88	42	17%
Maintain Urban Tree Canopy	4.52	100	16%	4.36	50	27%	4.78	32	13%
Preserve Rural Forested Areas	6.14	125	20%	5.85	27	15%	6.10	77	32%
Protect Natural Resources	6.26	176	28%	5.81	43	23%	6.11	91	37%
Encourage Sustainable Development	6.09	154	25%	6.35	55	30%	5.78	69	28%
Expand Trails & Greenways	5.46	127	20%	5.63	57	31%	5.43	47	19%
Protect Open Space	5.74	172	28%	5.25	55	30%	6.20	85	35%
Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions	4.96	71	11%	5.52	21	11%	4.77	35	14%
	<b>5.73</b>	<b>1318</b>		<b>5.60</b>	<b>435</b>		<b>5.70</b>	<b>603</b>	
<b>Land Use</b>	<b>Average Score</b>	<b># of Times Selected</b>	<b>% of All Responses</b>	<b>Average Score</b>	<b># of Times Selected</b>	<b>% of Cville Responses</b>	<b>Average Score</b>	<b># of Times Selected</b>	<b>% of Alb Co Responses</b>
Limit Rural Area Development	6.83	193	31%	6.30	47	26%	7.27	105	43%
Promote Mixed Use Development	4.88	83	13%	4.93	28	15%	5.06	31	13%
Increase Urban Residential Densities	5.56	43	7%	6.94	17	9%	4.83	18	7%
Encourage Non-Residential Development	3.73	15	2%	5.00	3	2%	3.30	10	4%
Create Vibrant Urban Centers	5.15	110	18%	5.72	50	27%	5.21	33	14%
Promote Rehabilitation and Re-Use of Existing Structures	4.90	168	27%	4.78	50	27%	5.03	63	26%
Encourage Strong Neighborhoods	4.52	99	16%	5.00	37	20%	4.03	29	12%
Promote Infill Development	5.02	60	10%	4.56	18	10%	5.30	30	12%
Align Zoning and Designated Future Land Uses	4.91	46	7%	4.43	7	4%	5.23	26	11%
	<b>5.36</b>	<b>817</b>		<b>5.41</b>	<b>257</b>		<b>5.63</b>	<b>345</b>	
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Average Score</b>	<b># of Times Selected</b>	<b>% of All Responses</b>	<b>Average Score</b>	<b># of Times Selected</b>	<b>% of Cville Responses</b>	<b>Average Score</b>	<b># of Times Selected</b>	<b>% of Alb Co Responses</b>
Create Connected Transportation Network	5.71	160	26%	6.16	44	24%	5.39	69	28%
Improve Road Condition	5.13	109	18%	4.73	15	8%	5.07	45	18%
Expand Transit Network	4.86	120	19%	4.58	40	22%	4.89	37	15%
Reduce Single-Occupancy Vehicle Trips	4.63	38	6%	4.61	18	10%	5.11	9	4%
Improve Pedestrian Facilities	5.37	111	18%	5.78	58	32%	4.45	33	14%
Improve Bicycle Facilities	6.15	168	27%	6.94	78	43%	5.34	67	27%
Improve Transportation Network Safety	4.29	21	3%	3.86	7	4%	4.20	5	2%
Promote Regional Transportation Projects	4.70	81	13%	5.27	26	14%	4.78	37	15%
Increase Downtown Parking	4.08	73	12%	3.69	13	7%	4.11	28	11%
Improve Streetscapes	4.16	37	6%	4.55	20	11%	3.18	11	5%
Promote Rideshare and Travel Demand Management	3.61	33	5%	3.77	13	7%	2.60	10	4%
	<b>5.15</b>	<b>951</b>		<b>5.53</b>	<b>332</b>		<b>4.86</b>	<b>351</b>	



Economic Development	All (620 responses)			Charlottesville (183 responses)			Albemarle County (244 responses)		
	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of All Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Cville Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Alb Co Responses
Increase Workforce Development Efforts	6.07	90	15%	6.89	28	15%	6.08	36	15%
Increase Business Opportunities	6.43	157	25%	6.38	26	14%	6.44	62	25%
Diversify Regional Economy	5.81	93	15%	5.64	28	15%	6.33	36	15%
Promote Small Business Development	5.58	208	34%	5.12	41	22%	5.43	81	33%
Increase Tourism	4.58	62	10%	4.60	5	3%	5.13	24	10%
Encourage Public/Private Partnerships	4.29	56	9%	4.47	15	8%	4.54	26	11%
	<b>5.68</b>	<b>666</b>		<b>5.71</b>	<b>143</b>		<b>5.76</b>	<b>265</b>	
Community Facilities	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of All Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Cville Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Alb Co Responses
Expand Police Force	5.50	74	12%	5.19	16	9%	5.58	31	13%
Expand Fire Department	5.24	33	5%	6.17	6	3%	5.10	10	4%
Expand Emergency Response	4.86	50	8%	5.67	9	5%	4.38	16	7%
Improve Library Facilities	4.81	86	14%	5.07	28	15%	4.30	37	15%
Improve Water and Sewer Utilities	4.81	90	15%	5.10	30	16%	5.22	32	13%
	<b>5.02</b>	<b>333</b>		<b>5.24</b>	<b>89</b>		<b>4.92</b>	<b>126</b>	
Historic Resources	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of All Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Cville Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Alb Co Responses
Increase Community Education	4.87	53	9%	4.59	17	9%	4.74	19	8%
Coordinate Preservation Activity	4.45	22	4%	4.50	8	4%	4.33	9	4%
Adopt Historic District Ordinance	3.39	28	5%	2.90	10	5%	4.00	14	6%
Encourage Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Historic Structures	4.04	160	26%	3.78	51	28%	3.96	68	28%
	<b>4.17</b>	<b>263</b>		<b>3.91</b>	<b>86</b>		<b>4.13</b>	<b>110</b>	
Housing	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of All Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Cville Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Alb Co Responses
Increase Low-Income Affordable Housing	6.38	111	18%	6.98	45	25%	5.52	33	14%
Increase Workforce Affordable Housing	6.08	118	19%	6.38	40	22%	5.50	40	16%
Develop Balanced Housing Type Mix	5.27	71	11%	5.67	27	15%	5.38	24	10%
Promote Housing Accessibility for All Ages and Abilities	5.25	83	13%	5.83	24	13%	4.84	25	10%
	<b>5.84</b>	<b>383</b>		<b>6.34</b>	<b>136</b>		<b>5.34</b>	<b>122</b>	
Other	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of All Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Cville Responses	Average Score	# of Times Selected	% of Alb Co Responses
Protect Private Property Rights	8.25	169	27%	8.09	11	6%	8.03	70	29%
Limit Regional Growth	6.15	94	15%	5.70	20	11%	6.30	57	23%
Create Measurable Goals	4.59	68	11%	3.42	12	7%	5.38	32	13%
Consider Economic Feasibility of Goals	6.65	84	14%	3.90	10	5%	6.35	37	15%
Decrease Regulation	7.42	129	21%	5.30	10	5%	7.57	54	22%
	<b>6.99</b>	<b>544</b>		<b>5.33</b>	<b>63</b>		<b>6.95</b>	<b>250</b>	

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## Other Write-In Priorities

### Bicycle

Expand off-road bicycle routes in urban areas.  
Bike paths & lanes on roads so there is continuity vs. bike paths/lanes that start & stop making for unsafe riding.  
Develop short trail connectors within neighborhoods to encourage bicycle use off main thoroughfares and increase safety.  
More bike lanes.  
Bike lanes throughout the city and connect existing ones!  
Decrease Bike Paths

### Business

Promote entrepreneurship  
Improve relationship with businesses  
Continue to promote existing business corridors like downtown & W Main  
Economic Development  
Make Charlottesville/Albemarle more business friendly see 4 above  
Create a business friendly environment

### City Market

New home for City Market  
Make a final decision on City Market and stick with it. You take too long, you can't please everyone.  
Create permanent structure for farmers market on Cherry Ave.  
Permanent home for City Market

### Decrease government

Decrease government  
Reduce size of government  
Shrink government at all levels  
Shrink Government  
Shrink government  
Limit size of government.  
Decrease regulations

### Education

Enhance public school  
Strengthen/Reform public education.  
Year round school with increased math, science, English.  
Enhance Pre-K Programs  
Support public education K-post high school  
Increase school funding  
K-12 & PVCC education  
Invest in public education/schools  
Improve education funding  
What about schools?  
Fully fund schools  
Increased funding for schools. K-12 education, Fund the Buford renovation

Increase percentage of high school students who graduate and enroll in college  
Education as achievement  
Education

### Food

Expand urban agriculture  
Expand small farming incentives & opportunities  
Allow wineries to serve food  
Allow restaurants in County Area

### Land Use/Zoning

Limit Rezoning  
Zoning waivers for home based businesses in affordable housing.  
Change density allowances in zoning to allow most environmental techniques to be used for run off, etc. – when Cherry Hill was built a builder said that because of the density they were building at they were forced to use what they termed a “rather draconian” storm water management system.  
Eliminate zoning regulations  
Less zoning  
Less land use restrictions  
Keep land use  
Keep funding ACE program  
Consideration of, and planning for, the impact on schools when approving new residential developments.  
Promote new housing development  
Improve/streamline zoning process  
Limit residential housing to better fit infrastructure limits

### Senior & Disabilities Services

Promote zoning for elderly and younger adults with disabilities.  
Provide for safe traffic egress for programs serving individuals with disabilities.  
Increase services for people with disabilities.  
Encourage building a large sun city-type development for seniors.  
Pantops Giant Grocery bus stop closer to store please(have disable units)

### Taxes

Cut property taxes  
Taxes  
Taxes  
Promote measures that reduce taxes  
Keep taxes low  
Lower taxes  
Lower Taxes  
Continue land-use tax rates  
Lower taxes

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## Transportation

Build Western Bypass  
Build new roads  
Expand Road width to Greene  
Bring JAUNT back to Lake Monticello  
Not allow public discussion that assumes Pen Park is available for a new eastern road.  
Traffic control and pedestrian and driver safety.  
Expand/Improve road system & infrastructure  
Kill Western By-pass  
Improve airport travel so connections are not always necessary  
Build a by-pass  
Promote Transit-oriented Development  
Do not construct Rt. 29 western bypass  
Increase transportation capacity - build roads  
Reduce traffic lights on U.S. 29  
Increase speed limit on US 250  
Build bypass and connecting roads  
Coordinate traffic lights  
Increased bus service every 15-30 mins  
Sunday service buses all routes  
Move the W. Bypass further out  
Pave gravel roads  
Build more roads  
More roads  
Improve road conditions  
Lower speed limit for some rural roads  
Build the Western Bypass  
Build more roads  
Greatly reduce government subsidy of mass transit  
Encourage more mass transit alternatives (eg, light rail)  
More roads  
Stop the Western Bypass  
Eliminate numerous unnecessary signals on Rte 29.  
Increase transportation capacity - Build roads  
Transit station open when buses run  
No By-pass  
Free CAT bus service

## Uncategorized

Increase Natural Gas Accessibility  
Allow the Free Market to determine jobs & housing  
Consider "cost" more and take undesirable/unecessary road projects off the table  
Respect individual choices  
The free market built this country not planners  
Incorporate "sustainability" as a major theme.  
Identify an optimal sustainable population size (or range) to guide planning.  
Reduce spending.  
Make people self-reliant.

Believe in free enterprise.  
Ensure human rights protection for everyone.  
Eliminate counties, move to regional government.  
Ban smoking on Mall, pavilion, etc.  
Make housing more affordable through reduced regulation  
Decrease Downtown Parking  
Provide public meeting places for groups.  
Health promotion/preventing illness (instead of/to reduce massive spending on illnesses such as cardiac, diabetes, obesity, etc.)  
Support sustainable healthy self-sufficient communities  
Keep uranium mining out of Virginia  
Improve recreation facilities in County Urban Area.  
Consider costs of development, trash, noise, sewage, pollution etc. crime.  
Conservation/Protect Mountain Tops  
Support ACRJ reentry program Housing for women  
Eliminate mountaintop development  
More collaboration on all the above issues with City/County/UVA/Regional partners  
Dredge before building a new dam  
Green City projects (i.e. green roof tops)  
Do not put a YMCA in McIntire Park  
Create more twenn & young adult entertainment (arcades, paintball, laswer tag, etc.)  
Assure Cville independent food, energy, transportation, jobs  
Foster neighborhood community units for cooperation in an long emergency  
Relax real estate codes to promote housing security - allow full size apartments in homes  
Incentivise adaptive reuse (Redevelopment)  
More education & publicity/marketing about the buses we already have.  
Control deer.  
Cut back on street lights.  
Offer reduced or free bus transportation to city school employees (for the environment! It costs me more to ride the bus).  
Drug task force  
No more gangs  
Residents to decide on optimal population size  
Preserve & Protect viewsheds  
Consider economic feasibility of goals  
Create measurable goals  
Maintain existing facilities (water/sewer/transportation)  
Reduce Poverty  
Reduce dependence on real estate taxes for funding gov't services.  
Create new sources of funding for expanding infrastructure

needs for growing population; e.g. user fees, impact fees for bldg permits

Expose Agenda 21 from the U.N. to our public and educate our children to resist this agenda and implement our constitution.

Promote free market & private sector solutions first

Respect and promote individual liberty and individual responsibility; concomitantly, deemphasize governmental responsibility for managing the lives of its citizens.

Do not accept any HUD grants or agenda by U.N., by local gov't only.

Develop arts community eco opportunities

Increase accountability in planning staff

Keep student housing separate from non-students

Improve enforcement of noise ordinance

Improve electrical grid (too many outages in City)

Create more rural public parks

Use more solar/wind energy

Improve enforcement of traffic violations

Promote cell phone service in rural areas

Protect Gun Rights

Pave the road from Keswick Hall to Rt. 22

Increase Cell phone service

Include cost-benefit analysis with every ordinance/regulation

Recognize the free market, capitalist system is best

Recognize our laws are based on Judeo-Christian values, and end government's persecution of Christian, in particular Catholic religion

Get the U.S. out of the U.N. and get the U.N. out of the U.S.

Recognize the Bill of Rights acknowledges God-given individual rights against government tyranny; especially the 2nd Amendment

I do not like the idea of any form of government trying to change my behavior

Protect the nighttime dark sky (regulate street lights, parking lot lights)

Do cost benefit analysis for every ordinance

Offer gun safety & training classes

Provide additional water resources such as Dam's

Withdraw from the U.N.

Reduce "feel good" programs to ONLY bare necessities so as to reduce real estate taxes

No agenda 21

Bring land owners into planning process

Respect private property owner rights. Resist Agenda 21.

Sustainability needs to be the focus!

Define a sustainable population number

Make sustainability a central guiding principle of the update comprehensive plan

Improve city/county coordination

Discourage auto-dependent growth by refusing to extend publicly funded water/sewer/road infrastructure spatially.

Encourage pedestrian-oriented RE-development by subsidizing brownfields infill, eg-underground parking, light rail

Support local economy thru enterprise facilitation and other programs to expand CURRENT residents empowerment.

Increase living wage

Simpler worksheet ie. Just rank in order of importance Environment, Land Use, Transportation, etc.

Improve and promote water conservation

Expand opportunities for all residents to interact within all races and ethnicities

Develop Downtown Mall & corridor on Main St to UVA

Improve water use efficiency publically & privately

Decrease low-income affordable housing

Preserve dark night sky

Preserve dark night sky

Mixed income neighborhoods

Retain sustainability as a top priority in the area's comp plan

Improve recycling access, mall & home recyclables

Reusable water bottle recycling stations downtown, airport

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## Livability Partnership Member Organizations

Advocates for a Sustainable Albemarle Population

Albemarle County Farm Bureau

Albemarle County Planning Commission

Albemarle County Republican Committee

Albemarle Economic Development Authority

Albemarle Housing Improvement Program

Albemarle Responsible Citizens Alliance

Albemarle Truth in Taxation

Albemarle-Charlottesville Republican Women's League

Alliance for Community Choice in Transportation

Bike Charlottesville

Blue Ridge Care Connection for Children

Blue Ridge Permaculture Network

Charlottesville Area Quilters Guild

Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce Aging in Place Business Round Table

Charlottesville Republican Committee

Children, Youth & Family Services

Citizens for a Sustainable Water Plan

County of Albemarle Natural Heritage Committee

Forest Lakes Community Association

Greene County Republican Committee

Healthy Food Coalition

Jefferson Area Board for Aging

Jefferson Area Libertarians

Jefferson Area Tea Party

Keswick Women's Conservative Caucus

League of Women Voters of Charlottesville/Albemarle County

Livable for a Lifetime Steering Committee

Martha Jefferson Neighborhood Association

Orange Dot Project

Pantops Community Advisory Council

Partnership for Children

Piedmont Chapter: Virginia Scientists and Engineers for Energy and Environment

Piedmont Environmental Council

Piedmont Group of the Sierra Club

Piedmont Housing Alliance

Preservation Piedmont

Republican Women's Forum

Rivanna Rifle & Pistol Club

Rivanna Trails Foundation

Rural Nelson

Senior Center, Inc

Southern Albemarle Association

Southern Environmental Law Center

Southwest Mountain Coalition

Stony Point Neighbors

The Arc of the Piedmont

Transition Charlottesville Albemarle

Virginia Anti-Violence Project

Virginia Food Heritage Advisory Committee

Virginia Organizing

Willoughby Property Owners Association, Inc

WorkSource Enterprises

## **Joint Vision Statements and Goals Cover**

The Livable Communities Planning Project (Project) has recently completed its Summer Work Session Series (Sessions) with the City of Charlottesville (City) and the County of Albemarle (County) Planning Commissions. The primary purpose of these Sessions was to allow each Commission to discuss their locality's current policy on various topics, as well as begin to articulate areas where the City and County could benefit from working together. The aim of these conversations was to generate joint goals to be considered for incorporation into each locality's respective Comprehensive Plan.

The individual Planning Commission meetings were held on the following dates, and covered the following topics:

1. The first meeting in this series was held on June 26, 2012. The following topic areas were discussed – **Historic Preservation, Entrance Corridors, and Environmental Resources.**
2. The second meeting was held on July 24, 2012 Planning Commission Work Session. The topics of **Land Use and Transportation** were addressed.
3. The third, and final meeting was held on August 28, 2012, and the following topics were discussed – **Economic Development, Community Facilities** with a focus on **Parks and Recreation, and Housing.**

After facilitating conversation focused on the above mentioned topics, and taking into consideration public input gathered via the Public Outreach Workshop Series and Community Priorities Questionnaire, Project staff has written the attached proposed language for joint vision statements and goals in each of the discussed areas. Staff asks that the Commissions review and discuss the attached vision statements and goals, and provide feedback and direction as to the appropriateness and completeness of the proposal.

## **Joint Vision and Goal Language**

### ***Economic Development***

Recognize the importance of regional economic connections, to create a strong, diversified economy, and foster an environment that supports a range of businesses in targeted employment sectors.

- Continue to coordinate staff efforts to support regional economic development.

### ***Entrance Corridors***

Maintain the visual integrity of roadways that serve as primary, regional corridors.

- Achieve a more compatible appearance between City and County entrance corridors.
- Create more similarity in language between City and County entrance corridor design guidelines.

### ***Environment***

Create a community of green neighborhoods, healthy waterways, clean air, and sustainable natural resources.

- Improve water quality of shared waterways within the urban areas.
  - Coordinate in addressing TMDL standards.
- Increase tree canopy in the urban areas.
  - Monitor location, density and health of existing tree cover.

### ***Historic Preservation***

Build upon the historic character of the region by protecting and promoting existing historic and cultural resources.

- Make historic preservation information readily available to the public.
  - Create map of designated historic resources using existing City and County information.
  - Create an information clearinghouse on available resources and programs for historic preservation.
  - Collaborate on tourism outreach related to historic resources.
  - Promote reuse of historic structures.

### ***Housing***

Have neighborhoods in the City and County's Development Areas that have a range of housing types, incomes, and support various ages and levels of mobility which are connected to facilities, parks, trails, and services.

- Develop regional housing goals.
- Facilitate collaboration and coordination among various housing staff, committees, and organizations to ensure an appropriate range of housing choices for all community members.

### ***Land Use***

Create neighborhoods and places which allow for residents to live, work, and play in close proximity and where attention to the character of new development and redevelopment enhances quality of life.



- Coordinate land use and infrastructure in City-County boundary neighborhoods.
  - Continue to coordinate efforts within the Woolen Mills neighborhood.
- Promote land uses adjacent to the Rivanna River that support the River as a destination.
- Promote land use patterns that encourage multi-modal transportation opportunities.

### ***Parks and Recreation***

Provide a system of high quality public parks and recreation facilities to meet the needs of current and future residents.

- Coordinate regionally to increase parks and recreation opportunities.
  - Pursue joint partnerships for regional resources (i.e. Ivy Creek Natural Area and Darden-Towe Park)

### ***Transportation***

Promote regional multi-modal transportation options that reduce auto dependency.

- Provide community education regarding transportation options.
- Coordinate sidewalk network across City-County boundaries.
- Expand transit network.
- Coordinate transportation planning between Charlottesville, Albemarle County, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization.
  - Store transportation data in same format.
  - Coordinate collection of transportation data to facilitate sharing of information between Charlottesville, Albemarle County, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization.
- Create dedicated bike-pedestrian connections across physical barriers within community.
  - Rivanna River
  - Route 250 – East and West
  - Interstate 64
  - Railroad network
  - City and VDOT system connection