

Board of County Commissions Retreat Priorities	Votes
Property Tax:	
Tax breaks for long term owners (homestead exemption); change income restrictions for elderly, disabled citizens. (change income from \$29K to \$53K). Work with NCGA to get tax breaks for long-term property owners.	18
PreK:	
Expand PreK and look at options for future expansion	15
Zoning:	
Allow new construction of factory build multi-section in R1 & R2 districts to expand workforce housing (firefighters, teachers, etc.)	10
Equity:	
Promote equality in Buncombe County - especially racial and economic.	9
Energy and Carbon Footprint Reduction:	
Be a leader in the energy area: create a BC Sustainability Office; be cleaner and more affordable in the energy area; through the Energy Innovations Task Force, collaborate with Asheville and Duke Energy to reduce carbon footprint and making us a cleaner energy community.	9
Support business growth and citizen access to employment:	
Invest in incentives and small business support. Raise the bar and push wages up to offset other employee issues like transit and housing. Strengthen our wage criteria for incentives to make sure wages are more than the average county wage. Require employers to provide individual wages, not just the average wage. Support job growth closer to where the citizen lives.	5
Recreation:	
Help make sure that kids have access to group outlets (in/outdoor activities); Build Orchard Park in Candler	4
Public Safety:	
Expand cops teams. Find ways to keep people out of jail	4
Find ways to reduce citizens overdosing on drugs:	
Educate our citizens about drug dangers. Encourage doctors to tell patients that oxycodone and hydrocodone are heroin derivatives.	3
Education:	
Provide the 2 nd half of teacher supplement increases that we funded in FY2017. Work with school boards in teacher compensation. Encourage people to continue entering the education profession.	3

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