

From: JCC Planning and Development <listserv@civicplus.com>
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To: Brett Meadows
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Comprehensive Plan Update August 2020 Newsletter

James City County has launched an ambitious effort to explore and affirm the vision for our community for the next 25 years!



EXPLORING OUR FUTURE ALTERNATIVES



Virtual Assembly & Questionnaires

Engage 2045 has now entered the “Alternative Futures” phase of the planning process and is building off the public input priorities developed last fall. This work uses maps and data to show different outcomes for James City County, depending on whether the community pursues current trends or a new path.

Learn about these alternative futures and share your opinions by participating in the virtual

Exploring Our Future Alternatives Assembly and online questionnaires. We will also explore our current County goals and hear your ideas about how to update them to achieve our vision.

Ways to Participate:

- **Watch JCC TV with Live Q&A, Aug. 10 at 6:30 p.m.**
 - Cox Cable Channel: 48/1048
 - County YouTube Live Stream: [Youtube.com/jamescitycounty](https://www.youtube.com/jamescitycounty)
 - County Facebook Live Stream and Q&A: [facebook.com/jamescitycounty](https://www.facebook.com/jamescitycounty)
- **After the live event:**
 - Can't make the live event? View the recorded broadcast and complete the online questionnaires from Aug. 10 - Sep. 2.
 - <https://jamescitycountyva.gov/3795/assembly>

You can request paper questionnaires or assistance with computer/internet access by calling the James City County Planning Division through September 2 at 757-253-6685 or planning@jamescitycountyva.gov

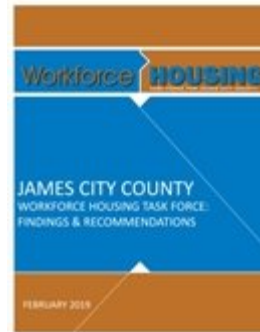
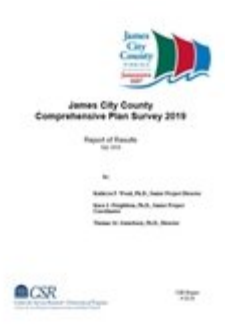
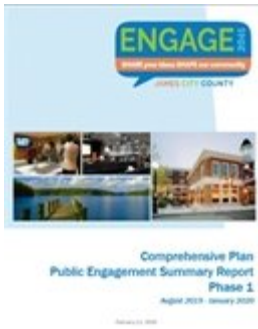
Learn More!

Whether you enjoy quick summaries or deep dives into the details, browse the Engage 2045 **website** to read about the community engagement and research that has gone into the comprehensive plan update so far. Visit the Public Engagement Summaries page for links to information on the 2019 Citizen Survey, the 2019 Summit on the Future, the 2020 Listening Forum, and more. <https://www.jamescitycountyva.gov/3768/Public-Engagement-Summaries>.

You can also spend a few moments browsing the Engage 2045 **YouTube playlist** to watch quick videos or longer presentations online: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLq1zt9Ay0TDOo5p-G3NepGSvinBVP2TYS>.

Listen to a James City County **podcast** interview about the upcoming Virtual Assembly: <https://soundcloud.com/jamescitycounty/engage-2045-august-update>

Finally, stay up to date and help spread the word to our community by following the Exploring Our Future Alternatives **Facebook Event** page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/759574568116952>.



Themes

During the first phase of the planning process last fall, we heard from citizens across the County—younger and older, as well as new and long-time residents—who shared their ideas for improving life in James City County. Five priorities emerged from the citizen input we received. First, residents want to protect the **natural environment**. Second, they highly value and want to preserve our **community character**. Third, residents support the development of **affordable housing**. Fourth, they want to attract businesses and industries that bring **higher paying, professional jobs**. And finally, they want amenities that add to the **quality of life** in the County.


Current Practices Highlight: Natural Environment


For a glimpse at how the County works to protect the natural environment, we look at how the Stormwater & Resource Protection Division partners with organizations, including the County and other outreach programs, to educate the public about their impacts on the environment and give them tools to reduce those impacts. Here are two of the programs:

1. [Clean Water Heritage Program](#)
The Clean Water Heritage Program was established to equip citizens with the knowledge to make better decisions about actions that affect water quality and inform them about the services the program provides. In 2019, \$250,000 in matching grants was provided through this program.
2. [Turf Love Program](#)
The Turf Love program is a cooperation between the County, the Stormwater and Resource Protection Division, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University. The purpose of the cooperation is to educate the public on how to care for lawns in a way that limits impacts on the environment.

To learn more about James City County's efforts regarding the natural environment, explore the [Environment](#) chapter of the *Toward 2035: Leading the Way* Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2015: <https://jamescitycountyva.gov/489>.

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