

# **Planning Commission Agenda Joint Work Session - Legacy Hall**

**April 30, 2012, 7 p.m.**

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Welcome**
- 3. Staff presentation**
- 4. Historic Triangle Planning Topics**
- 5. Focus Areas**
- 6. Next Steps**
- 7. Adjournment**



**Joint Planning Commission Work Session Agenda  
Legacy Hall  
Monday, April 30, 2012**

**7:00 p.m. Roll Calls**

**7:05 p.m. Welcome**

1. Welcome and Introduction by James City County Planning Commission Chair  
Tim O'Connor

**7:10-7:15 p.m. Staff presentation**

2. Presentation by City of Williamsburg Director of Planning Reed T. Nester

**7:15-7:55 p.m. Historic Triangle Planning Topics**

3. Commission discussion of broad planning topic areas– guided by the Discussion Questions listed in the memo

**7:55- 8:55 p.m. Focus Areas**

4. Commission discussion of the four geographic focus areas – guided by the Discussion Questions listed in the memo

**8:55-9:00 p.m. Next Steps**

5. Commission discussion of what they see as important to have in a document at the end of the process

**9:00 p.m. Adjourn**

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 23, 2012

TO: The Planning Commissions of James City County, Williamsburg, and York County

FROM: Allen J. Murphy, Jr., James City County Director of Planning/Acting Development Manager  
Reed T. Nester, AICP, Williamsburg Planning Director  
Timothy C. Cross, AICP, York County Principal Planner

SUBJECT: April 30 Joint Planning Commission Work Session

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The purpose of this memorandum is to update the Commissions on the coordinated comprehensive plan review, and specifically, to prepare for the upcoming joint work session of the York, James City, and Williamsburg Planning Commissions.

### **1. Process To-Date**

In 2008 the governing bodies of James City County, York County, and the City of Williamsburg adopted resolutions supporting simultaneous preparation of the jurisdictions' respective Comprehensive Plan updates. It should be emphasized that while the timing of these preparation is coordinated, the governing body of each jurisdiction will still make the final land use and policy decisions within its jurisdictional boundaries as part of its 2012 Comprehensive Plan update.

In accordance with the resolutions adopted by the governing bodies, the Planning staffs of the three jurisdictions worked on the schedule for the 2012 Comprehensive Plan update, which was presented to the Boards of Supervisors and City Council in April 2011. The proposed schedule included the following elements, with updates *shown in italics*:

- Preparation of topical studies and information for consideration as part of the process. This included a joint transportation study commissioned by the localities and prepared by the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) and an inventory of existing land use as of October 1, 2011 using consistent land use category terminology.  
*The HRTPO joint transportation study is complete (the link is provided below). For the existing land use information, the staffs have created a GIS layer which has been used so far to create maps of the focus areas to provide to the public at the Community Forums. In addition, York County compiled information on various planning topics (see below).*
- Three community forums, organized by geographic area rather than by topic, scheduled for February 2012.  
*At the request of York's Board of Supervisors, a fourth forum was added to address Yorktown/Lower York as part of this process. All four forums have now taken place, and more information is presented below.*
- A discussion forum scheduled in March or April 2012 so that planning commissioners from all three jurisdictions can review comments made at the community forums and identify areas of common concern.  
*This is the subject of the April 30 work session.*

### **2. Background Information and Public Input**

#### **Background Information on the Historic Triangle and on the Focus Areas**

York County staff has taken the lead in compiling information on various planning topics for the three localities. These topics include Demographics, Economy, Housing, and Transportation. A "statistical snapshot" summary of demographic and economic data for the Historical Triangle is attached to this memo. In addition, staff urges the Commission members to visit the website that has been set up for the coordinated process, <http://www.htplanning.org/>, and read the materials posted on the respective topical tabs. As noted

above, the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization prepared a joint transportation study of the James City County-Williamsburg-York County area; the full study (“HRTPO Joint Transportation Study”) and supplementary background information (“Transportation Working Paper”) are posted at the Transportation tab.

In addition to the overall Historic Triangle topical information that has been prepared, staff has presented background information at each of the four focus area public forums that took place in February and March. These focus areas are Marquis/Busch Gardens/Riverside, Lightfoot/Pottery, Northeast Triangle and Surrounding Area, and Yorktown/Lower York. For each focus area, staff prepared information on existing and planned future land use (in terms of the generalized categories used for consistency of terminology), on new and ongoing development projects, and on focus area-specific transportation considerations. This information was presented at the forums and is reflected in the Fact Sheets that are attached to this memo. Additional information is also available at the “Slide Presentation” link in the “Public Comments” section of the joint website.

### **Public Input**

The major source of public input to date has been sought through the four joint community forums that were conducted in February and March. At each forum, staff included several questions in the vision exercise and on the questionnaire that ask about the overall Historic Triangle area. Staff also included several questions that asked specifically about the focus areas. All of this input has been compiled and is attached. It is also available in the “Public Comments” tab of the [www.htplanning.org/](http://www.htplanning.org/) website as the “Vision Questions,” “Open Forum Comments” and “Questionnaire Responses” links.

### **3. Discussion Questions/Topics**

In preparation for this meeting, staff has received input from the Commissions on possible questions/topics that the members are interested in discussing at the meeting. These items are:

#### *Broad Planning Topics*

1. What are the population projections for each of the jurisdictions (since other planning topics are driven by this)?
2. Affordable/workforce housing
  - a. How does each jurisdiction deal with this in terms of definitions, initiatives and incentives?
  - b. Can staff provide an “apples to apples” comparison showing affordable and workforce housing in each jurisdiction?
3. Transportation
  - a. What does each locality see as the priority for future transportation services (mass transit, roads, bikeways) and are there ways the localities can further coordinate to meet these goals?
  - b. Are there opportunities to connect bikeways and sidewalks along jurisdictional lines and to key facilities (such as schools) and services?
4. Local food production and natural resources
  - a. Are there cooperative opportunities for the three jurisdictions to benefit from their natural resources (rural agricultural land, Chesapeake Bay) – could the localities cooperatively offer incentives to encourage more small farms and specialized agriculture/fisheries to provide fresh produce for area restaurants, institutions, and residents?
  - b. What best practices exist such as the Local Food Hub in and around Charlottesville, and programs that connect interested agricultural students with established farms and farmers?
5. Within the next five years, what are the top land use issues/opportunities facing your jurisdiction that could have impact on the other two jurisdictions?

#### *Geographic Focus Areas*

1. For all of the focus areas - what are the current land uses and the future land uses (both in terms of Comprehensive Plan land use designations, and in terms of approved master or development plans) for each of the focus areas?
2. For the Northeast Triangle and surrounding areas focus area:
  - a. What investments (bike lanes, transportation, etc.) does each locality have planned for their portion of the area?

3. For the Marquis/Busch Gardens/Riverside focus area:
  - a. Given the land uses planned, what impact will there be on each jurisdiction and on services (for example, what will the impact be on Rt. 199 levels of service)?
  - b. Is a more coordinated approach needed to examine all the issues?
4. For the Economic Opportunity component of the Lightfoot/Pottery focus area:
  - a. Beyond the general future land use designations, what specific mix of uses does each jurisdiction call for in their comprehensive plans? If there are differences in the planned mix of uses, do we need to factor those differences into our planning efforts?
  - b. How does each jurisdiction view the idea of a Mooretown Road extended, what do they see as the pros and cons?
5. What processes are in place for receiving input from the other localities when there is a proposed development near the borders? (Do the PC members have thoughts about what processes they would like to see?)

Any additional information on these items will be emailed to Commissioners prior to the meeting, and staff will be prepared to provide additional information and facilitate discussion on these topics at the work session.

#### Attachments

1. A Statistical Snapshot of the Historic Triangle
2. Focus Area Materials: Fact Sheets/Vision Question responses/Open Forum comments/Questionnaire responses
3. Online questionnaire responses

# A Statistical Snapshot of the Historic Triangle

## Introduction

Virginia's Historic Triangle, defined as the area encompassing the City of Williamsburg, James City County, and portions of York County (Bruton District, the Naval Weapons Station, and the Yorktown village), is located in the Virginia Coastal Plain on the peninsula formed by the James and York Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. It is part of the Hampton Roads region and the Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News VA NC Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). This area has been dubbed the Historic Triangle because of its unique role in the founding of our nation. The western point of the triangle, Jamestown, located in James City County, was founded by the first settlers in 1607 and is the site of the first permanent English settlement and the first colonial government in America. Williamsburg, the northern point, served as Virginia's colonial capital during most of America's struggle for independence. The eastern point, Yorktown, where independence was won, is located in York County and is the site of the final major battle of the American Revolutionary War.



With 207 square miles, the Historic Triangle occupies slightly over half the total land area (53%) of the Virginia Peninsula, which also includes lower York County and the Cities of Newport News, Hampton, and Poquoson. In population, however, the Historic Triangle represents only 17% of the Peninsula's total population of approximately 484,000.

- Land Area: 207 square miles
- Population: 94,026
- Population Density: 454 persons per square mile
- Average Household Size: 2.45 persons per household
- Average (Mean) Household Income: \$86,793

## **Population and Demographics**

- According to the 2010 Census, the Historic Triangle is home to slightly more than 94,000 people. The population has grown by about a third (34%) since 2000. Over three quarters of this growth – 79% – took place in James City County, which now accounts for 71% of the Historic Triangle’s population; Williamsburg and upper York County/Yorktown account for 15% and 14% of the population respectively. The area’s population grew by 34.4% between 2000 and 2010 – 39.3% in James City County, 17.3% in Williamsburg and 31.2% in York County (upper York/Yorktown). By comparison, the state of Virginia grew by 13.0% between 2000 and 2010.
- The Historic Triangle is less racially diverse than the MSA or the state as a whole, with whites representing 78% of all residents, blacks 14%, and Asians 3%. American Indians and Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, and other races represent a combined total of 2% of the population, while another 3% of residents fall into the “Two or More Races” category. The MSA and the state of Virginia have smaller proportions of whites (60% and 69% respectively) and larger proportions of both blacks (31% and 19% respectively) and Asians (4% and 6% respectively). Hispanics make up 5.0% of the population, compared with 5.4% in the MSA and 7.9% in Virginia.
- The average household size in the Historic Triangle – at 2.45 persons per household, according to the 2010 Census – is relatively low; the MSA has an average of 2.55 persons per household while the Virginia average is 2.54.
- Compared with the MSA and the state, the Historic Triangle has more residents, proportionally, who are 55 years of age and older and fewer who are in their teens, twenties, and thirties. Those 55 and older constitute 32% of the Historic Triangle’s population, 23% in the MSA, and 24% in the state. Residents under the age of eighteen, who represent 24% and 23% of the MSA and state populations, respectively, constitute 20% of the population of the Historic Triangle.
- The population of the Historic Triangle is relatively well-educated, with 45% of residents age 25 and older holding a Bachelor’s Degree or higher (compared to 27.1% in the MSA and 33.4% in the state). Similarly, 92.1% in the Historic Triangle hold at least a high school diploma (compared to 88.8% in the MSA and 85.8% in the state).

## **Economics**

- Residents of the Historic Triangle are relatively affluent, with an average (mean) household income of \$86,793. This compares favorably with the Virginia Beach MSA (\$70,589) and the state of Virginia (\$80,851).
- The importance of tourism in the Historic Triangle is reflected in the high proportion of jobs in the Accommodation and Food Services industry, which represents 18.4% of total employment in Williamsburg, James City County, and York County. By comparison, this sector represents only 10.2% of employment in the MSA and 8.4% in the state. These are relatively low paying jobs – \$329 a week, on average – which might help to explain why the average weekly wage in the three Historic Triangle localities (\$632) trails the MSA (\$763) and Virginia (\$928) averages. The highest-paying jobs on the Peninsula, on average, are in Hampton and Newport News.
- As of July 2011, the combined unemployment rate for the three localities is 6.1%, lower than both the MSA (7.0%) and the state (6.2%) rates.



- Over three quarters of workers in the Historic Triangle age 16 and over – 78.5% – drive alone to work. Most of the rest – 10.1% of the total – carpool, while 3.7% walk, 1.2% use public transportation, 1.2% use other means, and 5.3 percent work at home. Walking to work is most prevalent in the City of Williamsburg, where walkers represent 24.7% of the employed labor force.
- At \$2 billion in 2010, total taxable sales in James City County, Williamsburg, and York County fell for the third consecutive year. The large role that tourism plays is reflected in the fact that 9.5% of the three localities' taxable sales come from accommodation (i.e. hotels and motels, bed-and-breakfasts, RV parks, campgrounds, and boarding houses), which accounts for only 3.3% of taxable sales statewide.

## Housing

- There are a total of 41,458 housing units in the Historic Triangle – an increase of 45% (12,932 units) since 2000. Single-family detached homes make up the vast majority (69%) of the area's housing stock.
- The amount of renter-occupied housing – though relatively high in Williamsburg, where it represents 56% of all occupied housing units – is disproportionately low in the Historic Triangle as a whole, representing 28% of the occupied housing stock. By comparison, rental housing represents 37% of occupied housing in the MSA and 33% across the state.
- Home vacancy rates in the Historic Triangle are slightly higher than in surrounding areas. For owner-occupied housing, the vacancy rates are 2.8% in the Historic Triangle, 2.5% in the MSA, and 2.1% in Virginia. The corresponding rates for rental housing are 8.0%, 7.6%, and 7.6% respectively.
- With almost a third of all housing units (31%) built in the last ten years, the area's housing stock is relatively young. Only 10% of housing units in the Historic Triangle are at least 50 years old, compared to 23% in the MSA and 24% statewide.
- Median house value data is not available for the Historic Triangle. However, figures for the three localities indicate that house values are generally higher than in the MSA or the state as a whole. James City County leads with a median house value of \$334,100, followed by York County (\$316,100) and Williamsburg (\$311,200). The median house value is \$233,600 in the MSA and \$247,100 statewide. Likewise, the median gross monthly rent is \$1,124 in York County, \$1,017 in James City County, and \$950 in Williamsburg. For the MSA and the state, the median gross monthly rents are \$918 and \$931 respectively.
- Compared with the MSA and the state, the Historic Triangle has a smaller proportion of households that are paying more than 30% of their income on housing. For homes with a mortgage, about a third of households in the Historic Triangle (33.6%) are spending more than 30% of their incomes on housing; for the MSA and the state, the proportions are 38.2% and 34.6% respectively. For rental housing, the figures are 46.3% for the Historic Triangle, 50.2% for the MSA, and 46.8% for the state.

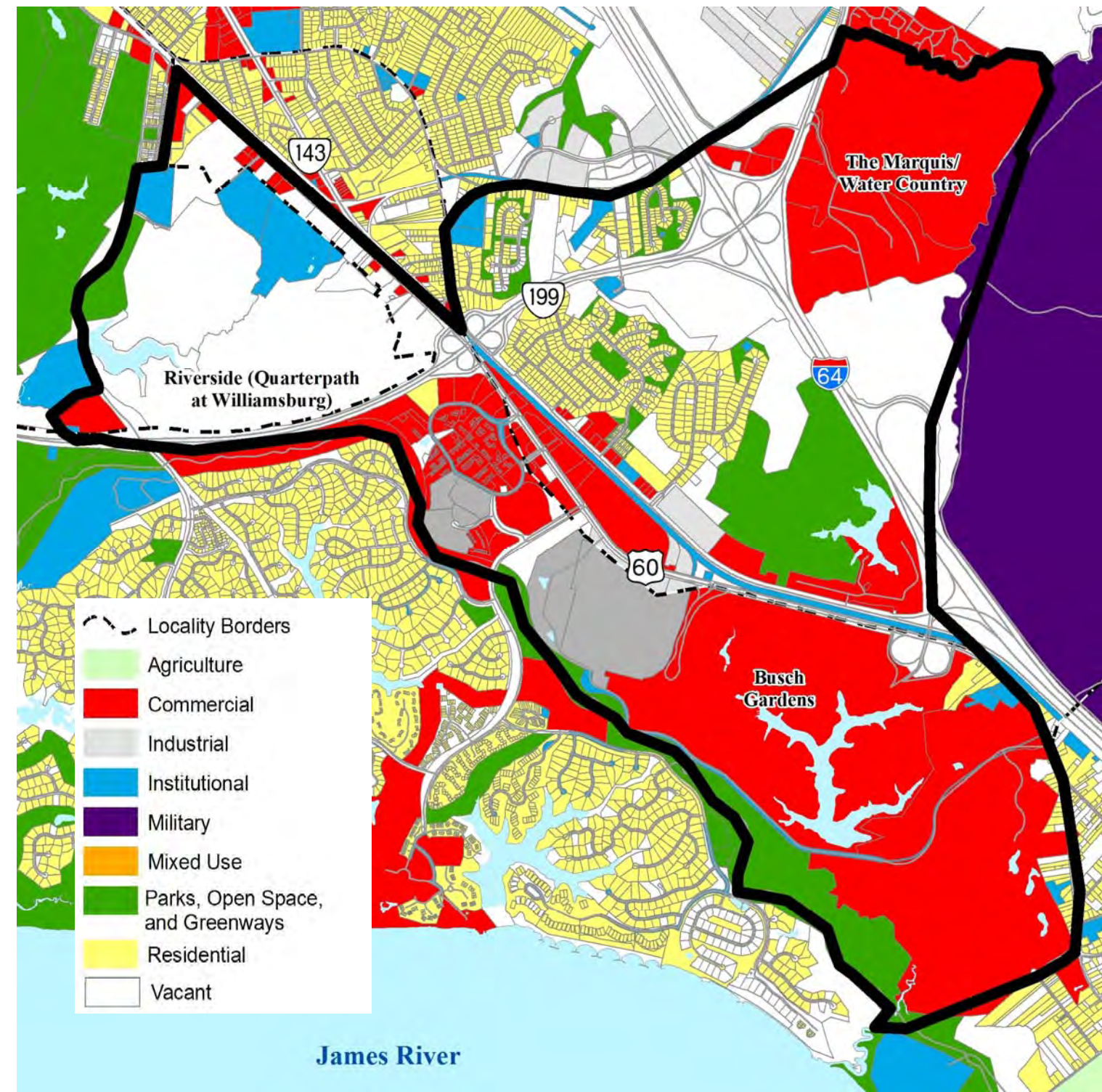
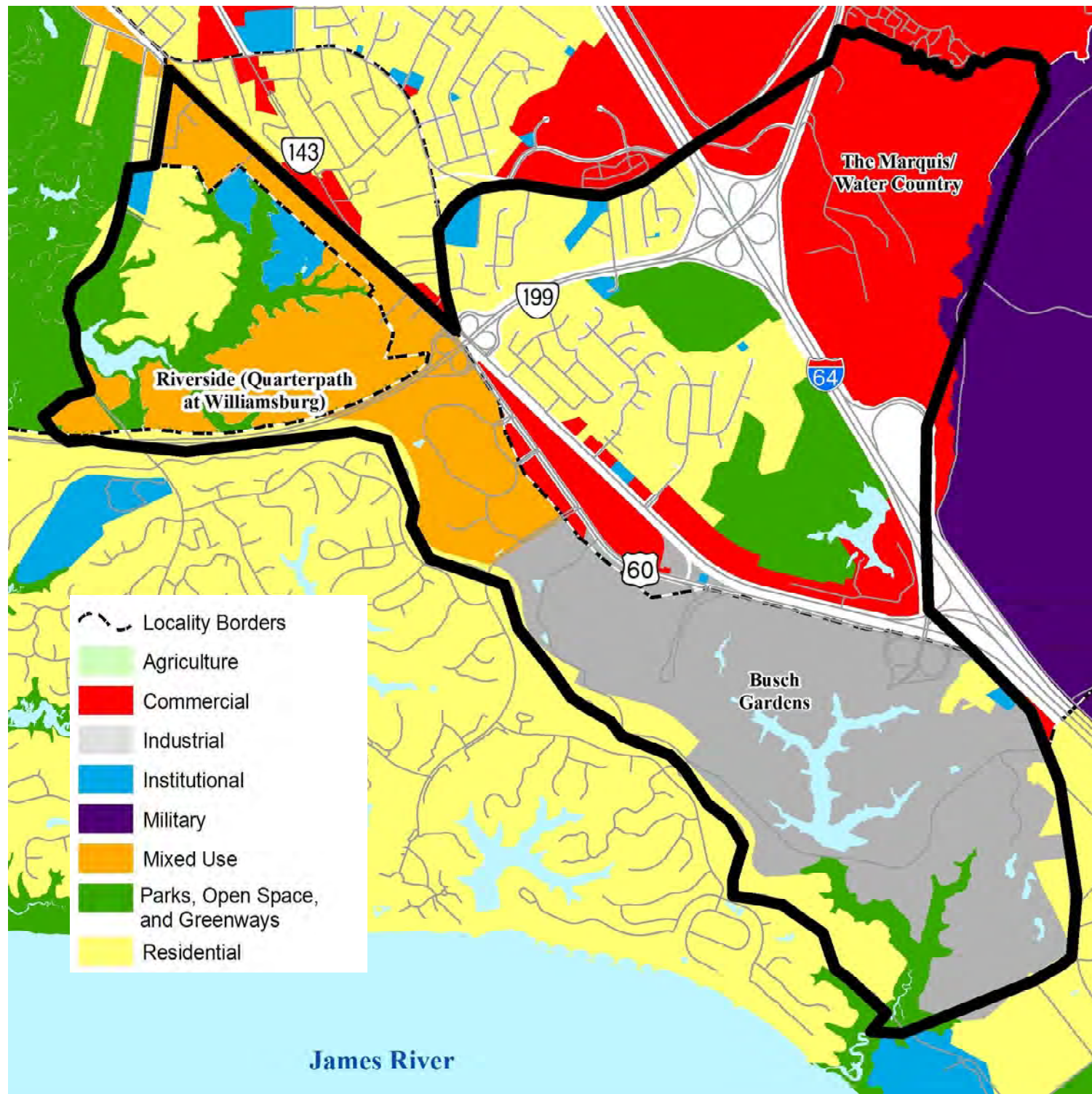
### Sources:

- United States Bureau of Labor Statistics
- United States Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses
- United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2005-09
- Virginia Department of Taxation
- Virginia Employment Commission



For more information about the Coordinated Comprehensive Plan Review, visit [www.htplanning.org](http://www.htplanning.org)

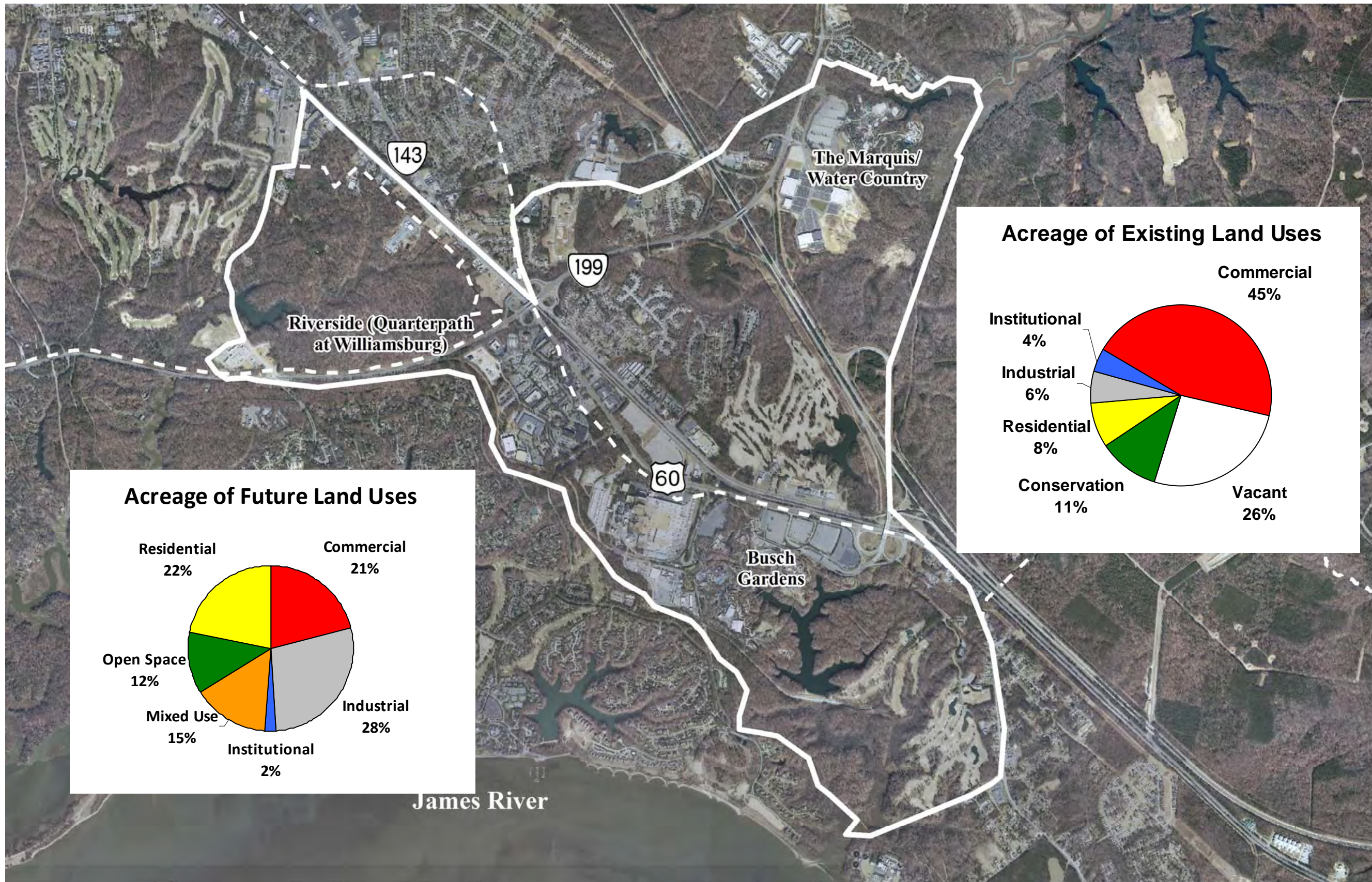
## Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis Area Fact Sheet



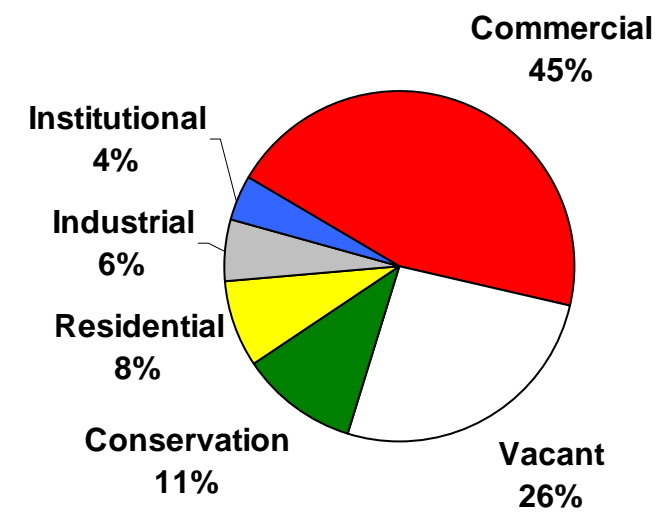
**Planned Future Land Use (based on the current adopted Comprehensive Plans)**

**Existing Land Use**

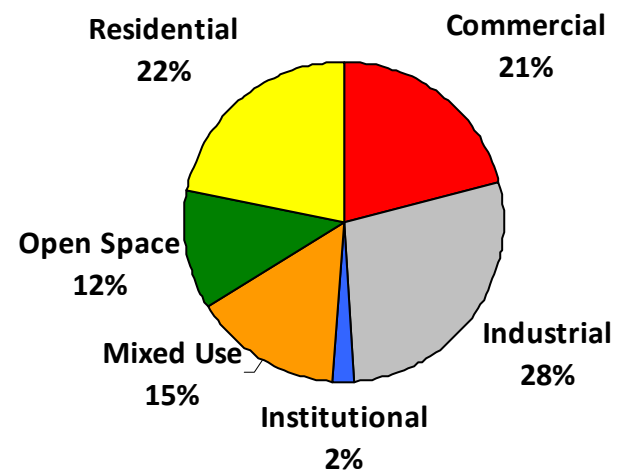




### Acreage of Existing Land Uses



### Acreage of Future Land Uses



James River



**Question #1: What do you like about living in the Historic Triangle?**

- Access to historic sites (Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown); access to theme parks (Busch and Water Country); low to medium traffic; not as busy as southside Hampton Roads
- Stimulation of preserved authentic buildings and historical sites; living in a living history lab
- College of William and Mary; walkability of downtown Williamsburg; schools; low traffic; parks and recreation opportunities; Colonial Parkway/greenspaces
- Things I enjoy: parks, greenspace, trees; Quarterpath Shopping – Harris Teeter, Waypoint; new hospital coming to town!!; recreational opportunities
- Historic; easy to get around; convenient; nature growing; homey-friendly; innovative
- Many entertainment opportunities: theater, art galleries, museums; many educational opportunities – colleges (William and Mary, Thomas Nelson Community College, Christopher Newport University, Christopher Wren Association)
- Entertainment choices
- I enjoy the "walkability" of downtown Williamsburg
- Quality of life; slower pace of living; easy access to planes, trains, interstate
- Colonial Williamsburg and its ambiance; midway between Richmond and Southside; schools are not too bad; parks and recreation are fabulous!
- Small town feel; pedestrian and bicycle friendly; William and Mary and Colonial Williamsburg; arts
- Being somewhere friends want to visit
- Low population; rural living; fishing; outdoor recreation
- Sense of history; access to water and outdoor activities; safe, low crime rate
- Rural area – oysters and chickens; leave my property alone.
- Rural living pace/environment; lots of space between neighbors; opportunity for agriculture; ability to hunt in JCC
- Rural feel (even if it's not really rural)
- Natural beauty (trees, open space, land with natural topography, waterways, wildlife, native plants), and the opportunity for outdoor recreation.
- Natural environment – woods, water, and parks, clean air; small enough so you can know your community, make a difference, not be anonymous
- Scenery/green space
- Freedom
- What I liked about living here was 20 years ago when the government didn't over-involve itself in my private property rights.
- The roads leading out
- What I don't like is why didn't you ask us what we didn't like about the "Historic Triangle"?

**Question #2: What do you want the Historic Triangle to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- Integrated system of greenways/bike (walk) paths, safe, dedicated, linking all attractions; ability for pedestrians and cyclists to get from residential areas to amenities and attractions; preservation of historical, cultural attractions, along with enough of the natural setting to keep it an authentic immersion experience
- Less traffic, smart growth, higher end jobs
- Less traffic

- Traffic needs to be controlled at popular tourist locations (Busch Gardens – Water Country); preserve small-town atmosphere while moving forward; address homeless situation.
- More retail
- More sidewalks, parks, wider roads; entertainment venues; innovated; prosperous; environmental friendly
- Retain green space and trees; fix I-64!! (widening); some development is good but hold on retail; opportunities for employment; high technology
- Something (jobs & activities) to keep young people in the area; more jobs not related to hospitality/tourism created! Maintain feel of the community.
- More affordable housing; fewer hotels; more professional jobs to keep college graduates in the area
- More diversified economy; higher paying jobs; I-64 widened; housing options for all that work in the Triangle
- Widen Route 17
- More lanes on I-64! More diversity in economic development (i.e., we shouldn't be so dependent on tourism); more opportunities for active social life for younger residents; more social/public access to water (i.e., restaurants along water)
- Redevelop declining commercial areas rather than building new; reinforce downtown and Northeast Triangle denser housing a la “new urbanism”; have more pedestrian paths and bikeways – especially recovering the ENTIRE country road for a park; improve street aesthetics – underground wires, better landscaping; NEW FAST RAIL
- Increased vibrancy and density in Downtown Williamsburg; increased walkability and bikeability; no significant loss of special/environmentally sensitive green space
- Economic diversification – more higher paying jobs, slower growth, demographic changes – more 25-50 [year old] population
- Maintain the urban/rural mix, **DO NOT OVERBUILD HIGH-DENSITY TRACTS**, maintain separate, distinct communities/jurisdictions
- Leaders to listen to its citizens
- Preserve historic character
- More activities/facilities for youth; offer a high speed rail system; maintain the wooded areas and ponds; more community colleges
- Keep the rural atmosphere; less population growth; less retail outlets; less housing development; less growth of fast food chains; increase in agriculture
- I would like to see less strip malls and empty retail space.
- A place of freedom. We want no part of smart growth, Agenda 21, sustainable development! We want less government.
- Change our local plan to include nothing of Agenda 21.
- Removal of all Agenda 21 type issues from any and all planning
- Less government, less restrictions on property rights
- No coordinated comprehensive plan, the removal of federal mandates in the County planning

### **Question #3: What do you like about the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis Area?**

- Good access to interstate; Riverside development – good mixed use project, similar land uses for all 3 jurisdictions
- A clean slate right now... can be used as example of good development or if mishandled, could be an example of poor planning. Let's be careful!

- Convenient; medical care; shopping; entertaining; safe; pleasing to the eye (some improvements needed)
- Acceptable shopping options near to where I live
- New hospital coming to town! New jobs! Shopping at Marquis is easy! Harris Teeter, Busch – jobs for the community
- Busch Gardens; Redoubt Park; Target/Harris Teeter; Country Road – possibility of opening back up
- Conveniently access from Yorktown
- The former Country Road, 8 miles or so, used to be a beautiful and safe place to ride bikes. Quarterpath Road should be paved – it's good access. Busch Gardens brings in tourists and dollars to the community.
- Proximate to transportation – rail, plane, interstate; its openness; its diversity of services
- Decent retail without the traffic congestion and crowds
- I like the plan to improve the Route 60 corridor
- Great attractions, but coming and going is through confusing and sometimes unattractive settings.
- Potential to grow/develop in a balanced way
- A good mix of uses – residential/commercial/industrial; traffic is not too bad even in the summer
- Diversity; entertainment options
- Entertainment; low crowd shopping
- High-quality recreational attractions
- I like shopping at Marquis; new hospital. Busch Gardens is a major employer we need to support. New access of I-64 to Busch Gardens. Rt. 199 bypass (I remember when we didn't have it!)
- Busch Gardens – the care they take in building into the natural environment should be an example for our development.
- Current: Too many people, too much commercial growth, too much traffic
- I like the fact that I know what the Delphi technique is.

**Question #4: What do you want the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis Area to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- Complete build-out of Riverside development; a more successful shopping center than the one near KFC/McDonald's; more housing to support the Marquis Center
- Restaurants in Marquis Center
- Do not agree or like private government relationships such as Marquis area. Misuse of tax dollars.
- I would like to see Regional Planning Authorities and Economic Development Authorities abolished.
- Controlled traffic patterns; landscaping and natural spaces; clean, safe, well-lit, people-friendly; restaurants; bicycle trails; a place where people will want to go!
- Not a typical strip commercial on Routes 60 or 143; better linkages and transit accessibility; better urban design – landscaping, etc.; no need to build out commercial in 20 years; more density, not spread out – maintain open space.
- Better served by public transport; more bikeable
- Riverside – expand hospital capabilities; Marquis – add golf carts, add restaurants, other retail; Busch Gardens – make free to active duty military and families.

- Large mixed-use development at Quarterpath; privacy wall along railroad tracks; grow Busch Gardens & Water Country – more jobs.
- Clean up Route 60, less traffic; low crowd shopping
- I would like to see an investment in and improvement of the Route 143 and Route 60 corridors.
- Drastically improve Route 60/143 corridors through jurisdictional cooperation – landscaping, property improvement.
- Quarterpath to be built out and have easy access; Route 60 corridor enhanced and maintained; successful hospital growth/expansion; Whole Foods or Wegman's
- None – preserve open green spaces for our children while we still can.
- Area shouldn't be so divided by rail and highway. It should be possible for someone in Carver Gardens to walk to a doctor's appointment or restaurant in McLaws Circle. Water Country, Busch Gardens, Carter's Grove, and Redoubt Park should all be linked by safe, dedicated bicycle paths, also connecting to other attractions.
- Positive growth; pleasing to eye; entertainment; stay very convenient; all areas with sidewalks and curb appeal; parks; theatres; medical; transportation
- If build, it will destroy habitat. Marquis if built out... where will these employees live? There is no affordable housing for what we have now!!!
- Maintain high quality recreational facilities
- Keep green spaces, diverse
- Zero growth; retain open spaces; restrict commercial growth; restore forested areas; restore agriculture; restore colonial culture
- Do not like that the businesses at the Marquis are so far apart so as to necessitate driving from one to another.
- We do not like that the EDA has York County residents in a choke hold over Marquis. Do not like NGOs.
- That you'd Leave me & my property alone.



**Open Forum Comments  
Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis Community Forum  
February 2, 2012 – Magruder Elementary School**

Mr. Dick Swanenburg of Chickahominy Haven (James City County) stated that the area he lives in has more in common with New Kent County. He asked why all of James City County is included in the regional analysis and noted that the northern portion of the County could be taken out of the analysis, similar to the way that the lower portion of York County is considered less a part of the Historic Triangle than the upper portion of York County.

Mr. Jack Fowler of Pineridge (James City County) stated that he had a number of concerns. These concerns included additional school children, affordable housing, the curbs and gutters along Route 60 that are full of trash, and about general maintenance of roads and grass. Mr. Fowler would like to see effort made to preserve resources and ensure a safe environment.

Mr. Keith Sadler of Toano (James City County) read text from a Republican National Committee resolution opposing the United Nations' Agenda 21. Mr. Sadler stated that he noticed certain items in the Historic Triangle Collaborative's (HTC) "Vision Project" report, such as smart growth, regional economy, environmentally friendly, greenspaces for children, and bike paths, and stated that these are from Agenda 21. He opposes those items and any statements made that there was community agreement or consensus on those items. He stated that citizens can provide their own space for their children to play and other needs without government involvement. Mr. Sadler stated that he does not support the regional comprehensive plan coordination process.

Ms. Mary Leedom of Seaford (York County) stated her concern with terms used in the HTC's "Vision Project" document, such as joint planning, shared vision, vision project, smart growth and regionalism. She asked what the HTC is, what the "Vision Project" is, and who had funded it. Specifically she asked if her tax dollars were funneled from the federal government in the form of grants designed to fulfill sustainable development obligations forced on the County by UN Agenda 21. She also asked what assurance she had that HTC is not part of Agenda 21, and wanted her Board of Supervisors to be aware of citizen concerns regarding Agenda 21.

Ms. Sue Sadler of Toano (James City County) provided a definition of the republican form of government, and expressed concern about regional collaboration because the elected bodies of York County and Williamsburg are not accountable to her. Ms. Sadler expressed concern about the American Planning Association and the Planners Network, and noted certain statements on the Planners Network website which she objected to. She stated she is against the regional collaboration process. Ms. Sadler provided a definition of socialism, and urged the localities not to proceed with this coordinated comprehensive plan review.

Mr. Jim Rice of Magruder Woods (York County) expressed concern about interruptions in electricity service, and expressed his desire to see utilities put underground to help



avoid service disruptions. He also stated that he would like to see more activities for kids, such as athletic and entertainment centers and services like the book mobile. Mr. Rice suggested the idea of allowing areas for golf carts to use the streets, even enabling access to commercial areas from neighborhoods similar to circumstances he has seen in Peachtree City, Georgia.

Mr. Joe Swanenburg of Lanexa (James City County) expressed concern about the map on the meeting handout, noting that it shows existing and planned future land use, but does not show the zoning. Mr. Swanenburg also expressed concern about the regional process, stating that he doesn't want to give power over decisions to people in other localities with no recourse.

Mr. Seth Merritt of York County stated that he would like to see greater coordination between the localities, such as investment in greenways and access to bicycle trails. He urged the localities not to overlook opportunities to invest in ways to bike and walk.



**Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis Area Join Community Forum Questionnaire**  
**Magruder Elementary School – Thursday, February 2, 2012**

James City County, Williamsburg, and York County are jointly reviewing their comprehensive plans. Each of the three localities has a comprehensive plan – a long-range plan for the physical development of the area within its jurisdiction. The three localities have agreed to coordinate the timing of their comprehensive plan reviews to provide for joint consideration of land use, transportation, and other issues that cross the jurisdictional boundaries that run through the Historic Triangle. While each locality will conduct its own comprehensive plan review and develop its own plan, the coordinated timing of these reviews provides an opportunity for citizens of all three localities to talk about issues of mutual interest.

You can help by answering the following questions, which are designed to touch on many of the issues and subjects that the Comprehensive Plans address. (If you prefer to fill out our online questionnaire, please visit [www.HTPlanning.org](http://www.HTPlanning.org).)

1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Affordable Housing / Service workers housing

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2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Outsourcing of jobs

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3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Not understanding what road maintenance means. Rising gas price will present need for more rail buses etc.

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4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
All of above if the projected #'s of people move here but have no reasonable jobs.

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5. Other comments:  


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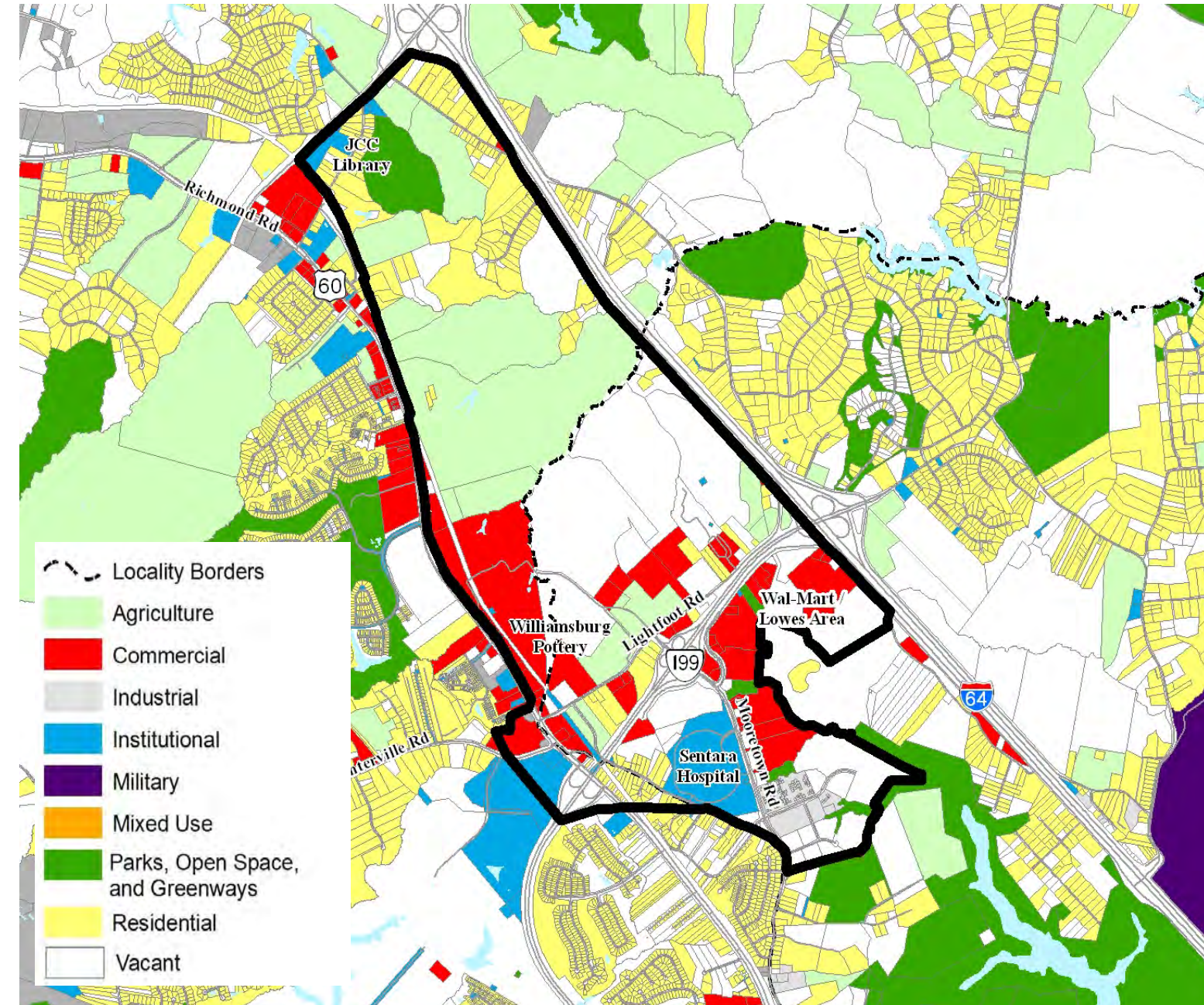
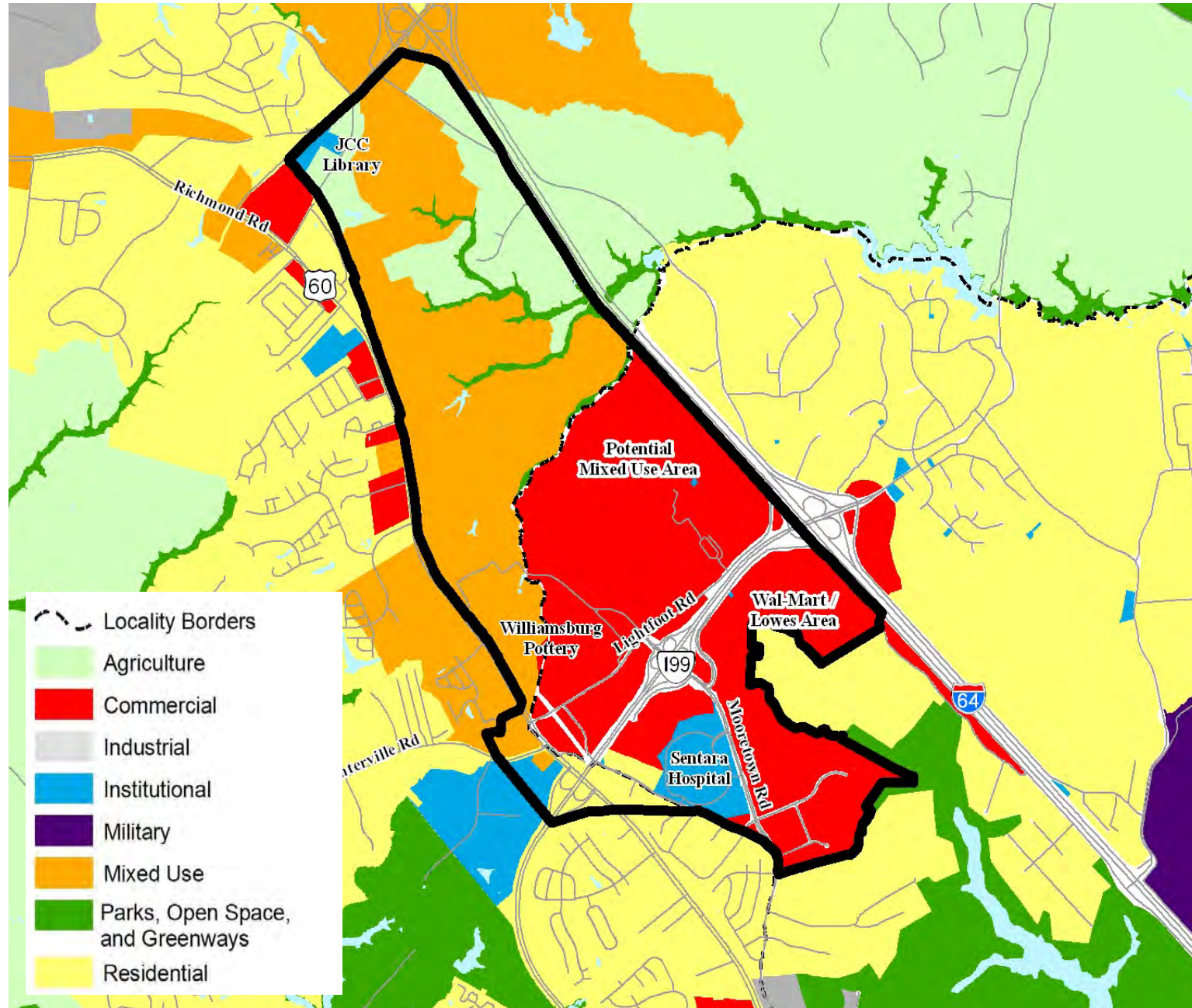
**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other   
 I own a home in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area   
 I own or manage residential rental property in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area   
 I operate a business in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area   
 I own commercial property in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area



For more information about the Coordinated Comprehensive Plan Review, visit [www.htplanning.org](http://www.htplanning.org)

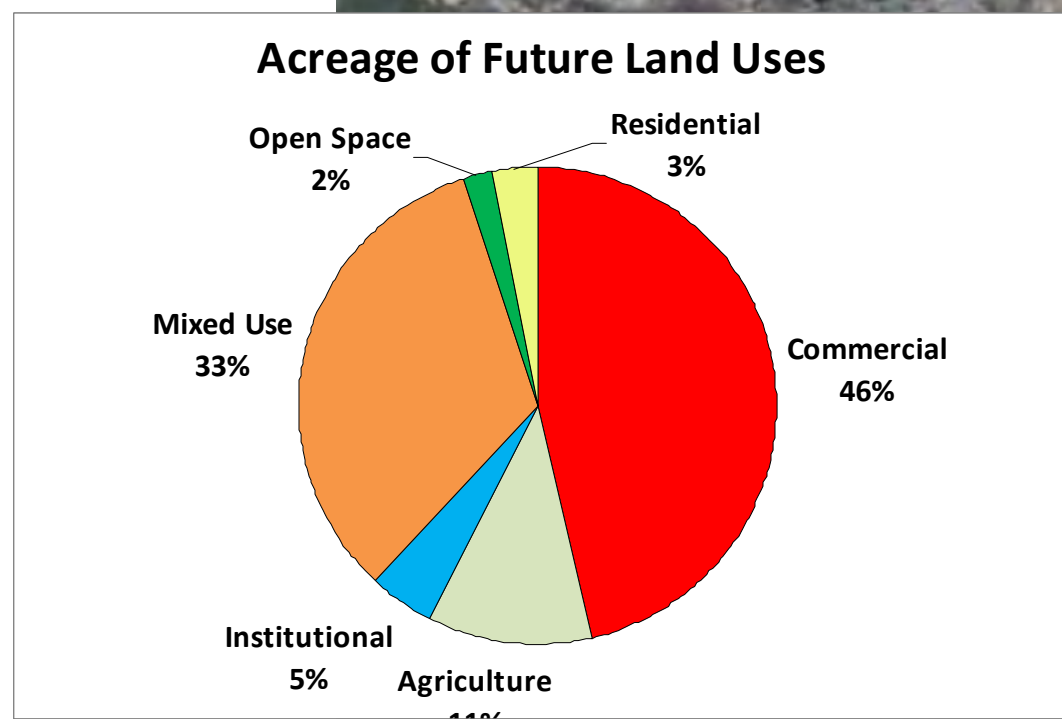
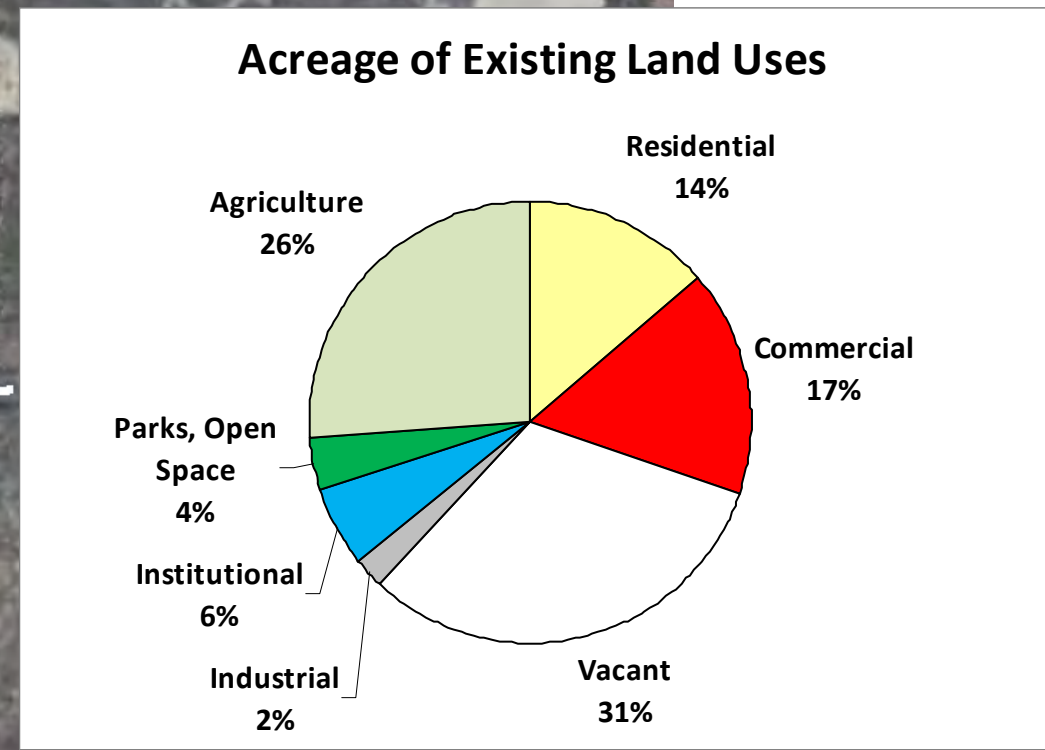
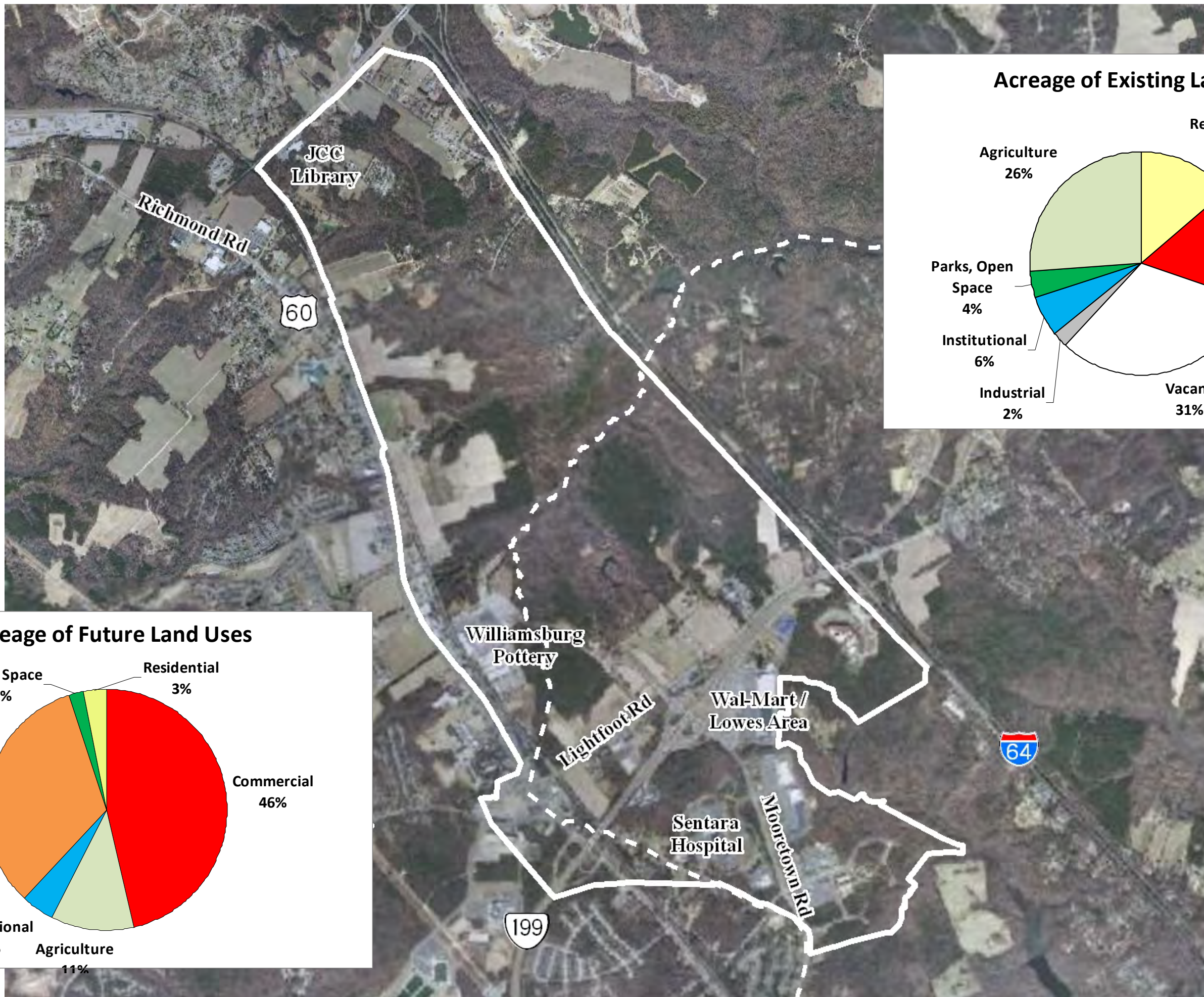
## Lightfoot/Pottery Area Fact Sheet



**Planned Future Land Use (based on the current adopted Comprehensive Plans)**

**Existing Land Use**







**Question #1: What do you like about living in the Historic Triangle?**

- Beauty; manageable size and population; many amenities
- Sense of history; green spaces; cultural amenities
- History; temperature; rural live
- Location near educational facilities; airports; entertainment; historic facilities
- Balance of rural/urban; great quality of life; safe community
- The history; also educated and lively neighbors/residents; people that come from all parts of the USA
- Cost of living; access to golf; Christopher Wren Association of William and Mary; climate – except in heat of summer; people are pleasant and friendly
- I like being part of the history experience and contributing to visitors' positive experiences. I also like the small town experience.
- Convenient access; low traffic congestion (off-season); predictable development process
- Cultural and educational offerings; clean environment
- Love living hear. The people are the best and there are many activities and things to do.
- It's slower than Central New Jersey where we relocated from. Most everything is within a short distance.
- Low density; low crime rate; small government
- Easy access to rural areas; attractive amenities for education; entertainment; etc.
- Less congestion in the area – it's small enough to get around easily.
- Mix of rural and urban environment; senior-friendly area; great libraries
- Traffic flow and Christopher Wren Educational Association
- Moderate weather; cultural activities; proximity to major cities; easy access to I-95 corridor; affordable cost of living; good public services
- Area's beauty; cultural amenities; proximity to Richmond, Norfolk, Virginia Beach
- Climate; melting pot of cultural diversity
- Retail, open space, and greenways; historic presence; economic growth
- Independent comprehensive plans
- I like my property rights. Let's review the Vision Project.
- I want to keep my property rights as a homeowner.
- I want less government.
- My property rights
- Local control by each locality – no to regionalism!
- I do not like the bureaucracy which does not listen to the citizens.

**Question #2: What do you want the Historic Triangle to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- I hope it will be more diversified and not totally dependent on tourism. Make the area more attractive to commercial development.
- A model community that includes all ages, includes Universal Design, and has ecological
- More economic diversity; affordable housing
- Not overdeveloped; retain mix of rural, residential, and commercial.
- A lot like it is today, with minor changes in the transportation area
- The unique community it is now, not a generic “anytown” USA
- More rural

- More farm land; less government
- Livable for seniors in terms of transportation, housing, services. A large percentage of the population will be 70 or older.
- A community which offers services to all age groups
- Younger average age of population
- Think about traffic issues, how to try to reduce traffic jams, not like New Jersey traffic mess.
- Continued destination for tourism
- Continuously well-maintained
- More public transportation in James City County to go down to Colonial Williamsburg
- Take care of what is here now first – massive erosion, kudzu, salinization of Chickahominy River, etc.
- Increased rail/Amtrak and light rail service; less noise (sirens) and less congestion. It already is becoming too congested and crowded on the roadways.
- What is your plan for the Historic Triangle in 20 years? I think 20 years is too long-term – try 10 years.
- Do not know if we will still be here in 20 years. 5 to 10 years seems more reasonable.
- Legalize pot.
- No light rail; smaller government
- I love to keep my yard and make it a beautiful haven for me and my “community.”
- A place of true freedom, free from sustainable development and smart growth.
- Functioning without Planning District Commissions (PDCs)
- I am opposed to a lengthy comprehensive plan.
- We want less government control.
- Less restrictive zoning and covenants
- I want York County to develop their own plan. Follow RNC platform. Reject UN Agenda 21 sustainable development.

### **Question #3: What do you like about the Lightfoot/Pottery Area?**

- I love it. I live there and we can get to things in the community. Love the Pottery and lots of things to do.
- It looks nice! However, I live at Colonial Heritage. I envision a traffic nightmare. Lights are needed to control the crossover.
- Diverse commercial opportunities; segregated/clustered mixed-use areas (residential/commercial, industrial, medical); easy transportation
- Easy to get to; good roads; variety of service – but need to plan for preserving open space.
- We’re waiting to see the effort of the Pottery opening. We live across the street.
- So far the openness. Probably as businesses grow, the open areas will disappear and traffic will get bad – especially around the Pottery complex.
- Williamsburg Pottery transformation of the area
- I don’t like the over-commercialization of the area. Too many strip malls.
- I would like to see less retail development.
- Convenience to food/shopping, medical services, banking
- Lack of congestion on Route 60 as well as the Tri-city area
- Rural area churches
- I like the commercial developments and hospital
- Visually very attractive – has good architecture
- We enjoy the Pottery and the country feel. Also the Walmart shopping area.
- The improvement at the Pottery. It was unattractive and dated before.

- I am excited over the renovated Pottery. It is very attractive. Need to redesign the Richmond Road/Centerville Road intersection.
- Commercial mixed-use frontage
- That services and businesses are laid out in an effective plan, not hodgepodge
- I don't like the area and its thoughtless array of businesses, housing, etc.
- Nothing in particular
- Not much!
- I like that my taxes in York County are not used for its development.
- How much funding did Casey Chevrolet [sic] and Williamsburg Pottery receive for redevelopment?
- No form of any regionalism
- No Agenda 21 in planning

**Question #4: What do you want the Lightfoot/Pottery Area to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- Remain a rural, agricultural area; low density population and business
- To maintain its rural appearance. I don't want Route 60 to be converted into a 4- or 6-lane highway. I live in Colonial Heritage.
- I do not want a conversion to 80% commercial or industrial; maintain area free from high-rise buildings.
- Just minor changes. Don't overdevelop the area like the Newport News or Monticello area. Manage growth. Keep rural character of upper County.
- Comprehensive, planned growth including adequate transportation corridors and logically thought planning. Needs good comp plan guidelines and local implementation. Avoid random zoning uses.
- Less commercial development; more farmland
- I would like more parks and recreation along with bikeways, greenways; public transportation to cut down on greenhouse gases and make the area more livable and attract green industry.
- Some parks and open space; not completely asphalted over
- Master-planned mixed use (commercial, light industrial) incurrent EO zones
- A sense of coordinated amenities. Retain some open space. Provide for diversified employment types, not just retail.
- Better balanced economy with more higher paying jobs; preservation of natural resources and waterways; preservation of green space and some rural areas
- Good balance between uses; attractive corridors; industrial areas that can blend in
- More upscale housing and open space; improved infrastructure
- A destination for tourism, home ownership, and growth.; expansion of the Primary Service Area
- A center for incubator programs and services to help seniors remain in their homes as long as possible
- Do NOT want a lot of neon ad signs at entrances to the coming businesses.
- Horticultural enhancement and buffers to improve the corridors and add visual appeal to the development
- Necessary changes to accommodate any growth; currently seems well managed
- NONE!
- Arbitrary jurisdictional boundaries left intact; no NGOs making Vision Plans; constitutionally limited government; widen I-64



- Don't forget free markets.
- Less government intervention and regulations; no "smart growth"
- Local control by Board of Supervisors without Planning District Commission influence – no to Historic Triangle Planning!
- No sustainable development
- Free market
- No Agenda 21 planning
- I prefer small government – by the people – votes and consensus!
- No cool initiatives
- How about fiscal responsibility?
- Why was a William and Mary student involved in the Visioning Project and how much grant money was used to pay for this?



**Open Forum Comments  
Lightfoot/Pottery Community Forum  
February 23, 2012 – Warhill High School**

Ms. Dotty Trusz stated that she was representing the Senior Services Coalition, which works to promote the independence of seniors. Ms. Trusz provided statistics on the high percentage of retirees in this area. She stated that as a region we need to have a safe and livable community for seniors. She asked that planning processes and local government address the five topics she was going to mention. First, plan for and provide incentives for services that allow seniors to remain in their homes as long as possible (i.e., age-in-place). Second, encourage new housing units that use universal design concepts. Third, design new neighborhoods and improve existing neighborhoods to improve accessibility for seniors, such as easy access sidewalks and bike lanes. Fourth, implement zoning and development incentives that encourage new housing for seniors, including multifamily units, assisted living facilities, affordable housing, daycare centers, continuing care and skilled care facilities. Fifth, base any skilled care facilities on the newest research and approaches such as smaller group homes rather than the former large medical models. She asked that our common goal as a region be to plan for housing and transportation options for all, especially for seniors. Ms. Trusz stated that the Senior Services Coalition had additional information about the senior population in this area.

A citizen stated that he saw a blurred line between corporations, special interests and government – how to measure success, and how the line is divided between the two. He stated that sometimes good intentions toward our fellow citizens actually result in harm to them. With regard to public-private partnerships, he asked how our local governments are going to keep these partners from looting the taxpayers' money.

A citizen described her reasons for moving to the Historic Triangle, noting that it was because the area was beautiful, historic, and had fewer regulations than are present in other places. She stated that dialogue between people and localities is an important thing, but felt that this form of mini-regionalism is not necessary and hoped that it didn't happen, noting her concern that it would add regulations that affect property rights. She stated that policies come from associations such as American Planning Association, which in turn is a member of the Planners Network. She provided information about the statement of principles found on the Planners Network website. She expressed concern about non-elected planners having agendas such as these, and that this is Agenda 21. She stated her opposition to this comprehensive plan initiative. She asked for planners to plan without smart growth and sustainable development, which are terms from Agenda 21. She stated that she wanted smart growth, but not that kind. She asked for someone to tell her, if you read this plan, a single right or action she can take on her private property which doesn't have to go to the comprehensive plan initiative and require approval or involvement.

Mr. Richard Boyden stated that he was representing the Colonial Heritage Community Foundation, which is a nonprofit committed to providing support to those in our community that are caring for senior family members. He stated that the Foundation's primary goal is to establish one or more licensed adult day care centers. He noted the

large and increasing senior population which will change the demographics in this community and whose needs will need to be addressed. He said the need for day centers was already well established, and asked that local governments consider this community need. He also asked that local governments address needs such as aging-in-place opportunities, a full continuum of care, day centers, additional housing for seniors, assisted and continuing care facilities, and universal design. He asked that these needs be incorporated throughout the region.

A citizen stated that he would like to address some of the senior care issues. He expressed his wish that public officials stay out of this as much as possible, that it should be driven instead by the economy and market, and handled by individuals rather than through public funds or public involvement.

A citizen stated that on page seven of the Historic Triangle Collaborative's (HTC) Vision Project, it is stated that organization leaders believe public opposition to smart growth is a threat. She stated that the threat is real and it is Agenda 21 being implemented by Virginia's planning district commissions, right down to the local governing board. She stated that the environment is being used against citizens. She noted the buzzwords for Agenda 21 includes "comprehensive planning", "sustainable development", "UDAs", "visioning", "public-private partnerships", "light rail", "smart growth", "regionalism", and "benefit corporations" which are being sold to citizens as useful words to implement comprehensive planning. She read information from the internet entitled "Hide Agenda 21's UN Roots from the People." She provided information about the Republican National Committee's adoption of a resolution in opposition to Agenda 21. She stated that she had been a victim of Agenda 21 whereby she was asked to remove a deck in her yard that she pays taxes on, because it did not allow proper drainage. She expressed concern about changes proposed in the General Assembly about treating mud puddles as surface water, which would be subject to additional government regulation. She suggested that citizens look at various websites that provide more information about Agenda 21, and noted that Agenda 21 has the goal of removing private property rights. She asked that everyone involved in the regional coordination effort read a book entitled *The Metrocrats*, and noted some information from the book.

A citizen stated her concern with the HTC Vision Project and the eighty-one organizations that were contacted. She asked questions about how these organizations were selected to participate, and if small businesses were equally represented. She wondered why some organizations that were contacted chose not to participate. She expressed concern about the response rate and about the number of individuals from each organization participating in the interview process. She wondered how this could constitute consensus. She provided information about the number of occurrences of the words "collaborative", "revenue", "economics", and "grants". She expressed that this would mean higher taxes. She noted that documents indicated the commercial property was going to triple, and that agriculture would decrease, which was of concern because this is an agricultural community. She provided additional information on the number of occurrences of the words "vision", "protect the environment", "smart growth", "partnerships", "diverse", and "world". She read excerpts from the Vision Project document that caused her concern. She asked about the membership of the Regional Issues Committee and what this group does. She offered Agenda 21 brochures to interested citizens.

A citizen made a comment about the slides in the presentation regarding the percentage of employment and average weekly wage in the "accommodations and food

service” and “retail trade” sectors of the economy. He stated that he felt that James City County is not welcoming to industry. He stated that stability in the economy is best pursued through industry. He questioned the economic stability that the Pottery redevelopment and new car dealership mentioned in the presentation would provide. He stated that while the regional coordination might look good, it is another opportunity for government to grow. He asked how many people in James City County’s Planning Division and Planning Commission are elected.

Ms. Tammy Rosario of the James City County Planning Division provided information in response to the citizen’s question, explaining that staff planners are paid employees and Planning Commissioners are citizen volunteers appointed by the Board of Supervisors. She also provided information in response to other citizen questions regarding the Planning Commissions and Planning Divisions of the localities.

The citizen previously speaking continued his remarks, expressing concern that the Planning Division employees and Planning Commissioners are not elected. He questioned how many additional staff hours would go toward the regional coordination effort. He expressed concern that the regional coordination would be extended to Newport News, New Kent County, and other neighboring localities. He expressed that the regional coordination might further restrict private property rights, such as restricting the development of controversial uses such as the existing Hooters restaurant. He stated that the questions at the forum were insulting, as they were engineered to generate pre-engineered answers that would lead to a false impression of what the citizens wanted. He suggested an alternative set of questions, such as questions that would open up themselves up to negative responses.

Mr. Keith Sadler of Toano concurred with the remarks of the previous speaker regarding the questions asked at the forum, and that they were not trying to address the citizens’ concerns. He asked how he could know that it was actually citizens who had written the answers on the post-it notes. He thought any discussion of high speed rail in James City County or Williamsburg was absurd, citing the high cost to taxpayers. He stated that this was related to environmental issues and that the theory was to decrease the carbon footprint. Mr. Sadler provided information about carbon dioxide, and questioned the cost of high speed rail in relation to any benefit of carbon dioxide reduction. He suggested that citizens look up Agenda 21 terms such as “smart growth” and “sustainable development”, and encouraged citizens to look at the work of Fred Singer, Michael Kaufman, and Charles Battig. Mr. Sadler read information pertaining to the process of voting on a policy, and contrasted it to the forum’s process, which he felt was resulting in a manipulated consensus by the localities of the people in attendance. He noted information in the HTC’s Vision Project document. He asserted that this regional effort is an attempt to use federal grant monies from Williamsburg, James City, and York County to implement a smart growth agenda. He suggested that the localities’ thoughts in pursuing this process were that it made sense to combine the resources of three localities and the suggestions of three localities to get better buy-in for what they want to pass through. Mr. Sadler provided information from page six of the HTC Vision Project document, and asked who the document was referring to as being too partisan.

Mr. Dick Swanenburg of Chickahominy Haven spoke, providing information on four incidents he felt illustrated examples of James City County Planning Division’s lack of competence and integrity, and why he did not have faith in them or their planning processes. First was a covert plan to ban boating on the Chickahominy River. He stated that the Division’s plan was to go behind the backs of citizens and get the

delegate at the time to introduce the legislation to get the river declared a scenic river and then the five-person scenic river board would ban boating on the Chickahominy River. Second, he stated that he had looked into the watershed studies and found at least fourteen questions of highly unethical and illegal matters. He asserted that the only reason that some members of James City County staff were not indicted for criminal offenses was the reluctance of the Commonwealth's Attorney to jeopardize his own paycheck or to be exposed to the publicity. Mr. Swanenburg cited as an example of illegality that the contractor preparing the plan was told by the County that they could go anywhere they wanted and disregard private property rights, and that this resulted in some of the contractors peering in bedroom windows. Third, he stated that the planners came up with an unwarranted and unscientific proposal to reduce property rights by increasing buffers from 100 to 200 feet on waterfront property. Mr. Swanenburg stated that had that proposal passed, the legal challenges would probably have bankrupted the County. Fourth, he stated that there had been illegal dredging at the boat ramp on Brickyard Road, that it was improperly done, and that they had no permits. He expressed his opposition to planning for an Agenda 21 dream world.

Ms. Sue Sadler of Toano read information from a booklet entitled "Sustainable Development or Sustainable Freedom?" This information pertained to the model comprehensive planning legislation prepared by the American Planning Association. She stated that she was looking for planning that was done without the implementations she had mentioned. She mentioned that she had a copy of Agenda 21 and offered to make it available to any interested parties. She stated that she felt the localities' efforts and the HTC Vision Project document could not be separated because everything in the document was what had been talked about at the forum. She noted that it says "United Nations" on the front of the Agenda 21 document, and that we don't need the UN to tell us what to do. This should instead be determined at the locality level.

A citizen stated that he moved to James City County to have the ability to use his property in a variety of ways such as planting and cutting trees, planting a garden, and raising chickens.

A citizen stated his growing concern with Agenda 21 and what is happening with this regional coordination and collaboration process. He stated he had read the HTC Vision Project document, and said that the words "individual rights" and "property rights" do not appear. He said they do not appear because they are in direct opposition to this regional coordination effort. He asserted that this effort will add another level of government whose bureaucrats the citizens will have to answer to every day, and that the bureaucrats will have already made the decisions for the citizens, such as the type of car to drive, where to live, light bulbs to use, whether you can grow a garden, etc. He read information from the HTC Vision document regarding smart growth. He sees a tight relationship between Agenda 21 and the documents he has read, and this is a reason for concern. He asked why sprawl was seen as environmentally harmful, and wondered if independence was being replaced with collaboration or consensus. He felt that a regional government is not needed, would be less discernible and less accountable to voters, and preferred that the collaboration not proceed.



**Lightfoot/Pottery Area Community Forum Questionnaire**  
**Warhill High School – Thursday, February 23, 2012**

James City County, Williamsburg, and York County are jointly reviewing their comprehensive plans. Each of the three localities has a comprehensive plan – a long-range plan for the physical development of the area within its jurisdiction. The three localities have agreed to coordinate the timing of their comprehensive plan reviews to provide for joint consideration of land use, transportation, and other issues that cross the jurisdictional boundaries that run through the Historic Triangle. While each locality will conduct its own comprehensive plan review and develop its own plan, the coordinated timing of these reviews provides an opportunity for citizens of all three localities to talk about issues of mutual interest.

You can help by answering the following questions, which are designed to touch on many of the issues and subjects that the Comprehensive Plans address. (If you prefer to fill out our online questionnaire, please visit [www.HTPlanning.org](http://www.HTPlanning.org).)

1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Available low income housing is deteriorating. The county should look at ways to encourage upgrades or renovations without getting financially involved. E.g. making exceptions to certain building code or zoning requirements to allow work to proceed.
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Low paying jobs will continue to be a problem unless we obtain manufacturing or industrial plants. We cannot rely on tourism to carry the economy if more and more stringent environmental controls make travel costs prohibitive.
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Inter-city highways are congested. Talk about improvements in roads and tunnels has gone on for years. Take action. Stop talking. This is basically a state/federal issue.
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
Additional facilities are needed only if population growth justifies it. Space utilization studies should be required and new needs fully justified before any new construction is approved. There is a big difference between "like to have" and "need to have".
5. Other comments:  
The county should be very cautious about implementing any "green" energy requirements or projects. The cost vs. benefit analyses should be studied with some skepticism because the claims may not be realistic.

**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other   
 I own a home in the Lightfoot/Pottery area   
 I own or manage residential rental property in the Lightfoot/Pottery area   
 I operate a business in the Lightfoot/Pottery area   
 I own commercial property in the Lightfoot/Pottery area

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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
assure adequate moderate + low income housing as market forces skew inventory to upper range housing
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
diversify economic base
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
increased public transit, connected bikeway, sidewalks where density makes these appropriate  
traffic congestion at Centerville - Richmond - Lightfoot Rds
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
schools, library services in lower JCC area
5. Other comments:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other   
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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
AFFORDABLE HOUSING

2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
DIVERSIFY SO THE AREA IS NOT SO DEPENDENT ON TOURISM AND NOT SO MUCH A BEDROOM COMMUNITY

3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
WIDEN I-66, NEW ROAD EXTENDING NORTHWARD  
 BARRIERS IN CONJUNCTION WITH ROAD WIDENING/EXTENSIONS

4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
PRESERVING GREENWAYS, CONCENES, SIDEWALKS, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES THAT WILL MAKE THE AREA MORE LIVABLE AND ATTRACTIVE TO INDUSTRY

5. Other comments:  
IT DOES APPEAR THAT THE WACKY RIGHT WING TEA PARTY CONSPIRACY THEORISTS ARE RUNNING RAMPANT IN THIS AREA. PLEASE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND DON'T LET THESE PEOPLE CONTROL THE OIL COAST. YOU HAVE MY SUPPORT, TOO MUCH FOX NEWS. I WOULD HAVE SPOKE, BUT THESE PEOPLE ARE SCARY

**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other
- I own a home in the Lightfoot/Pottery area
- I own or manage residential rental property in the Lightfoot/Pottery area
- I operate a business in the Lightfoot/Pottery area
- I own commercial property in the Lightfoot/Pottery area

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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Planned communities based on market conditions and able to tailored to market with local planning guidelines
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Stability to maintain economic engine without dependence so high on tourism (subject to fluctuation) - ~~depend on tourism and the region's~~
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
dealing w/ high season traffic - clustered uses to avoid frequent auto traffic easier system of buses - ie trolley system w/ daily pass, etc make it easier
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
regionally connected bike/trail systems  
senior service facilities
5. Other comments:  


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**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other   
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**Lightfoot/Pottery Area Community Forum Questionnaire**  
**Warhill High School – Thursday, February 23, 2012**

James City County, Williamsburg, and York County are jointly reviewing their comprehensive plans. Each of the three localities has a comprehensive plan – a long-range plan for the physical development of the area within its jurisdiction. The three localities have agreed to coordinate the timing of their comprehensive plan reviews to provide for joint consideration of land use, transportation, and other issues that cross the jurisdictional boundaries that run through the Historic Triangle. While each locality will conduct its own comprehensive plan review and develop its own plan, the coordinated timing of these reviews provides an opportunity for citizens of all three localities to talk about issues of mutual interest.

You can help by answering the following questions, which are designed to touch on many of the issues and subjects that the Comprehensive Plans address. (If you prefer to fill out our online questionnaire, please visit [www.HTPlanning.org](http://www.HTPlanning.org).)

1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Needing to include residential & mixed use growth.
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Transportation considerations for growth
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Highway expansion & primary roadway studies need to be expanded & considered.
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
All but parks & recreation. I believe are focused on as growth is occurring so rapidly.
5. Other comments:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other
- I own a home in the Lightfoot/Pottery area
- I own or manage residential rental property in the Lightfoot/Pottery area
- I operate a business in the Lightfoot/Pottery area
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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Housing for seniors with universal design  
Providing for ADULT DAY CENTERS
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Jobs that pay a living wage - the Low wage scale  
in this area keeps people on the border line of poverty
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
The growing population with cars will be larger than those that  
take mass transit - streets will be more congested. - the question  
is how will JCC have a program for transition to mass transit
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
The senior population will soon be the majority in 20 yrs  
and will require more facilities to meet their physical, social  
and medical needs
5. Other comments:  


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**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other   
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## **Comments by CHCF to the Historic Triangle hearing on Comprehensive Planning – 23 February 2012**

Good evening.

My name is Richard Boyden and I am a resident of James City County. Tonight I represent the Colonial Heritage Community Foundation, a non profit organization committed to providing support and resources for the growing number of family caregivers in our community that are caring for senior family members. Our primary goal is to establish one or more licensed Adult Day Centers in the greater Williamsburg area to meet this need.

Nationally, our population is turning 65 at the rate of 10,000 per day therefore, creating a greater demand for senior services. In Virginia, there are about 900,000 people over the age of 65 and that number is expected to double to 1,800,000 by 2030.

Here in the Historic Triangle Area, we have a large aging population and a much higher proportion of seniors than any other area in the state as a result of aging baby boomer population and being the retirement location of choice for many seniors. The 2010 U.S. census established that 24% of the Historic Triangle population is age 60 or over. By 2030 it is expected to increase to 33%. Therefore, 1 on every 3 residents will be age 60 or over.

In 2010, the Foundation conducted a feasibility study for a licensed adult day center for the greater Williamsburg area and found that the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2003 documented the need for 3 Adult Day Centers in the this area: 1 in York and 2 in James City County.

Therefore, we urge the local governments to include the following into their comprehensive plans:

1. Evaluate and plan for the needs for the fast growing senior population in our community that will allow residents to stay in their homes for as long as they choose to,
2. Work with area coalitions, including the Senior Services Coalition, to ensure that a full continuum of care is available to fit individual needs,
3. Promote the building of licensed Adult Day Centers in the greater Williamsburg area: at least 1 in York County and 2 in James City County,
4. Implement zoning and developer incentives that will result in additional housing for seniors, adult day centers, assisted living facilities and continuing care facilities using universal design standards

We would urge you to incorporate these needs into your plans so that the family unit may be preserved for as long as possible.





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You can help by answering the following questions, which are designed to touch on many of the issues and subjects that the Comprehensive Plans address. (If you prefer to fill out our online questionnaire, please visit [www.HTPlanning.org](http://www.HTPlanning.org).)

1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
We need to scale down development so supply does not far exceed demand, thus lowering property values. More affordable housing.
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Need to establish more manufacturing to help compensate for seasonal and economic caused fluctuations in the tourist-based industry.
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
As gas prices soar more people will rely on bicycles as primary or secondary means of transportation. Need more bike lanes/paths.
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
Recreation facilities are first rate. Keep planning ahead and take into account growing population.
5. Other comments:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other   
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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Affordable housing

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2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Development of clean industry, & clean tourism

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3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Bikeways, bikeways, bikeways! For commuting, recreation, and tourism (especially important for the latter)

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4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
Adequate recreation facilities, preservation of open space

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5. Other comments:

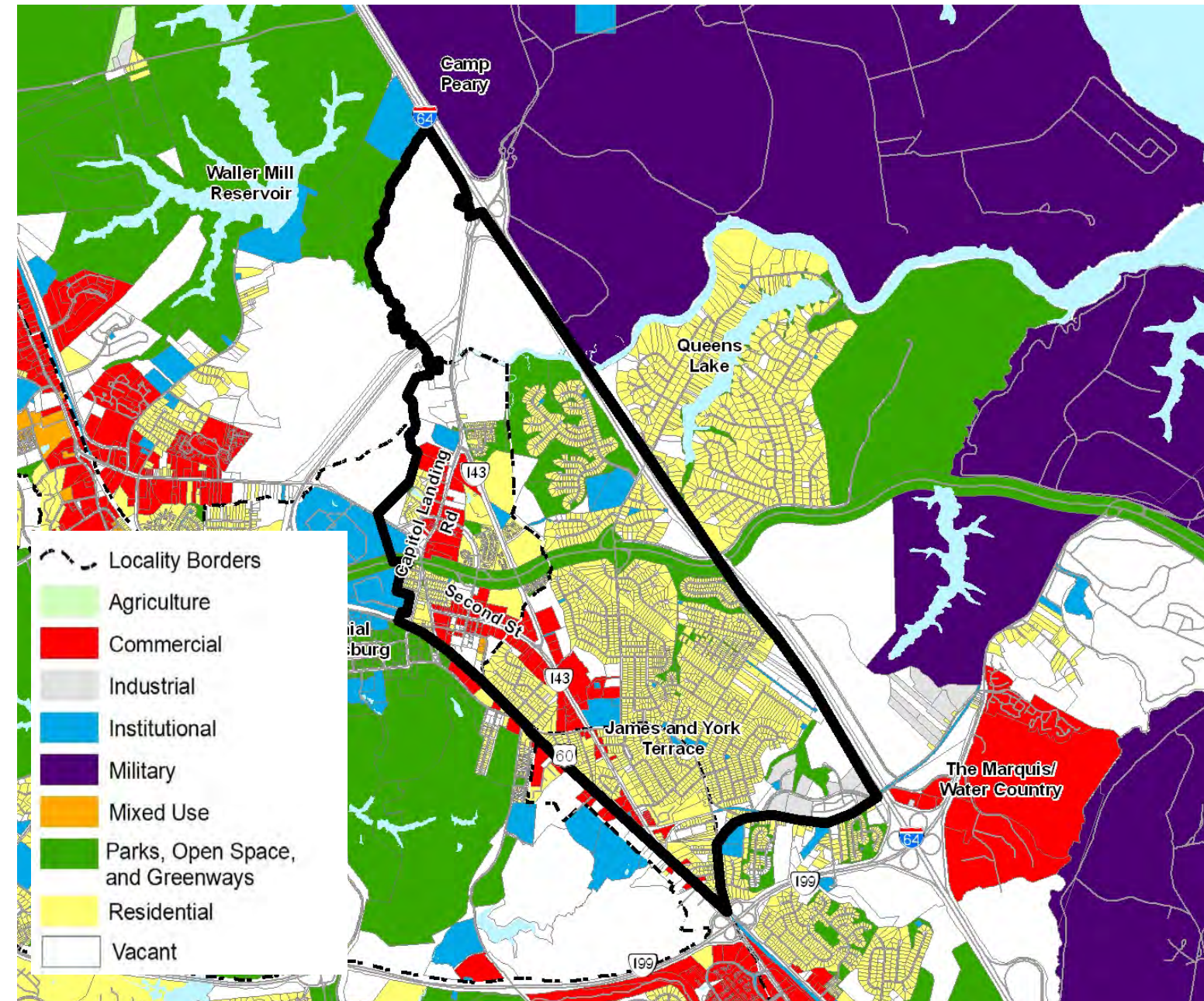
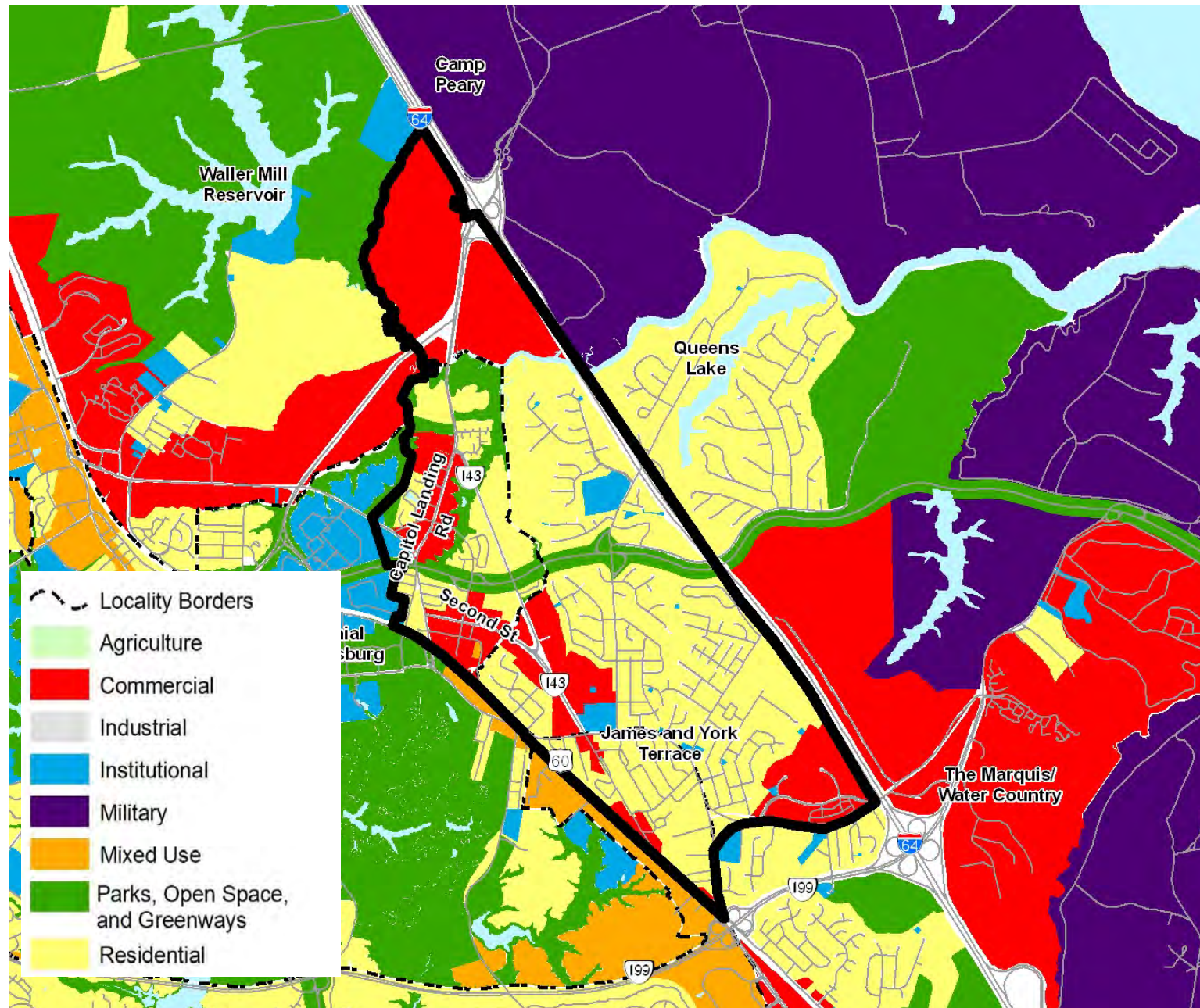
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For more information about the Coordinated Comprehensive Plan Review, visit [www.htplanning.org](http://www.htplanning.org)

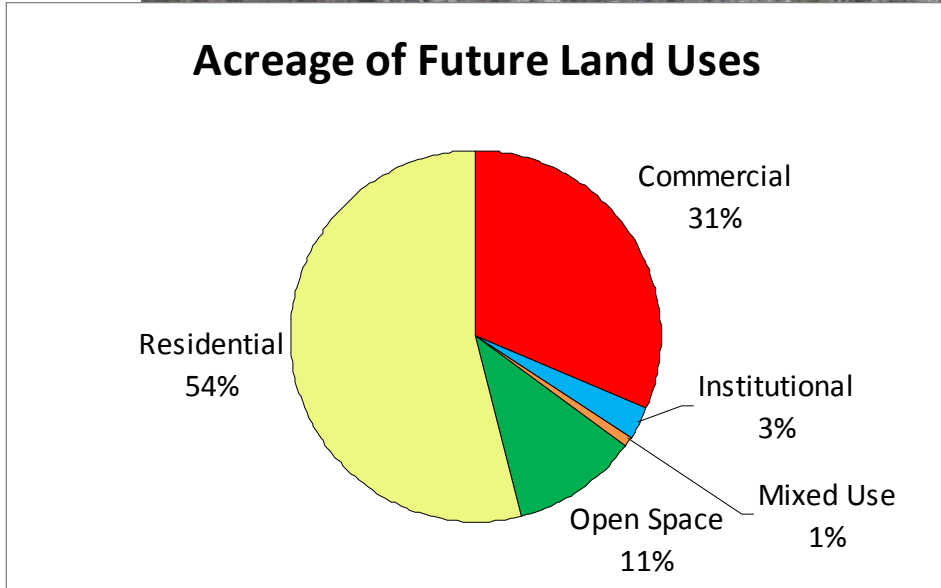
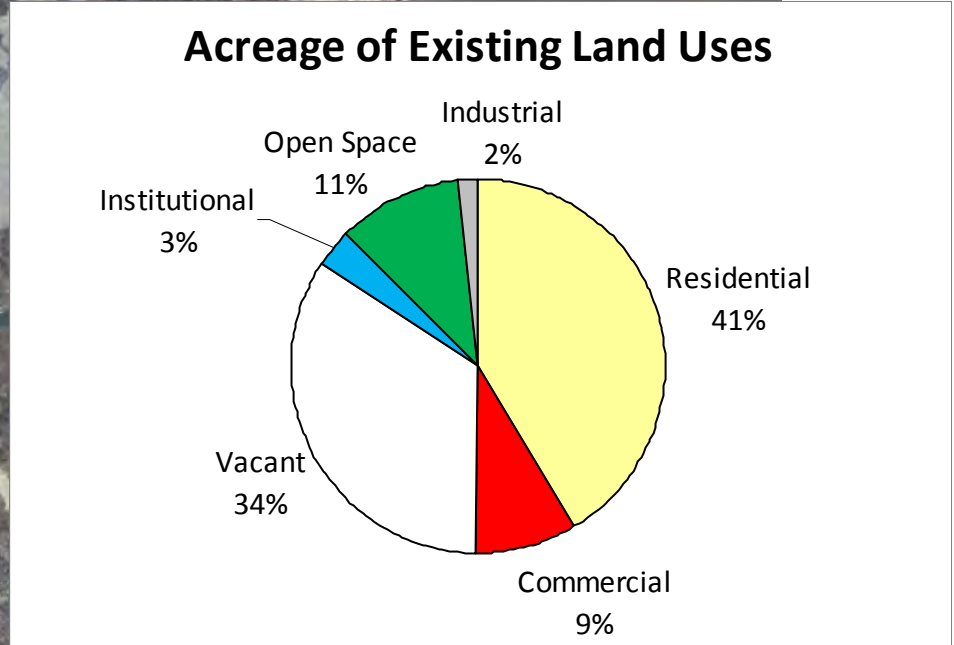
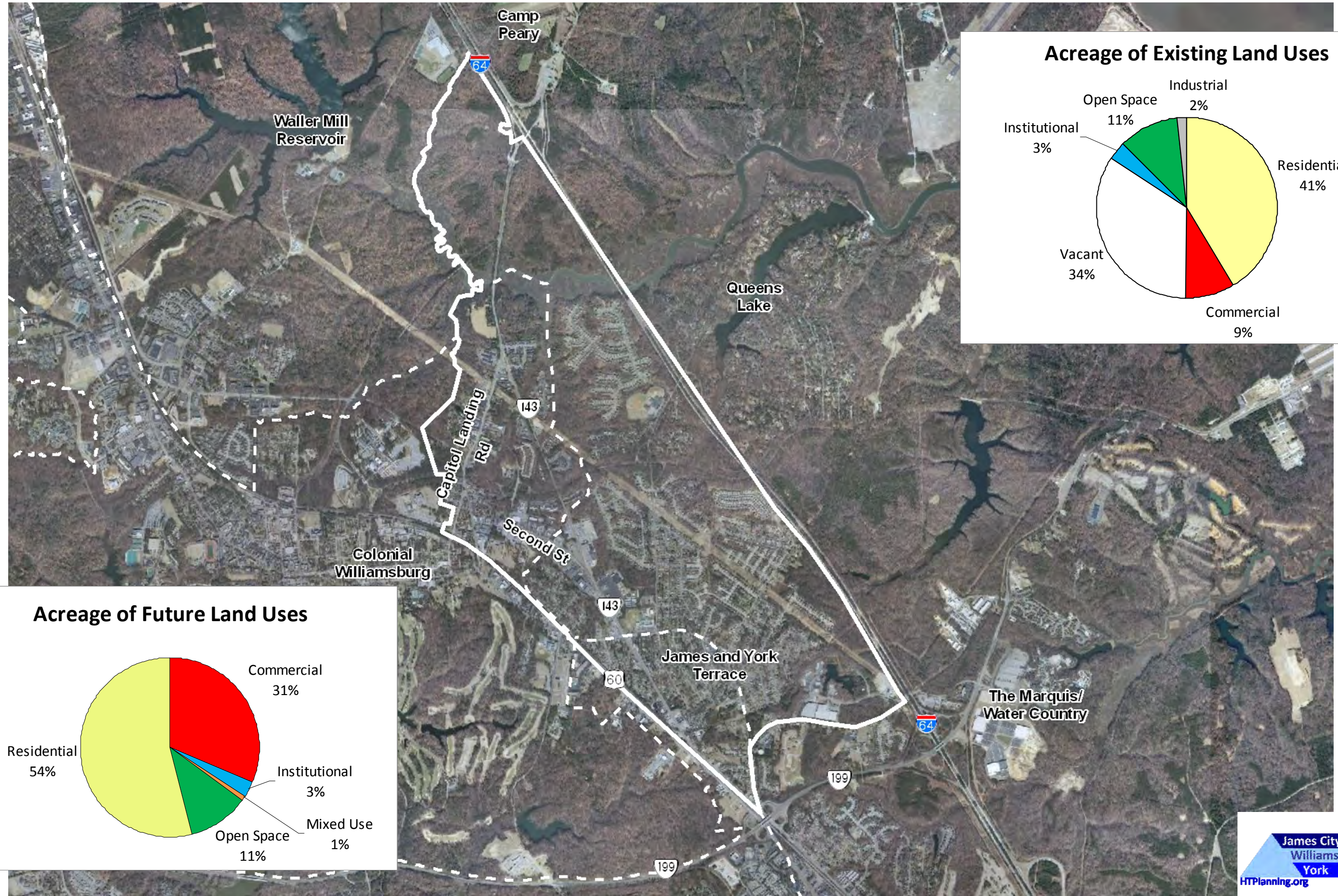
## Northeast Triangle and Surrounding Area Fact Sheet



Planned Future Land Use (based on the current adopted Comprehensive Plans)

Existing Land Use







**Question #1: What do you like about living in the Historic Triangle?**

- Small town feel; not overly populated; great library; beautiful landscape
- I like being able to freely walk into a different century – change pace from the 20<sup>th</sup>
- Abundance of green space; education level of citizens; university; historical importance; closeness to both ocean and mountains; safety
- Very livable community; university provides educational and other opportunities; very diverse and interesting background of retirees
- It can't be developed any further because as historical and tourist area, it would be destroyed. I do like the history and environmentally clean area.
- Mild weather; a well-managed city; low property taxes; access to city management; many fine restaurants
- Rural setting; low-density population; no shoddy neighborhoods; low crime; agriculture; zoned for farming and animals; no Section 8 housing
- Proximity to natural areas, parks; natural beauty
- Historical significance – Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown/Jamestown, College of William and Mary
- Vegetative buffer along Second Street/Route 143 and behind James York Plaza shopping center and George Washington Inn/CVS – Green Soothers.
- Williamsburg – small town; beauty; history; uncrowded. Other – water; close to large urban areas (Norfolk and Richmond)
- Family-friendly; ease of travel; the layout of the City of Williamsburg; plenty of activities for the whole family
- Living in an area with great family-oriented entertainment, education options
- Plenty of open space, parks
- College of William and Mary: students, faculty, sports, arts, facilities
- THE HISTORY!
- Many cultural and entertainment venues; walkable city; city government that works; history/Colonial Williamsburg; museums
- I like the people, the amenities, and location. Enjoy the history.
- Culture – restaurants, diversity of population, arts and music
- Close to Colonial Williamsburg, College, and “downtown”
- Within walking distance of Colonial Williamsburg; responsive City of Williamsburg government; opportunity for public input; minimal traffic
- I like being able to participate in City processes as a resident – being heard, being a force for good
- Open space; good jobs; College of William and Mary; Colonial Williamsburg
- The progressive people and municipal government in the City of Williamsburg
- Diversity of population; variety of densities
- Diverse mixed-use area
- I like being in a historic neighborhood which I hope the City will help keep historic and NOT gentrified, i.e., lost.
- Minimal observable industrial development and proximity to parks, institutional land use
- Proximity to business and cultural areas; homeowners can walk or drive a short distance to fulfill daily needs.
- Access to major attractions like Jamestown, Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Busch Gardens; small town feel

- Walking to restaurants, shopping
- We need increased density in the core of the City; people want to walk to various services/restaurants
- I like the historic value of this area. I have a great sense of pride when I travel and people tell me how lucky I am to live here. I enjoy the parks, greenways, and the bicycle friendliness
- York County schools make us live where we do; beauty and community; educational opportunities – William and Mary, Thomas Nelson Community College
- The weather; Colonial Williamsburg
- I came here originally because of the rural atmosphere. With all the emphasis on commercial development and more and more housing and more dense housing it's looking more like Northern Virginia. Not good.
- Driving from the west side of Williamsburg to go to any one of four auto parts stores on the east side
- Nice historic area but layoff all historic workers for visitor information in favor of big paying board members, hence killing tourism
- I would like less government and less buying up of land by the County
- Proud of the historical development; the small town feeling; originally having the ability to own land without imposing regulations; however, these regulations have become more regulation.
- I would like to keep private property rights.
- We like having our property rights and we want to keep them.
- Freedom; property rights
- Property rights. How will the Board of Supervisors protect my property rights and avoid regionalism?!!

**Question #2: What do you want the Historic Triangle to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- I hope the area can maintain the same basic character. This is what makes this area so livable and attractive to residents and visitors alike. I would like to see more emphasis on alternate modes of transportation for our carbon footprint and our citizens' health. Also attract green industries.
- I'd like Williamsburg to remain relatively as is with a historic Colonial Williamsburg/William and Mary campus that is manageable (small school, relatively) and owner-occupied, not overly stuffed, neighborhoods.
- More "living wage" jobs; improved housing for lower income/low middle families
- Keep community feeling "town size"
- Keep its uniqueness! Livability and its cultural, educational, and history benefits. Be very careful of growth for growth's sake. Be careful of density.
- Measured economic growth in all sectors [i.e., retail, service, housing industrial(?)]; a nationally recognized area for people to visit and live in
- More self-supporting with increase in business and manufacturing, which will help increase tax base. Currently the age of residents is too old; need to bring more industry to bring younger workers other than food service.
- Would like to see more areas that are currently old strip mall retail redeveloped to functioning mixed-use, with walkable, bikeable neighborhoods and thriving businesses that serve tourists and locals.

- Redevelop older commercial areas instead of building new. Concentrate residential development so we have walkable downtowns with a critical mass of residents. Leave parks, farms.
- More re-use of property instead of new development; more industrial; less regulations; a level playing field for businesses
- Balanced development maintain vegetation, diversity, and mix of residential densities
- As shown, we have seen tremendous growth. I would like to see a plan to limit growth – a maximum vision to sustain our attractive qualities.
- Like Historic Triangle to have a broader spectrum of employment – perhaps opportunities for those growing up here to remain with a career path.
- Vibrant business community, diversifying from tourism/service economy
- Re-use close-up stores and strip malls instead of building more stores on unused or forested or farm land.
- More commercial options – coffee shops, stores – on Second Street
- Less commercial development
- More industry and therefore less reliance on tourism
- The Marquis was a poorly developed plan, so I would like to see development progress on a need of the community not a whim of the developers.
- Build historic downtown evening appeal.
- More diverse economy (but tourism and education remain central); preserve and improve single-family neighborhoods.
- Use schools more for community-based activities. Improve sidewalks to connect neighborhoods to schools (i.e., Magruder Elementary to Middletowne Farms).
- Second Street becomes a more consistent entryway to both historic Williamsburg and historic Yorktown.
- Better success in education; higher graduation rates; better job skills
- More public transportation to keep traffic at a minimum; additional recreation opportunities; a more “green” area – better recycling, etc.; more classrooms for public education
- Like to see vigorous public (train/bus) system in and beyond the area – Washington, D.C., Norfolk, Richmond.
- More sensible traffic flow (reduction of lanes on Second Street, Capitol Landing Road)
- A more walkable, bikeable area
- Would like to see a network of safe connected bike trails that would allow tourists and locals to bike between major attractions, as well as natural areas like York River State Park, New Quarter Park, James River Eco-park.
- More access for walking, biking; complete transit system that works for everyone
- In 20 years I would like to see a defined urban core in Williamsburg – more density
- Greater arts/culture; increased rail service; improved education; improved parks
- Discourage/do not allow low-income, subsidized housing. The current stock of affordable housing is adequate.
- Slow down multi-family development.
- Same rural setting; no Section 8 or low-income housing projects; small atmosphere; NO PRO SPORTS STADIUMS OR TEAMS; NO TOLL ROADS.
- Less population
- I'd like the Historic Triangle to have a pastoral feel with mature trees and forests.
- Maintain large green (11% is too little). Plan services for an aging population, housing for folks with limited finances.



- I would like to see more green – treed buffers surrounding economic development and shopping centers, expanded parks, continued cooperation between York, James City County, and Williamsburg.
- Increased public space; parks, particularly on College Creek
- College Woods becoming our Central Park!
- I would like to see more green/agricultural areas brought back. Don't feel that we need any more buildings or malls/shopping centers.
- James City County and York Supervisors to be led by the needs of the area and not by ultra-conservative right-wing political zealots. More collaboration.
- How about just one auto parts store on the west side of Williamsburg?
- Preservation of private property; more agriculture; more bike lanes; private (not public) development of mass transit
- I would like less government regulations. No 20-year plan.
- Less government-controlled land use; private ownership and private property rights protected
- I would like to see a County government who governs for the people – protecting individual rights, property. Curb unnecessary spending.
- The place of freedom it was meant to be; no sustainable development or smart growth
- More property rights. No Agenda 21! No "smart growth." No sustainable development.
- Independence – my elected officials to push back the federal government encroachment on my constitutional rights!

### **Question #3: What do you like about the Northeast Triangle and Surrounding Area?**

- Proximity to parks, low traffic, open space, minimal necessary development, few stop lights, openness of government staffs and citizens to cooperate for planning and common good
- Like accessibility to groceries, car/appliance dealers, parts and services stores. Need to improve motels and general condition without making it look like Gatlinburg, Tennessee, which is in immense fear of "becoming" tacky.
- Small, close communities; nearby to stores, historic area, restaurants; ability to walk and bike to areas; affordable housing
- Historical significance of area; proximity to larger cities, ocean, mountains; low stress, crime, and other social problems – quiet
- Vibrant intellectual community affording cultural, educational opportunities
- Family-friendly; lots of activities; history; beautiful scenery
- I like the green treed entrance along Route 132 to Williamsburg. I am concerned that it is designated commercial.
- I like the scenic drive from I-64 to town on Routes 143 and 132. (I don't like the additional signs that have been put up for businesses in York County.) I like the Presidents Streets neighborhood.
- It has a nice residential feel along Route 143 and Capitol Landing Road and a commercial core on Second Street. Generally, the section seems to be fairly well balanced.
- It is centrally located, close to Colonial Williamsburg, to two highway exits, Busch Gardens. It has existing neighborhoods that are safe and welcoming. It offers a range of housing from apartments on Merrimac Trail to Queens Lake. We have some great natural areas, especially around Queen's Creek. New Quarter Park is a gem. Lots of locally-owned businesses.

- I like the controlled commercial development and the very fine New Quarter Park. I also like how visitors coming off I-64 are not bombarded with commercial development and are greeted with beautiful green space.
- Open space at I-64 and Route 143 and at Routes 143 and 132 (Do not develop that interchange.)
- Colonial Parkway; New Quarter Park; York County schools; closeness to Colonial Williamsburg and William and Mary; close to shopping for food, pharmacy core for elderly neighborhood
- Colonial Williamsburg; downtown feel to Williamsburg (farmers' market, shops, restaurants)
- Low-density population! Zoned for farm use and animals; crime rate is low (in upper County); convenient to Richmond and good saltwater fishing; plenty of restaurants and education
- The country is close to being swallowed in debt. This debt will be forced onto the taxpayer. Therefore, why do we need a high-speed rail which will cost more money and force more taxes onto the Williamsburg residents? I like country and open agricultural areas. It is developed enough with shopping areas that sustain the communities.
- Overall, we have a lot of good people living here.
- The weather
- Affordable homes for middle-income workers; not overly developed yet!
- Great opportunity for infill and redevelopment; central to the entire area; rebuild neighborhood feel
- Potential with smart and creative redevelopment; location; area needs help
- Potential for positive commercial growth. CONCERN: The landfill area which the townhomes on Penniman Road is contaminated with pathogens and needs to be cleaned totally before human habitation is permitted.
- Mixed-use; residential; restaurant; public areas
- Attractive; proximity to historic area
- You haven't expressed any focus up to now. I like the fact that people are first consideration and hope this doesn't change.
- Not attractive – it looks shabby and haphazard.
- I want freedom from government-managed communities. Do not like anything about triangle.
- Do not like anything. Want less government control. Want private property rights protected, not ignored.
- I like the diversity provided by boundaries and expect York County to maintain those "PROPERTY RIGHTS."
- Need more property rights – less regulations.
- No regional authority! No Agenda 21! Our schools run by our state and localities!

**Question #4: What do you want the Northeast Triangle and Surrounding Area to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- Needs to be attractive entry way to the City of Williamsburg.
- A redeveloped area for young families; lively; sidewalks; street art; commercial businesses that serve the residents; playgrounds; dog parks; places to meet, live, learn, appreciate, build a community
- A comprehensive village of commerce, people, and services; an integral part of the social, economic, environmental, and educational environment of the Historic Triangle
- Successful businesses along corridors catering to residents and tourists

- Like to see retained small and mid-scale thriving businesses in contained areas while retaining “between” spaces of wooded or open areas but still pedestrian use.
- Series of small neighborhoods with restaurants in walking distance
- Improvement of the commercial core (the shopping centers look dated)
- Better job opportunities besides restaurant and hotel workers
- Vacant buildings and lots occupied
- Greater walkability; better landscaping; renewal of older housing stock; renewal or replacement of obsolete commercial; development with a vision in mind – unique, attractive – not everywhere U.S.
- Want to see existing neighborhoods strengthened by ensuring that surrounding commercial development maintains visual appeal and by increasing pedestrian access to the commercial corridor; sidewalks connecting all major thoroughfares so residents can safely walk to local businesses; bike paths along major thoroughfares, for commuters as well as recreational riders; bike path to New Quarter Park; redevelopment of old hotels into a connected streetscape in a mixed-use model that is low-rise, like Hilton Village
- More accessibility for commercial areas, residential areas, schools, etc. by walking and biking; uniform, cohesive, sustainable development in all three localities
- Need a downtown walk-friendly pocket grocery store that fits scale of current town.
- I would like to see more green space, bike lanes, safe pedestrian access for all citizens to enjoy... to contribute to smaller carbon footprint and over health for people and the environment. Attract more green industry. Making the area more livable will accomplish these goals.
- A park/boat landing at Capitol Landing (Queens Creek and Route 143)
- Services/housing for low-income seniors, assisted living, nursing homes; no less green space than currently; smaller government
- Green; pedestrian; open sky (limit tall buildings); moderate traffic; underground utilities
- More access – sidewalks, bike trails, public transit; development of more green space – get rid of buildings, areas that do not attract taxpaying enterprise – bulldoze it (remember minor grocery that turned into a park?) and/or bulldoze things like city garage to facilitate sale, Texaco Station
- How does an “artists’ colony” get developed? And what does it look like? Can it still be “funky”?
- Fewer people; better roads and facilities
- Less regulated; preservation of private property; more agriculture; more industrial; more re-use of existing property; more bike lanes
- Private (not public) development of mass transit options
- Do not allow low-income or subsidized housing. There is currently more than enough supply of affordable housing.
- Maintain current historical and agricultural; maintain rural atmosphere; low-density population; maintain (or improve) eminent domain; low taxes; low energy costs; fewer lawyers and politicians
- Fewer lawyers and politicians
- People should not be zoned out of their homes and neighborhoods undone by development.
- Again I would like to see a fair and balance government. This is a redundant question.
- Less government-managed communities and less waste of tax dollars; more protection of private owners’ property rights.
- Less local government regulations; ultimate allowance of personal property use determination by citizens
- A citizen or citizens to sit in on and voice on all Planning Commission sessions



- I see the area that fought and won freedom standing for our founders' principles to eliminate U.N. Agenda 21 sustainable development from our laws.
- No sustainable development/smart growth; a place of freedom; a place where people's property rights are reserved; a place not based on environmental lies.
- No Agenda 21 policies; more property rights; no smart growth, no regionalism.



**Open Forum Comments  
Northeast Triangle and Surrounding Area Community Forum  
February 27, 2012 – Williamsburg Community Building**

Keith Sadler, James City County, asked if someone could define mixed use and what is considered residential.

Sarah Stafford, Williamsburg Planning Commission and moderator, responded that specifics for each depend on the jurisdiction – each jurisdiction has different classifications for mixed use and residential uses.

Keith Sadler stated that her answer was vague and that mixed-use is ground-floor retail with 2-3 floors of residential above the ground floor. He noted you need high density to justify the retail and that high vacancy in the retail and residential cost taxpayers' money. He noted that light rail was not on the agenda tonight and expressed a concern on its cost to taxpayers.

Terence Wehle, Williamsburg, expressed a concern about Route 132 and its commercial designation in York County and what the future plan are for this area and its protection.

Sarah Stafford noted the scenic easements shown on the map and that commercial areas would need to be located behind these buffers.

Victoria Gussman, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, added that extensive conservation/scenic easements exist on both sides to protect Route 132, which is a major entrance corridor to the City.

Linda Reinke, James City County, stated she likes this area because it doesn't look like other areas, but she is concerned about vacant properties and allowing for more development. She expressed a specific concern about vacant units in the Williamsburg Marketcenter on Mooretown Road and said that when properties become vacant and derelict it doesn't help our area.

Victor Smith, Williamsburg, stated he was concerned that the scenic easements along Route 132 would not be maintained as stated. He stated that other buffers have been adversely impacted over the years.

Mary Ann Cory, York County, stated that we do have Section 8 housing and substandard housing in the area, contrary to one of the written comments, and that we need to address these issues.

Mary Leedom, York County, stated that this is a regional plan; it is a coordinated, long range vision. Citing the Historic Triangle Collaborative's "vision project," Agenda 21, the Economic Diversification Task Force, she stated and non-governmental organizations are making decisions and spending tax dollars. She stated that House Bill 430 should be killed and that grant monies, regionalism, and globalization disregard property rights.

She expressed opposition to coordinated Comprehensive Plans, stating that decisions should be left to local officials.

Joe Swanenburg, James City County, asked if any grant monies are being used for the coordinated comprehensive plan update.

Sarah Stafford responded that no grant monies are being used for the update.

Reed Nester, Planning Director, City of Williamsburg added that the purpose of this process is to create good plans for the future for each of the individual communities. He restated that no grant monies are being used in the City for the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Gina Thorne, Senior Services Coalition, encouraged planners to look at regulations that allow seniors to age in place, universal design elements for new homes, providing accessible sidewalks, curb cuts, bike lanes and research smaller homes that are accessible.

Sue Sadler, James City County, stated that “smart growth” is not smart at all, that the American Planning Association advances this issue and attacks property rights, and increases taxes. She stated that she doesn’t like denser communities, public transit, “stack and pack”, that attempts to reduce carbon footprint don’t work and infringe on property rights. She stated that all Comprehensive Plans have the same basic elements and UN Agenda 21 does not promote truly “smart” growth.

John Bookless, James City County, said he was troubled by reluctance, the Vision Project, and comprehensive plan and that they are connected with Agenda 21. He noted he has lived and worked all over the world and expressed concern about trash, emissions, higher gas prices, unsanitary conditions, undrinkable water in other countries and that such countries should not be directing policies in the United States through the U.N. Agenda 21. He did not want the United States to suffer the consequences.

Gail Keller gave Keith Sadler permission to talk on her behalf. Keith Sadler stated he does not believe grant monies are not being used for the comprehensive plan process, which he said is set up with pre-determined outcomes based on manipulated questions. He stated that citizens will not be able to vote on their comprehensive plan and are losing our ability to regulate our area and that sustainable development is not smart growth. He does not like the coordinated Comprehensive Plan review process or the Regional Planning District Commission. He stated that we need to protect our individual rights and that no questions were answered at the last meeting.

Gregory Hancock, Williamsburg, supported the efforts of the three jurisdictions and was excited about a park on Queens Creek and asked when that might be implemented.

Sarah Stafford responded that a proposed park has been in the plan since 1953, that the property is privately owned and that it is in a critical area with unique character and view shed. She noted that no current plans are in place to develop a park at this location.

Victor Smith, Williamsburg, liked that in Williamsburg citizens can come to meetings and voice opinions. He stated that he doesn’t think this process is part of a global conspiracy



and expressed a concern that not enough homeowners take the time to participate in government.

Mary Cory, York County, noted the uniqueness of the area and that the combined cooperative effort among the localities is good because it is hard to tell where you live based on the confusing boundaries of the three jurisdictions.

Bob Tubbs, James City County, liked the efforts of the region and noted a paper he had written in 2010 titled “Strength through Collaboration – Economic Diversity, Tourism & Community Building Opportunities,” which is a plan for the region’s future. He noted that we may be able to attract a Children’s Museum, educational centers and positive things for Hampton Roads are good for Williamsburg. He stated that we need to encourage other opportunities to become economically diverse. He said he would provide a copy of this document so Planning Commissioners can review.

Janet Casanus, James City County, expressed concern about the amount of both commercial and residential development in the area. She added that agriculture is very important to the area because we need it to provide food.

Seth Merritt, York County, thanked the three jurisdictions for coordinating the three plans, which are required by the State. He noted that New Urbanism and Smart Growth have been going on for some time and cited Hilton Village, constructed during WWI, as a good example of where affordable housing was constructed along with commercial uses. He stated that today it is still a great community with homes and commercial areas. He stressed that we need to respect private property rights and protect the unique aesthetic appeal of the area. We may need to have more agricultural use and we don’t need more strip shopping centers. He said thoughtful redevelopment may be smart, and noted that some smart growth may not work.

Karen Berquist, York County, noted that this area is configured with exciting opportunities to talk to your neighbors, enjoys idea sharing, appreciated the City taking the lead with the Northeast Triangle Area and the three jurisdictions should be reviewing their plans together at the same time.

**Northeast Triangle and Surrounding Area Community Forum Questionnaire**  
**Williamsburg Community Building – Monday, February 27, 2012**

James City County, Williamsburg, and York County are jointly reviewing their comprehensive plans. Each of the three localities has a comprehensive plan – a long-range plan for the physical development of the area within its jurisdiction. The three localities have agreed to coordinate the timing of their comprehensive plan reviews to provide for joint consideration of land use, transportation, and other issues that cross the jurisdictional boundaries that run through the Historic Triangle. While each locality will conduct its own comprehensive plan review and develop its own plan, the coordinated timing of these reviews provides an opportunity for citizens of all three localities to talk about issues of mutual interest.

You can help by answering the following questions, which are designed to touch on many of the issues and subjects that the Comprehensive Plans address. (If you prefer to fill out our online questionnaire, please visit [www.HTPlanning.org](http://www.HTPlanning.org).)

1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years? *i.e., not over-developed*

*Retaining the character of downtown Williamsburg as "not like where I came from over" -*  
*Encouraging owner-occupation of in town homes*
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?

*Increasing aging demographic - retirees*  
*Keeping cultural income resource*  
*Helping character while keeping up to date - not over building*  
*finding more jobs "in the middle" - big gap between service & upper end jobs*
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?

  - Helping tourists AND residents AND workers be able to get around without cars*
  - Public transportation in and out of NBG - affordable and more frequent*
  - CLOGGED main auto/truck arteries*
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years? *\*\* \*\*\* \*\**

*pretty good - need to find places for teens to hang out with thousands*  
*must not neglect varieties of education opportunities & accessibility -*
5. Other comments:

*The loss of deep woods on major access roads must abate + stop. Woods provide a sense of transition - distancing NBG from the town area*  
*Must keep infrastructure in good shape - water, electricity, transmission lines, sewer water*

**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other
- I own a home in the Northeast Triangle and surrounding area
- I own or manage residential rental property in the Northeast Triangle and surrounding area
- I operate a business in the Northeast Triangle and surrounding area
- I own commercial property in the Northeast Triangle and surrounding area

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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*Need to reuse property instead of new development. I think we need a more diverse land use - more industrial and agriculture opportunities. High density housing may not always be the best solution.*
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*We need to preserve private property rights. I don't think we need more residential development. I think we need more agriculture and industrial development.*
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*I would appreciate more bikeways. I see the value of light and high speed rail provided it is developed privately, and not by taking private property by the state.*
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
*I think our schools need to compete with the rest of the world. Not by spending more money. By looking at year round schooling, looking at teaching foreign languages to elementary students. I believe money can be diverted to support these worthy goals.*
5. Other comments:  
*The most important thing planners need to do is preserve private property rights. Nothing should be done to trample on anyone's rights.*

Check all that apply:

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 I own or manage residential rental property in the Northeast Triangle and surrounding area   
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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
There is inadequate housing for low income families + individuals. Government should not get involved in building such housing but should encourage development by investors.
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
There is a preponderance of low income and seasonal employment. More manufacturing or technology driven jobs must be developed to stabilize the economic health of the community.
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
Bikeways are primarily recreational in function. Not the highest priority but OK to have. Highways are primarily state responsibility. Everyone knows about the congestion. It will only get worse if the zoning emphasizes more housing, and more dense housing.
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
These needs are population driven. Build only what is necessary to meet the needs of the community but we don't need luxury or excess, top heavy stuff.
5. Other comments:  


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**Check all that apply:**

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You can help by answering the following questions, which are designed to touch on many of the issues and subjects that the Comprehensive Plans address. (If you prefer to fill out our online questionnaire, please visit [www.HTPlanning.org](http://www.HTPlanning.org).)

1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*Increasing number of seniors with increasing needs related to frailty, access, disability*

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2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*An aging population increasingly reliant on fixed income.*

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3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*Increasing number of seniors who cannot drive and who need access to all services.*

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4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
*Increasing number of seniors.*

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5. Other comments:  
*The Senior Services Coalition serves seniors of York, JCC & Williamsburg. The Coalition works collaboratively with various organizations to advocate for services.*

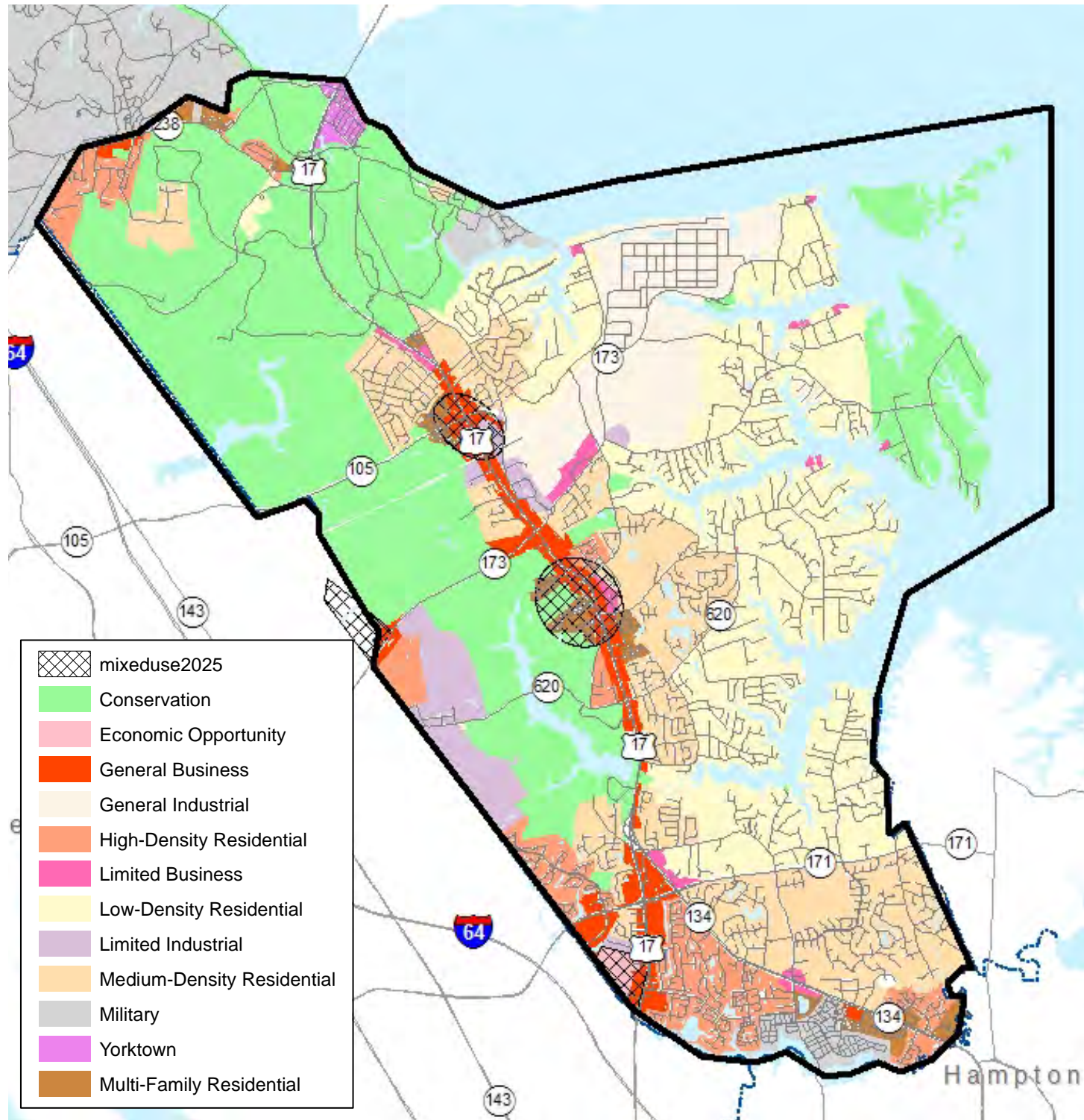
**Check all that apply:**

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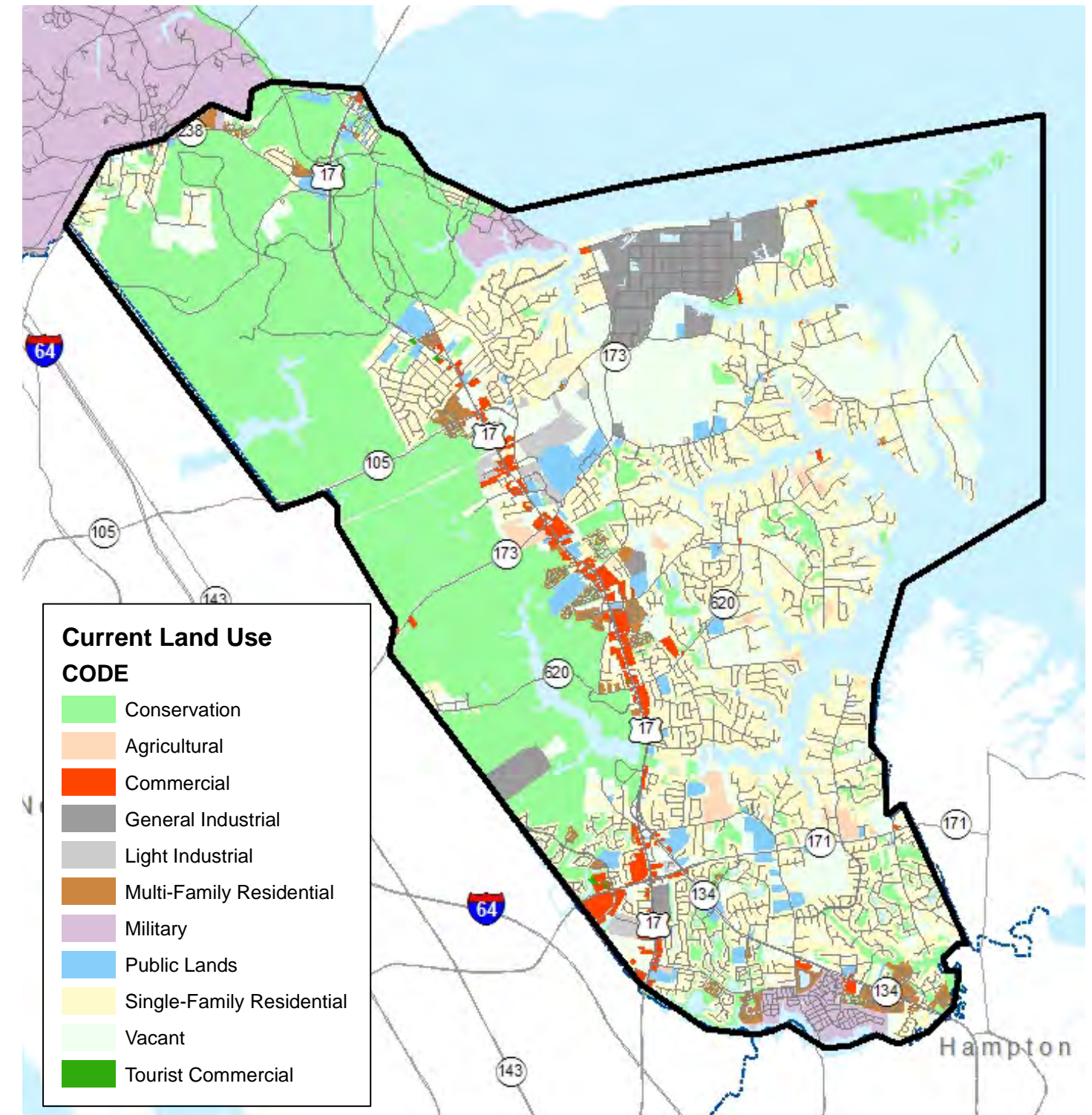


For more information about the Coordinated Comprehensive Plan Review, visit [www.htplanning.org](http://www.htplanning.org)

## Lower York County Fact Sheet



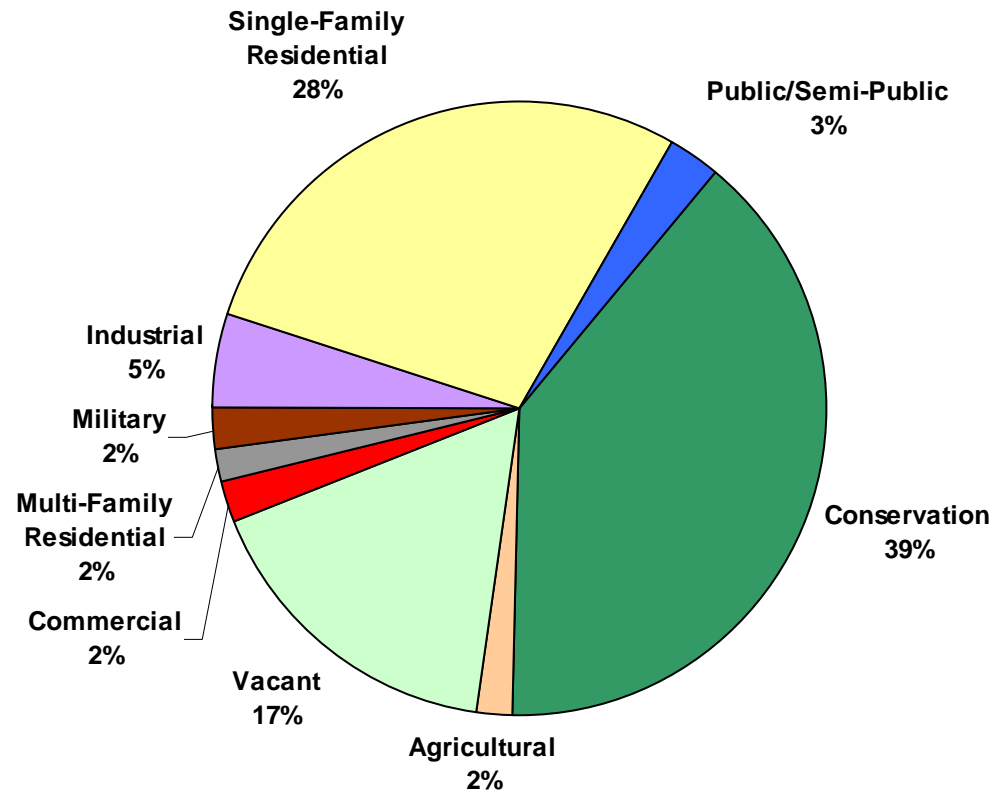
**Planned Future Land Use (based on the current adopted Comprehensive Plan)**



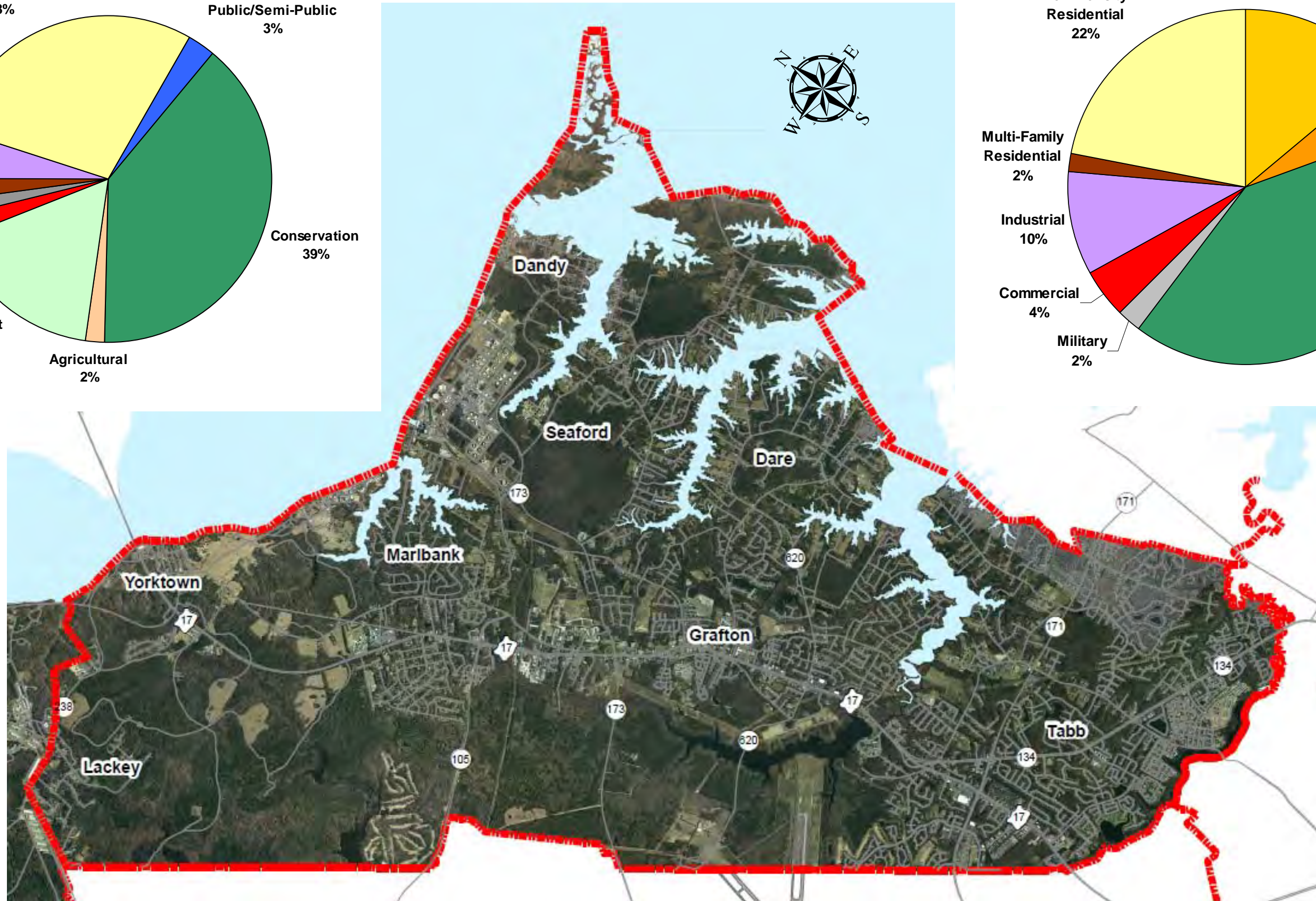
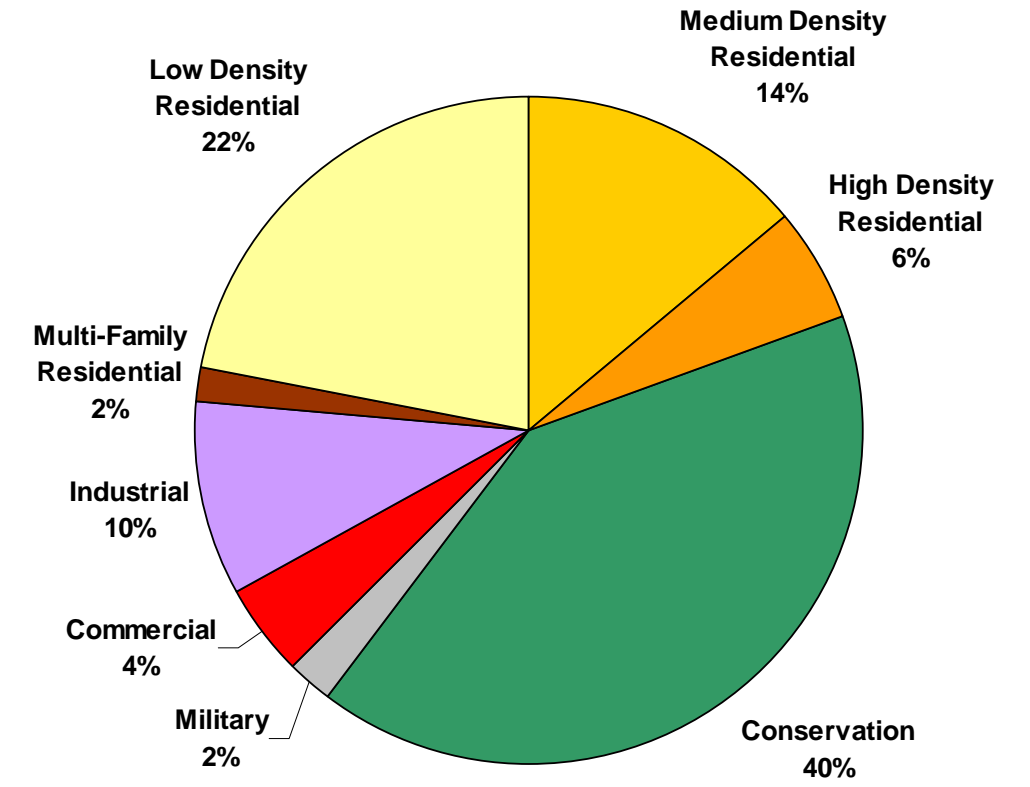
**Existing Land Use**



### Acreeage of Existing Land Uses



### Acreeage of Future Land Uses



Copyright: Commonwealth of Virginia



**Question #1: What do you like about living in the Historic Triangle?**

- Heritage; rural setting; low crime
- Nice area for raising family (not overcrowded, low crime, family values, schools)
- Lower population density than Norfolk/Virginia Beach (south side)
- The sense of community. Unfortunately, we are losing that as we become more populated/congested.
- History; great events; large open spaces (beaches, battlefield, Newport News Park, Harwoods Mill); neat shops; mild climate
- History – historical activities and sites; not too congested – yet; good access to water
- It’s historical and military-friendly.
- History; not urban; we have decent infrastructure.
- History; heritage; good schools; balance of industry and commerce; access to York River and other waterways
- Preservation of historic areas
- History; entertainment; military presence; tolerable cost of living
- Very educational for children and plenty to do when guests come to visit
- Not being crowded into a “development”! Room to garden, etc.
- Convenient to doctors, shopping, hospitals, good schools
- Preserved natural areas/open space; access to water (e.g., boat ramps, etc.)
- Water access
- Interesting mix of people; ability to get around – roads; lots of services available
- I like the rural country atmosphere; small farms and spread-out homesteads.
- Low taxes; no public transportation
- Life is great. Let’s keep things the way they are.
- Less government intervention; no more public transportation than already exists!
- Conservative, unintrusive government steeped in history.
- People died here for my right to life, liberty, and pursuit of property.
- Leave York County as is! Too many town centers.
- York County starting to look like intercity projects. Leave my property rights alone.
- Do not like my property rights being downgraded and taken away with more restrictions.
- I like my “property rights”; historical uniqueness
- I don’t like what is coming. Protect my property!
- We want a place of continued freedom – not more government control.
- Common sense approach to development – not using Agenda 21; using supply and demand
- We would like our elected officials in York County to do their job – not staff, not James City County, not Williamsburg.
- I like York County and want to be separated from James City County and Williamsburg for any zoning rules.
- We don’t want common pages in our 3 comprehensive plans.
- No like or shared pages in our comprehensive plan

**Question #2: What do you want the Historic Triangle to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- Controlled growth supported by adequate roads, utilities, and all amenities that are compatible with a hospitable lifestyle.

- More commercial nodes, less strip commercial. Continue access to water. Maintain individual rights to waterfront. More access for locals in relationship to tourists.
- I would like to still see a community – people who know people and care about people, not just people who exist behind their front door because we create a metropolis of fast-paced development and indifference to impact of decisions on infrastructure, education, business...
- I would prefer we stop building up and out. All the empty homes and apartments and still we build more. Also, the traffic will only get worse if we actually fill all these spaces.
- Still celebrate history; continue to have adequate infrastructure; more/better business/commercial atmosphere
- Another road/roads for Gloucester traffic; more lanes and roads to cross over from Newport News to York County; better training in schools for the job world
- Transportation within the areas coordinated; multi-use developments can only be reached via auto.
- Better traffic management
- Solid industrial base without loss of green space; bike paths and alternate forms of transportation; interconnected communities
- More bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly; continue to preserve open space.
- No changes (I love it!) except bike lanes and bike and walking routes (off vehicular roads)
- Growth in Yorktown Beach; bike path on Route 134
- I would like to see preservation of historical sites and rural living. Reduce high-density whenever possible.
- More support for the aging population based on ability to pay (or not)
- The same as now – no changes
- Would like it to be more supportive of local food production.
- A more realistic view than 20 years – at best a decade. Keep the Historic Sacred Land of our Founding Fathers.
- Less development; more rural land; less management by Planning Commission!
- More liberty; less property rights restrictions; better traffic flow; more friendly to business
- Change nothing!! Cheaper gas, less government.
- Fewer regulations; more business; reasonably low taxes
- I want York County to stand out on its own. Less government – NEW ELECTED OFFICIALS
- More people who can take care of themselves
- Less County intervention in private property rights
- We want private property rights preserved.
- More freedom; less regulation. Not a homeowners association!!
- Leave private property rights alone. Less empty existing storefronts – stop building more.
- Restoration of private property rights; no more government grants for “sustainable” development – that is someone else’s money.
- We do not want sustainable development, smart growth, or other similar programs in our counties.
- Zoning laws reduced to one page.
- We do not want common pages in our 3 comprehensive plans.
- Independent from James City County or City of Williamsburg. Resolution to rid York County of Agenda 21

### **Question #3: What do you like about the Yorktown/Lower York County Area?**

- It’s my home. I like the local heritage and local tradition. I grew up here.



- Good schools; maintained property values (generally); access to military installations; decent access to highways
- Rural setting; low crime; privacy; freedom
- Proximity to mall shopping, CNU theater, Norfolk Scope, Chrysler Theater, the Outer Banks, and Virginia Beach
- The convenience to beaches, mountains, D.C. area
- Like the rural setting.
- The open space, but now we are losing that. Also, a certain character that is going away.
- Sense of community; shared concerns and priorities for good education, environmental consideration, and people coming before money
- Access to water and natural areas (Rodgers Smith boat landing, Newport News Reservoir bike trails, Back Creek Park); shopping areas relatively close to residential areas
- My neighborhood and great neighbors; proximity to highways, shopping, library, concerts; great schools very important.
- I love the convenience of where we live. We are close to everything we need. We love the new sports complex and Grafton schools.
- Neighborhoods within the wetlands and conservation areas – keep the wetlands.
- It is not crowded where I am and I hope it stays that way!
- History; not urban; adequate infrastructure
- Like the rural setting of the community.
- Less traffic
- Below Harwoods Mill = less traffic and more access. Same services and quality of life with less traffic.
- Lower taxes; Yorktown fireworks; military bases
- Historic Yorktown – protect our nation’s history for the future.
- Protect small business owners; stop building huge city centers.
- Like to keep small business owners in York County, not big developers.
- Sense of community; strong national pride; belief in constitutional rights
- I like the citizen Planning Commission.
- Capitalistic development 20 years ago, based on supply and demand. Did not follow Agenda 21 theories.
- We do not want common pages in our 3 comprehensive plans.
- We do not want common pages in our 3 comprehensive plans.
- The rural area – STOP sustainable development.

**Question #4: What do you want the Yorktown/Lower York County Area to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- Revive Route 17 – keep commercial but limit direct access (more nodes, less strips). Limit signalized intersections. Add mixed use and specialty development.
- Sidewalks, crossing lanes that would allow kids to walk to schools
- More pedestrian/bicycle access between neighborhoods and to shopping areas; more bike lanes/trails in general.
- Less siren noise (makes it feel less safe); safe bike routes; unique restaurants rather than chains; control congestion.
- Transportation; retain neighborhoods; minimal industrial growth
- Public transportation; bike paths; plenty of green space
- No higher population density; less traffic issues
- No more growth! Needs to keep the “rural” feel.

- Stop the growth!
- Keep history and adequate infrastructure; more business/commercial; find new industries.
- Still have a sense of community. I would like to see decisions being made for betterment of community, not for money for businesses who develop using loopholes (e.g., draining a watershed wetland and pushing through development to beat pending conservation laws).
- Strong property value retention; synchronized traffic lights on Highway 17
- More support of local food production; consider smaller lots as potentially productive areas; more serious conservation/protection of waterways
- More rural; more agriculture; less high-density housing
- More farmers; more local food; more local business; less medium/high density residential
- More residential oyster farms and free-range chickens
- More oyster farms
- More oyster farming to clean up waters; small business owners with right to use own property
- Keep local watermen – stop adding unfair restrictions.
- No restrictions on commerce when it does not infringe on rights of others
- Honor property rights; friendlier to business; better traffic flow
- Less land ownership by the Land Conservancy; back to private property rights; no dictation from the County on what land is to be used in what way
- No changes that infringe on property rights; nothing connected to Agenda 21 – not “smart growth”
- We want more emphasis on individual rights and freedoms as opposed to the collective and environmental regulations.
- Cheaper gas! Less regulations; smaller government.
- Less government; less development; new initiatives in Colonial National Historic Park
- The way it was 4 years ago; back to York County roots!
- We do not want common pages in our 3 comprehensive plans.
- No stack and pack; no town centers; no sustainable development



**Open Forum Comments  
Lower York County  
March 15, 2012 – Tabb Library**

Margaret Mondol, James City County, spoke on behalf of the Senior Services Coalition, explaining that it is an organization of senior service providers, individuals, health systems, and government organizations working together to promote independent seniors. She said the Historic Triangle area has a particularly large aging population and as a region, we need to ensure that the area provides a safe, livable community for older adults with accessible housing and transportation as well as health and social services. Ms. Mondol said the organization urges local government to plan for and provide incentives to enable residents to stay in their homes as long as feasible (i.e., “age in place”). She said that new housing units should incorporate universal design standards that provide full accessibility in neighborhoods with unobstructed sidewalks and bicycle lanes. Ms. Mondol said there should be zoning and developer incentives to encourage the development of new housing for seniors including affordable housing, multi-family units, assisted living facilities, day care centers, continuing care retirement communities, and skilled nursing facilities.

Anthony Bavuso, York County, said he would like to see more freedom in York County. He said York County is not a homeowners association and that he would not like to see it become one. Mr. Bavuso said he would like to see local businesses and jobs supported by changes to the Comprehensive Plan. He said it was interesting to see that 18% of the County’s economic sector is in food service and asked how much of that is produced locally. He asked that York County establish a policy to promote local food supply to include local farmers and watermen. Mr. Bavuso said the Comprehensive Plan does not include an agricultural land use designation and said that traditions and heritage need to be maintained in the County and the Chesapeake Bay offers tremendous resources.

Sue Sadler, Toano (James City County), said she opposes the coordinated comprehensive plan review and the possibility of common pages within all three jurisdictions’ comprehensive plans. She said she feels the concerns about planning and property rights raised by herself and others at previous forums have fallen on deaf ears. Ms. Sadler expressed concern about the American Planning Association and a group called the Planners Network and cited statements on the Planners Network website that she objects to. She said that controlling personal property and redistributing wealth through planning and redevelopment is not what this country was founded on. Ms. Sadler said that while planning is important and communication between and among jurisdictions is necessary, she stated that there are ways to achieve planning without sustainable development, smart growth, and regionalism.

Keith Sadler of Toano (James City County) gave a definition of the terms “smart growth” and “sustainable development” and read text from a United Nations’ Agenda 21 planning guide, which he stated espouses socialist ideals. He said planning can be implemented without smart growth, sustainable development, and infringing on property rights. Mr. Sadler stated that plans utilize citizen tax dollars and government grants to



fund local projects. He stated that he also does not want to see common pages in the three comprehensive plans.

Joe Swanenburg of Lanexa (James City County) spoke about alternative decision-making models, one that is based on discussion, debate, and a public vote, and another that is based on achieving consensus, or the appearance of consensus through a collaborative “visioning” process. He expressed concern about the coordinated review process, stating that he does not want to give power over decisions to people in other localities with no recourse. He stated that comprehensive plans are developed by planning professionals who are committed to transforming local communities into social structures described in U.N. Agenda 21 documents that are designed to bypass local elected officials. He pointed out that Planning Commission members are not elected officials and that comprehensive plans are only voted on by the governing bodies at the end of the process when it is too late to make any real changes.

Jim Morgan (York County) said he was discouraged that three previous speakers took away valuable time for him and other citizens who came to the meeting to share comments and present ideas about the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that he participated in York County’s Comprehensive Plan process twenty years ago and that there was significant citizen involvement. Mr. Morgan said he would like to see adequate infrastructure over the next 20 years. He also expressed his concerns regarding the changes to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in historic Yorktown and hoped that the community would come together to convince the National Park Service to reconsider its decision to cancel the fireworks.

Patricia Ruddle (York County) said she participated in the last Comprehensive Plan review and she was disappointed that the meeting seemed to be driven by politics rather than a true interest in the County’s infrastructure and growth. She expressed concern and resentment that so much time was devoted to political comments rather than a discussion of important planning issues that affect the area.

Tom Nelson (York County) said he was concerned about the history of the County and noted that a lot of revenue is generated by tourism. He said there would be a march in historic Yorktown on Saturday, March 24, regarding the cancellation of the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks celebration. Mr. Nelson said he would like to see Riverwalk Landing turned over to a private company and stated that he has learned of another store in the development that is closing. He added that we should work together to make sure York County remains a great place with its own rules.

Sheila Noll, (York County) York County Board of Supervisors representative for District 2, said there have been negotiations between the County and the National Park Service to reinstate the July 4<sup>th</sup> activities. She stated that the fireworks would most likely be set off from a barge in the York River and that additional information would be forthcoming.

Lower York County Joint Community Forum Questionnaire  
Tabb Library – Thursday, March 15, 2012

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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?

*Allowing for free markets and protecting property and liberty are the biggest economic needs. Less restrictions on entrepreneurs and home businesses.*

3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?

*The Hwy 17 project that is planned + funded is our primary need. Et*

4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?

*Public facilities are fine. All we really need are facilities that help you protect life liberty and property.*

5. Other comments:

*Don't forget the purpose of our county governments is to protect life, liberty and property, not to plan our lives for us.*

Check all that apply:

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other
- I own a home in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area
- I own or manage residential rental property in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area
- I operate a business in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area
- I own commercial property in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area



Lower York County Joint Community Forum Questionnaire  
Tabb Library – Thursday, March 15, 2012

James City County, Williamsburg, and York County are jointly reviewing their comprehensive plans. Each of the three localities has a comprehensive plan – a long-range plan for the physical development of the area within its jurisdiction. The three localities have agreed to coordinate the timing of their comprehensive plan reviews to provide for joint consideration of land use, transportation, and other issues that cross the jurisdictional boundaries that run through the Historic Triangle. While each locality will conduct its own comprehensive plan review and develop its own plan, the coordinated timing of these reviews provides an opportunity for citizens of all three localities to talk about issues of mutual interest.

You can help by answering the following questions, which are designed to touch on many of the issues and subjects that the Comprehensive Plans address. (If you prefer to fill out our online questionnaire, please visit [www.HTPlanning.org](http://www.HTPlanning.org).)

1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*The aging population - need to promote more universal design in new constructions, ordinances that encourage multi-generational living, skilled care that is more "home like" and less institutional.*
2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*The ability to pay for needed services*
3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?  
*- Aging in place requires seniors be able to reach basic services without driving*
4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?  
*Housing for every economic group but primarily for middle income who don't rate services but who cannot afford to age in place.*
5. Other comments:  
*(house too expensive, in-home services too exp)*

**Check all that apply:**

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other   
 I own a home in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area   
 I own or manage residential rental property in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area   
 I operate a business in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area   
 I own commercial property in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area



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1. What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?

problem w/ high density housing near airport  
infrastructure - ensuring it is adequate

2. What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?

fireworks on HWY  
adequate infrastructure

3. What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?

lack of bridges/tunnels - falls, NVA, etc.  
all roads inadequate & well maintained

4. When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?

allow for adequate maintenance & growth

5. Other comments:

adequate & well maintained infrastructure  
attract & keep businesses, not just tourism/industrial?

Check all that apply:

- I am a resident of Williamsburg  James City County  York County  Other   
 I own a home in the Riverside/Busch Gardens/Marquis area   
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## Online Questionnaire Responses

### **What do you like about living in the Historic Triangle?**

- 1 I enjoy the feeling of community and the personal connections with people within that community. the fact that people are not wary of strangers and not rushing through their day prompts them to strike up conversations which truly enhance my day.
- 2 It's a well-planned tourist destination, with convenient shopping and dailing living/government centers.
- 3 The quite rural areas in James City County. I like the peace and quite. I like how it is easy to get around on the back roads.
- 4 Amentities, small town feel, friendliness of people, services provided by the city
- 5 The wealth of history. Also opportunities for involvement.
- 6 It is a beautiful place to live, safe, entertaining, much to offer and the area hosts a pleasant atmosphere to work, play and worship.
- 7 CW, W&M, easy access to interstate system, NN Airport
- 8 The beauty, the history, the area
- 9 The low crime rate, the cleanliness, the abundance of great restaurants, the nice neighborhoods, free events in town, great parks
- 10 The small town feeling
- 11 History, good schools, excellent public facilities- parks, library, trails, bikeways
- 12 I love the small town atmosphere allowing the opportunity to walk, ride a bike, or drive across town in a short time. At the same time the area offers world class historic, cultural, and educational resources.
- 13 Location near the ocean and mountains - smalll community - lack of congestion, access to good health care and the College resources, historical learning opportunities, lovely natural beauty with trees and waterways.
- 14 I love the beauty and history of this area. I was born and raised in Williamsburg (Bell hospital) never having left. I've lived in the City of Williamsburg, James City County and York County (in Williamsburg) all in WILLIAMSBURG.

### **What do you want the Historic Triangle to be 20 years from now? What changes would you like to see?**

- 1 I would like to see the area attracted and welcome people from other cultures and nationalities. I feel that the area would benefit from diversity that is not currently present.
- 2 A center for Greek culture. There are hundreds of Greek families in Williamsburg and the new Hellenic Center, and the Greek Festival...but no good Greek restaurants. Let's encourage some Greeks now cooking Italian to change their menus.
- 3 I would like to see less mixed use development like High Street and New Town. These areas have been unsuccessful, have many vacancies, and do not fit with the small town feel that this area is known for. Additionally, the money put up by the cities to help develop these has been a huge waste of money.
- 4 Light rail parallel to I64
- 5 Control the growth in housing and recruitment of business. There are too many empty stores.
- 6 Comprehensively supporting, transporting, and coordinating more senior services for the area. Coordinating the different health and human services together for support, education, and communication to help our seniors
- 7 Less Growth, Keep the place green
- 8 None
- 9 Changes in taxes for small businesses
- 10 A diverse community with in ages. Livable wage for service industry employees. Jobs that pay well for ages 20 - 30
- 11 A seamless public transportation system, minimal age restricted communities, integrated intergenerational communities with resouces to support all age ranges, community access for everyone to get to the services they need especially seniors and young people, increased living wage, schools as resource centers for the entire community
- 12 More cohesive, coordinated panning among the three jurisdictions, particularly in areas where the three jurisdictions come together (e.g. Second St. and Penniman Rd. corridor)...just as long as you are not covertly infusing Agenda 21 into the planning process :). More sidewalks, biking lanes, local businesses, reusing currently vacant buildings before construction new shopping malls/strips.
- 13 Basically I want to see the natural environment maintained without wall to wall shopping centers and abandoned buildings as we now see in all 3 jurisdictions (they have become eye sores and negatively impact property values and business growth.) Plan for Senior needs as our area is greying more than the norm. Work with the Senior Services Coalition in thie planning needs of seniors.
- 14 I would like to see it as more of a comprehensive unit v. having 3 separate entities which either overlaps for the residents causing incredible expenditures or excludes residents because of some imaginary boundary. Bypass Road is a wonderful example. 1 mile of York County bounded by the City of Williamsburg.

## Online Questionnaire Responses

### **What are the main housing needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?**

- 1 Affordability. I understand that is a touchy issue because the cost in services exceeds tax revenue but I feel that pricing people out of a housing market creates a situation where people are forced to commute which negatively impacts the community and the environment. Having people live and work in the same community creates a strong investment and interest in that community.
- 2 Housing issues...need some affordable condos (not continuing care facilities) with elevators for folks who don't want to maintain a large home or yard. They don't exist in Williamsburg.
- 3 More simple, traditional, single family homes. This area has become overgrown with too many apartments, public housing facilities, and condo/townhome communities. These are unattractive. It seems like the only choice anymore some sort of townhome, mixed-use development, or McMansion. The only real values are the older, solidly built homes that people rarely sell.
- 4 Senior housing for our aging population. Many retirees move here, but will most likely be changing where and how they live. Options for different income levels.
- 5 Overbuilding. Attraction for low income housing and seniors.
- 6 Seniors on limited incomes and depleted resources since medicare is reducing coverages and medication is difficult to afford. Those same seniors will have a very difficult time affording safe and accessible housing
- 7 Lack of Affordable Senior Housing
- 8 Low-income housing for seniors.
- 9 The upcoming surge of older adults in the community
- 10 Affordable housing for seniors and first-time homebuyers
- 11 Affordable Assisted living for seniors, rental and single family homes for the working poor
- 12 Aging housing, particularly apartment complexes, that will need renovation. Planning future housing developments to avoid building beyond our needs and means (yes, sustainable development is a worthy goal--essentially living within your means and building only what you will need for the future, not what makes the most money in the short term. You'd think the past couple of years would have taught us that lesson).
- 13 Affordable housing for seniors needing residential care outside their own home - perhaps all facilities could have a small number of beds for folks with limited means - DO NOT BUILD Governmental Facilities. All jurisdictions living within their means, without raising taxes - downsize growth of governmental organizations - cut any/all fat.
- 14 Need more affordable family friendly homes. The retirees are great but they do not bring as much income and they utilize our resources more than any other group. If this area is allowed to continue to be a retirement community and tourism, it will be a quaint but "dead" town within 20 more years. Young families used to "live here" and now they don't.

### **What are the main economic needs and challenges facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?**

- 1 The creation of an industry outside of tourism and service.
- 2 Save the shopping center on Mooretown Rd (where Ukrops moved out). Bring in some shops like HomeGoods, World Market, Hobby Lobby, etc. There are plenty of folks moving into developments like Colonial Heritage...but we must drive to Monticello to shop if we want other than the Outlet Stores.
- 3 Too much dependence on tourism and consumer economies (e.g. retail). These businesses are good, but the local economy is too consumer drive. When times get tough retail businesses and the like do poorly. What would be really beneficial is attracting top notch manufacturing and production facilities. Businesses that actually produce goods. These provide more stable jobs and tax revenue because they are not tied to tourism or the local economy. Instead they draw revenue from a variety of sources outside the local economy while still benefitting us.
- 4 Maintaining revenue sources to provide all the services we receive. Taking care of our aging and needy citizens.
- 5 As mentioned, need to attract more business to fill our empty malls.
- 6 Encouraging industry - not just retail and recreational outings - may be a way to develop economically. Unfortunately we lost plants like John Deere and others that reduced income for workers and ultimately tax revenue for the area.
- 7 It's getting too expensive in JCC re: taxes - it's wonderful to say taxes have not gone up, then why is my tax bill higher oh yes, we were re-assesed!!!!
- 8 None
- 9 None
- 10 Creating jobs and attracting industry that pays decent wages
- 11 Transportation, service industry wages, full time permanent employment with affordable health benefits, containing educational costs, getting a handle on the widening haves and have nots



## Online Questionnaire Responses

- 12 Expanding tourism--our bread and butter. Improving hotel and motel occupancy rates, which may mean fewer hotels and motels. Diversifying our industries (beyond tourism), which means attracting new businesses independent of the tourism industry. Partnerships with William & Mary may open some doors.
- 13 Living within financial means without continually raising citizens taxes. (See comments in #3 above) Facing the needs of the growing senior population. Slowing growth to a reality with major consideration to water source and other utilities, as well as maintaining forest areas and other green space - utilize abandoned properties before permitting more trees being destroyed (many are hundreds of years old and should not all be cut.)
- 14 Shopping Center, Merrimac Trail and we keep on building around "New Town" because that is the "place du jour". I remember when Williamsburg Crossing was "that place." I am astounded by the lack of vision for this beautiful town. With Mr. Humelsine's departure, CWF has not been run the same way and it unfortunately is not positive. The only "industry" here is low paying health care aides for the elderly and restaurant jobs. Again, no vision on any of the planning committees. None.

### **What are the main transportation needs and challenges (highways, transit, rail, bikeways, sidewalks, etc.) facing the Historic Triangle within the next 20 years?**

- 1 Transit, bikeways. the bike lanes here are a joke – they are there for awhile and then disappear- then reappear. regardless focus on transit- while rail would be excellent unless we have trolley lines the impact on creation of rail grade would be too great. Focus on bus service using bio fuels or green technology would be excellent.
- 2 Something needs to be done about the proposal to run power lines across Colonial Heritage! Will this issue be discussed at the forum? Can these lines not be run underground for the stretch that crosses Colonial Heritage?
- 3 Keep I-64 in good shape. Stop spending time and resources on bike paths and so-called "light rail". These are not prudent uses of tax payer resources. They do not provide real value, income, or usefulness to the majority of the local taxpayers.
- 4 The biggest challenge is doing something about the coming gridlock on I64. We need light rail but where and how to get the revenue.
- 5 Increase speed on Amtrak between Richmond and Williamsburg. Also speed to Boston.
- 6 More bikeways should be developed as folks will be doing more of that if industry is close, neighborhoods encourage small shops within biking distance for market needs and jobs. Transportation for public - to include seniors is a must to develop the area and its businesses.
- 7 TOO Many PEOPLE
- 8 None
- 9 None
- 10 Transportation for seniors that they can access. More sidewalks and more bikeways
- 11 Public transportation, Interstate 64 congestion, aging highways and infrastructure
- 12 We could really use more bike lanes and sidewalks along Second St. and near schools in the area. This would encourage walking and biking, which promotes better health and fitness. The asset of a train station in walking distance from the historic area and William & Mary is an under utilized benefit and may be a way to encourage a different type of visitor--whistle stop tours? A more efficient modern train system connecting to the area may be an avenue for future development and new industry. Just some brainstorming.
- 13 Maintenance of current roads. As we are the main corridor for trucks from the Ports, both State and Federal Governments need to share in road costs that basically serve other beyond our area - they could consider tolls for commercial vehicles - build a road for trucks from the ports that would go to 95 (south of the James where congestion is not a big issue as it is here and where historical areas are not negatively impacted)
- 14 Sidewalks and bus transportation. It is small enough that many can walk and use the bus. We used to do so growing up. The boundaries of the land haven't increased so no new roads. Keep building and we will look like Newport News.

### **When you think about public facilities (schools, fire stations, libraries, parks & recreation facilities, etc.), what do you see as the biggest needs facing the Historic Triangle over the next 20 years?**

- 1 Community centers that encourage multicultural education
- 2 Keeping traffic moving...parks are great! There is a need for some good bike paths.
- 3 WJCC needs to cut some real costs. The newest schools are too extravagant. Schools should be simple places where kids get educated. Not monuments to their namesakes.
- 4 Having the resources to sustain these services. In 20 years, the public will most likely be paying for services--not free as they are now.
- 5 Plan for rising school population - more schools. Our library is biting the Bullet to keep up with changes in electronic learning. What about York County Library.

## Online Questionnaire Responses

- 6 Park services are essential to encourage safe outdoor health and maintenance. Schools that are manageable for student numbers with the insight to foresee more children moving in if we develop more industries and health care
- 7 THEY are FANTASTIC
- 8 None
- 9 None
- 10 Walking trails, senior activities, libraries
- 11 More fire stations as the population increases, better use of school facilities, alternate schedules, year round, increase class sizes but not reduce staff
- 12 I think our facilities are great and very competitive nationally. Maintenance of these assets and improvements when needed will be the biggest challenge. Maintaining high standards across the board takes constant input and dedication.
- 13 Note all of the above comments - schools need to shift classes without building new very costly facilities. You could eliminate Middle schools and go to grade schools 1-6 grades, Jr High 7-9, and High 10-12. Or juggle grades as the population shifts. Programs and facilities for seniors need to be given greater priority - work with the Senior Services Coalition and their CAPOA (Community Action Plan on Aging.) They did the research and have a group of profits, not-for-profits, governmental organizations and citizens who guide the plan and are making some inroads in serving citizens without tax dollars. Use what exists - DO NOT CREATE ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.
- 14 One example, which I've written about before, is I live 1 1/2 miles on Bypass Road from the Rec Center and have a Williamsburg address but must pay "out of area" rates whereby my brother who lives in Two Rivers pays Wmsbg/JCC rates 8 miles away. If you made the residents who have a WILLIAMSBURG address part of the Triangle, the Triangle would have more income and not so much redundancy. Why would I drive several miles out on Mooretown road to join the YMCA? If you are truly going to have a Historic Triangle, why do you keep it so separate from one another? I lived at 426 Ireland St for 26 years (City of Williamsburg), Rolling Woods for 15 years (JCC) and now have lived at Carriage Homes for the past 8 years (York County) but feel like I've lived in 3 completely separate, segregated and non-cooperative cities, all within a 4 mile radius.

### **Other Comments:**

- 1 None
- 2 The residents in Colonial Heritage are extremely concerned about the power line issue. I've written to the utility company and asked for more information about the exact location for the towers, but they did not respond. We need specific information. I am a realtor, and don't want to sell homes to people who are going to be unhappy in a year or two!
- 3 While I am participating in this survey, I do not think it is appropriate for local government decisions to be driven by unelected committees that have no duty to the taxpayers. I also think that planning "collectively" creates a situation in which tax payers and voters in one community are unnecessarily tied to the thoughts, opinions, and goals of another. The best thing about being a singular community is that you can rise and fall on your own merits. I do not care for unelected committees as I think they can be disingenuous and frequently have hidden agendas that would be rejected if presented to citizens in a direct, accountable manner. Voters are to elect officials into office and those officials must make decisions and be accountable to the voters. Committees are not held accountable to the voters and I find this counter to the great American electoral process.
- 4 None
- 5 The biggest challenge is the growth in population and loss of State funding.
- 6 None
- 7 Health Care Foundation should stop funding organizations that do not provide any SERVICE-stop funding self serving people
- 8 None
- 9 None
- 10 None
- 11 None
- 12 I really appreciate the efforts that the city and county officials are putting forth to plan future growth and development. It makes perfect sense for three jurisdictions located in close proximity to talk to each other about plans for growth and development. It makes no sense to not talk to each other. I thank you for your efforts and am proud of my community leaders for undertaking this effort. I admire your patience in putting up with these ridiculous rants from the anti-Agenda 21 folks. I wish I had asked them at the meeting I attended to tell us what they were FOR in the comprehensive planning process. They all went on about the evils of Agenda 21--what they were against, but not one of them ever contributed to the planning process by telling us what they were actually for. I'll stop ranting...

### **Online Questionnaire Responses**

- 13 DO NOT GET FEDERAL GRANTS FOR YOUR COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING FOR THE THREE JURISDICTIONS  
- FIGURE OUT HOW TO LIVE WITHIN THE COUNTY/CITY BUDGET WITH OUT BURDENING THE CITIZENS  
MORE. DO NOT FOLLOW THE UNITED NATIONS AGENDA 21 !
- 14 It is a beautiful area to raise a family, to retire in, to be a student...it is unique and safe. I would like to see a cohesive  
and comprehensive plan for WILLIAMSBURG regardless if it is the City, York or JCC.