

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING COUNTY STAFF TO EXPLORE AND PURSUE
OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO THE RELOCATION OF
COUNTY COURT FACILITIES OR COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICES**

WHEREAS, the Court facilities expansion project represents a major investment of County taxpayer funds reflecting the County's largest capital project outlay for at least the last 40 years and into the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors respects the fundamental role the Court system plays in our community and believes that fair and equal administration of justice can be achieved in expansion options that move the Court facilities to either the County Office Building on McIntire Road or to a site in the urban area of the County; and

WHEREAS, significant savings in project costs and debt service are achievable in options that move the Court facilities or the County administration offices, or both, into the County as compared to keeping all of those facilities and offices at their current downtown Charlottesville locations, and these savings create the opportunity for economic development investment; and

WHEREAS, the County has identified urban development and revitalization as its highest strategic priorities in the recently endorsed FY 17 – 19 Strategic Plan and the Board acknowledges that expanding the County's commercial and industrial tax base is essential to relieve the County's dependence on residential real estate taxes and promote the County's long term fiscal health; and

WHEREAS, the Board considers its role as careful and thoughtful steward of public funds as among its highest responsibilities to the County's residents; and

WHEREAS, courthouses and their immediate surroundings have served as community centers and commercial hubs in Virginia localities for centuries; and

WHEREAS, the Court facilities expansion project provides an opportunity for the County to consider relocating the Court facilities or the County administration offices, or both, into the County, and new enhanced Court facilities will further improve the administration of justice and best serve the needs of all County residents; and

WHEREAS, the relocated Court facilities or County administration offices, or both, will facilitate establishing a new community center and commercial hub that fully benefits the residents of the County in the most cost efficient manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors directs County staff to fully explore and pursue partnership possibilities that deliver the most cost efficient economic benefit to County residents while preserving accessible Court facilities by relocating either Court facilities or County administration offices to an urban area in the County; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that these possibilities should be explored and vetted by County staff prior to the County engaging in additional negotiations with the City about the Court facilities remaining in their downtown Charlottesville location so that the Board has fully developed options to make an informed decision about the future direction of the Court facilities expansion project.

I, Claudette K. Borgersen, do hereby certify that the foregoing writing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Albemarle County by a vote of ___ to ___, as recorded below, at a meeting held on November 2, 2016.

Clerk, Board of County Supervisors

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Mr. Dill	___	___
Ms. Mallek	___	___
Ms. McKeel	___	___
Ms. Palmer	___	___
Mr. Randolph	___	___
Mr. Sheffield	___	___