

**RESIDENT WELL BEING:**

Transportation

- Public transportation: ubiquitous, frequent, inexpensive or free.

Equity/Inclusion

- Equity in access to wellness/preventative care and healthcare for Buncombe citizens

Housing

- Affordable housing: new rule – apartment building with 20% affordable rents
- Bringing more infrastructure up to date as housing supply is increase.
- Equity – the goals for this will not look the same across communities and races. First of all, affordable housing needs to be addressed but not talking about median income. I want to see affordable housing for low-income communities.

Children/Youth/Pre-K & Childcare

- childcare and preschool
- Early childhood education

Health/Substance Abuse/Mental Health

- Providing financial assistance to those uninsured or underinsured (and unable to apply for assistance through programs such as Project Access) to access specialty care now that HCA no longer provides 100% discounts on ambulatory care for those who qualify.
- Mission's sale is already impacting services. Keep rural clinics open as much as possible.
- Quality healthcare and wellness

Collaboration/Public Engagement

- Please hold more sessions like this. The more regular they are, the more...
- Have more engagement opportunities will help build trust

Land Use, Development & Public Investment

- Better control of rapid development of high density residential housing and/or commercial development
- Improvement of infrastructure roads/water/sewer prior to not after development
- Better/safer roads
- Better options for getting motorists around the expansive Biltmore Estate property
- Remove rumble strips on Overlook Rd
  - Severely destructive to our quality of life

Recreation/Greenways/Healthy Life

- More funds allocated to greenspace preservations (farmland/recreational lands)
- Build and maintain facilities for creating and sharing artistic expression of diverse forms
- More greenways resource allocation – prioritize low-income communities.
- Remove unhealthy food options in schools
- Recreational assets are critical for community – especially kids

Accountability & Performance Measurement

- Public trust – will commissioners be accountable for periodic measurement of strategic goals?
- General comment: look at long-term plan and 5 year plan within 10/20 year plan
- Align county and municipalities strategic plans – more effective use of resources!

**VIBRANT ECONOMY:**

Transportation

- Free or low cost public transportation
- Public transportation

- Improved public transportation
- Transportation

#### Equity/Inclusion

- Equity

#### Education/Schools

- Education gap will help with this

#### Community (sense of, access to services, place-making)

- Make sure every citizen has opportunities to succeed in life through work, personal creative and learning.

#### Housing

- Affordable housing and increased support for those with poor credit or short rental histories/history of eviction to access housing and affordable security deposits.
- Affordable housing

#### Employment, Econ Development & Partnerships

- Bring in new light industry with higher paying jobs
- Stop funding for new industry through tax rebates or financial incentives.
- Diversity of small businesses
- Fair wages
- Jobs that are wage-appropriate to the cost of living in Asheville.
- More jobs other than service industry
- The impact and incidence of the condition of poverty has been reduced for Buncombe residents.

#### Children/Youth/Pre-K & Childcare

- Have emphasis on public education funding (free preschools/free daycare for working parents)
- Affordable childcare
- Childcare
- Childcare to meet all needs – early childhood education
- Affordable early-childhood education for workers to take their children there while they go work.
- Early care and education
- Quality childcare options

#### Land Use, Development & Public Investment

- Allow growth that is managed

#### Recreation/Greenways/Healthy Life

- AS will maintaining greenspace and encouraging walkable communities

### **EDUCATED AND CAPABLE COMMUNITY:**

#### Equity/Inclusion

- Severely reduce racial inequities
- Equity

#### Education/Schools

- Greater support of early education program and adult learning programs
- Closing the achievement gap must involve more than literacy. Schools and families need help to provide social-emotional literacy and support critical thinking skills and access to resources. Minority students need to be “seen” and nurtured and given hope for their futures. We need minority staff and teachers.
- It is not a literacy issue, it is a creating a good environment of well-being to all citizens and then education will increase. It is a matter of access to resources that produces focus in education and therefore better performance.
- Equity in access and opportunities to quality public education K-12 – eliminate racial gaps in achievement

- Cultural appropriate education
- Significant steps taken to reduce achievement gap/opportunity gap in education system
  - I think this will drive success in many of the other goals the county has. Have a push to improve quality of teachers, educators at all levels to provide superb education for everyone.
- Access to public education system

#### Criminal Justice/Public Safety

- Training, emotional support and jobs for former prisoners

#### Children/Youth/Pre-K & Childcare

- Early education emphasis in poorer communities – trying to involve parents and preschool education
- Increased access to affordable afterschool programs to help working parents
- Early childhood education
- Affordable but high quality early childhood education.
- Access to quality early care and education for Buncombe families

### **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:**

#### Transportation

- Develop long-term plans and the financing to develop a public transportation system that better serves everyone. I would like to see a system of smaller electric buses or even a commuter train system.
- Climate-friendly public transportation.
- Encourage use of transit

#### Equity/Inclusion

- Equity

#### Land Use, Development & Public Investment

- Place some limits on high-end developments and focus more on neighborhoods with small businesses and small parks and community gathering places. Hopefully this will help us avoid “sprawl” that harms the environment.

#### Natural Resources (water & air quality, greenspace, farmland & food)

- Preserve the beautiful natural areas of Buncombe County

#### Recreation/Greenways/Healthy Life

- Maintaining undeveloped land and increasing public greenspaces without displacing and destroying low-income developments
- Provide opportunities for outdoor activity by encouraging access to natural areas
- Walkable neighborhoods and downtown.
- Encourage more walkable communities
- Expand greenspace

#### Energy & Waste Reduction

- Launching initiatives to increase recycling and trash cleanups in public spaces and private residential areas
- Continued reduction of CO2 in County government activities.
- Education of the community on how to reduce CO2 emissions in business and personal life.
- Access to renewable/solar energy to low-income households. Increase of philanthropic opportunities that some/all communities, many philanthropists’ keeps giving to the same non-profits that serve the same “white” communities and many even have duplicated services.
- Reduce plastic use
- Continue goal toward reducing emissions

- Further recycling efforts
- Ban single-use plastics

#### Accountability & Performance Measurement

- Publicly report progress of environmental initiatives
- Growing population – establish master plan addressing housing, transit, high quality employment with public input/progress
- You are on the right track – just need to do more of it and focus