Community Facilities, Infrastructure, and Services

Draft Goals and Objectives

AC44 ALBEMARLE COUNTY 2044

Winter 2024

This document includes the draft Goals and Objectives for the updated Community Facilities chapter and provides additional context and background on this topic. The document is organized by the following sections:

- **Overview:** Brief introduction to this topic.

- **Draft Goals and Objectives:** The draft updated Goals and Objectives for this chapter. This is the section we're asking for community input on in early 2024.

- **Phase 2 Community Input Themes:** Major themes from community input heard on this topic during the first two rounds of Phase 2 engagement (January - July 2023).

- **Topic Report and Connections to the AC44 Framework:** Information on challenges, opportunities, recent trends, and data on this topic, as previously provided in the 'topic reports' at the beginning of Phase 2. Summary of how this topic is connected to the AC44 Framework for an Equitable and Resilient Community.

Community Facilities Overview

Community facilities provide essential services and are important for enhancing quality of life and for the health, safety and well-being of county residents. Where these facilities are located and the level of service they provide helps implement other County policies, including growth management, land use, protection of the natural environment, climate action, and equitable distribution of and access to services and resources.

The Comp Plan helps set the expectations for the provision of these services. Recommendations should be consistent with growth management and land use policies in the Comp Plan, as the location of community facilities and public utilities can allow or encourage growth. A balance is needed between providing services in locations that are consistent with the growth management policy while also distributing services equitably. While it may not be possible to provide all public services at the same level of delivery across the entire county, it is important to periodically evaluate service delivery to see where it can be equitably enhanced and improved. This is especially important as new services become available, such as broadband.

Major public facilities are scheduled and prioritized through the Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The Comp Plan helps guide CIP requests and review criteria for these expenditures. The CIP also allows staff to coordinate community planning, financial capacity, and physical development; as well as anticipate the county's needs for new public buildings and facilities; major renovation and maintenance of existing buildings and facilities; transportation and stormwater improvements; enhancements such as roadway landscaping and streetlights; and new and replacement equipment.

Draft Goals and Objectives

These draft Goals and Objectives were developed based on input from community members, County staff and partner agencies, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors, the AC44 Framework for an Equitable and Resilient Community, best practices, and the current Comp Plan. They will inform the Action Steps that will be developed in Phase 3.

Goal 1: Albemarle County's facilities, infrastructure, and services will be provided in a responsible, equitable, and cost-effective manner to serve and meet community needs.

Objective 1.1: Provide and maintain public facilities, infrastructure, and services in a fiscally responsible and equitable manner, consistent with the Growth Management Policy, and in a manner that addresses the demands from growth, with facilities in strategic locations that are convenient to community members. Align capital investments with the Growth Management Policy and ensure public and private sector investments benefit the community and limit public costs of accommodating growth.

Public Water and Sewer

Objective 1.2: Coordinate with RWSA and ACSA to provide public water and sewer service in the Development Areas in a fiscally responsible and sustainable manner, consistent with the Growth Management Policy.

Objective 1.3: In coordination with ACSA and RWSA, guide the provision of public water and sewer in the Rural Area using the Growth Management Policy, only providing public water and/or sewer in the Rural Area when there is a documented health or safety need, to public facilities in the Rural Area, or consistent with Objective 1.4. Development in the Rural Area is to be served by private well and septic systems (or its equivalent system).

Objective 1.4: Coordinate with ACSA and RWSA to provide public water and sewer service to legacy zoning areas in the Rural Area (concentrations of properties in the designated Rural Area with existing non-Rural Area district zoning). Priority should be given to legacy zoning areas near or adjacent to the Development Areas where public health and safety needs generated by the existing uses and potential by-right development permitted by the existing zoning may be addressed.

Objective 1.5: Assess impacts of continued use of existing/older septic systems and potential measures needed to assure long-term public health and environmental quality, prioritizing areas within water supply watersheds and community members who need financial assistance.

Objective 1.6: Allow private central water and sewer systems only when existing public water and sewer service is not available to solve public health/safety issues for existing Rural Area residents, or to serve crossroad communities if public water and sewer service is not a viable option and the proposed use is consistent with the land use recommendations for that crossroads community.

Libraries

Objective 1.7: Provide high quality library services and facilities that promote accessibility for all community members and that are modern, welcoming, comfortable, fully accessible, and community oriented.

Objective 1.8: Provide support for and enhancement of County and City owned libraries and monitor the need for new library services and facilities.

Public Schools

Objective 1.9: Provide facilities that enable Albemarle County Public Schools to have a high quality, equitable, and inclusive educational system for students in Albemarle County.

Objective 1.10: Provide public school facilities in locations that are appropriate for the projected enrollment to ensure educational parity for all students, with new schools located in the Development Areas or directly adjacent to the Development Areas. New schools may be located in the Rural Area when either physical constraints, lack of currently available land area in the Development Areas, or existing service considerations may necessitate it.

Objective 1.11: Prioritize the safety of students and area residents traveling to and from school including by implementing relevant recommendations in the Land Use and Transportation chapters and the Multimodal Systems Plan.

Emergency Services

Objective 1.12: Provide high quality and responsive emergency services that adapt to changing community needs and emerging best practices.

Solid Waste Management

Objective 1.13: Increase the reuse, refurbishment, and recycling of products, materials, and resources to extend their lifespan, reduce waste, and move towards a sustainable system.

Objective 1.14: Provide improved, expanded, or new solid waste management infrastructure necessary to achieving the objectives in Goal 5 of the Environmental Stewardship Chapter, meet the demands of growth, and to ensure the equitable delivery of services. Relevant infrastructure may include equitably located solid waste transfer stations, baling facilities, and convenience centers, in addition to curbside services.

Solar/Renewable Energy

Goal 2: Albemarle County will increase renewable energy generation capacity to the electrical grid system consistent with the County's Climate Action Plan recommendations.

Objective 2.1: Encourage siting of solar facilities on sites that have already been impacted such as cleared and/or vacant dilapidated sites, lands that have been mined or timbered, brownfields, and residential, commercial, and industrially developed sites (including use of rooftops and parking areas).

Objective 2.2: Encourage development of utility-scale solar that minimizes impacts to natural areas and agricultural, forestal, historic, cultural, and scenic resources as identified in the Comprehensive Plan and associated plans and policy documents.

Objective 2.3: Develop a location policy for utility-scale solar in the Rural Areas that prioritizes protection of important agricultural and silvicultural soils, important areas identified in the Biodiversity Action Plan, and historic and scenic landscape contexts.

Communications, Broadband, Electricity, and other Utilities

Goal 3: Adequate and reliable communications, electric, other private utilities services will be available to all residents to meet existing and future needs, consistent with relevant County policies.

Objective 3.1: Allow deployment and improvement of personal wireless services throughout the county consistent with the Personal Wireless Service Facilities Policy and regulations contained in the County Zoning Ordinance.

Draft Personal Wireless Service Facilities Policy:

This Policy allows for the location of personal wireless service facilities throughout the county. The Policy encourages the construction of facilities that have limited visual impact on the community.

- Visibility is the primary focus in the review of personal wireless service facilities. Facilities with limited visibility are encouraged.
- Personal wireless service facilities should not be located on ridgetops or along the ridgeline and should be provided with an adequate backdrop so that they are not skylined.
- Personal wireless service facilities should not adversely impact resources and important environmental features identified in the Environmental Stewardship, Rural Area, and/or Historic, Scenic, and Cultural Resources chapters of this plan; conservation focus areas identified in the Biodiversity Action Plan; or designated Avoidance Areas as defined in the Zoning Ordinance.
- Personal wireless service facilities should utilize existing structures where possible.
- Personal wireless service facilities, if appropriately sited and designed, may be appropriate in any zoning district.
- Ground-based equipment should be limited in size and be designed in keeping with the character of the area.
- Antennas should be mounted close to the supporting structure and be designed to minimize visibility.
- The personal wireless service facilities policy is primarily intended to address facilities providing personal wireless service. Other types of wireless facilities are encouraged to adhere to this policy to the extent possible.

Objective 3.2: Coordinate with service providers to provide wireless service to all public facilities, public parks, and community resiliency hub locations.

Objective 3.3: In partnership with service providers, complete rural broadband expansion to ensure that every community member has access to adequate and affordable broadband.

Objective 3.4: Ensure that, where possible, broadband needs are identified for given land uses and intensities and work with provider partners to encourage enhanced levels of service where appropriate.

Objective 3.5: Provide capacity building support to community partners working to address barriers to digital inclusion in the community.

Objective 3.6: Proactively work with and support private communication, electric, and natural gas services, to ensure the provision of these services are in keeping with the Growth Management Policy, recommendations in the Climate Action Plan, are resilient to natural hazards, and are consistent with other County policies.

Community Health, Resilience, and Hazard Mitigation

Goal 4: Albemarle County will be a healthy, safe, and resilient community.

Objective 4.1: Increase the community's capacity to prepare for and recover from natural and manmade hazards and the impacts of climate change.

Objective 4.2: Ensure that public and private stormwater management and flood control infrastructure is properly maintained to protect public safety, property, and the environment.

Objective 4.3: Improve and expand access to a healthy and affordable local food system, prioritizing affordable access for census tracts that have a higher Social Vulnerability Index score (indicating a higher vulnerability) than the County's overall score.

Phase 2 Community Input Themes

The following summary highlights the major themes from community engagement heard to date during AC44 Phase 2.

Community facilities and service provision

- More libraries are needed, which could include small or mobile libraries in the Rural Area
- Concern with school capacity for students; capacity needs to keep up with growth
- More after school activities and care options are needed. The Boys and Girls Club was cited as an example of a strong existing program, but more are needed
- Provide more recycling centers (like Ivy MUC and Keene); encourage waste reduction through education and incentives and expanded recycling options
- Improve broadband service provision, especially in the Rural Area
- There should continue to be recreational spaces for community use at schools
- Use low impact development (LID) for stormwater management for County-owned facilities
- Address failing septic systems, especially when they could impact public water supplies and when homeowners need financial assistance; consider options to connect to public water/sewer when feasible to improve health/safety/welfare
- Concern with above ground power lines and losing power during storms when trees fall on lines
- Community input generally indicated support for community hubs, with the need for community centers with classes/events/programming, affordable food access, senior or youth centers and related programming, and emergency shelter with phone/internet access
- Preference to use existing buildings (e.g. schools, community centers, fire stations) compared with new buildings in the Rural Area

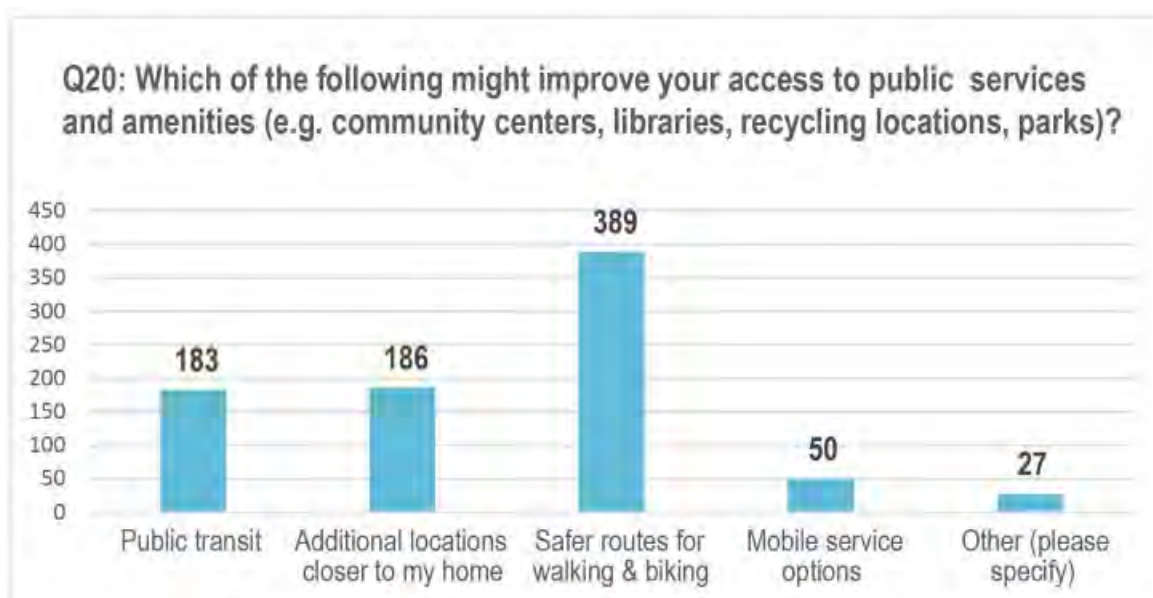## Accessing community facilities and services

- Improve options for biking and walking to community facilities, especially schools and libraries
- Provide more transit stops and park and ride lots to be able to take transit to community facilities
- Provide more electric vehicle charging stations

Natural hazard mitigation and community resilience

- Protect against flooding, including with improved stormwater management. There is concern about potential future flooding impacts
- Ensure the county has adequate water supply, especially with increasing risks from climate change such as heat and droughts
- Support solar and renewable energy, including utility scale solar

Amenities and features for community facilities

- Add amenities to public parks and other open/recreational spaces, such as benches, tables, and public restrooms
- Provide bicycle parking at community facilities

Q20: Which of the following might improve your access to public services and amenities (e.g. community centers, libraries, recycling locations, parks)?

Category	Responses
Public transit	183
Additional locations closer to my home	186
Safer routes for walking & biking	389
Mobile service options	50
Other (please specify)	27

Responses to Phase 2 Step 1 questionnaire

Community Facilities and Services in the County

The following sections provide an overview of the County's community facilities and some of its service providers. The AC44 team will continue to coordinate with staff from these community facilities and service providers on recommendations for the Comp Plan update.

The primary guidance and policies for community facilities are related to the growth management policy and land use and focus on the physical location and development of these facilities. While the Comp Plan also references some service and operational standards, those are included for informational purposes. The standards are set by the lead agencies and are subject to change. Continued coordination is needed with agencies and service providers, as standards may change and could affect how facilities need to be located.

Local Government Administration and Offices

Currently, there are four primary locations that provide essential Albemarle County governmental services. Most general government offices are in either the County Office Building-McIntire or the County Office Building- Fifth Steet. Court Square provides for judicial services and is located adjacent to the intersection of Jefferson Street and Park Street in Charlottesville. The School Division administration is in COB-McIntire and on the Albemarle High School campus. The current Comp Plan recommends that administrative offices for both local government and schools are provided in a central location that is convenient to County residents.

With the Comp Plan update, strategic locations to offer certain services should be considered. While maintaining a central location for government offices provides for more efficient operation, there may be some services that could be located in additional locations throughout the County or be provided on a mobile/rotating basis, which could reduce travel time for residents and make certain services more accessible.

A stewardship tour of the County Office Building - McIntire. Improvements include a vegetated biofilter used to soak up and treat stormwater runoff from the parking lot, native plant landscaping that also serves as wildlife food and habitat; and charging stations along McIntire Road to help spur more use of electric vehicles locally and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Public Water and Sewer

The Comp Plan defines where public infrastructure and utilities, such as public water and sewer, should be provided. As part of growth management, the Albemarle County Service Authority (ACSA) establishes a Jurisdictional Area for where public water and sewer will be provided. This Jurisdictional Area mainly corresponds with the Development Areas, however there are some areas with public water or public sewer (or both) that are in the Rural Area. These areas with public utilities in the Rural Area are primarily places where some public utilities already existed when the original Jurisdictional Area was mapped in 1982.

The current (2015) Comprehensive Plan allows public water and sewer connections to properties within the Rural Area only if there is a long-term or permanent health or safety issue on the property (such as groundwater contamination or septic system failures) with no viable solution on-site. The property in question also must be adjacent to an existing water or sewer line. This is to prevent the expansion of lines into areas where new development is not encouraged, as the existence of utilities can be a catalyst for growth.

An update to this policy is being considered with AC44 (Objectives 1.3 and 1.4) to allow for the provision of public water and sewer to some public facilities in the Rural Area (e.g. some schools) and to areas with concentrations of existing development and/ or by-right zoning that is not consistent with Rural Area goals and that are near or adjacent to the Development Areas. The intent is to address public health and safety needs generated by existing uses and potential by-right development. In some of these areas that are in the designated Rural Area but have non-RA zoning and/or development that has already occurred, allowing connections to public water and sewer could provide health and safety benefits such as improved fire suppression, protection of the natural environment, protection of public water supplies, and service consistent with existing and by-right development.
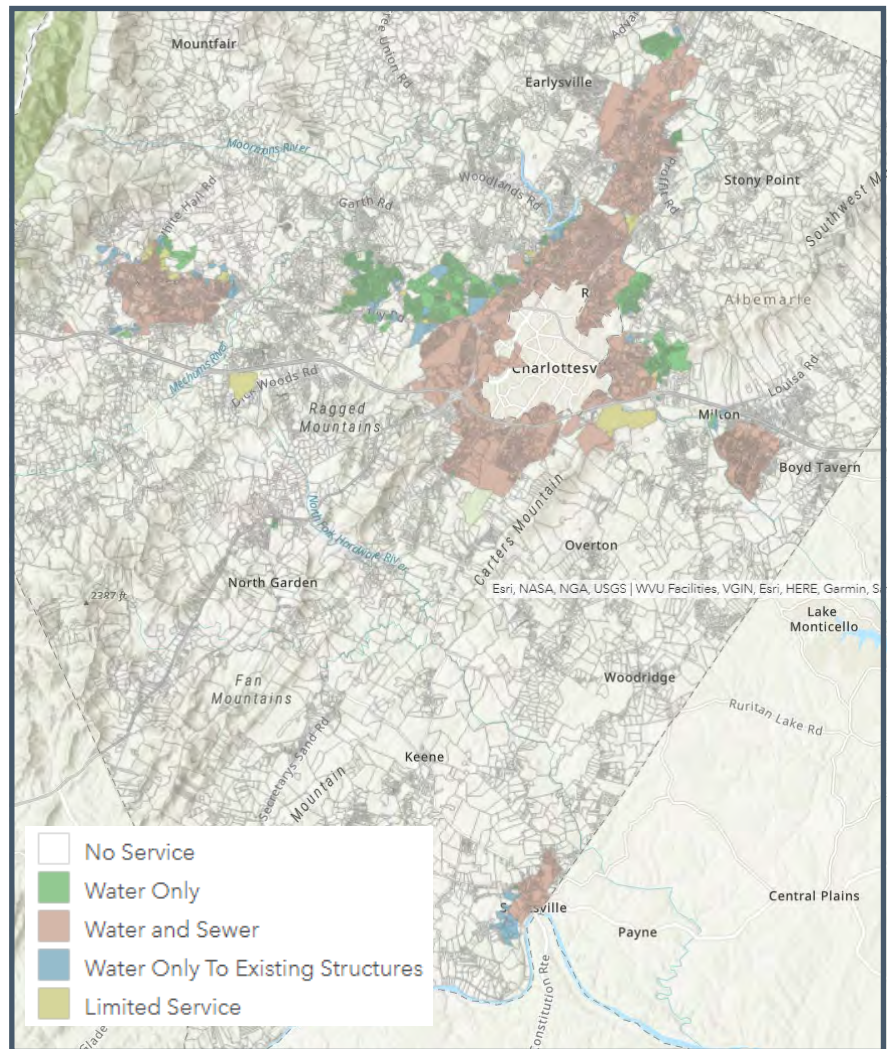

ACSA Jurisdictional Map of Albemarle County

Schools

There are 28 public schools in Albemarle County. These include 15 elementary schools, 5 middle schools, 3 high schools, and 4 regional centers. Total enrollment is approximately 13,400 students. To meet school capacity needs, the School Board can either change school district boundaries (redistricting) or can request funding for new schools. New schools are funded through the CIP process and five-year financial plan.

There are four properties that have been set aside for future school sites through the rezoning process. Two elementary school sites and one high school (or other school or public use) are proffered in the Hollymead area, and one elementary school is proffered in the 5th Street Extended area. A second high school center is proposed on County-owned property near Monticello High School.
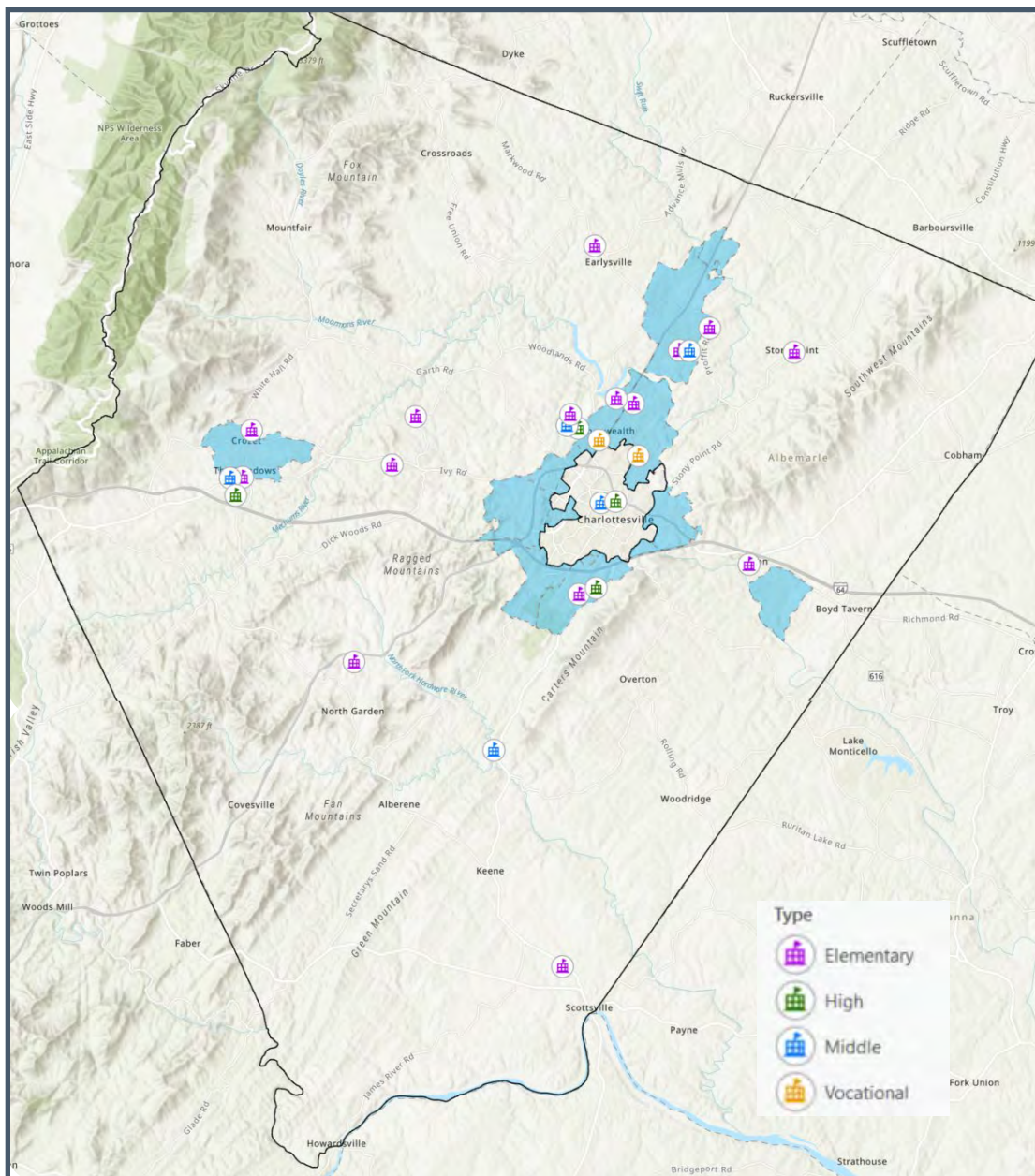
Map of Albemarle County Schools, with the Development Areas shown in light blue

The Comp Plan has recommendations for school buildings, including their location, form, and recreational amenities. Recommendations include that new schools be located in the Development Areas or directly adjacent to the Development Areas, while noting that schools can be constructed in the Rural Area when physical constraints, land area availability in the Development Areas, or existing service considerations may necessitate it. About half of the County's schools are located in the Rural Area, and Rural Area schools are expected to be maintained and upgraded and continue to serve as gathering places for Rural Area residents. Recreational areas and facilities at schools are considered County parks and are available for general public use outside of school hours.

A recommendation tied to the land use and transportation sections of the Comp Plan is promoting safe routes for walking and biking to school. This could include removing barriers, enhancing connections between neighborhoods and schools, and adding infrastructure to allow community members to safely walk and bike to schools. Providing options to walk and bike to school can reduce the need for parents and students to drive, which supports the County's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.

Mountain View Elementary School

Fire/Rescue

The county has 11 [fire-rescue stations](#) and 4 rescue squad stations and responds to over 16,000 incidents per year. The fire-rescue stations provide fire protection, fire suppression, and emergency services (though not all provide emergency transport). The 4 rescue stations provide emergency medical transport and rescue services.
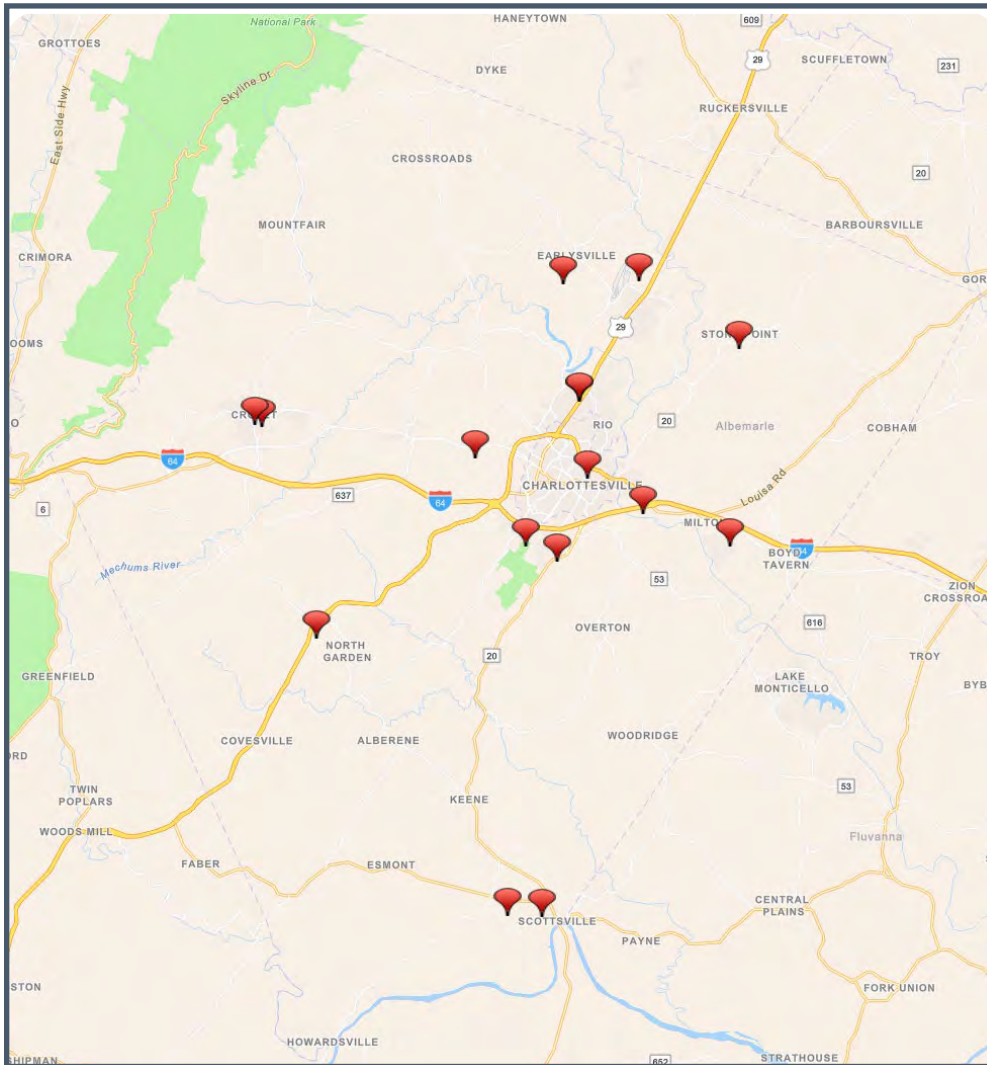
Map of Albemarle County Rescue Squad and Fire Stations

Both volunteer and paid career personnel staff these facilities. The stations serve response areas that are both urban and rural. The County and City provide mutual aid services to one another. Emergency calls to County fire departments, rescue squads, and the region's police departments (Albemarle, Charlottesville, UVA) are dispatched through the Regional Emergency Communications Center (ECC) on Ivy Road. Coordinated regional emergency communications ensure that emergency response can be handled in a quick and professional manner.

After a comprehensive service analysis called Standards of Cover, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors adopted (in 2019) service objectives for fire and rescue. Response time is the primary measurement, and different response times are established for the Development Areas and Rural Area. The response time represents the amount of time it takes for the first emergency apparatus and personnel to arrive at the incident after being notified:

• Development Areas: 8 minutes or less 90% of the time

• Rural Area: 21 minutes or less 90% of the time

Different response times are established for the Development Areas and Rural Area due in part to the frequency of calls and distances that need to be covered in the much larger Rural Area. Other service standards have been set that focus on the level of staffing per station and other measures for volume of service per station. 3,000 initial calls (500 outgoing) per station annually for Development Areas stations and 1,800 initial calls (300 outgoing) per station annually for Rural Area stations are the maximum calls per station expected. This becomes one measure of when either a new facility or some adjusted service boundaries is needed.

Police

The County has a [Police Department](#) and Sheriff's Department. The Comp Plan's Community Facilities chapter addresses the Police Department, which is responsible for law enforcement duties in the County. The Police Department operates out of one main office located at the Fifth Street County Office Building. The department uses a "geo-policing" model, which divides the county into two patrols districts (the northern district and south and western district). Officers are assigned to specific sub-areas of each district. This allows officers to foster and strengthen relationships within each district's communities and allows for improved response times to calls. Some small office spaces have been established within the patrol areas to provide officers in the field more readily available office and storage space to conduct work.

ACPD Community Office in Old Trail

Future needs for the Police Department could include training facilities and strategically located smaller offices. For example, while substations would be primarily located in the Development Areas, there is potential for Rural Area locations in crossroads communities or other strategic locations that support meeting response time standards.

Regional Emergency Communications Center (ECC)

The [Regional Emergency Communications Center](#) (ECC), located on Ivy Road, dispatches all emergency calls to County fire departments, rescue squads, and the region's police departments (Albemarle, Charlottesville, UVA). All emergency and non-emergency calls in Albemarle County, the City of Charlottesville, and UVA are received and processed in the regional ECC located on Ivy Road.

The dispatch center of the ECC is the hub of all radio transmissions for the Albemarle County Police Department, the City of Charlottesville Police Department, the UVA Police Department, the Charlottesville Fire Department, the Albemarle County Fire and Rescue Department, and the Charlottesville-Albemarle, Western Albemarle, and Scottsville Volunteer Rescue Squads. Coordinated regional emergency communications ensure that emergency response can be handled in a quick and professional manner.

Periodic reviews and updates to the Emergency Operational Plan (EOP) are important to address historical and emerging threats and hazards. This will be especially important as the County continues to enhance its climate resiliency and ability to adapt to hazards from climate change.

Community Centers

Skate Night at Yancey Community Center

Community centers provide important gathering places for both the Development Areas and Rural Area. Community members, organizations, and the County can use them to host events and engagement opportunities. They can also contribute to a more resilient community, as they can be used for emergency shelters during storms and as locations to distribute resources, serving as community resilience hubs. Community centers can be publicly owned facilities or private facilities that are available to the public for use. With the Comp Plan update, there may be opportunities to support existing community centers and to encourage future ones, with general guidance on where they could be located.

Libraries

Northside Library on Rio Road

Library services are provided regionally through the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library (JMRL), which includes the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson. There are three libraries in Albemarle County, two in Charlottesville, and another three in surrounding localities. The County's libraries are Northside, Crozet, and Scottsville. Along with book rental services, libraries also offer space for community gathering and events.

Broadband

Broadband is becoming an essential service and has gained importance since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Broadband service provides access to teleworking, online learning, telemedicine, e-commerce, and virtual meetings. Since the 2015 Comp Plan was adopted, there has been significant progress in broadband accessibility and affordability at the state and local level.

The County's Broadband Accessibility and Affordability Office (BAAO) was established in May 2021 and seeks to ensure that County residents of all means have access to adequate and affordable broadband service. The current minimum speeds to be considered accessible are 25 Mbps (megabits per second) downloading and 3 Mbps uploading. Most service providers offering fiber-optic or cable service have maximum speeds of up to 1,000 Mbps. Information on broadband affordability programs is available on the County's website here and includes both local and federal programs.

Fiber for broadband being installed along existing electrical infrastructure

(photo credit: Louisa County)

With private, local, state, and federal funding, the County expects to meet its goal of universal access by 2025. Updates to the Comp Plan support this goal and could include recommendations for service standards and for concurrently adding conduit with intersection or other infrastructure improvements.

Wireless

The County adopted a wireless policy as part of the Comprehensive Plan in 2000. A comprehensive amendment of zoning regulations for wireless services was adopted in 2004. The wireless policy has not been updated since its original adoption, though the zoning regulations have been modified multiple times to reflect changes in state and federal law and community interests.

The current regulations attempt to minimize visual impact of facilities by encouraging the use of existing structures where possible and the construction of new towers of limited height and with closely mounted equipment of limited size. The County has approved hundreds of applications for new facilities. However, service is poor or non-existent in some of the rural areas of the county. This may be due to a variety of reasons including terrain, limited customer base, difficulty in finding suitable sites for new facilities or failure of industry to invest in infrastructure.

The County is currently undertaking a comprehensive review of the wireless regulations with the intent of modernizing and updating the regulations to reflect current law, technology, and community desires. Relevant recommendations will be incorporated into the Comp Plan update.

Solid Waste Management and Recycling

Solid waste management is the collection and disposal of domestic solid waste from homes, businesses, and industries. It also includes construction debris, brush, and yard waste. There are no landfills in operation in the County, and most solid waste is collected by private haulers and taken to transfer stations outside the County. The Ivy Materials Utilization Center (MUC) provides recycling and disposal services (including for household hazardous waste). A new convenience center for disposal and recycling of domestic waste is funded for construction in Keene. The McIntire Recycling Center on McIntire Road in Charlottesville serves both city and county residents.

The Ivy MUC recycling station

Stormwater Management and Stream Restoration

The County ensures that required stormwater facilities for developments are properly functioning to remove pollutants from stormwater runoff and reduce downstream flow rates. These stormwater facilities are required by law to minimize the development's negative impact downstream. The County periodically inspects facilities and conveys any maintenance or repair needs to the owner. The County also owns and maintains several regional stormwater facilities within the Development Areas.

The County has also made efforts to address stream restoration. Some streams in Albemarle County experience serious erosion and sedimentation, harming the habitat and health of aquatic organisms and in some cases putting infrastructure at risk. Since 2011, the County has used stream and wetland restoration techniques to help reduce erosion of streambanks, increase storage and infiltration of floodwaters in floodplains, and ultimately reduce the smothering of habitat by excessive silt, sand, and clay. To date, County restoration projects are in place in Crozet (along Powell's Creek), near the Woodbrook neighborhood, in the Four Seasons neighborhood, near Pen Park, and in the Branchlands neighborhood.

The (future) Biscuit Run Park is also slated for stream restoration activities, as described in the stream restoration master plan. The plan envisions that restoration will occur in four phases, with the first and most active phase occurring in tandem with developing recreational amenities (e.g. bridges and trails) in the northwest portion of the park.

Figure 12. Mature trees within the restoration work area

Figure 13. High value floodplain stream-wetland complexes

Figure 14. Existing forested riparian buffer

Photos from the Biscuit Run stream restoration master plan, showing existing conditions

Phase 1 Engagement – Recap

- **Infrastructure** needs to **keep up with growth**. New development should be supported by services and infrastructure for community needs such as schools, transportation, and parks.

- **Explore more services** in the **Rural Area** at an **appropriate scale**. Consider the differences between types of services, noting that there may not be a uniform approach.

- Improve **equitable access and distribution** of resources, services, and amenities in both the Development Areas and the Rural Area.

County-owned stormwater wetlands off of Crozet Avenue

AC44 Framework

GREEN & RESILIENT

WELCOMING & EQUITABLE

THRIVING & PROSPEROUS

CONNECTED & ACCESSIBLE

The [Framework for an Equitable and Resilient Community](#) was developed during Phase 1 of AC44. The Framework presents a snapshot of what the county aspires to be in the year 2044, which is a community that has centered equity and resilience in its policies, plans, and actions. The Framework was developed based on input from community members, the AC44 working group, the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, and by incorporating equity and climate action considerations, reviewing goals in the current Comprehensive Plan, and researching best practices. Moving forward, the Framework will be used to guide updating Plan recommendations, including Plan Goals, Objectives, and Strategies.

Relevant guidance from the **Framework for an Equitable and Resilient Community** for this chapter includes:

- The County seeks to be a place that enhances the **well-being and quality of life** for current and future community members.

- **Access to a range of services**, including schools, community centers, recreation, health care and other needs for daily life should be **equitably distributed** to all communities and income groups, including within key locations in the Rural Area to support rural communities.

- County policies and investment should support the revitalization of older residential neighborhoods to incorporate accessible **amenity spaces and community services**.

- The County will work to become more equitably connected and accessible with safe, affordable, and comfortable multimodal transportation options for all ages and abilities. This connectivity needs to be achieved by proactively using public funds and by leveraging private improvements through development practices that build **better connections** for people and nature in our communities.