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September-November 2008

Historic Past, Sustainable Future

Can I still get involved?

YES! Your comments about the hot topics or other issues important to you will be accepted through adoption of the plan in summer 2009.



Members of the 2008 Community Participation Team include citizen representatives:
(back row) Vaughn Poller, chair; Tom Fitzpatrick; Planning Commissioner Tony Obadal (Powhatan District); Bob Keith; (front row) Marilyn Taylor; Planning Commissioner Reese Peck (Berkeley District); Planning Commissioner Rich Krapf (Stonehouse District); Susan Sullivan-Tubach; (not pictured) Charlotte Hubbard-Jones; and Bill Spaller.

The Comprehensive Plan Update is at the halfway point!

Historic Past, Sustainable Future is the County's master plan for guiding future growth. Reviewed every 5 years, it is used by citizens, developers, County staff, and elected and appointed officials to develop and implement a course of growth.

Community Participation Team Who are they?

The Community Participation Team (CPT) is one of two groups designated to help lead staff and the Planning Commission through the review and update of the Comprehensive Plan. The group is responsible for developing, encouraging, facilitating, and reporting citizen participation throughout the process.

What have they accomplished so far?

Since their appointment in November, the CPT has solicited comments through mail-in cards, a telephone hotline (259-4990), 17 Listening Stations, ten community presentations, four citizen organization forums, and seven public meetings known as Community Conversations.

More than 150 citizens attended the first round of Community Conversations. More than 200 comments have been collected through e-mail, the website, mail, and speaking events. Finally, over 1,000 citizen surveys were completed last fall. Comments received can be viewed on jccplans.org.

How will my input be used in the Comprehensive Plan?

Even topics not discussed during Round 2 will be considered in the plan. Verbatim comments are read by staff and Steering Committee

members and summarized by section. Also, a member of the CPT serves on the Steering Committee to ensure that citizen comments are included.

What's Next?

Steering Committee

Who are they?

The second group assisting staff with the Comprehensive Plan Update is the Steering Committee (SC). Their task is to blend the citizen comments collected by the CPT with staff's research to develop policies and create the actual Plan. The SC also reviews changes to the Land Use Map, including the 35 applications received from land-owners who wish to change the land use designation on their properties. The SC will recommend the updated Plan to the Planning Commission in June 2009.

Members of the SC at this time include four Planning Commissioners: Joe Poole, III (Jamestown District), Jack Fraley (Roberts District), and Chris Henderson and George Billups (at-large members); one representative from the CPT: Vaughn Poller.

Can I get involved?

The SC meets weekly from September until adoption of the Comprehensive Plan in 2009. Each meeting will cover one or more sections of the Plan in detail.

Members of the public are invited to attend and comment and the meetings will be televised live on JCC TV48. Rebroadcasts will be Wednesdays on Community



Channel 46 at 8 a.m., 2 p.m., and 8 p.m. or on-demand on jccgov.com/jcctv48. All meetings are held in Building F of the James City County Government Complex, 101 Mounts Bay Road.

Check jccplans.org for meeting topics, dates and times.

What are the hot topics?

Several issues came up more than others. These hot topics will be the subject of the second round of Community Conversations:

- **Impacts of growth** – pace and balance with natural resources
- **Quality of growth** – maintaining character and the unique small town feel
- **Water** – supply, needs, and regional cooperation
- **Transportation** – congestion, bike lanes, and sidewalks
- **Economic climate** – clean industry, broadening tax base, and attracting jobs
- **Environment** – flood mitigation, water quality, and preservation
- **Housing** – affordability, location, and choice
- **Population needs** – youth activities and senior services

To learn more about these topics, visit jccplans.org or come to the **Comprehensive Plan Expo** on Monday, September 8, 6-9 p.m. at James River Elementary School 8901 Pocahontas Trail.

Land Use Applications

What is Land Use designation?

Every property in the County has a Land Use designation indicating what is thought to be the most appropriate future use and can indicate development intensity for a specific area or parcel. Changing these designations can have an impact on the types of businesses or houses that could be built on nearby properties.

To review the applications received or leave comments, go to jccplans.org.