

Buncombe County Strategic Planning
Community Input Session – Big Ivy Community Center
12/2/2019

RESIDENT WELL BEING:

Health/Substance Abuse/Mental Health

- Bring resources to combat drug abuse
- Access to Healthcare/transportation
 - o Wellness clinics in churches
- Maintain local area healthcare centers

Community

- County support of the Barnardsville Vol. Fire Dept.
- Options for Elder Care in Barnardsville
- Improve cultural assets
- Develop communities of support to further disparate interests (red vs blue, rural vs urban vs suburban)
- Consider support of intentional communities
- Foster ongoing citizen discussions of issues

Criminal Justice/Public Safety

- Future plan of action for crime prevention

Land Use/Development

- Pay attention to Asheville redevelopment of Cellular Center – Thomas Wolfe Auditorium
- Chance percent of TDA percentage to infrastructure instead of tourist advertising.
- Increase sustainable economic growth projecting in to the future

Employment, Econ Development & Partnerships

- Diversify population – encourage economic opportunity (meaningful for career building) for young people
- Develop African American and Hispanic middle class

Accountability & Performance Measurement

- Is the county budget made public (transparent to residents to maintain trust)?

VIBRANT ECONOMY:

Rural Access/Connectivity

- Access to broadband

- Major leap in internet access

Land Use, Development & Public Investment

- Develop a 5 year plan for economic development in Barnardsville
 - o Build plan on existing institutions in Barnardsville Fire Dept., Elementary School, Community Club, churches
- Limit regulation/government by NC State edict!

Transportation

- Public transportation that not only would be affordable to those working, retired or elderly
- Identify and support (through education) the industries that are profitable
- Transportation access

Funding

- Incentives for brownfield redevelopment for infill
- Infill, brownfield, redevelopment – preserves land and helps with environment

Employment, Econ Development & Partnerships

- Online resource centers supporting skills and economic development

Community

- Online community hubs fostered similar to town crier of the old days to stimulate community development

Collaboration/Public Engagement

- Develop relationships with similar towns (like “sister” cities) to stimulate new ideas and support

Education/Schools

- Computer skills development

EDUCATED AND CAPABLE COMMUNITY:

Children/Youth/Pre-K & Childcare

- Early childhood education in Barnardsville
- No supplementation of county funds toward childcare. Possibly toward mobility for the elderly
- Quality early childhood education

Rural Access/Connectivity

- Extension of Broadband
- Development of internet for all of Buncombe County

Employment, Econ Development & Partnerships

- Have jobs that will keep educated people in the area
- Coordination of business, industries and skill educators to create possibilities.

- Get high powered economic opportunities interested in developing populace from ground up – to work with AB Tech and UNCA to spur economic development

Education/Schools

- Allow less expensive educational expenditures for those wishing to continue their education. Amount of student loans continues to be problematic.
- Measure and publicize our local schools success or lack of

Transportation

- Better advertisement of services for Mountain Mobility.

Community

- Strengthen community centers

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:

Natural Resources

- Farm Preservation: Land protection and economic support
- Protection of the Big Ivy river water quality

Land Use, Development & Public Investment

- Limit ridgeline development
- No conservation in perpetuity – only specified zoning restrictions per ordinance
- Limit infrastructure development with eye on wide development
- Encourage development of leaders of individual communities to represent their interests in the larger whole (respecting the histories of different initiatives)

Funding

- Explore more incentives (cost-sharing programs, grants for farms)
- Lower not just the farmland taxes but the farmland owner's residence taxes (if he lives on this farmland)
- Lower or freeze property taxes on farms so that farms won't have to be sold to pay for elder's living expenses
- County tax advantage related to solar power usage
- Controls on effect on money interests to protect common good

Energy & Waste Reduction

- Increase electric vehicles to mitigate greenhouse gas problem
- Increase electric car fueling stations