

Quality of Life Focus Group



Below is the meeting summary for the second Quality of Life Focus Group meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to select approximately three goals per topic for further study. In the following three meetings, groups will determine more specific objectives for each goal. All of the Focus Group information will be incorporated into the Community Strategic Plan document which will be considered by the Board of Supervisors later this year.

Meeting Date: 3/14/16

Recorder: Jordan Carlisle

Meeting Location: Brambleton Center

Number of Participants: 19

Number of Small Groups: 2

Host: Supervisor Joe McNamara and Supervisor Al Bedrosian

Lead Staff: Doug Blount, Billy Driver

Staff Facilitators: Lindsay Blankenship, Dave Weir, Jordan Carlisle, Sandy Walton, Bruce Lowe, Scott Pfouts, Nancy Duval, David Henderson

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Most Popular Topics by Group Consensus for Meeting 1

Top 3 most popular Topics selected by group consensus at the end of Meeting 1.

1. Fundamental Services for a Lifelong Community
2. Recreation & Entertainment
3. Natural Resources Management, Protection & Conservation

Meeting 1 Topics Confirmed at the Beginning of Meeting 2

1. Fundamental Services for a Lifelong Community
2. Recreation & Entertainment
3. Natural Resources Management, Protection & Conservation

See next page for GOALS DEVELOPMENT

Meeting 2: GOALS DEVELOPMENT

GOALS are defined as “What you want to do.”

Topic 1: Fundamental Services for a Lifelong Community

1. Expand broadband and improve service
 - a. Connectivity improvement and expansion
 - b. Business capable
2. Improve public transportation infrastructure
 - a. Sidewalks
3. Increase use of County and school facilities
 - a. Increase library hours of operation
4. Promote regionalism
5. Encourage village concept
 - a. Ensure basic needs are met for all citizens
 - b. Affordable housing
 - c. Community services in close proximity
6. Improve educational opportunities for higher/vocational education and business
 - a. Partnerships with businesses and trades
7. Modernize basic infrastructure
8. Improve job opportunities

Topic 2: Recreation & Entertainment

1. Improve and activate access to outdoors/infrastructure
 - a. Improve existing athletic fields and provide additional facilities to meet needs (i.e., more athletic fields, open areas, etc.)
2. Be progressive in developing emerging recreational activities
 - a. Integration of technology with recreation
 - b. Common platform for recreation and entertainment (i.e., online resource, community calendar, community liaison)
 - c. Improve/development/maintenance of Greenways, Blueways, and trails (i.e., finish Roanoke River Greenway)
 - d. Develop Explore Park → implement Master Plan
 - e. Disc golf, skate parks, dog parks, Blue/Greenways
3. Expand cultural/arts entertainment opportunities
 - a. Standards and policies for recreational services (i.e., maintaining what we have)
 - b. Regional cooperation for event venue
 - c. Outdoor entertainment venue
4. Promote multi-generational recreation opportunities
 - a. Passive and active activities
 - b. Different modes of transportation and residences (i.e., regional cooperation, more neighborhood parks, more accessible options, “activity bus”)

Topic 3: Natural Resources Management, Protection & Conservation

1. Develop wiser waste management
 - a. Home pick-up recycling
 - b. Community compost
 - c. Litter reduction
2. Protect and improve air, water and soil quality
 - a. Ridgeline and shed view protection
 - b. Protect soil, agricultural resources
 - c. Renewable energy
3. Improve land use/conservation
 - a. Sustainability
 - b. Develop, utilize and facilitate partnerships
 - c. Better utilize natural space
4. Develop and Improve accessibility to natural resources
 - a. Sidewalk development
 - b. Pedestrian/walk and bike-ability
 - c. Reduce duplication of services
 - d. Complete Green/Blue Ways
 - e. Connect Roanoke Valley to Huckleberry Trail

End of Meeting 2: Group Consensus on Top Three Goals by Topic

Topic 1: Fundamental Services for a Lifelong Community

- Goal 1. Expand broad band and improve service
- Goal 2. Promote regionalism
- Goal 3. Improve educational opportunities for higher/vocational education and business

Topic 2: Recreation & Entertainment

- Goal 1. Be progressive in developing emerging recreational activities
- Goal 2. Improve and activate access to outdoors/infrastructure
- Goal 3. Expand cultural/arts entertainment opportunities

Topic 3: Natural Resources Management, Protection & Conservation

- Goal 1. Develop and improve accessibility to natural resources
- Goal 2. Develop wiser waste management
- Goal 3. Protect and improve air, water and soil quality