

### Agenda

### Process and Schedule

Public Engagement Workshops, Survey, Staff Efforts

Themes

Goals/Framework Discussion

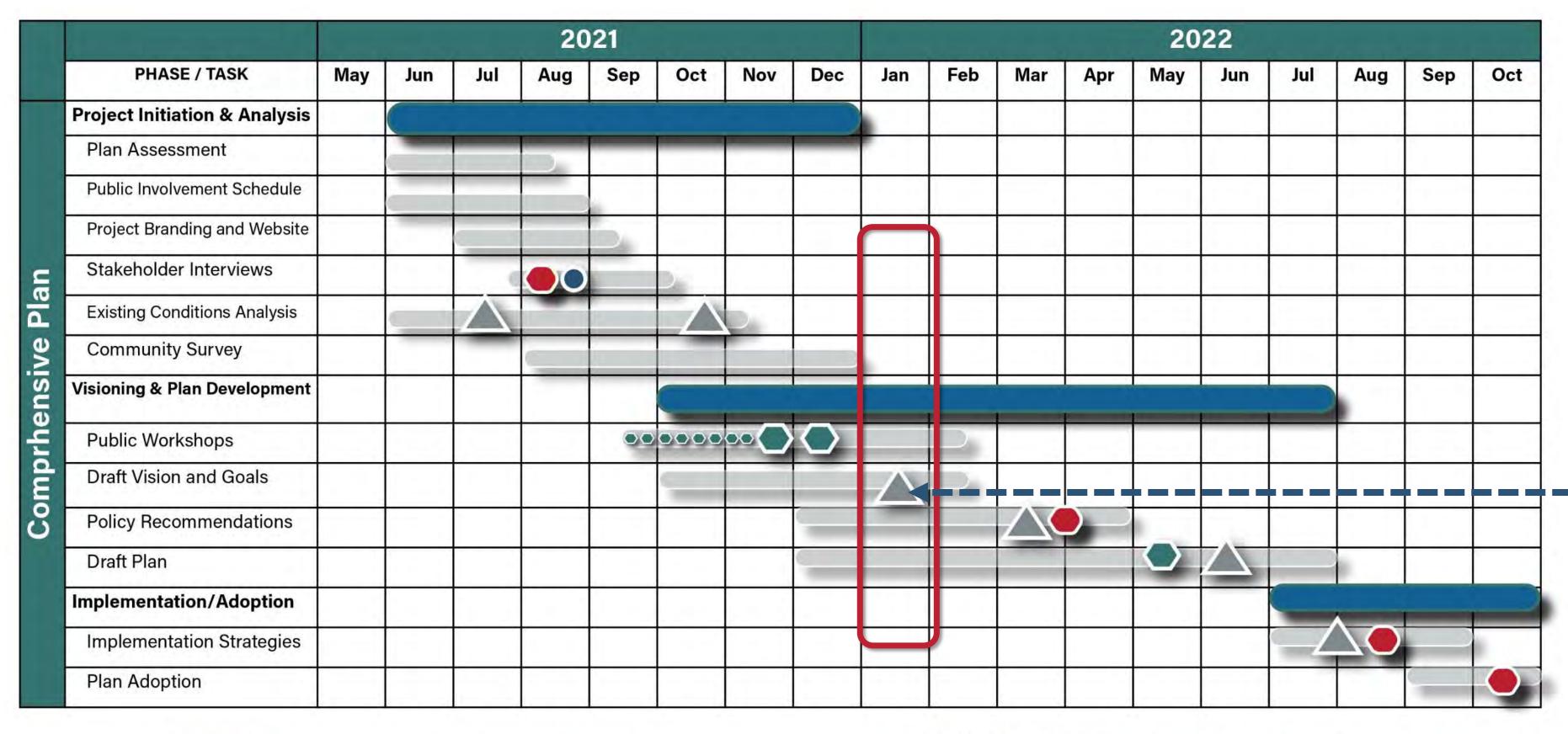


### **OVERVIEW OF SCHEDULE**





### DETAILED SCHEDULE



This meeting: Report on
Outreach Results and
Discussion on Goals and
Plan Themes



Steering CommitteeStakeholder Meetings

Public Meetings (for a complete list of public meetings see www.hendersoncounty2045.com/get-involved)



### **Creating a Comprehensive Plan**



Existing Conditions
Where are we?
Where are we currently headed?

Public Feedback

Where do we want to go?

Best Practices, Public
Preference
How do we get
there?

### **Creating a Comprehensive Plan**

Public Feedback
Where are we want to go?

#### Goals

- 6-8 statements describing what this plan aims to accomplish
- Reflect public's main concerns
- Serve as plan's main themes
- Progress should be measurable

# Recommendations Actions, policies, and land use items that help the County achieve its goals



### EFFORTS SO FAR

- **Stakeholder Focus Groups**
- 2 Public Workshops
- **10** Staff-Led Open Houses
- 6,400 Completed Surveys
  - **3** Planning Board Meetings



### **Staff-Led Open Houses**

6 Events

10/6: Blue Ridge Community College

10/12: Main Library

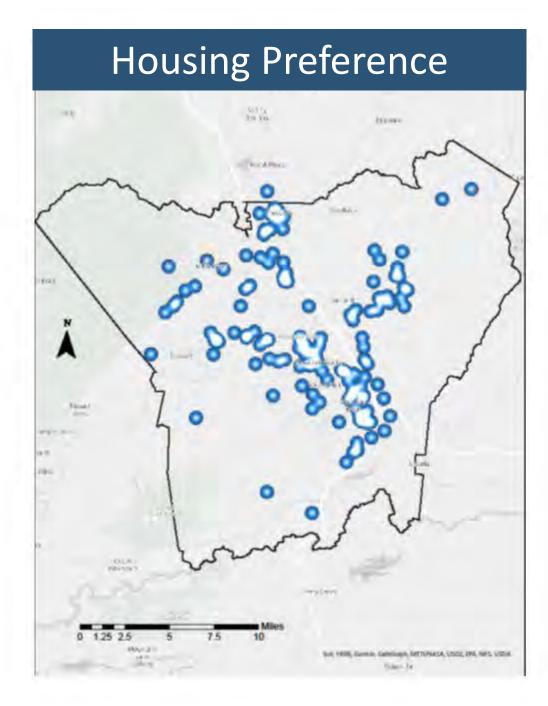
10/18: Edneyville

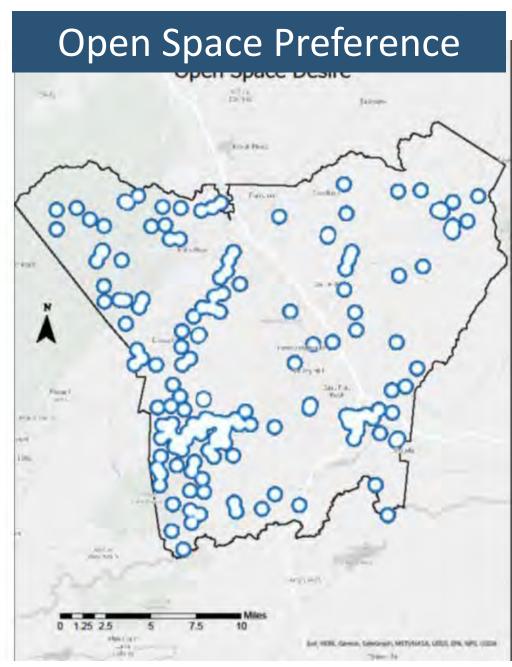
10/26: Community Center

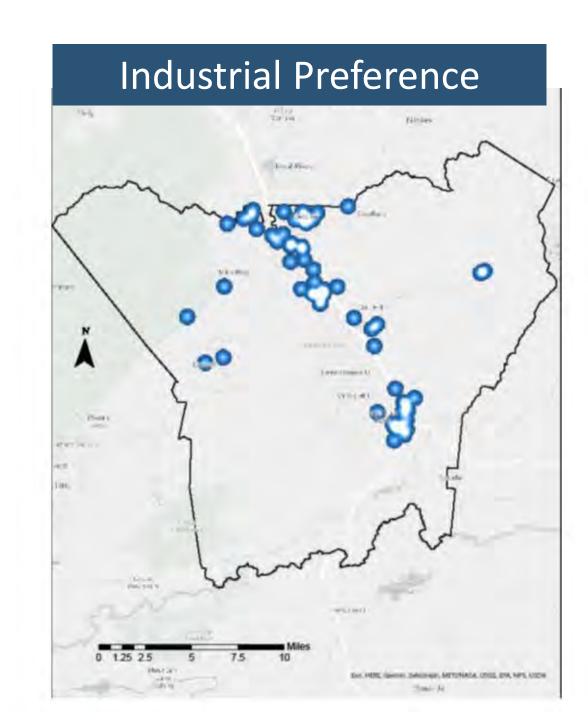
11/2: Fletcher Library

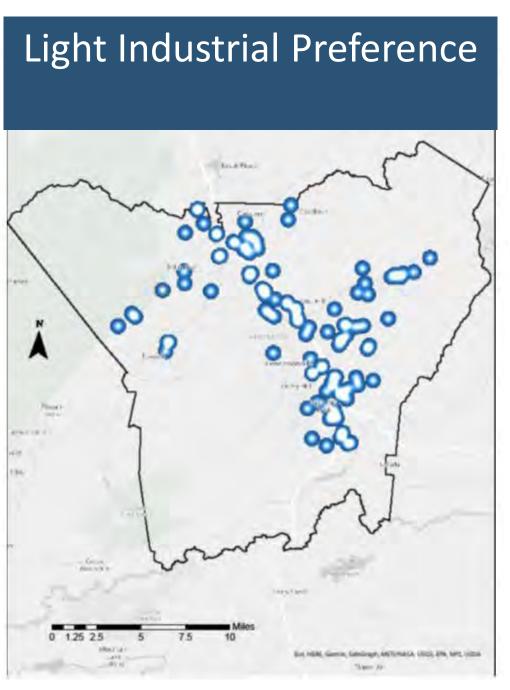
11/3: Grace Mills River Church

118 Attendees









### **Public Workshop**

November 10, 2021 at Blue Ridge Community College

#### **Open House Format**

# Varied Information and Feedback Opportunities:

- Video presentation
- Visual preference voting
- Review of previous goals
- Map comments
- Small group discussions
- Survey



### **Public Workshop Results**

November 10, 2021 at Blue Ridge Community College

 Open space and preservation were common priorities across all activities

#### PARKS AND FACILITIES TOP CHOICES







Greenways and Trails

Parks with Natural Areas

Community Gardens

#### **OPEN SPACE TOP CHOICES**



Protecting Streams and Water Quality



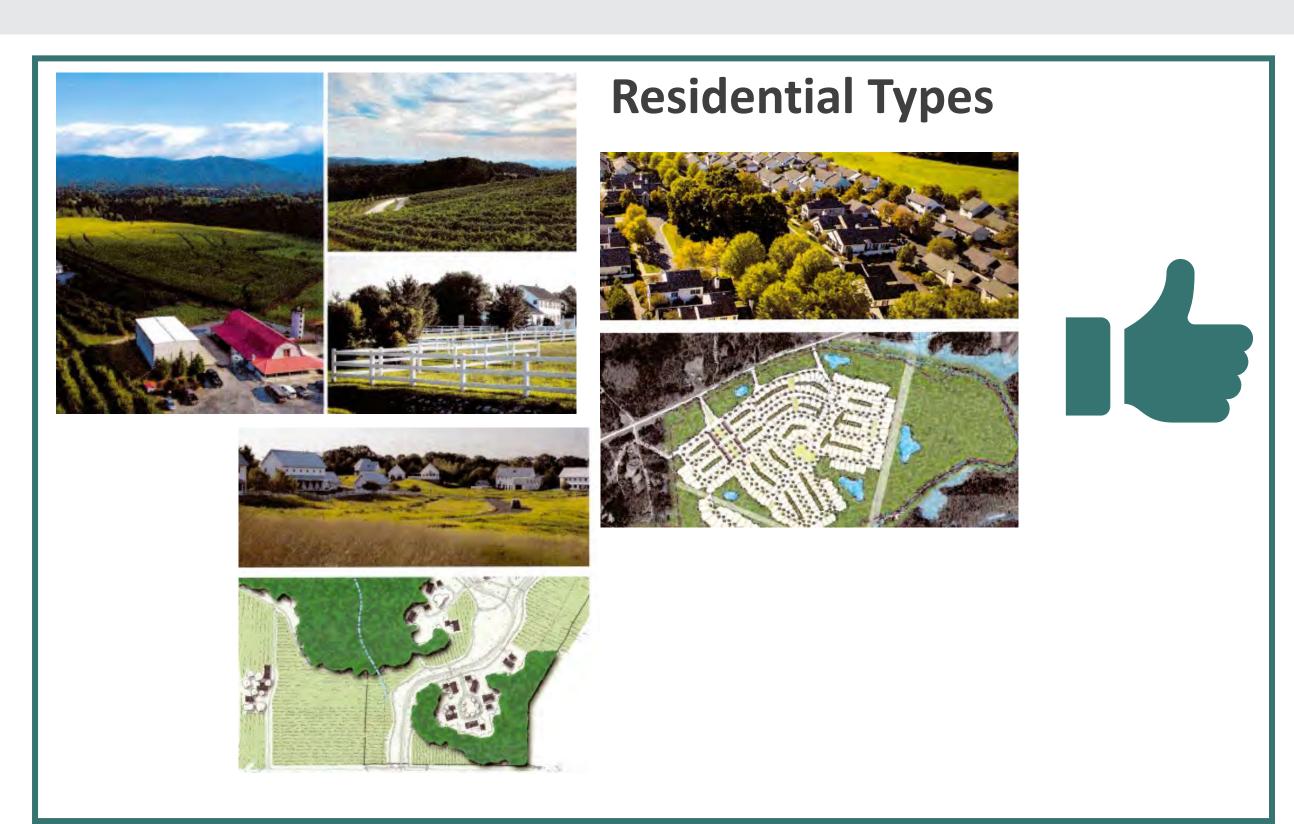
Agricultural Preservation



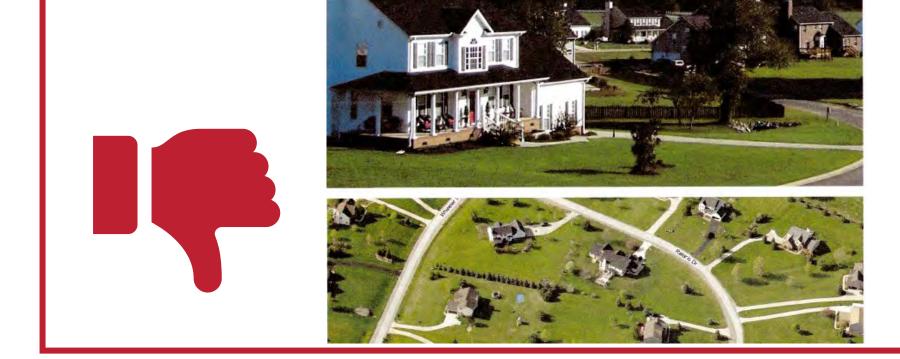
Heritage Trees and Mature Forests

### **Public Workshop Results**

November 10, 2021 at Blue Ridge Community College











### **Public Workshop Results**

November 10, 2021 at Blue Ridge Community College

#### • Small group discussions

- Housing access
- How to reduce impacts of growth on current residents
- Use sewer and infrastructure to guide development
- Farmland preservation
- Coordination b/t governments
- Transportation options (greenways, transit)
- Healthcare access



### Virtual Public Meeting

December 9th on Zoom

#### Format

- Presentation
- Live polling
- Extended question and answer portion
- Video of meeting on project website (www.hendersoncounty2045.com/)

#### Discussed

- Resources for agricultural land owners
- Public transit
- Sustainability
- Coordination in land use policies between County and municipalities

What are some of the current challenges we face in Henderson County?



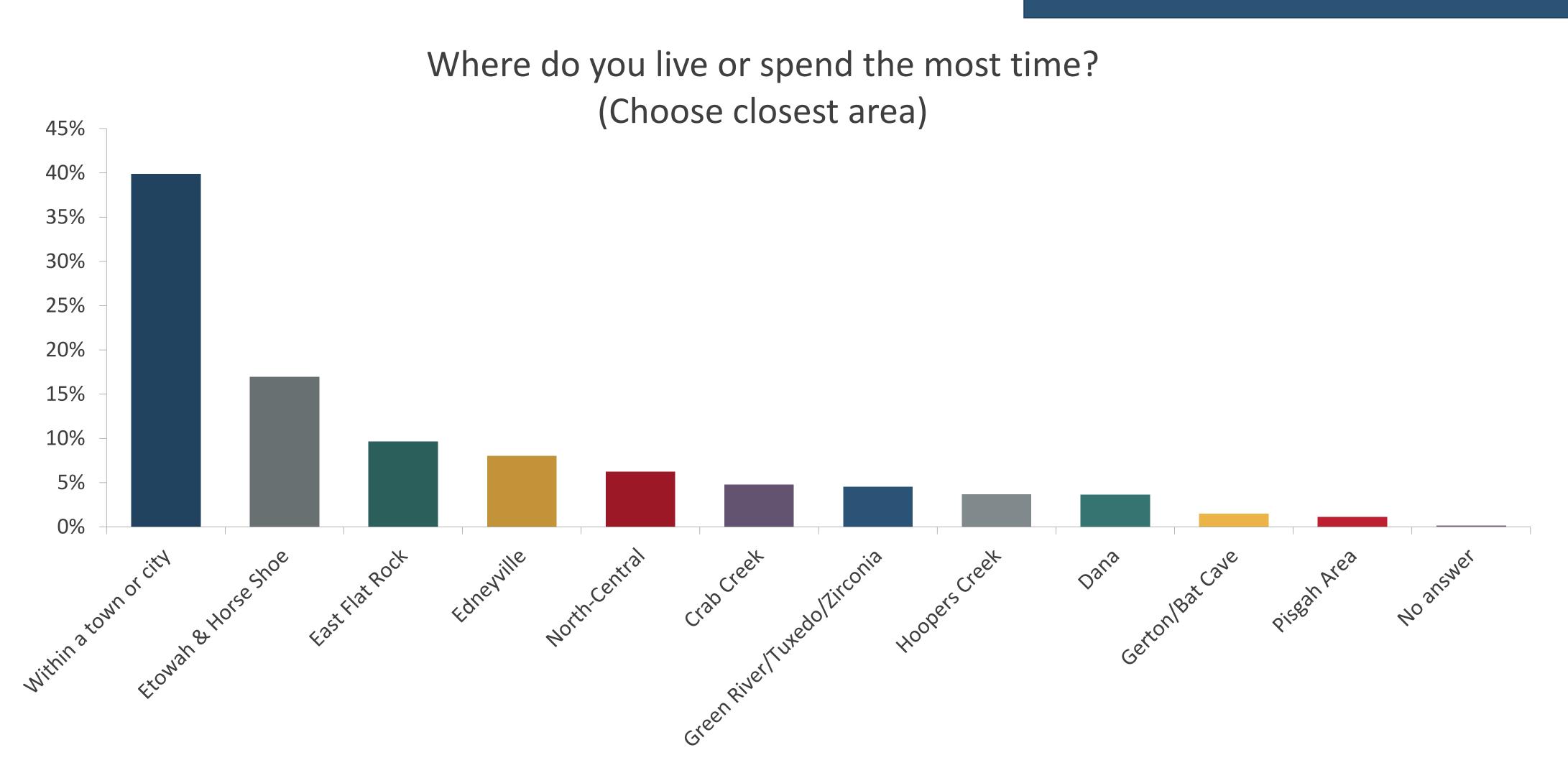
- Included with tax bill
- Online option
- Spanish option
- Advertised at the Apple Festival, open houses and public meetings



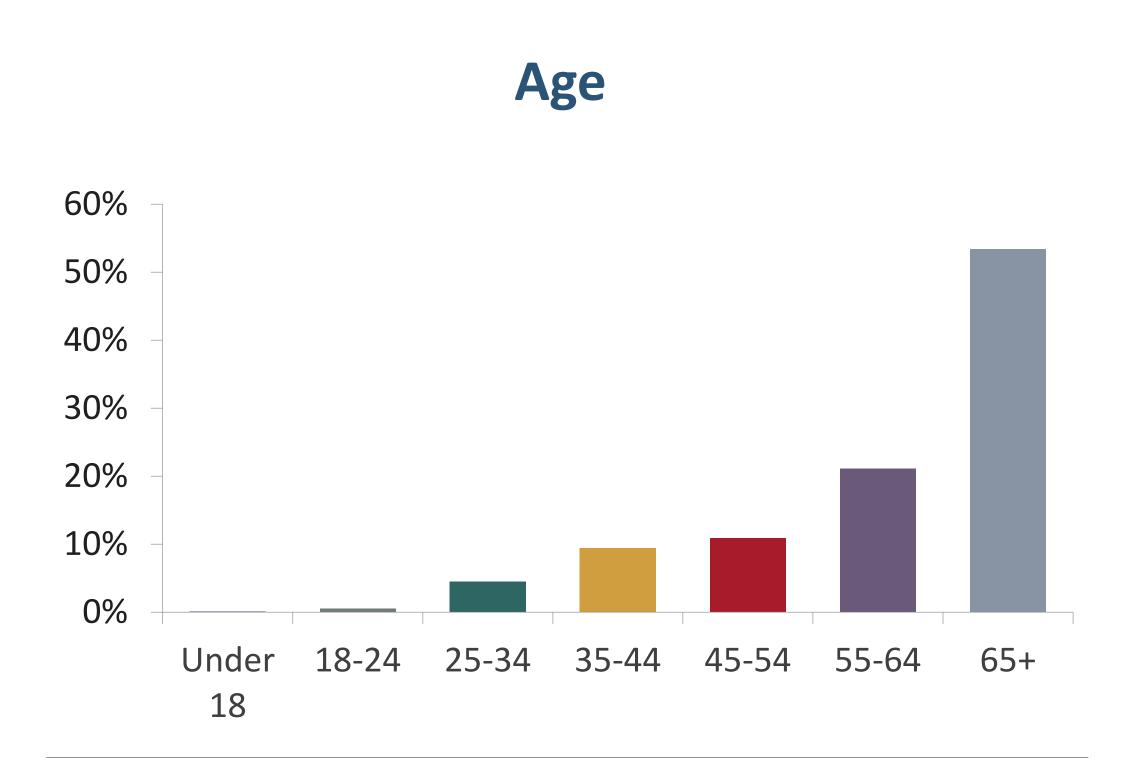
### 6,400+ responses? Wow!

- Equates to 6% of people over 18
- Previous Comprehensive Plan received
   596 responses to survey
- 5,600 ballots cast in County for November 2021 local elections
- Wake County's most recent efforts received 9,000 surveys for over 1 million residents

60% of respondents live in unincorporated area
(68% of County population lives in unincorporated area)

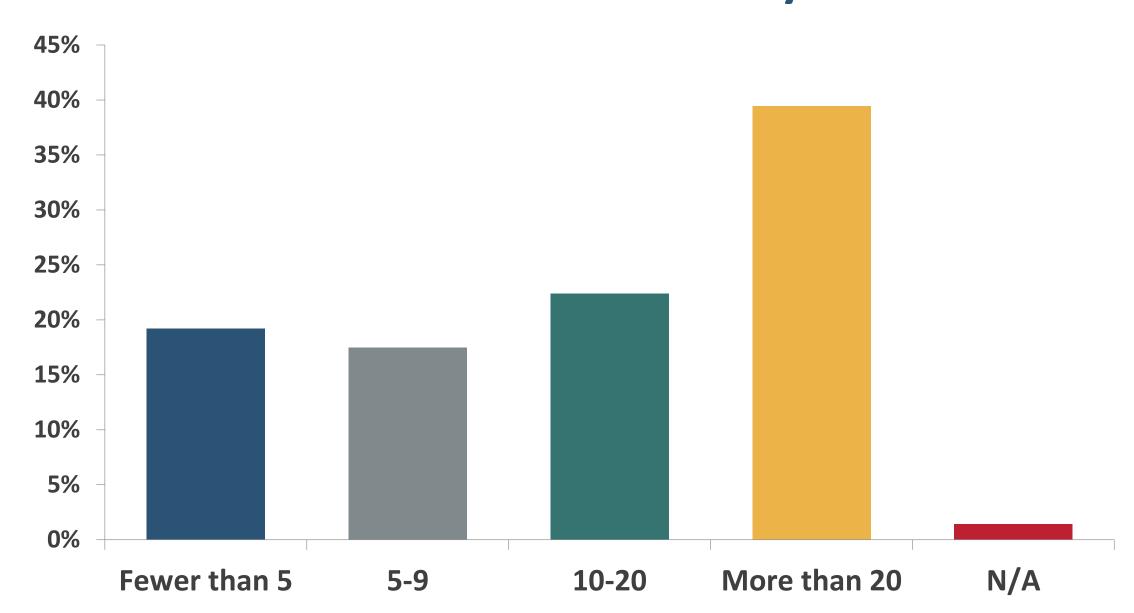






53% of respondents are over 65, but only 26.4% of population is in that age range

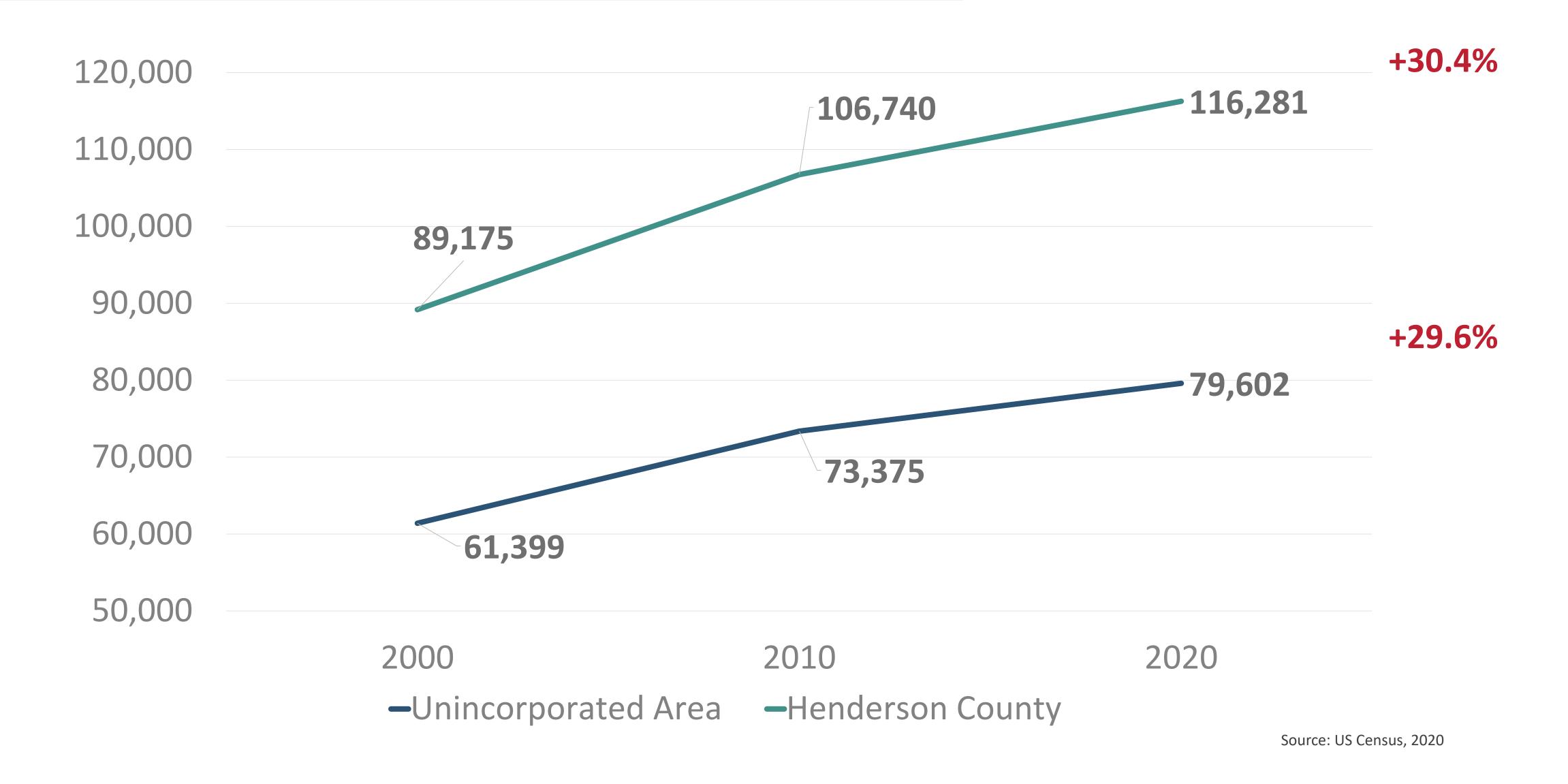
# How many years have you lived/worked in Henderson County?



62% of respondents have lived and/or worked here at least 10 years

### POPULATION

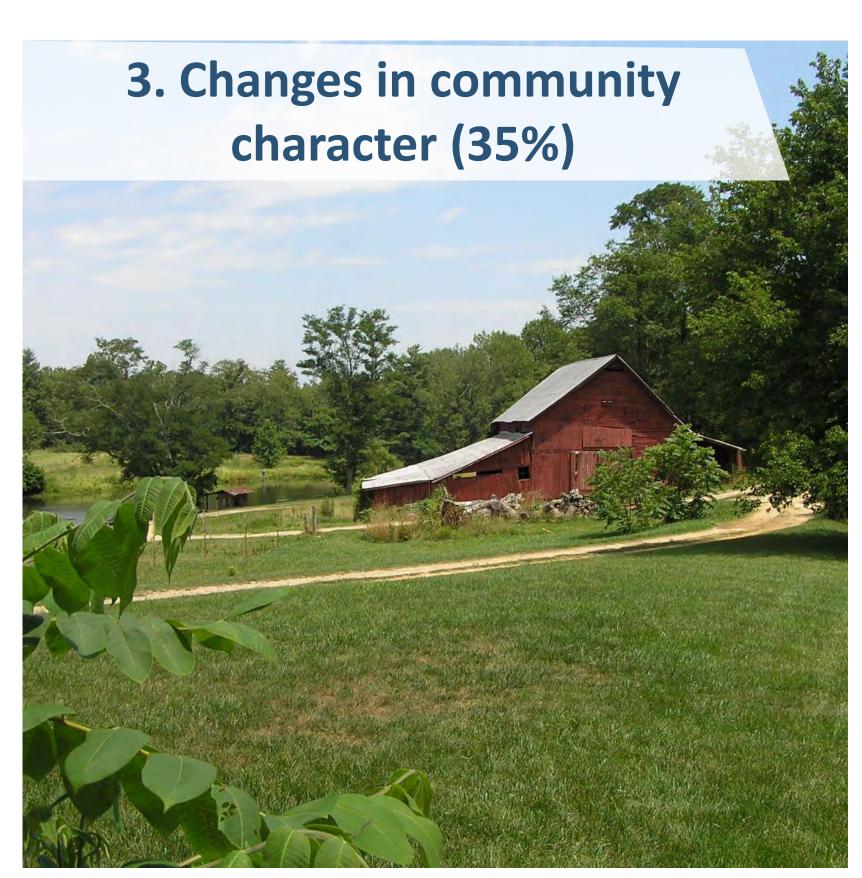
Growth 2000-2020



**Top Growth-Related Concern (Countywide)** 







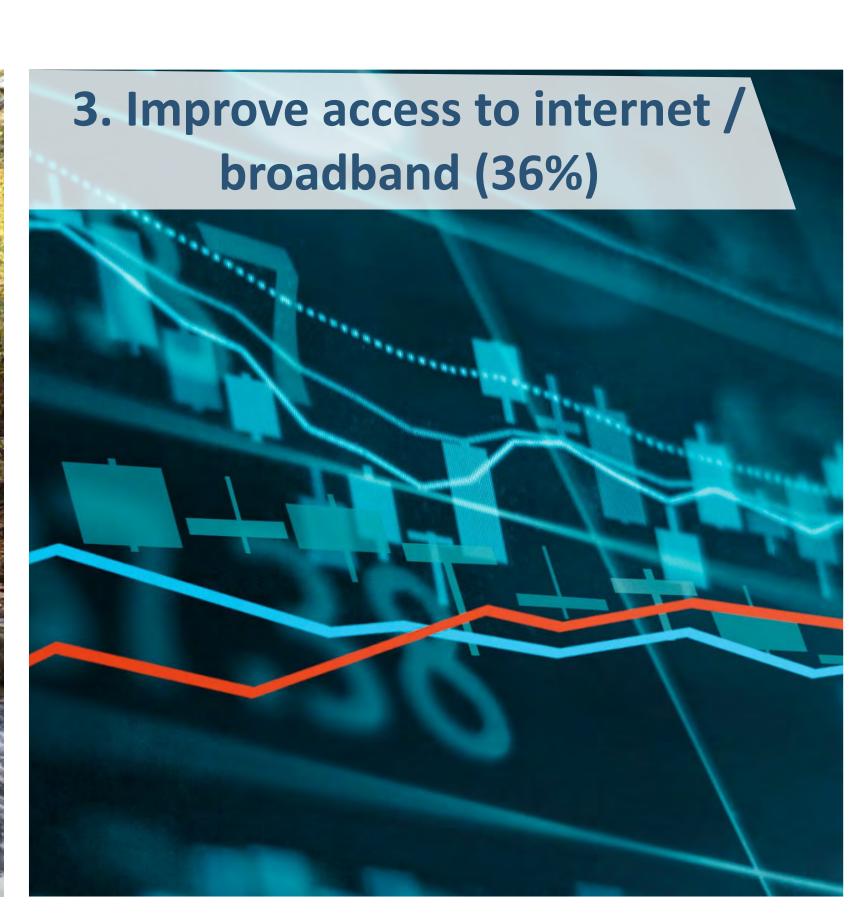
Top Priorities for 2045 Plan-Question 3 (All respondents, Roads and Traffic Removed)



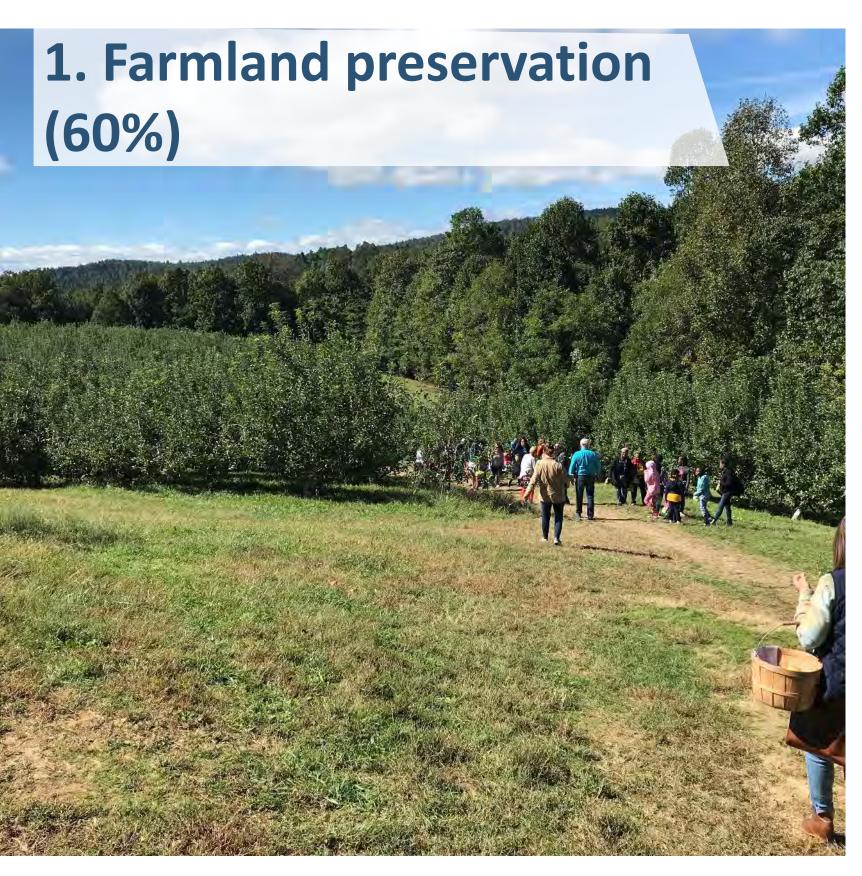
**Top Priorities for 2045 Plan-Question 3 (All respondents)** 

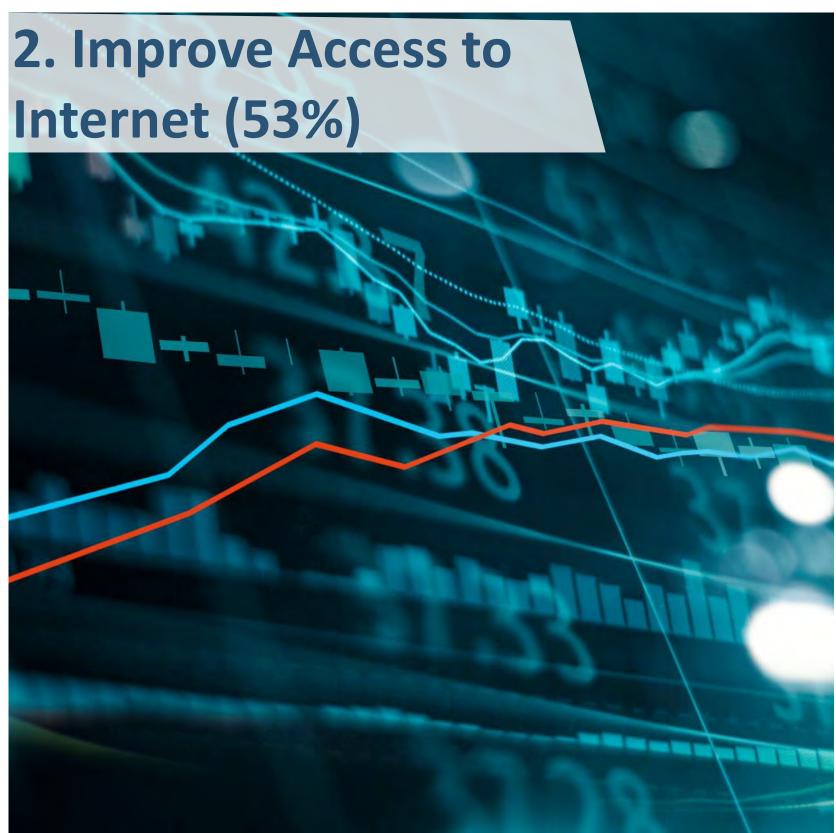






**Top Priorities for 2045 Plan-Question 3 (Edneyville)** 







### Open-ended answer analysis

"What is one priority you would like the County to address in the next 2-5 years?"

4,581 people wrote in

#### It looks like this:

Bring piped water supply further into rural areas for help with crop survival and dwindling water table in Edneyville/ Dana area.

Make housing affordable for the younger local kids so they can stay in the area and raise families here.

Traffic

affordable housing

road maintenance

Public parking downtown (easy access!)

Expand highspeed internet to rural areas

Keep apple acreage at present levels

traffic congestion through Hendersonville

promote building standards to generate sufficient revenues to support services required

Lack of things for the youth to do. We are growing and no longer a retirement community. The Gathering Place park in Tulsa, OK I would LOVE to see something like that here and not in Raleigh or Charlotte. If we are going to be a tourist town that continues to grow, let's have something for everyone to go to. Dave and Buster's or Main Event would be another fun think kids and adults can do! If there is to be growth, give the youth something to do. Otherwise we're going to continue seeing homelessness and drug use increase.

Housing for low to moderate-income families

Make Chimney Rock a 4 lane out to Edneyville or the least past the Edneyville school entrance!

Broad Band Acess to rural area's

Remedy the abandoned buildings and trailers in the outlying areas. Control of Kudzu vines!!

Road Maintence

Road congestion surrounding the greater Hendersonville area

Open-Ended Responses-Question 4

# Top Ten Priorities

Countywide





### **Geographic Area Themes**

Priorities varied by geographic area

Road traffic and maintenance were strong in the top spots across all jurisdictions

#### In Crab Creek environmental preservation was #1

East Flat Rock, Crab Creek, and Pisgah were only areas with variation in the top 2.

- East Flat Rock and Crab Creek favored environmental preservation
- Pisgah favored parks and recreation

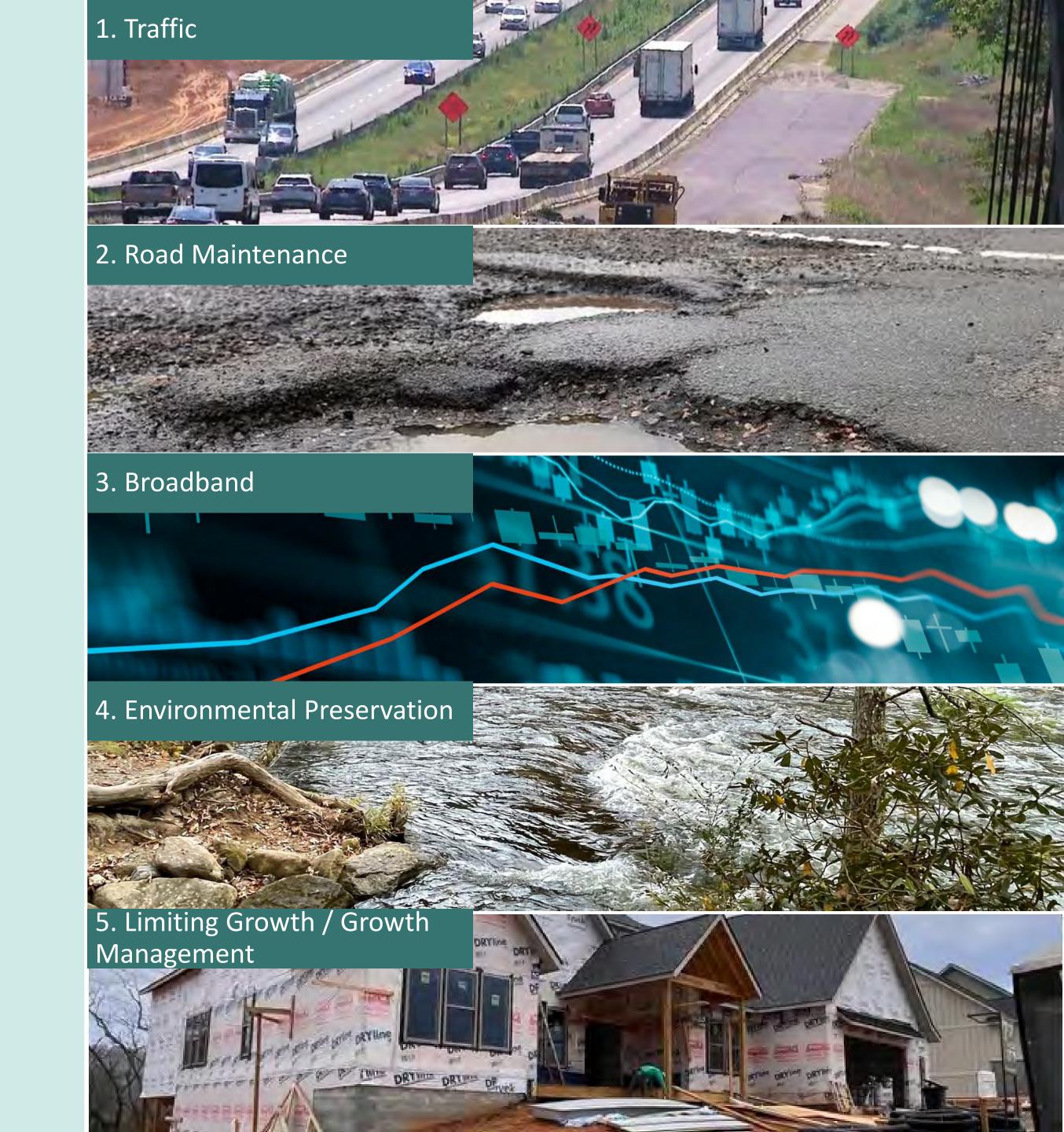
Edneyville and Dana were only ones with farmland in the top 5 priorities



Open-Ended Responses

## North Central

Typical Top 5 for the planning areas



Open-Ended Responses

## Crab Creek

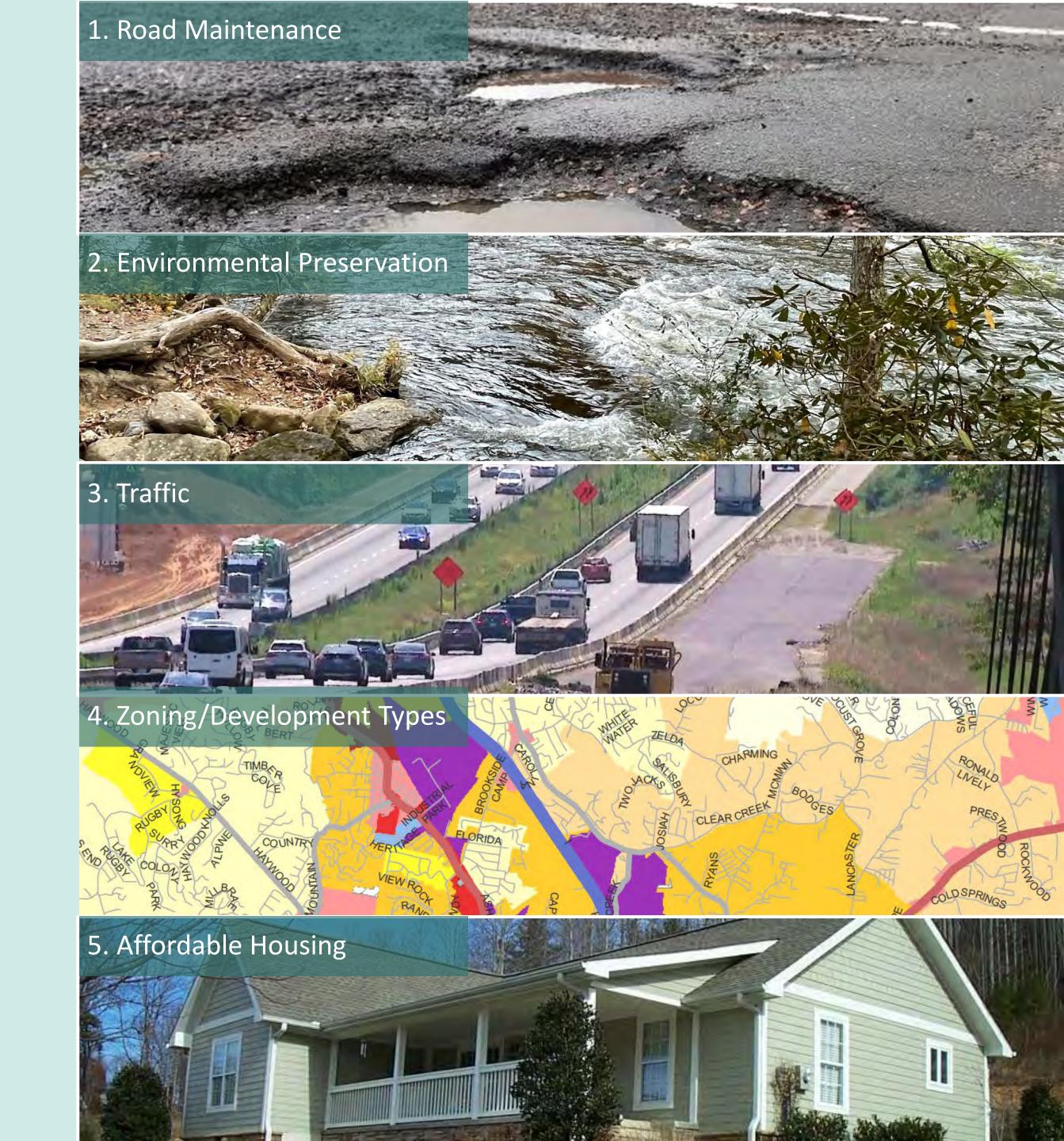
Environmental Preservation #1



Open-Ended Responses

### East Flat Rock

 One of two areas with Environmental Preservation in the top 2





### Which of the following development types do you feel are missing from the County?

(Top five answers)



### Transportation Takeaways from Open-Ended Survey Responses

- Widen US 64 (east and west): Add turn lanes at intersections and shoulders for bicyclists
- Congestion management to meet growth pressures
- Complete the Ecusta Trail
- Roadway maintenance: pavement, signs, and lane striping (center lines and edge lines)
- Invest in safe, user-friendly public transportation
- More bike lanes and sidewalks throughout the county





### **Emerging Themes**

What are we hearing from the public?

#### Agriculture

Protect the County's agricultural land, heritage and rural character

#### Growth Management

Direct growth away from sensitive environmental areas and agricultural lands. Focus on encouraging certain types of development such as small business and retail.

# Environmental Preservation

Protect the county's water quality, wooded areas, and other sensitive environmental assets.

# Transportation and Infrastructure

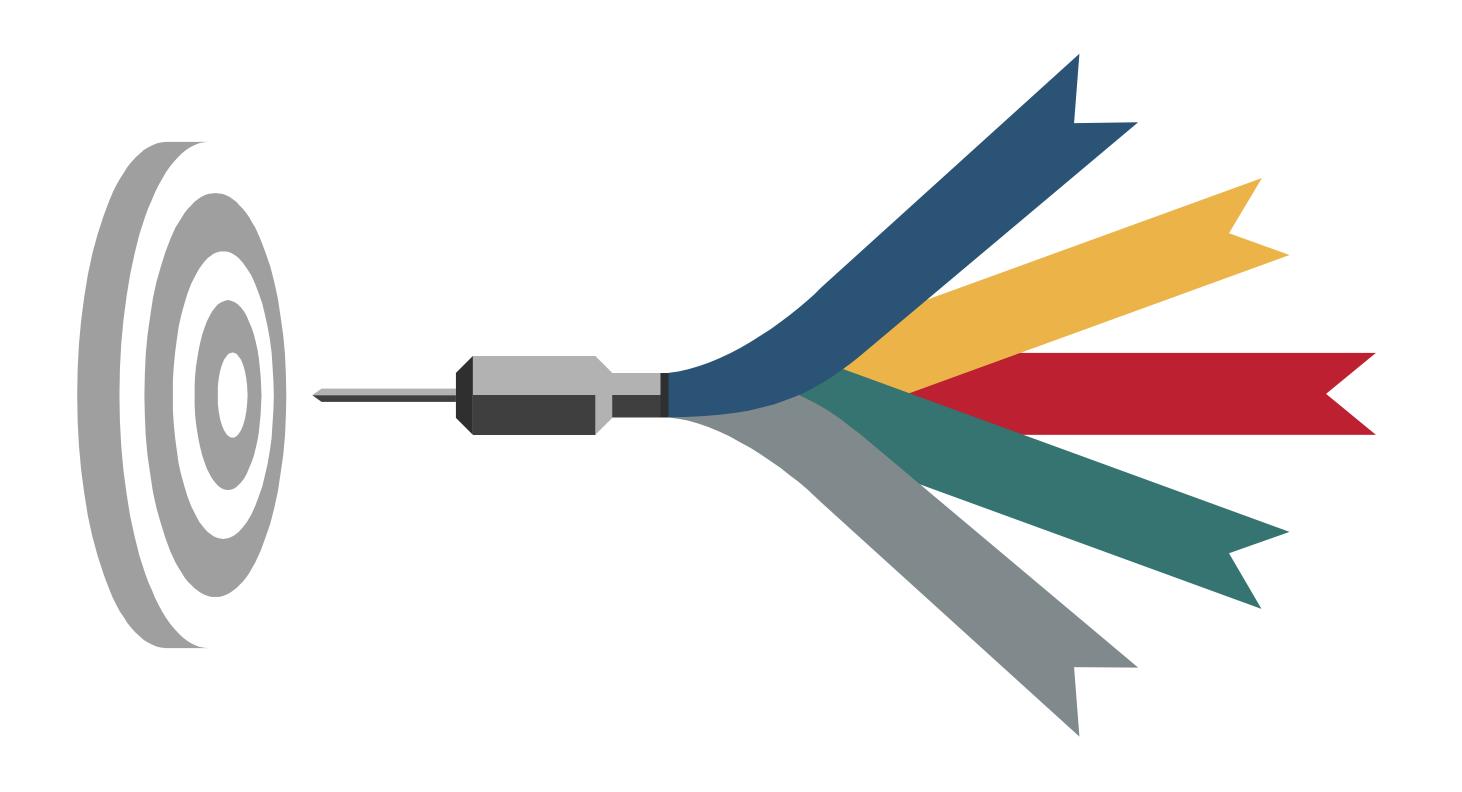
Roads and traffic are an issue for the community.

Broadband access is important to the community, as is strategic planning of water and sewer utilities and school facilities.

### Housing

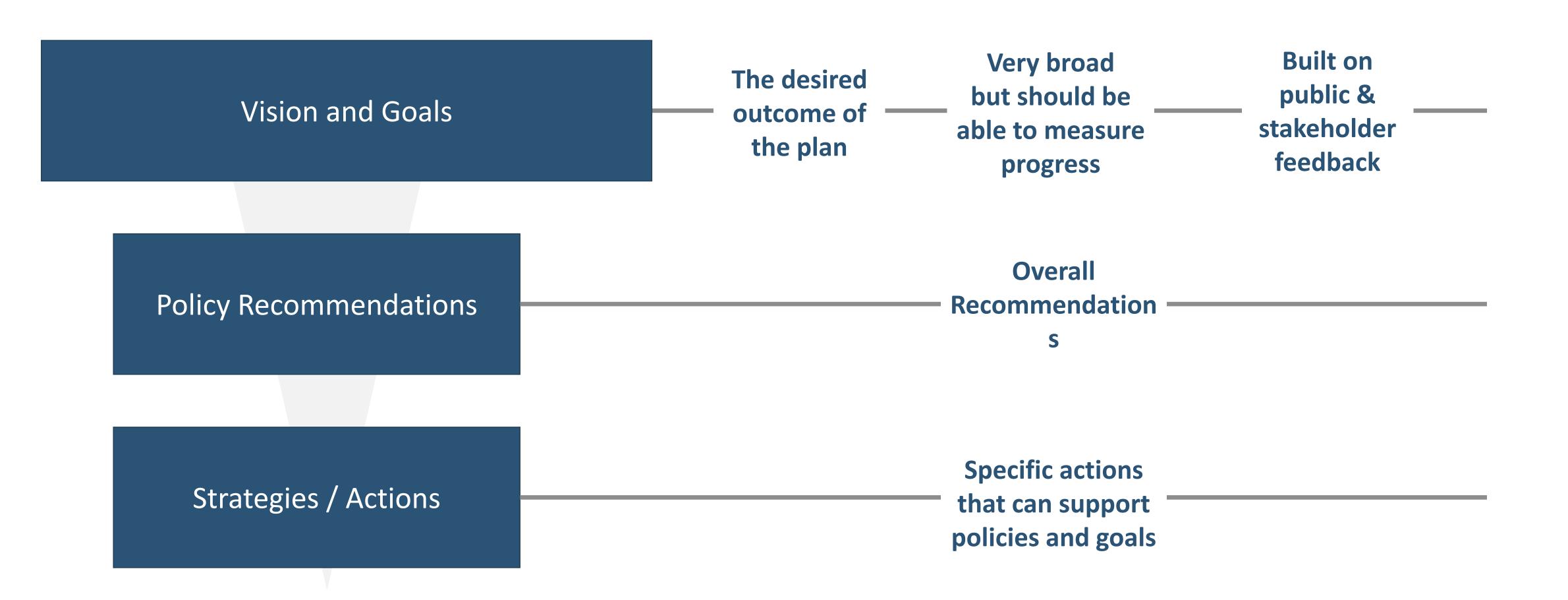
The community would like to encourage more accessible housing for the workforce, young families and seniors.

#### Goals



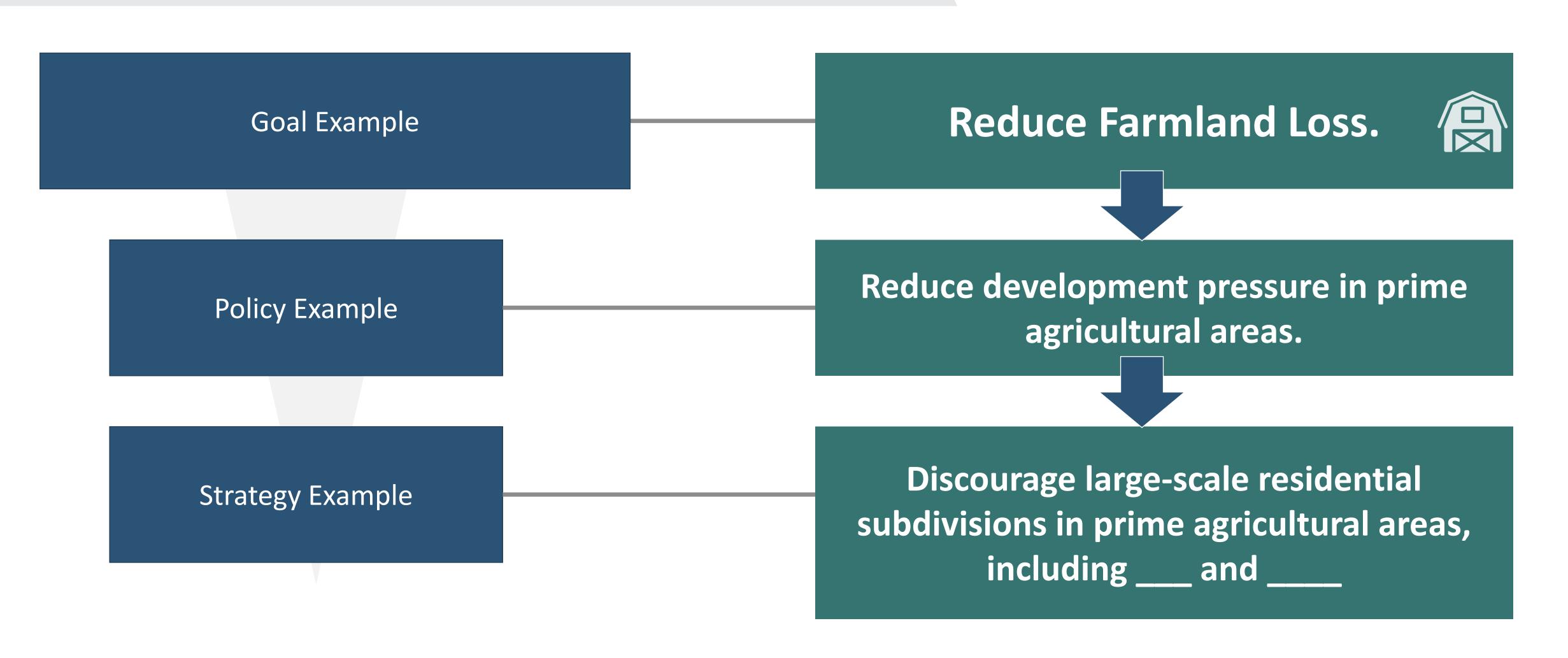
Themes guide the creation of the goals and recommendations. They reflect the community's priorities and respond to the trends expressed in the survey and other public engagement opportunities.

#### **Plan Structure**



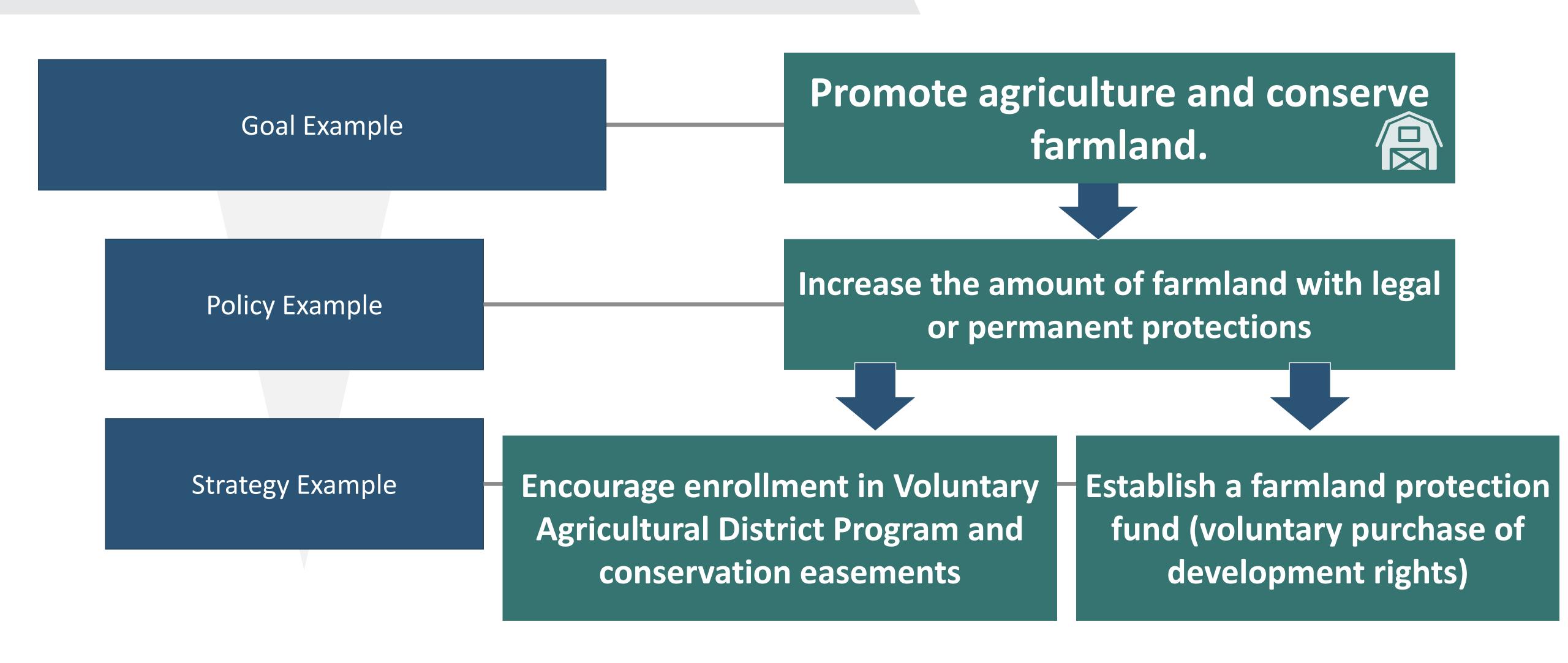
#### **Plan Structure**

Example



#### **Plan Structure**

Example



#### **Future Land Use Plan**

From 2020 Comprehensive Plan

Note: The Future Land Use Map will be updated as part of the Comprehensive Plan process. Draft will be developed in February.

Goal: Direct / Manage Growth

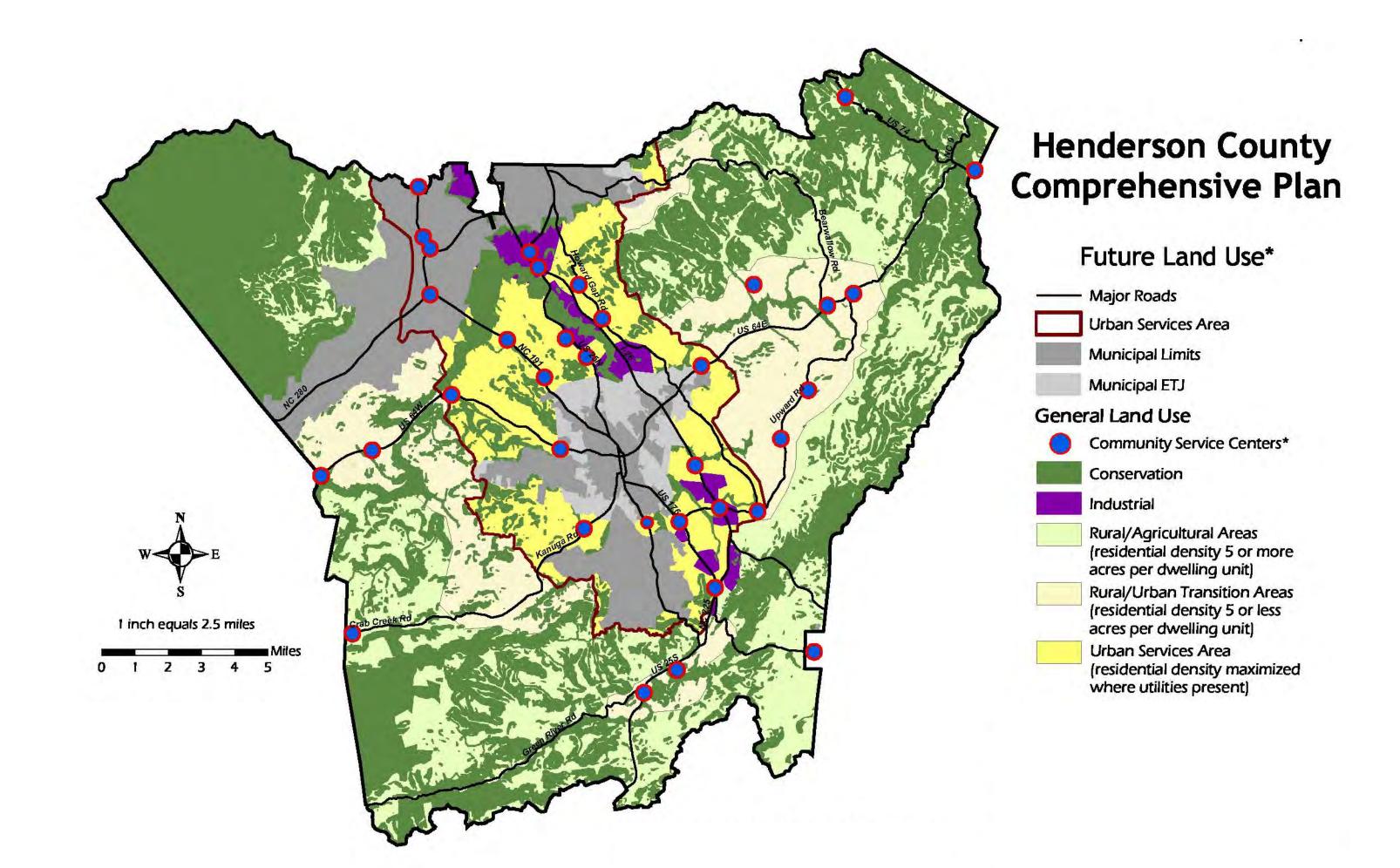


Policy: Discourage sewer extension outside of existing and planned Urban Service Area (USA)



#### Strategies:

- Encourage growth based on refined
   Urban Service Area
- Specific strategies for housing and development inside and outside of USA



#### **2020 Plan Goals Review**

Workshop attendees reviewed and commented on the goals from the 2020 CCP and voted on which were still relevant.

#### Votes supported:

- Growth management
- Environmental preservation
- Infrastructure planning
- Agriculture preservation
- Housing options

### **Most Relevant Goals** Direct growth to areas where essential services and infrastructure are present, and protect sensitive natural areas and key historic / cultural resources from extensive development. Promote development patterns that respect sensitive mountainous areas. Protect Water Quality The County should take a leadership role in sewer and water planning and work towards the regionalization of water and sewer service. Reduce farmland loss Promote a diverse range of housing options

### **Emerging Themes**

What are we hearing from the public?

#### Tier 1

- Roads and traffic
- Environmental preservation
- Growth management
- Farmland preservation and area character

#### Tier 2

- Housing & affordable housing
- Parks and greenways, bike/ped facilities
- Infrastructure and utilities, especially broadband
- Jobs/economy (from stakeholders) and support for small business (survey)
- **Tourism** (pros and cons), support for promotion, dealing with seasonal issues, short-term rentals, etc.
- Resiliency (flooding issues)

### **Potential Revisions to Goals**

What was not emphasized in the last comp plan?

| Topic                  | Comments  |
|------------------------|---|
| Transportation Network | Need more <b>emphasis on roads</b> , but need to be realistic about role of county in transportation planning/funding Also feedback on need for <b>public transportation</b> , <b>sidewalks</b> |
| Greenways              | Substantial support for greenways. Progress made since last Comp Plan. Should be included in recreation goal.   |
| <b>County Services</b> | Schools, libraries mentioned.   |
| Economy                | <b>Support for small businesses</b> in the county.  Should be reflected in a goal and policies.   |
| Healthcare             | General healthcare, senior services, mental health, substance recovery discussed frequently in survey responses.  |







### What are your priorities?

And how do we measure progress?

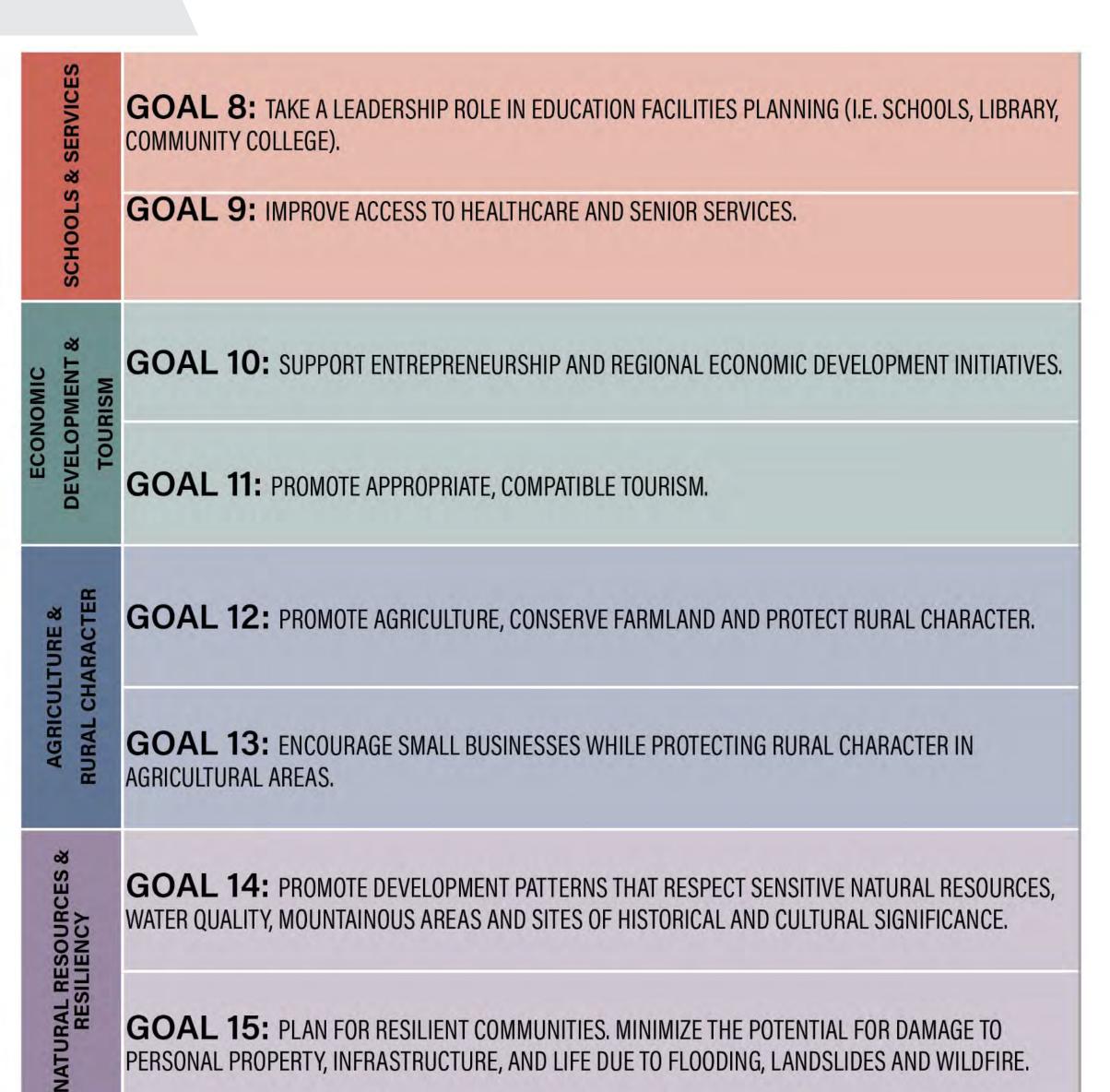
# What are your priorities for the next 3-5 years?

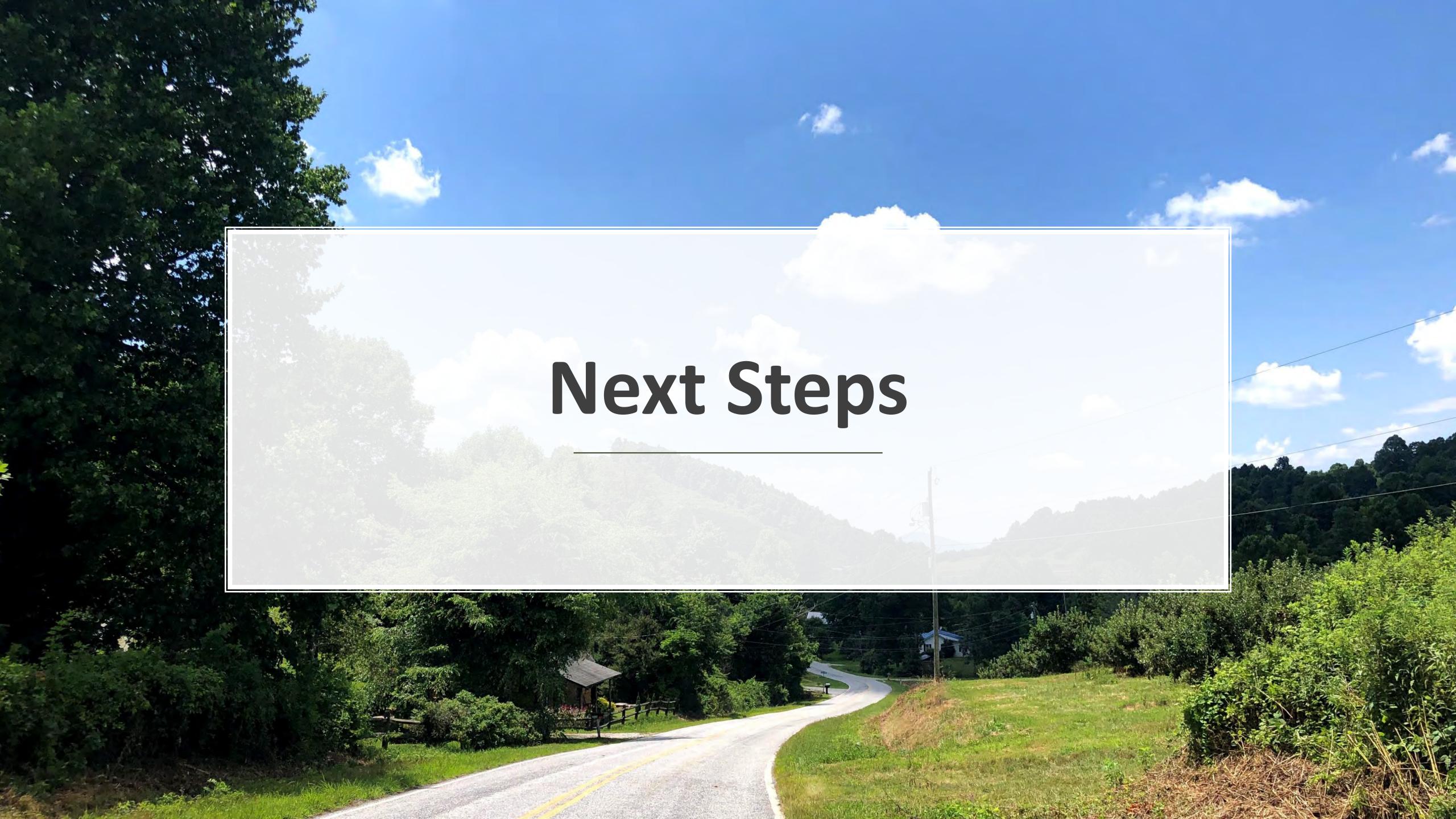


#### **Draft Goals**

Based on plan assessment, stakeholder input and public feedback

| GROWTH         | GOAL 1: DIRECT GROWTH TO AREAS WHERE SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE ARE PRESENT AND/OR PLANNED AND AWAY FROM SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS AND AGRICULTURAL LANDS.                                  |  |
|----------------|--|--|
| TRANSPORTATION | GOAL 2: ADDRESS TRAFFIC AND ROAD MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES BY PROVIDING LEADERSHIP TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND THROUGH POLICIES AND REGULATIONS THAT REDUCE OR MITIGATE IMPACTS OF NEW DEVELOPMENT. |  |
| TRANS          | GOAL 3: IMPROVE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS (I.E. TRANSIT, SIDEWALKS AND BICYCLE FACILITIES) IN THE COUNTY.  |  |
| RECREATION     | GOAL 4: IMPROVE ACCESS TO PARKS, GREENWAYS AND OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE COUNTY.   |  |
| HOUSING        | GOAL 5: PROMOTE A DIVERSE RANGE OF HOME OWNERSHIP AND RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES.  |  |
| TILITIES AND   | GOAL 6: COORDINATE THE PROVISION OF UTILITIES (I.E. SEWER, WATER, AND BROADBAND) WITH LAND USE POLICIES AND COMMUNITY GOALS.   |  |
|                | GOAL 7: PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SOURCES.  |  |





### **NEXT STEPS**

- **February:** Project team will meet with county staff to refine draft set of goals and begin to develop recommendations for key topic areas.
- Late Feb: Potential to get public feedback on draft goals.
- March: Steering Committee #4 to discuss draft Future Land Use Map and recommendations. Materials will be sent for review in advance of the meeting.
- April: BOC meeting to provide update on plan.
- May: Public Meeting(s)
- June: Steering Committee #5.

