



# Albemarle County

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 17-305, **Version:** 1

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**AGENDA DATE:** 5/3/2017

**TITLE:**

Strategic Plan for Natural Resources Program

**SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST:** Endorse Strategic Plan for the Natural Resources Program

**ITEM TYPE:** Regular Action Item

**STAFF CONTACT(S):** Walker, Graham, Hannah

**PRESENTER (S):** David Hannah

**LEGAL REVIEW:** Not Required

**REVIEWED BY:** Douglas C. Walker

**BACKGROUND:** During a January 4, 2017 work session, staff presented recommendations and draft priorities for the County's Natural Resources Program. The Board discussed and approved seven of the eight draft priorities that were presented. The Board directed staff to develop a plan for implementing the seven priorities.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** Natural Resources Stewardship: Thoughtfully protect and manage Albemarle County's ecosystems and natural resources in both the rural and development areas to safeguard the quality of life of current and future generations

**DISCUSSION:** Based on discussion and input from the Board during the January 4, 2017 work session, staff developed a three-year strategic plan for the Natural Resources Program. As shown in Attachment A, the strategic plan includes seven objectives, a timeline for implementing each of the objectives, and significant milestones for each objective.

The seven objectives are:

- (1) Conduct a thorough public review of the stream buffer requirements of the Water Protection Ordinance.
- (2) Work as staff liaison with the Natural Heritage Committee on biodiversity issues. Help complete a biodiversity action plan.
- (3) Promote, support, educate and assist landowners in conservation efforts and good stewardship of their land.
- (4) Strengthen conservation easement programs.
- (5) Conserve resources in Development Areas.
- (6) Strengthen landscaping regulations.
- (7) Develop and implement on-the-ground conservation/restoration projects.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** The strategic plan anticipates the full-time commitment of the Natural Resources Manager and occasional time commitments from other staff. No additional budget impact is anticipated at this time.

Implementing the objectives may identify additional opportunities for protecting natural resources, which could have future budget impacts.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Board endorse the strategic plan as provided in Attachment A.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A - Strategic Plan for Natural Resources Program

B - Executive Summary of the January 4, 2017 work session

C - Report of Priorities for Natural Resources (presented at January 4, 2017 work session)