

Connectivity

Proposed Guiding Principle & Goals

Proposed Guiding Principle

Create a multimodal transportation network that is safe and accessible for all residents, regardless of age, race, income, and ability.

Why this principle:

- *Crozet is a community that is enhanced by people meeting each other and gathering together. Being able to walk places facilitates this.*
- *Neighborhoods and commercial/recreational areas in Crozet should be connected and provide safe access for all types of transportation. Safety for walking/biking is a priority and greatly needed.*
- *Access for cyclists & pedestrians as well as multiple transportation options was identified as Guiding Principle #2 in the 2010 Master Plan.*

Proposed Goals

Network connectivity.

- *This is a continuation of the 2010 Master Plan's goal to include connectivity and multiple route options.*
- *There are some neighborhoods in Crozet, such as Wickham Pond/Highlands, that are not part of the network and not safely accessible for walking/biking.*
- *Connectivity between neighborhoods and commercial/recreational areas is important.*

Safety and access for all users.

- *There are many locations that do not feel safe for walking and biking in Crozet, and improving bike/ped safety is a priority.*
- *The 2017 Community Survey indicated that increasing pedestrian safety is the top-ranked transportation priority.*
- *People in Crozet want access to a variety of transportation options.*

Local & regional transit.

- *Having the Crozet CONNECT service is helpful for accessing Charlottesville (heard during the 10-26 connectivity tour).*
- *Transit provides options for those who may no longer be able to drive, such as seniors (also heard during tour).*
- *Residents may need to leave Crozet for jobs and services.*
- *Emerging transit technologies and services (such as autonomous vehicles) could provide opportunities to get around Crozet.*

Character

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Support Crozet's "small town" character through development that is compatible in scale and design, offers housing choice, and respects its history.

Why this principle:

- *This is a continuation of the 2010 vision: "continue to be a small town with a 'small town feel' with distinct neighborhoods and a historic downtown area.*
- *The importance of Crozet's "small town feel" was reflected in the 2017 Community Survey & feedback from Workshops 1 & 2.*

Proposed Goals

Housing variety & choice.

- *This is a continuation of the 2010 Guiding Principle to provide choices in affordability and building types.*
- *The 2017 Community Survey indicated that increasing the availability of affordable housing was important.*
- *Workshop 2 provided details on types of housing that can support affordability & housing choice.*

Appropriate design & scale.

- *This is a continuation of the 2010 Guiding Principle to preserve existing neighborhoods and for new development to be appropriate in scale .*
- *The 2017 Community Survey indicated that protecting and buffering existing neighborhoods and tree lined streets was important.*

Mixed-use activity centers.

- *This is a continuation of the 2010 vision for a vibrant downtown.*
- *The 2017 Community Survey indicated that a vibrant downtown with a mix of places to live, work, and do business in the downtown area was important.*
- *Workshop 2 confirmed that Downtown is a main center of activity for the community, with supplemental centers at Old Trail and Clover Lawn.*

Rural edges.

- *The 2010 Master Plan identifies Route 250 West as the southern edge of the development area and calls out its importance as a scenic byway.*

Placemaking, arts, & culture.

- *The 2017 Community Survey indicated that the availability of culture and arts was important.*

Conservation

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Enhance Crozet's natural beauty and the surrounding rural areas with an integrated network of parks and gathering spaces, trails, and greenways that support outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation.

Why this principle?

- *This builds upon the 2010 Master Plan's principle "Crozet values and will protect its natural resource assets through a variety of cultivation, recreation, and conservation efforts."*
- *In the 2017 Community Survey and at Workshops 1 & 2, community members highlighted the value of different types of recreational opportunities within Crozet as well as in nearby rural areas.*

Proposed Goals

Community parks & outdoor recreation opportunities.

- *This is a continuation of the 2010 Master Plan's goal to "create areas for structured and unstructured recreation."*
- *In the 2017 Community Survey, 81% of participants described "park space" as "very important" or "somewhat important".*
- *During workshops 1 & 2, we heard that Crozet community members value close proximity to parks and outdoor recreation opportunities.*

Trail & greenway connectivity.

- *This is a continuation of several 2010 Master Plan goals, including: "link rural area trails to Downtown destinations" and "link neighborhoods to Downtown, schools, parks, squares, greens, and the larger region."*
- *The 2017 Community Survey and Workshops 1&2 reflect continued support for trail and greenway connectivity.*

Access to rural & regional amenities.

- *The 2010 Master Plan references regional connectivity and rural area access in several of its goals, including "link rural area trails to Downtown destinations".*
- *During Workshop #1, community members described close proximity to the rural areas as a key feature of Crozet's "small town feel".*

Natural resource conservation and sustainability.

- *This is a continuation of the 2010 Master Plan goal, "protect sensitive natural systems."*
- *In the 2017 Community Survey, 93% of participants described "natural areas & open spaces" as "very important" or "somewhat important".*
- *Preserving natural resources and encouraging sustainability were key hopes expressed for the future of Crozet at Workshop #1.*

Implementation

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Provide strategic & timely support for community partnerships, local economic development, policy changes, and capital investments to support a changing Crozet.

Why this principle?

- *This builds upon the 2010 Master Plan's principles "Community facilities and services must accommodate the changing needs of the community as it grows over time" and "Locally grown businesses are supported for their contributions in providing both jobs and an enhanced quality of life for residents".*
- *Since 2010, new partnerships and focuses on economic development have materialized. These may provide opportunities to strategically implement the Master Plan's recommendations.*

Proposed Goals

Community partnerships.

- *The 2010 Master Plan discusses community institutions and support for community fairs, festivals, and events.*
- *Groups like the Crozet Trails Crew and the Downtown Crozet Initiative can play important roles in recognizing the Master Plan's vision.*

Economic development initiatives.

- *Workshops 1 & 2 identified the desire for local and small business development, as well as jobs to support the cost of living in Crozet.*
- *"Primary" business development expands the County's tax base and can ease the burden on residential property tax owners to pay for services and capital projects.*

Zoning & policy updates.

- *The 2010 Master Plan included the Downtown Crozet zoning district and recommendations to create a transitional zoning district near Downtown.*
- *In Workshops 1 & 2, we heard interest in zoning tools for historic neighborhood conservation.*

Capital improvements.

- *The 2010 Master Plan identified various capital improvement projects that would be necessary to achieve the Plan's vision.*
- *In Workshops 1 & 2, we heard about outstanding project needs, such as connectivity projects and school capacity projects.*

Project prioritization.

- *The 2010 Master Plan identified two "priority areas" near Downtown Crozet and MusicToday/ Starr Hill.*
- *With outstanding (and emerging) capital needs and capital & resource constraints, clear funding priorities are needed.*