

**Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment to Include Biodiversity Strategies -
Summary of Feedback from Planning Commission Work Session on 2/12/19**

Comments	Actions taken regarding the comments
Add educational narrative addressing threats from biodiversity (as opposed to threats to biodiversity), use species to illustrate concept of interior habitat. Improve or replace Figure 4.	Revised and added wording to introductory session (before Strategy 4a begins). Replaced Figure 4 with a similar but simpler image.
From comments in online survey. Restoration is an important goal.	Added wording near end of Strategy 4a.
From comments in online survey. Address importance of land in private ownership for conservation.	Added wording at the end of Strategy 4a.
From comments in online survey. Discuss rivers and streams as corridors.	Added wording to Strategy 4b.
Use examples when discussing how the County can work with landowners.	Added wording to Strategy 4j.

**Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment to Include Biodiversity Strategies -
Summary of Feedback from Planning Commission Work Session on 11/20/18
and Public Meeting on 11/29/18**

Comments	Actions taken regarding the comments
Consider adding a strategy for diverse urban forests in Development Areas.	Meetings and discussion with staff, Commissioner Firehock. Strong support for this strategy, but it would be more appropriate in other sections of Comp Plan. Added wording to the fourth paragraph under Objective 4 to emphasize importance of Development Areas in conserving biodiversity, positive benefits of diverse urban forests.
Paragraph 3 under Objective 4. Does not clearly explain reasons for conserving biodiversity, reference to "City" residents should be removed.	Shortened and simplified the wording, removed references to "timber products from forests" and "City" residents.
Strategy 4b, comment from public meeting on 11/29/18.	Added information about Conservation Focus Areas regarding total acreage, private vs. public ownership, and acreage under conservation easement.

Strategy 4b. More information about Piedmont prairies is needed.	Added sentence to clarify, explain these systems.
Strategy 4c. County parks “should” play a critical role in conserving biodiversity, rather than “can” play a critical role.	Made the revision.
Strategy 4f, comments from public meeting on 11/29/18.	Added “Evaluate opportunities” to the strategy. Added information about Important Sites regarding total acreage, private vs. public ownership, and acreage under conservation easement.
Strategy 4g. Some clarification of “locally native plants” is needed.	Added sentence to clarify and explain the phrase.
Strategy 4g. Project goals should be considered under this strategy. Use of locally native plants should only be encouraged when they will perform equally or better than other species in meeting project goals.	Discussion with staff, Natural Heritage Committee. Strong support for the strategy as written. “Encourage” and “promote” allow for flexibility, do not require specific actions. Did not revise the strategy.
Strategy 4k. Reference to County’s limited information and resources is inaccurate, conflicts with other strategies.	Revised wording of the strategy to reference the BAP and other County-generated data.
Implementation of strategies.	Comment from Commissioner Keller and others. Andrew Gast-Bray, other staff are working on enhancing metrics. Improved metrics will allow better tracking of implementing strategies.
Engage the ACE and ACEA committees and staff in CPA process.	ACE committee engaged since meeting of 10/10/18. Emailed county staff representing these committees with updated information and materials in Jan. 2019.

Several additional topics were mentioned or discussed during the 11/20/18 Planning Commission work session. Most are listed below as bullets. They are better addressed through outreach and education efforts or in other policy discussions and efforts rather than in the proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment.

- Land Use taxation program
- Silvicultural activity
- Restoration of healthy, native hardwood forests
- Pollination of crops as critical ecosystem service
- Habitat connectivity and corridors linking rural areas with developed areas