Poll: Vision and Goals

What is the zip code of the area where you live?

Map data ©2022 Google

https://publicinput.com/report?id=13968
1. How long have you lived in Buncombe County?

- 25% 21 - 50 years
- 22% 11 - 20 years
- 21% 1 - 5 years
- 14% 6 - 10 years
- 12% I was born here and never left
- 5% Less than 1 year
- 1% I do not live in Buncombe County

1,288 respondents
2. How long has your family lived here?

- 30% My family does not live here
- 19% 20 - 50 years
- 17% 1 - 10 years
- 15% 10 - 20 years
- 11% More than 100 years
- 11% 50 - 100 years
- 7% 1 - 10 years

1,255 respondents

3. Why do you choose to live or work in Buncombe County? (Pick your top choice.)

- 43% Natural beauty and mountains
- 16% Quality of life (schools, recreation/parks, fun activities, and dining options)
- 11% I was born here and never left
- 10% Extended family lives here
- 10% Work here or your spouse/partner works here
- 6% Sense of community
- 4% Others

1,220 respondents
4. What do you like most about Buncombe County? (Pick your top two choices.)

- **80%** Natural environment (mountains, rivers, creeks, wildlife, etc.)
- **25%** The people
- **15%** Great place to raise a family
- **14%** Historical and cultural roots
- **12%** Recreation and parks
- **9%** Other
- **6%** Attractive looking community
- **6%** Safe community

1,244 Respondents

5. How do you define the word "equity"?

- **56%** All of the above
- **21%** Making sure people can meet their needs (health, education, housing, recreation, employment, childcare, etc.) regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, or income
- **8%** Making sure that people living in all parts of Buncombe County have the same access to high quality community benefits (parks, libraries, schools, trails, etc.)
- **7%** Making sure that the actions of one group do not negatively impact the quality of life for another
- **5%** Making sure that new investments, made by the government or made by businesses, create benefits for all and not just for a few
- **3%** Others

1,197 respondents
6. What are your biggest concerns about the future of Buncombe County? (Pick your top three choices and share your specific thoughts about this concern in the blank after the answer choice.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rising cost of living (housing, transportation, food, etc.)</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Losing natural areas and agricultural lands to new development</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(housing, commercial, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tourism development changing the character and experience of the County</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough high paying jobs or training for local workers</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rise in crime and violence</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued racial inequity (income, health, housing, education, etc.)</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impacts from climate change and weather events (flooding, landslides,</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wildfires, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Local youth may not have the resources or education to stay here</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long-term</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmentally sensitive areas limiting the ability to develop needed</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>housing and businesses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am not concerned about the future of Buncombe County</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,212 Respondents

Tourists are great, but there's a lot of them...
4 months ago

I know there is a need for housing, I'm just concerned about the loss of wildlife and the impact this long term.
4 months ago

As prices continue to go up, I'm concerned the tourist-centered industry won't be able to keep up.
4 months ago
Asheville feels more and more like an exclusive playground for rich tourists. Locals can not afford to live here, especially since the job market is catering towards the service industry. I can only afford to live here now because I am lucky enough to have a remote job out of Louisiana. That's right, a Louisiana job pays more than one in Buncombe County.

While it is true that this county has subsisted on tourism, due to the wages for workers being stagnant while cost of living is out of control, businesses have not been able to staff appropriately for a tourist economy to function in a remotely healthy manner. Tourism marketing has reached a point of diminishing returns and for at least the next 3-5 years if not longer, the money in the budget would be better directed toward infrastructure. A secondary problem is that we have too many out of state investors trying to develop for quick profit which, in turn, takes away from the character and history of the area and devalues the area for future tourism. (To be fair, I do not believe that redirecting funds from the tourism budget will significantly change the volume of tourists. This is especially true if the funds are dedicated to upkeep and repair of community facilities, parks, and roads which all make the area more attractive to visitors.) If new development and unnecessary building of new structures are limited, wages can somehow be elevated to meet the needs of the cost of living, and we reinvest in the quality of life of the people who live here, we will still have all of the things that draw people to the area but the residents will be happier, healthier, and more welcoming to people passing through. Local businesses will thrive when the residents do.

I am also concerned about racial injustice. The cost of housing has far outpaced the rate of pay. There is no infrastructure to support what is being built. Traffic already backs up because of the lack of infrastructure.

It's impossible to afford to live here if you live in the service industry. The lack of housing, affordable or otherwise, continues to drive up prices. We need to invest in high density urban housing, and institute progressive taxes on AirBNB.

I'm concerned that the rising cost of living might deter younger adults from staying and working in the area, leading to staffing shortages that could reduce services and raise costs for residents of all ages.

We shouldn't be spending so much to support tourism. Let's concentrate on the residents.

Low wage and high rents. Sustainable economy that is not centered around tourism, and how the money from big business makes tourism the incessant focus all of the time, as opposed to bringing jobs here that have upward mobility and are not just service based. Wages. Opportunity for upward mobility. Wages.

I think that if the cost of living wasn't so astronomical that there would be more than enough decent paying jobs to do so. Unfortunately, the wages haven't increased proportionally to how expensive it is to live here.

As a downtown resident I am concerned about the homelessness and addiction issues in and of themselves, but also as they relate to crime and violence. I feel for and want to see support for the homeless and drug addicted, especially when they have local ties and roots, but they must sign on and be part of that process. It cannot be “done” to them, or for them. At the same time, local and county ordinances must be enforced. Buncombe is becoming a destination for more hard core addicts and homeless from other areas, and this should be discouraged through a tough love approach to placing limits on unacceptable behavior.
The lack of affordable housing is a huge issue. I support the county’s efforts to create truly affordable housing for workers. Buncombe should not become a playground for the rich where government and service workers can no longer afford to live. The population is going to continue to grow, presenting challenges that need to be managed. I support increased housing density over sprawl, and measures to deal with traffic and stormwater impacts.

As a family with a small child, we are living pay check to paycheck to afford the cost of living here. I have lived here for over 20 years and it is absurd how expensive it has become to live in this county. The jobs here can not compare in salary to jobs in other cities, however the cost of living is just as high as other major cities. With all of the short term rentals the average family can not afford the rent to live here.

My three biggest concerns (the rising cost of living, lack of high paying jobs/training, and local youth being unable to stay here long term) are all linked together; continued racial inequity is related, and similarly important. Wealthy people move here and finance a lot of service jobs, but we need to have more local jobs with higher wages and better quality of living if we want the next generation to be able to live here (without being financed by a wealthy family member).

I'm hoping that by addressing well paying job opportunities and training for locals, we can mitigate the adverse effects of high cost of living, tourism et al, "changing the character", crime, etc.
I live in a cul-de-sac off Williams Rd at the southern edge of Buncombe County. Even though my mailing address is Fletcher, since shortly after we arrived in 1995, when there were no subdivisions other than the one we still live in. I am a benefactor of the desirability of this area, and we now live in suburbia! With the potential for further continued growth, and the current infrastructure less able to handle the in-migration in that part of the county, and elsewhere I'm sure, plans need to address the potential need for widened roads here and throughout the county. I understand that "zoning" is a bad word here, but if we fail to have adequate setbacks it will significantly reduce quality of life for residence. This is particularly in light of the choices that developers make to maximize utilization of available space on a given lot. As was said about Asheville, growth will have to be inward and up. The fact that this might hold true in the long term, and already has in some parts of the county, should be taken into this and subsequent planning. I understand that the roads are under the purview of the State, and/or Federal DOT. However, if trucking companies are to determine road usage (or their GPS routing services) then the planning should include space for safe improvements in roadways. I'd much rather it be up to citizens to have significant input about road usage, but I also understand the universality of the NIMBY (Not In MY Back Yard) virus! An example of the need for setback management is that 18 wheel tractor trailers now use Mills Gap Road to access the industrial park put in decades ago at the end of Mills Gap road in Henderson County, instead of taking the extra minutes to use Hendersonville/Old Cane Creek,... I'm sure this makes good business sense, however what was a sleepy rural road in the early '90s, became a residential access road to the above noted suburban development. More recently, discovery of this road by gps routing companies that maximize fleet travel efficiency has now made this road at times terrifying in the face of oncoming tractor-trailer use. If we citizens are to have no input into residential verses commercial road use, then we should at least allow space for future road improvements to allow safety in traveling these roads for all. Ideally, if the County has any input about road usage, one can imagine a long range plan that would sort out these differing needs of residential vs industrial traffic flow within its boundaries for the benefit of both residents and business, not just the latter, which seems the way it stands now. I'd be happy to see Mills Gap Rd, for example, widened significantly for safety of residents, but it would require appropriate space for the DOT to do those upgrades in the future. I've seen this done poorly in the past in another state where 2 lane roads had setbacks that allowed developers to build multi-unit dwellings in a near urban environment adjacent to the roadway, with the sad result that in a couple of decades widening the roadways became impossible, and the influx of population had literally tripled driving times. I'm hoping we have the foresight to avoid that for the sake of a lack of foresight.

Need for establishing adequate road setbacks now for future improvements in infrastructure

I have lived in a cul-de-sac off Williams Rd at the southern edge of Buncombe County. Even though my mailing address is Fletcher, since shortly after we arrived in 1995, we now live in suburbia! With the potential for further continued growth, and the current infrastructure less able to handle the in-migration in that part of the county, plans need to address the potential need for widened roads here, and throughout the county. I understand that "zoning" is a bad word here, but if we fail to have adequate setbacks it will significantly reduce quality of life for residence. This is particularly in light of the choices that developers make to maximize utilization of available space on a given lot. As was said about Asheville, growth will have to be inward and up. The fact that this might hold true in the long term, and already has in some parts of the county, should be taken into this and subsequent planning. I understand that the roads are under the purview of the State, and/or Federal DOT. However, if trucking companies are to determine road usage (or their GPS routing services) then the planning should include space for safe improvements in roadways. I'd much rather it be up to citizens to have significant input about road usage, but I also understand the universality of the NIMBY (Not In MY Back Yard) virus! An example of the need for setback management is that 18 wheel tractor trailers now use Mills

Right of Way Setbacks

MY BIGGEST CONCERN WOULD BE THAT LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE (LIKE CITY COUNSEL, SCHOOL BOARD, etc.) WENT ALONG WITH THE COVID MANDATES. EITHER DIDNT BOther TO LOOK ANYWHERE OTHER THAN MAIN STREAM NEWS AND/OR THERE MAY HAVE BEEN MONEY IN IT FOR THEM AND/OR THEY WERE TOO COWARDICE TO DO CRITICAL THINKING AND TRULY REPRESENT THE PEOPLE WHO ELECTED THEM
I do not have any personal experience, but I believe that the rising climate is a problem everywhere, and that we should do everything we can to help our world. I believe that rising cost of living is not sustainable and negatively effects everyone. I have seen lots of new developments being put in place that are harming the environment, which creates a less sustainable environment and resources.

A lot of people are moving here which increases the price of living.

I'm worried about Buncombe County becoming so high priced and development-focused, it loses the ability to support or be supported by those that are local

Drugs

More developments are being made, making us lose environment and prices rise on homes.

I'm worried about crime and violence due to the defunding of the police. I'm worried there's too many people moving here.

By focusing on racial (and gender) equity, especially in education, housing and health care, we create a better community for ALL. At current, POC and women get the 'short end of the stick' in all aspects of life, we need to ensure that they have equal access and opportunity for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness...starting with strong educational systems, a safe place to live and health care access for all.

Development favoring developers over residents.

Small farms need to be kept viable and not taken over by multi million $ housing subdivision. We need to keep our young people here to stay viable. Training programs and programs with cross programs with government and business for a variety of jobs, not just college type jobs. Internships and skill based jobs are essential to keep a community involved and active.

My biggest concern is the ability of elected officials and public servants to remain remain focused on the people who live here, without prejudice to monied interests who have the unequal ability to sway decisions in favor of corporate benefit.

Deterioration of local health care quality and options with purchase of Mission Health by HCA -

Local workers need better and higher paying jobs to be able to live in the county. Over-development is wiping out natural areas while depleting local infrastructure, such as roadways.

Much like other municipalities in the US, wages have not kept up with the cost of living (specifically housing) in Buncombe County. The county has not proactively planned for nor addressed the growth, which can threaten the natural beauty of the area.
I feel like the choices I picked and most of the choices inbox with inequity. The housing has gotten awful and is pushing out those who make this town what it has been, particularly BIPOC communities. It's raised rents and the overall cost of living for everyone while there aren't enough high paying jobs to help out those most in need. It's an endless cycle. It just seems like money is the main priority of Buncombe county and the most vulnerable communities continue to suffer from the lack of prioritizing it's people.

While there has been more conservation of racial inequity, it feels like most of the gestures done are performative rather than what the Black and Brown communities are actually requesting and needing

6 months ago

Housing costs have escalated and there are not enough high paying jobs to support the population; tourism seems to take priority over the residents' needs.

6 months ago

The county has lost its way. Best I can tell development decisions are made to benefit tourists and developers instead of residents. The pace of development is decreasing quality of life for residents. The plan in south buncombe seems to be to build as fast as possible without considering the impacts on our community. Let's plan for greenspace and greenways before green lighting every project that gets proposed. We need vision. Think about what this county will look like in 10 years not react to how it will change in 10 min. I'm fed up.

6 months ago

Cost of living is most critical along with racial/ ethnic inequity. The tourism income needs to be more equitably distributed to help off set the tourist impacts, for instance some of it could be used for child care cost for low income workers in the tourism industry.

6 months ago

Absolutely MUST slow the avid "Development" insanity. If the rich from elsewhere keep moving here, no one local will ever be able to get into the housing market.

6 months ago

Town overrun with homeless and is effecting the feel of downtown.

6 months ago

I feel these responses tie into each other and are root issues that all the others are symptomatic of. The mishandling of tourism is creating inequity, not only racially but economically as well. Asheville and Buncombe County are slowly becoming a mini Charlotte. I intentionally have avoided going to Charlotte my whole life because I dislike the culture. As we focus on tourism we lose sight of how locals are able to survive in our economy and how gentrification impact racial equity, environmental stability and the uniqueness that has drawn people to the area to begin with.

6 months ago

Overcrowded parks, recreational facilities and difficulty finding parking during high tourism seasons.

6 months ago

Too many hotels being built- some with inadequate parking- as there should be about 1.24 parking spots per bedroom. The city allows 1/2 a parking space per bedroom- ... thereby stealing the"public" parking for the benefit of developers.

6 months ago

It seems any developer mentioning/ positioning an element of affordable housing in their plans are given an extra greenlight to move forward, regardless of the total impact these developments have on the local population. Additional impacts the development will have on traffic, destruction of natural resources, increased school populations, etc. are not being fully calculated into the decisions of whether or not an approval is given. It seems the developer is the one who decides 'the highest and best use' of a lands value and not the people who actually live and work here.

6 months ago
We need to keep farm land and Wilderness area
6 months ago

Mountains and every other available parcel of land being used to build these lavish homes, apartment buildings, hotels, motels, etc. has increased flooding, landslides, wildfires, crime, violence, traffic and property taxes. Providing more affordable housing is not the answer. Make it more affordable ad safe for those of us that live here already to stay here.
6 months ago

No one cares about the county.
6 months ago

Roads to crowded
6 months ago

Growing crime in Swannanoa and buncombe county. I want it to be a safe place for my family that we can also afford to live in. Paychecks stay the same but our mortgage went up $100 a month due to taxes and gas and groceries are sky rocketing. Fort priority should be making sure current community members have access to safe and clean areas and can afford basic needs before focusing on trying to build more housing which go to people outside the community.
6 months ago

Outside developers changing neighborhoods for their personal gain and the detriment of local residents
6 months ago

I was born here, moved away and then came home to raise my kids. It pains me to think they may not be able to afford to live here too.
6 months ago

I am unable to use the parks and downtown due to disgusting filth and dangerous conditions due to our homelessness epidemic. It is an embarrassment for our county and I have had numerous people tell me that they won't come visit because they can go somewhere cleaner. We are losing tourists and their money because of the homelessness problem.
6 months ago

We should focus on developing mixed-use living/commercial areas with affordable rent/buy prices to limit outward growth while accommodating our wonderful demographic growth. Our natural beauty and open mindset are our greatest strengths.
6 months ago

Very few jobs available at the income level needed for us to maintain our way of living
6 months ago

It is becoming impossible for locals to continue to live here. And apartments are being built every day. Too many people for the road structure.
6 months ago

High property taxes
6 months ago
The people that make Asheville run cannot afford to live in Asheville. There is not enough affordable housing, and every opportunity for it gets turned into a hotel or luxury condos. PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HOUSING NOW for the people that cook, serve, clean, retail, etc. This is tied to the Tourism Development response that I didn't pick -- quit thinking about the tourists at the expense of the locals. It is unsustainable and will alter the community to the point that it's no longer marketable.

If climate change is not considered in the Bun County Plan then the plan is incomplete. Climate change is the biggest threat facing our community, and our world.

Also see the emphasis on tourist dollars as being out of balance. County might work with the state legislature to liberalize who/what can benefit from tourist tax dollars. (like infrastructure).

Environmental degradation through development

I'm worried for the sustained health of the people, community, and environment

We have seen housing prices skyrocket and are very concerned by the lack of affordable housing for all. So many air B & Bs but not affordable rental properties. The lack of living wage employment exacerbates this condition. Lastly, we moved here to enjoy the natural beauty and are concerned by rampant and thoughtless development.

I own my house but fear that if I was a renter, that would be a real financial challenge. I want family to move here and the housing market pricing is thru the roof.... that relates to lower paying jobs....also fear the huge build up of multiple dwelling housing units which takes away from the 'natural beauty'

Cannot downsize to one level home as we have aged. Few suitable properties available or affordable even with the high value of our home. Destruction of County land for housing development. Too much emphasis on building for tourists. They will come anyway as they always have. Take care of the locals. Build infrastructure for locals- parks, greenways, open space, sports for kids.

The cost of housing is a major concern. Working class people are being forced to live farther out of town, causing them to drive more

Hard to pick just 3! Tourism can be too much of a good thing, especially if quality of life for residents suffers from an imbalance

Taxes are too high

Tourism development: Buncombe County has had tourism as a significant part of its history. the overall infrastructure and natural resources may require that thought be given to some limits to future building of hotels and the like.

Impacts from climate change and weather events: We MUST quit allowing homes being built at higher elevations. Stiff regulations must take into consideration flow of water downhill. This would be much stricter than current Steep Slope regulations.
Loosing natural areas and agricultural lands to new development: The greatest asset of Buncombe County is its natural beauty. The tremendous building of apartments, and high-end single family developments, plus, the more and more hotels being built, is impinging on our natural beauty. There needs to be more regulation, with limitations on future developments. The limits should take into account necessity of such additional facilities.
6 months ago

Not enough affordable rentals. Makes it very difficult to survive without a roommate.
6 months ago

At the most, fight to disband the TDA. At the very least, reform the TDA to be an electable body of local representatives with term limits.
6 months ago

For some people there are unfair practices.
6 months ago

I hate the way Tourism has become so powerful! It does not provide meaningful or well paying jobs and is environmentally harmful.
6 months ago

We need to limit density to protect the environment and runoff. We need to get strict on quality of life issues like open drug use, aggressive panhandlers, public drunkenness.
6 months ago

Very concerned specifically about the loss of small and medium sized farms to commercial development, as well as the conversion of further commercial development along the watersheds and mountain ridges.
6 months ago

I feel Buncombe County has grown a lot in the last 10 years and with that the cost of living has skyrocketed. People that have lived here their entire lives have been forced to move to other more affordable towns.
6 months ago

I worry that there will be a continued lack of housing available and that there will not be enough education programs to sustain long term growth and cultural development/preservation. What other economic opportunities exist outside of tourism?
6 months ago

I would choose all answers if possible. This county is becoming a disastrous paradox. We “say” we celebrate diversity, inclusion, and science, but the people in charge only care about monetary profit
6 months ago

we are not at all prepared for climate change - we do not have energy resilience (e.g. microgrid, backup systems, renewables) and our stormwater management is inadequate. We will experience more and more flood events. We are building in floodplains and in steep areas. We will see more flooding and landslides. We need to construct wetlands and protect our natural buffers. We also need to be more inclusive and have multi-generational housing for all income and wealth levels. This needs to be mandated. Otherwise, the character of our area will change even more in the coming years.
6 months ago

As a student dealing with high levels of competition for paid internships in my field (I have searched for 7 months so far with no luck), I worry that I won’t have the money to continue to live in or around Asheville and Candler after graduating. The flooding from last year is also a major concern, and I know the increased construction and reduction of trees and other plants are only continuing to increase our risk to dangerous floods.
6 months ago
Increased homelessness
6 months ago

Affordable housing and good paying jobs
6 months ago

All the above concerns me, they all need to be worked on for the people of the county and not the developers.
6 months ago

Rents and home prices are too high. Real estate hard to come by. Tourism jobs don't pay a living wage. How many dollar stores does one county need? We have one every mile in East Asheville. Zoning/Planning doesn't seek community input
6 months ago

Too much growth!!! ruining the environment
6 months ago

Rising cost of living means many frontline workers cannot afford to live where they work, exacerbating the labor shortage challenges. Race should not determine the opportunities you have.
6 months ago

I have personally observed that the county ordinances relating to soil erosion and sediment control as relates to development (in particular larger commercial development) are woefully inadequate in protecting the environment (water resources) and private property owners affected by the development. In addition, the erosion control office staff is too understaffed to do a reasonable job of enforcing the erosion/sediment control ordinances.
6 months ago

We would like to see the public schools become one of the finest in the country.
6 months ago

The character of this town was created when it was scrappy and artistic. Hoping that doesn't change.
6 months ago

The TDA needs to be dismantled. They only care about tourism at the expense of everyone who lives here and doesn't have stake in tourism.
6 months ago

The tda needs to be dismantled. They have too much power here and only care about making money through tourism at the expense of those who live here and don't have any stake in tourism.
6 months ago

I think that the things that concern me weave together. We need to encourage multi-family housing development that is not crappy sprawl apartment complexes. We need townhouses close to places of work, we need commuter focused transportation so that the DOT does not pave our county in order to move more cars across it. We need to protect our waterways. We need to bring in native knowledge and local farming to our schools to improve the food outlook for our kids. In short, we need to protect the things we love about our county and stop outside money from destroying what is nice about living here. We need to encourage small local services and business rather than bringing in outside business that only comes here for the tax breaks and will leave as soon as someone gives them a better deal.
6 months ago

That our infrastructure (roads and public transport) is not equipped to handle the growing community and rise in tourism
6 months ago
Infrastructure such as roads and public transportation not being able to meet the needs of the growing community and rise in tourism
6 months ago

Social justice and equity taking priority over policing, resulting in a dirty, crime ridden land where no businesses want to invest, leading to a lock of jobs
6 months ago

No jobs, tourism taking over, government giving all our tax dollars to social programs to make life more comfortable for the bums leading to an increase in crime and filth
6 months ago

It's becoming increasingly expensive to live here, mainly because so much focus is placed on tourists and wealthy people. There is not much governmental support for people to truly thrive in Asheville, especially if they are already affected by systemic oppression. I would like to see development projects focus on the needs of the most marginalized groups including the unhoused, black people, and those living in poverty. A lot of the issues in our community could be solved if people had more resources to succeed. I would also like to see the county allow mutual aid groups to prosper, as they are an incredibly impactful resource for many POC. For a city that claims to be “progressive” many actions do not support the needs of POC in the community.
6 months ago

Gentrification in Asheville is ramping up continuously and it's affecting low-income people, specially people of color, more than ever. The basic living wage to survive for our county right now is $17 an hour, and tons of people can't find jobs that pay even $8. The city is pushing everyone but rich white members of the community out to make it appear “better” for the tourist population we have. It's sickening.
6 months ago

I'm not sure I’ll be able to afford living here out of school, and I am aware of a privilege I have locals do not necessarily have - people are forced out.
6 months ago

It is difficult to find affordable housing in Asheville. As soon as a place is available it is gone. It has been difficult to learn how to find new places to rent.
6 months ago

Inadequate roads
6 months ago

Safety is number 1! Moving about safely while walking, cycling, maybe even using a battery operated vehicle.
6 months ago

We start or implement programs but after 3-5 yrs there is no follow up or funding to keep it going.
6 months ago

Too many hotels/motels in downtown Asheville. Losing trees and natural resources to developments (housing and business) when empty existing building and housing could be used. To me the county and city allows new construction without considering the impact on the nearby community, everything from rain water runoff to tax increases. Trash left behind by the so-called homeless encampments is an embarrassment to the city. Sure they want to clean up downtown, but I'm talking about all that stuff along the interstate and river.
6 months ago
As a long-term resident of Buncombe County, we've seen rates of homelessness, drug-use, and crime increase. Tax dollars are invested in catering to these issues rather than addressing them. I believe the intent behind the use of tax dollars comes from a place of caring and concern; however, it is not addressing the root causes of these problem (hence the increases).

The increase in homelessness and vagrancy

Locals are resistant to housing development - the neighborhood in which we are currently renting was very vocal in their opposition to the proposed Charlotte Street development. Although many in that neighborhood say they support BIPOC issues, I'm not sure where they think low income individuals/families will live without more apartment style (affordable) housing?

Our county fails to grasp the magnitude of the climate changes that are already here, much less those that are coming. The accompanying arrival of climate migrants and volatility in housing/food demand robust planning.

The preservation of the existing quality of life for residents should have priority over doing things to encourage growth of population. Encouraging development will only degrade the quality of life here and strain already taxed services and infrastructure.

It is ludicrous that people who work and live in Buncombe County can't afford housing here. Our local government has failed us by refusing to step in in a meaningful and substantial way

The continuity of development for corporate profit can lead asheville to a climate and health crisis due to the invasive growth of construction without the right balances to preserve the living communities and nature that are more important that luxury homes and hotels.

I see racial inequality today and it makes me so sad that we can't just love each other and accept each other no matter who they are

This is the only thing I'm concerned about. Not just gasoline but everything we need in our daily life has it's prices shooting up.

There are many more

*Can't afford

There is not enough affordable housing and buildings are going up on every corner. Apartments are being built but people can afford to live in them.

Constantly building hotels along with increasing cost of living here in Asheville.
We should never cater too much to tourism, 2020 should have taught us that. Get-rich-quick developers are squeezing housing into every square inch not giving thought to long-term concerns for communities such as roads, public schools, transportation, emergency logistics, property values. They're not going to be here when those developments wash into the French Broad River or the tributaries either, it's a matter of time. There is no thought given to cutting into our mountains and building these monstrosities, then some are used for only 5.9 months out of the year so the owners don't even have to pay taxes that address community needs. Brilliant!

7 months ago

There is so much traffic. More thought seems to be going into planning more development, than access to what's already here. It is such a car dependent community and I'd love to see Buncombe County be like other counties and invest in pedestrian and bike friendly ways of transport.

7 months ago

The housing costs are rising at an astronomical rate. We moved back to Arden 4 years ago. Our house cost $260K. Comparable houses are on the market now for $400k. It's not sustainable. People are moving in from out of state, working remotely and obtaining CA or NY wages with WNC cost of living and are driving our housing market off the charts. This then affects the other two choices - racial inequity and longevity for local youth. Both are negatively affected by the rise in costs. And I'll say this at every opportunity - HEALTHY FOOD FOR OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS. You should be embarrassed by the food served to our youth. For so many kids, this is their main source of food and it is literally a different version of beef tacos or chicken nuggets everyday.

7 months ago

The increase in hotels and tourism without parallel investment in infrastructure is a problem: Slow internet, more potholes in streets; too few public toilets open evenings downtown; traditional neighborhoods giving way to investor-driven AirBnBs; and Mission Hospital's very expensive monopoly is driving good doctors and nurses away.

7 months ago

Access to affordable health care

7 months ago

The increasing number of hotels and tourism, without improvements and expansion in related infrastructure, are hurting residents. Broadband is slowing down; streets have more potholes; the number of public toilets downtown that are open evenings are grossly inadequate; parking is difficult; and traditional neighborhoods are giving way to investors and AirBnBs.

7 months ago

My top worry is the lack of infrastructure to handle the influx of people.

7 months ago

too much development too fast.

7 months ago

Asheville has become a political animal with too much biased, unrealistic leaders who have total disregard for why people moved here...because people were kind, cared about their neighbors and were not biased by their politics. Continually going down meaningless rabbit holes instead of focusing on the majority of its residents.

7 months ago

Taxes are too high not to mention families with farms are being pushed out and replaced with affordable housing. If you want growth do it some where other that Leicester leave us alone we are a rural area and should be allowed to stay that way.

7 months ago
I am very concerned that we continue to have people buying houses for short term rentals in the county, refusing the availability of residences for people that live here full time. I am also concerned that we have to invest so much of the money earned in taxes by the county to attract tourists. That money could be used to put in more sidewalks and Greenway or improve transportation. All of these things would help tourism too, but would help the people who live here as well. We need to continue to make the regions of the county accessible to our residents.

7 months ago

Homelessness: Sprawl is a disease that kills community beauty and culture.

7 months ago

Transportation for elders, local library

7 months ago

The county infrastructure was already not able to handle the population and the number of apartments and housing developments are staggering at this point. Weaverville, Leicester and now west Asheville have grown as much as south Asheville. It is too many people and add the tourism in.

7 months ago

Cost of living exceeds the ability of younger people to afford living/working here. Alternative transportation such as greenways to improve health and lower transportation costs are not developed in the county.

7 months ago

One concern is the lack of protections for local property owners who are getting priced out of areas that become “popular”. Examples of protections would be establishing a maximum % (say around 3% for example) increase in property assessment values per year. You could also have a homestead type exemption of $25-50k off the value for citizens whose property is their primary residence. They do these type of protections in Florida and other areas to protect residents from things like the 40% increase that occurred in Buncombe County recently. It's simply not right that the influx of vacation and 2nd home folks force local residents out. I also have no idea why Buncombe County is not doing more to limit plastic pollution.

7 months ago

Rising cost of living and tourism development are not unrelated. Both plus climate change do not bode well for our future here.

7 months ago

increased traffic

7 months ago

Litter is out of control.

7 months ago

Gun violence and weaponry being too loose of a privilege. More gun restrictions should be set in place to ensure the safety of our citizens as well as more affordable health care for physical and mental health to insure healthy citizens both physically and mentally.

7 months ago

lack of support of public education system

7 months ago

I am also concerned about the environmental impacts of climate change and development, but we can't stop people from moving here and I don't want this to become a homogenous, wealthy, white(r) community.

7 months ago
I chose all three of these because they focus on people & making sure people in our community are cared for, though I do care also about losing natural & historical landmarks from over development when the developments aren't affordable, sustainable housing. Just more big business trying to make a buck off of the little guy when the little guy hardly had anything left.

7 months ago

It is concerning to see my home town move in a direction that may cause me move. My home is paid for, but the rising costs of property taxes and the growing threat of crime leave me unsure that I will stay in my community through retirement.

7 months ago

Growth is good, but not unbridled growth. More care needs to be taken on approval of all types of development, but especially hotels and subdivisions.

7 months ago

People in elected offices ignoring everyone but their base or just flat out ignoring the community they represent

7 months ago

The rising cost of living has impacts on a number of other important factors and issues, including equity, public health, homelessness, etc.

7 months ago

I have lived in Buncombe County since college (26 years ago) and watched it grow and change and while I appreciate much of what the change brought, I believe we reached our peak around 2005. Since then I feel the quality of life for many around me has suffered. I do feel while there has been a focus on equality, the cost of living has outpaced the progress for those historically marginalized. I appreciate the openness and acceptance from local government in the last few years, but the time for real change is getting pushed further and further out of reach for many. I believe we need a separate tax rate for unoccupied homes and I believe we need to continue to invest in land conservation (we also need to use funds from PUV lands that have a change in use for land conservation, not the general fund)

7 months ago

Increasing car traffic, limited safe options for cyclists & pedestrians.

7 months ago

The push to turn tourism into a primary economic driver has succeeded. With minor exception, higher paying jobs for young people entering the workforce are not here. They must look at Gvl, Charlotte,Research Triangle, Tx...OR be able to work from home in high paying remote employment...which only occurs after boots on the ground employment. The mtn flair of the area has been lost/minimized to where hotels and developments look like Cary did 30 years ago. Hotels and developments from out of state investment has been green lighted by county/city. The inflow has elevated homeowner costs to the level that only those that have major resources can participate and has moved land and homeowner purchase out of range of most younger workforce. Those that can compete are faced with the decision to take those resources to other areas of the country where those resources can purchase multiples...or stay here and be hobbled. And, of course all the stuff that goes with unthrottled growth comes with it.....traffic that exceeds highway capacity in previously rural communities, increase in crime, increase in service needs like fire and EMS...

7 months ago

The continued unsustainable overdevelopment of our county is damaging the very natural beauty that we cherish and draws people to the area. It exasperates climate change which is the greatest threat to humanity, biodiversity and our community. And it perpetuates our dismal legacy of racial inequality.

7 months ago

The County needs to focus less on gentrification, attracting new residents, and developing open land for overpriced homes so that a select few may benefit greatly, and focus more on maintaining and improving existing infrastructure, housing, and standards of living for existing residents, so that we may all benefit and continue to enjoy living in this beautiful area.

7 months ago
Traffic…every place in Buncombe county has traffic now. 10-15 years ago it still felt like the country. It no longer feels like the place I have grown up.

7 months ago

One last comment, we need to foster and support the arts and craft movements that have given us the traditions and character that draws people to this city. Beer is the new art and this is a different culture.

7 months ago

I am deeply concerned that the county and city have been subordinated to tourism. We have lost much of the character of our town as it no longer feels like a small, artsy community, but rather a charactiture of a small artsy community. This has only increased the pressure on the disparities between those that have and those who have not. Tourism and AirBnB markets have crushed an already difficult housing market for renters and working class home buyers. In addition the mountain tops have new houses on top of them everyday. I am concerned that our region has sold out our future for short term gains and made it very difficult for every day people to call Asheville and the surrounding area home. In addition these rising housing costs have put more people on the street than I have seen previously in the 25 years I've called Buncombe County home.

7 months ago

No comments necessary

7 months ago

The biggest INEQUITY is being forced to fund and provide TWO separate antiquated government school systems. There is not ONE VALID REASON for this and those who DO control it are mostly racist white democrackkkks!

7 months ago

It is increasingly difficult to recruit and retain a diverse group of employees in education, due to housing and low salary incomes provided to teachers and staff.

7 months ago

The cost of living is beyond what most people (who were not born and raised here) can afford to sustain. I also believe there is such a disproportionate amount of time spent on issues from people interested in advancing a specific “unpacking and disrupting” agenda that we have lost our way as a community. We are planning to spend our retirement monies in a VERY different location and can't wait to do so! It is sad because our family has lived here for so long, but it is time.

7 months ago

The cost of living is increasing faster than pay. This includes taxes.

7 months ago

A plan that does not address equity and access does not actually meet anyone's needs. It is time to recognize that the growth model is outdated and we need to begin using our time and resources to sustain what we have. We need to protect our local food production and waterways in order to sustain ourselves with the climate and demographic changes that are coming.

7 months ago

It is time to make sure that our community begins to work for the people who live here, especially people of color and those who are being priced out of their own homes. It is clear that tourism and big business are well established and need no additional advertising budget, tax breaks, or infrastructure. That revenue should be used to preserve and support the people who live here and rely on the land. All plans should focus on supporting small farmers, small business owners, local homeowners/renters, and sustainability. The impacts of the climate crisis will need to be addressed NOW, and changes put in place to guide future development in a sustainable and equitable direction.

7 months ago

Drugs are an issue regarding the crime and violence. We need to find a resolution to that.

7 months ago
Harder for young families to afford to live here and much harder for families to keep farmland. Most people give no thought to where their food comes from.

7 months ago

Access to affordable housing for moderate-income levels, more homes available under $300K. Childcare access and affordability, availability of childcare for more than 1st shift jobs to support our healthcare system and working moms.

7 months ago

Too many people in too small an area causes congestion and crime to rise, yet developers and government keep trying to pack more people into these mountains! The area is being ruined and pretty soon no one is going to want to even visit so even our tourist industry will be ruined. Many have lived here for most of their lives or they & their families have lived here for generations. The government is destroying their future while taking their present from them. It's a travesty! People are being hurt and killed by it between rising crime and traffic density & it is government's fault!!! Stop before it's too late!!!

7 months ago

We moved here for the beauty, peace, and nature. We specifically chose a location in a rural setting for this reason. Ditto for most of our neighbors. We have invested A LOT of $$ in this decision. We greatly fear the encroachment of suburban/dense housing in this area.

7 months ago

Lack of infrastructure planning

7 months ago

We need affordable housing and the infrastructure to support it. We need a cap on rent prices.

7 months ago

Roads sidewalks Bike lanes parks
Existing gov leaders have done too little for the residents too much for tourism. Then you Raise taxes! I will vote against incumbents.

7 months ago

Save our heritage. Buncombe commissioners should not be judge over what is right or wrong concerning things that happened several hundred years ago. Nor should modern society be held accountable! Learn and move ahead.

7 months ago

None of the other concerns matter if criminals are allowed to go unchecked and unpunished. They ruin every other aspect of community quality of life.

7 months ago

Socio-economic inequity

7 months ago

Economic inequity

7 months ago

Especially the expansion of New Leicester Hwy encouraging growth and destroying the rural areas we love

7 months ago

Especially the expansion of New Leicester Hwy encouraging growth of rural areas

7 months ago

The expansion of New Leicester Hwy encouraging growth of rural areas

7 months ago
The country needs zoning that preserves the natural environment that supports our very existence.

Unbridled Growth can destroy the very thing we love. Let our growth serve our community. Invest in the community's needs.

People, especially youth, are being priced out of living here.

Density instead of urban sprawl.

Our county has been overrun by hotels with seemingly no local industry growth, so many locals that I know have left the city in search of greener pastures. Jobs in Buncombe County pay significantly less than in other counties across NC, and our cost of living is so high. Meanwhile, crime has increased. Between our ridiculous tourist situation and crime I no longer enjoy going to Asheville and stay out in further corners of the county. I am completely disgusted with Asheville's decision to hire a consultant to discover why law enforcement officers are leaving in droves—clearly it is the low pay. The city could have spent the money on the consultant to help support law enforcement officers.

We need to have smart policies around growth so we don't destroy the things that make us a nice place to live. (scenic beauty, same community, open spaces

As a health care worker of 15+ years in Buncombe County and life long resident the wages here really need to be evaluated again to match up with cost of living now vs 30 years ago. Wages seem to be stagnant and cost of everything seems to keep climbing.

I am also very concerned about how dirty everything seems to be getting. Bridges, sidewalks, roads are trashed with litter. I love Asheville but why are so many businesses and neighborhoods so dumpy? I'm sure it's a money thing, but would love to see more resources out towards this. Volunteer clean up groups. Businesses that don't just look like Dollar Generals.

New business (Pratt Whitney etc ) will help with cost of living and feeder businesses will also help

Racial inequality is a fourth. I see the dynamic population growth in population and tourism interest driven by the natural beauty of WNC recreating (in smaller dimension) what I witnessed growing up in Austin, Texas. Inadequate planning for necessary social and physical infrastructure leading to progressive decline in quality of life and cost of living within our community. I don't want to see it happen here (for the second time in my life). You can't stop growth of a place like Buncombe, County, but you can manage it effectively based on strong community input and planning execution.

New development does not appear to be part of a larger plan. Infrastructure like roads, utilities, cell service, and emergency services can't reasonably support the current level of development. I can live with well planned development with appropriate infrastructure. But now traffic is chaotic, natural areas and farms are being destroyed and the infrastructure can't support these changes. Fix infrastructure first.
Development is out of control and completely disordered and haphazard, with the county blaming NCDOT and NCDOT not caring at all. People who have lived here for generations are being squeezed out by out of state wealthy looking for cheap land to cash in our once-beautiful county. They've turned a county with high quality of life satisfaction into a town where people exclaim constantly how much they dislike living here now. My favorite thing about living here was that people generally were happy. The city that was once a jewel is turning into every congested, overdeveloped, cookie cutter town I've ever lived in. One where the middle and lower class eat all the inconveniences so that the rich can fully indulge in the resources once enjoyed by most. The Buncombe County people flock here for doesn't exist anymore because development was allowed with zero comprehensive plan for how we would grow in a healthy way. It's tragic.

7 months ago

All of these are great concerns, our largest is the school district we are in. We love our land and life but with a 2 year old having to already look at private schools because we have one of the worst schools in the state is crazy. Also affordable good private school access, while still paying high taxes and jobs that don't keep up in pay is it's own struggle. Secondary to that, the development of farmland. A lot of farms around around us can't keep up and trying to sell. That's why we fell in love here was the community and raising children on a farm and in a Ag focused area. Now, we're worried about sub divisions popping up all around us.

7 months ago

Lack of access to high quality medical care

7 months ago

Too much emphasis on tourism leading to high cost of living as tourists keep deciding to move here placing demands on housing and infrastructure.

7 months ago

There is no affordable housing. Someone making $60k per year can't afford to buy a $300k house, much less when the median sold home price in the city is over $400k.

7 months ago

Asheville needs to slow down and catch up with the growth already here. Too many people.

7 months ago

It's far to expensive here for us average people, which is why so many locals are leaving. We cannot afford the ridiculous cost in housing.

7 months ago

Since I have only lived here for 6 months or so, I feel that my biggest fear is just unknown, because I don't know the community as well as someone who may have lived here for 5+ years.

7 months ago

I'm concerned about development in floodplains, on steep slopes, and in close proximity to protected areas like the blue ridge parkway. I'm concerned about damage to the beautiful parkway by people that don't understand it's value. I'm also concerned about slope deforestation and runoff, as well as water quality. I'm also concerned about safe routes to schools.

8 months ago

Population in Asheville area is growing too fast and too high a cost and the growth is not even remotely supported by the local infrastructure nor does it appear to have the leadership skills to deal with the growth and the needs that accompany it.

8 months ago
With the explosion in housing prices peoples property taxes are also exploding, I am from Los Angeles county originally an it had the same problem decades ago. I person who may have lived in their house for decades suddenly was faced with a huge property tax increase just because a neighboring home of the same vintage sold for a large sum so all the houses in that area were assessed based on the current sales of homes at the inflated prices of the time. Los Angeles' answer to that problem was to keep the property taxes based on what the price the owner originally bought the home for with a modest increase and then charge people who bought new homes the property tax that was based on the now inflated sales price. This of course excludes a homeowner that made substantial changes to their original property, i.e. remodeling a home and changing it from a 1,200 sq ft house to a 3,000 sq ft house, or adding an additional structure to the property. Right now people are being taxed out of their homes due to the rise in property taxes especially people that are on fixed incomes.

Public transportation needs to be upgraded to include going from downtown Asheville, shopping areas, parks and recreation locations to not only other town centers such as Weaverville and Black mountain but to serve neighborhoods. Right now if you do not live in downtown Asheville or in a very narrow corridor of Merrimon Avenue there is no public transportation near any of the housing developments that are along Riverside Dr., or New Stock Road for example.

Developers, many from Georgia, have bought up land and are stripping the mountains of trees in order to build "green" communities that are anything but green and only for the weather that can afford homes in these developments. Other developments are created by carving housing pads into slopes without regard to water run off.

Tourism is I believe the largest employer in Buncombe county but we all saw what the COVID shutdown did to the economy here. I am concerned that the total reliance on and catering to the tourism industry is not only creating an economic problem but discouraging locals for visiting many of the places they used to. Parking in downtown Asheville and congestion keeps many locals away from going downtown and having that sense of community this area was once known for.

8 months ago
I was born in Los Angeles and saw how an out of control housing market was causing property taxes to increase beyond what people who had been in their homes for decades could afford. I am seeing that trend in Buncombe County. If someone bought a house say 10 years ago for $200,000 they calculated their ongoing costs based on the property taxes to be paid on a $200,000 home. What we have seen in the last few years is that home's assessed value, based on current home prices, is now worth in excess of $350,000 with a concomitant increase in property taxes. The homeowner; however, especially if retired or on a fixed income, has not seen an income increase to offset the rise in property taxes. In Los Angeles County they put in a clause that the property taxes would not be raised using the newly assessed value of a property if there had not been a material change to the property, i.e. doing a renovation that changed the square footage of a home from 1,200 sq ft to 3,000 sq ft. If the original property was sold then the new owners would pay the property tax based on what they purchased the home for.

I have observed in Buncombe county, and more specifically Asheville, Woodfin and Weaverville that there is very little public transportation available. Housing developments have been built that have no access to public transportation so that residents must rely on personal vehicles for all basic needs such as shopping for groceries, doctors appointments and taking part in community activities in parks and recreation facilities.

Buncombe county is rich with the beauty that draws people to this area yet new, high end and supposedly “green” communities are being built by cutting down trees and destroying natural habitat and affecting water shed areas. Even medium priced housing developments are created by clear cutting the hillsides and putting housing pads in without thought to landscaping for the benefit of the wildlife, which includes the birds and the insects that are native to this area. HOAs often have covenants that homeowners maintain land or the green space that is communal, in ways that are environmentally detrimental to this area. Planting grass, non-native plants, shrubs and trees that push out native species and use fertilizer and pesticides that threaten our waterways and native flora and fauna. A comprehensive permit/planning process that has been drawn up by local environmental experts should be part of any new development, commercial or residential, to address the loss of native habitat and that would address climate change.

While tourism is this areas biggest employer we saw during COVID how vulnerable this area is when tourism is its main source of jobs. But, while tourism is wonderful, with is also comes the strain on the infrastructure. As noted in one of the videos your agency produced, this area is mountainous with narrow roads and in downtown Asheville and surrounding areas, the increase in traffic congestion can be seen. I am a cyclist, I ride a road bike and quite honestly say our roads are not meant for road cycling near downtown Asheville. This area is and has been advertised as someplace to cycle and I live in a development off of Riverside Dr. (251) and also frequently drive up Beaver Dam on my way to work. I've seen the increase in bikes on these roads and how it can create a traffic jam that frustrates drivers who then will try and pass a cyclist or multiple cyclists in an unsafe manner. As a driver behind a slow moving cyclist I understand the frustration, as a cyclist I also understand the driver’s frustration but know I am going as fast as I can and so often there is no place for me to pull over to the side so cars can pass. As the River Arts district becomes more popular and the number of road cyclists increases that want to cycle Riverside Dr. (251); Beaverdam to Elk Mountain, this will only increase the hazards to cyclists and motorists.

One of the things that I've often said about Asheville since the day I arrived and that is I have to drive to walk, meaning outside of downtown Asheville there are very few sidewalks. There are multiple sidewalks that lead nowhere or that end at large highway off/on ramps with no way for a pedestrian to cross that area (or for a cyclist to safely cross).

I also have seen the Woodfin plan for the recreational development along the French Broad north of the River Arts District. I live in River Walk housing development across from Woodfin Park and have to get in my car to drive to the park because there is no pedestrian walkway across Riverside Drive. All other neighborhoods that are on the east side of Riverside Dr. (251) have no safe pedestrian access to the French Broad. What is going to be done to address both the increase in traffic on Riverside Dr. (251) and also pedestrian access along multiple points from the east side of 251 to the French Broad?

Without greater protections for open space and farmland, Buncombe County will ultimately lose the scenic beauty that draws visitors here in the first place, effectively shooting itself in the foot.
Leadership is not paying attention to what behavior/acceptance are doing to the county. Crime and drugs are taken over
8 months ago

Because of the concerns I selected, my partner and I are considering a move away from Buncombe County even though we have lived here most of our lives.
8 months ago

Homeless and mental health
8 months ago

Outside capital focused solely on tourism creates a low wage, low tax, un-diversified, vulnerable economy. Extreme inequality of opportunity, suppression of innovation is replaced by civic and business stagnation. Unwillingness to institute robust planning and control incoming capital naturally degrades the quality of persons interested in local government. I don't have many years left to live and I no longer have the energy or money to counter the short-term interests of organized capital impacting the community.
8 months ago

There are many challenges facing the County as we head into the future. Managing our collective wealth for the betterment of all, while actually IMPROVING the standard of living for all is possible if we have clear direction and creative leadership. Let's not play politics with our future.
8 months ago

People moving in with high paid remote jobs, well off retired people, and large financial institutions investing in housing, are driving up housing costs in my opinion. Better paid jobs are needed to offset rising costs of living and our local public schools need to do more to prepare youth to enter the workforce and not focus solely on those going to four-year university. Youth become discouraged in school because of the sole focus on academics without vocational training. Our quality of life is created by the beauty around us. This must also be valued and protected, so that this privilege is not reserved only for the rich.
8 months ago

I loved the diversity here and the genuine kindness and safety when we moved here 22 years ago. In the last few years it is hard to imagine we have become one of the most expensive and highest crime areas of our size town and in NC. We came here for our forever home after my husband retired. Between really high taxes, extreme quality of patient issues with mission hospital, and crime on the city streets, Asheville has lost that sweet, quirky, diverse, kindness it once had. Druggies and “homeless” are on every corner. People are mugged, cars stolen and broken into, furniture stolen of porches...
8 months ago

Middle income or less people cannot afford to live here.
8 months ago

Saving the tree canopy should become a HIGH priority in B County
8 months ago

The way of life for people whose families have been here for generations can no longer sustain that lifestyle. The influx of people from other "cultures" in the USA are forcing their lifestyles and values on those who have lived and worked here for generations.
8 months ago

Asheville’s downtown city feel and surrounding suburb communities are great, and those should be balanced with protecting rural farming (and natural forested lands etc) from overdevelopment.
8 months ago
it's great that downtown asheville has a city feel, and that surrounding areas have suburbs for families and such. we need to balance that with keeping rural farming communities viable and intact, and with preserving our natural lands for people as well as wildlife.

8 months ago

The ruse in crime and violence is visible and palpable. Residents and tourists are talking about it. I would like to see more community policing and or community watch programs.

8 months ago

The moral decline is faster and stronger in Buncombe than in surrounding counties.

8 months ago

Buncombe County will continue to force people out of the area without addressing the need for affordable housing. The wages in this area need to catch up to the high cost of living as well.

8 months ago

The amount of funds that we are using on enabling addicts. Businesses and the community are the ones dealing with the consequences of their lifestyle choices. Our non-profit has been broken into 3 times by the junkie population in Asheville. The County gives them needles and other equipment to use so that they don't get diseases. But they are poisoning our community.

8 months ago

Leadership: I see extreme left-leaning people leading our city and some in our county. We need centrist, family-oriented leaders who want to preserve Asheville's natural beauty as well as our deep cultural roots. Our leaders are out of touch with the way most common people think.

8 months ago

Cost of living continues to rise and the high paying jobs don't exist for locals. The people getting the high paying jobs are the ones moving here. Developers continue to tear into the landscape crowding the houses on top of each other and affordable housing is becoming a whisper. It is rare to find a home with at least a 1/2 acre of land and 1,800 square feet for less than $500,000.

8 months ago

I am very concerned about the increase in crime, poor city planning, chronic homelessness, chronic drug use, building in residential areas, chronic pan handling. Lack of city beautification. Too many Dollar General stores.

8 months ago

Too much subsidized housing coming into Swannanoa.

8 months ago

The beauty of Buncombe County has been ruined. Developers and the Real Estate business is only here for the money. Most don't live here the local people have to put up unrealistic growth and headaches.

8 months ago

Socialist leaning and traffic management

8 months ago

This question requires me to select no LESS than three of the provided options. It should instead allow me to select no MORE. This edit forced me to select a third option to satisfy a system edit rather than to honestly and candidly communicate my concerns. I suggest providing three "Other" options or loosening the requirement for users to select Exactly three of these choices.

8 months ago

This question requires that I select three from the offered choices. I can add only one "other", so I am being forced by the poll to select the third option to successfully complete this item. The question should allow/accept UP TO three selections and not force me to select a second or third.

8 months ago
Socialist Leaning & Traffic Management

8 months ago

Socialist Leaning

8 months ago

Deve

8 months ago

Tourism has ruined the area. Politicians do not understand most issues facing the area have root cause in tourism.

8 months ago

County is diverse so how are the diversity of jobs going to be maintained as well as housing

8 months ago

Ensuring that agritourism does not supplant bona fide farming: ensuring that tourism does not add to problems related to climate change or drive up housing prices and push out low-income, longtime residents or contribute to social/racial inequities.

8 months ago

housing has gotten so expensive, and it's much harder for minorities and low-income families to afford housing

8 months ago

We need to improve the opportunities for all by making thoughtful, and difficult, choices in the face of generational biases and not enough recognition of the value of the work of all individuals. To paraphrase the book :The Sum of US"-McGhee "It's not a zero sum game.

8 months ago

I work in affordable housing and as long as we are a niche/specialized service then our residents will continue to suffer. Investors and vacation rentals need to be limited drastically and WIDESPREAD access to increased wages and affordable housing is ESSENTIAL. It is getting worse nationwide, but access to affordable housing needs to be the NORM. Non-profits cannot come CLOSE to filling the need. Also 30% of your *gross* income on rent is hardly affordable either.

8 months ago

Not enough low income housing and social para transit FOR THE DISABLED SENIORS.

8 months ago

lack of affordable housing for service workers, socio-economic inequity, over development of urban core, homeless and panhandlers

8 months ago

Unchecked costs of housing, losing housing to vacation rentals, and unlimited hotel building has caused a housing crisis in Buncombe County. Tourists come and do not respect the land and natural areas causing damage and no access for locals.

8 months ago

The character of the county which brought me here has changed over the course of my 37 years of residency. We must be smart about the coming years of continued population growth and the pressures it places on turning our green and open spaces into just another massive collection of apartment complexes. Controlling sprawl and meaningful land use controls should be top priorities.

8 months ago
Seems to be rising crime in certain areas and you will see companies and people avoid or move from those areas
8 months ago

Pervasive racial inequity, lack of diversity, aging infrastructure disproportionately affecting lower socioeconomic groups, tourism and new residents changing what first brought many to this county and area
8 months ago

living wages, affordable housing
8 months ago

HOUSING PRICES ARE SUCH THAT BLUE COLLAR WORKERS THAT ARE AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY TO OUR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMY ARE MOVING OUT OF THE COUNTY IN ORDER TO FIND AFFORDABLE HOMES AND RENT. THE COMMUNITY HAS ALREADY BEGUN SEEING THE IMPACT OF THIS ISSUE IN THE WIDESPREAD LACK OF STAFF IN THE SERVICE INDUSTRIES AND THE HOMELESS POPULATION INCREASING. IF THE COUNTY DOESN'T TAKE SWIFT AGGRESSIVE ACTION FOR TRUE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, THE ECOSYSTEM OF THE ECONOMY IS GOING TO BREAKDOWN AND BUNCOMBE COUNTY WILL NO LONGER PROSPER. SMALL BUSINESSES ARE ALREADY SUFFERING AND CLOSING. EVERY ECONOMIC GROUP IS IMPORTANT TO THE HEALTH GROWTH OF A COMMUNITY. BUNCOMBE COUNTY HAS DISPLACED THEIR FOCUS ON ATTRACTING UPPER MIDDLE CLASS, AND WEALTHY, AND THE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT TO SERVE THIS GROUP, WHILE CREATING JOBS DURING THE GROWTH, HAS CAUSED HOME AND RENT PRICES TO BECOME RIDICULOUS AND IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE SERVICE INDUSTRY SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY TO AFFORD. WE ARE WATCHING THE DEMISE OF OUR ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY UNFOLD BEFORE OUR VERY EYES AND DOING NOTHING ABOUT IT. WHERE ARE THE WEALTHY CITIZENS OF THE COUNTY GOING TO PURCHASE THEIR FUEL OR THEIR GROCERIES IF THERE IS NO ONE TO WORK IN THOSE BUSINESSES? WHO IS GOING TO CLEAN THE HUNDREDS OF ROOMS IN OUR LOCAL HOTELS FOR ALL OF THE TOURISTS WE HOPE TO ATTRACT? THIS SECTOR CANNOT AFFORD TO LIVE HERE WITH THE AVERAGE EFFICIENCY APARTMENT COSTING $1200/MO. WHY IS NO ONE IN GOVERNMENT DOING THIS MATH? HOUSEKEEPING JOB PAYS $14/HR X 40 HRS = $2424 GROSS WAGES MINUS TAXES = $1824 NET PAY PER MONTH. $1824 MINUS RENT $1200 PER MONTH RESULTS IN $624 PER MONTH TO PAY CAR PAYMENT, GAS, UTILITIES, INSURANCE, CELL PHONE...AND FOOD. WHAT IS GOING TO KEEP THIS NECESSARY VITAL SECTOR OF WORKERS IN OUR POPULATION? AFFORDABLE HOUSING
8 months ago

Working in healthcare, I can tell you that it is upsetting that full time work does not increasing wages to keep up with such significant inflation of cost of living. This is unacceptable. I think that there needs to be pressure for big businesses to equalize pay to areas of the country with similar cost of living.
8 months ago

access to green space and natural areas close to where people live
8 months ago

Most of these questions could be rephrased as better economic conditions. The focus of these questions shows that there is a naïve preference for solutions that focus on class and division between groups, rather than simple policy choices that eliminate the need for government intervention. Growing government will NOT solve these issues.
8 months ago

Homeless situation downtown out of control
8 months ago

Homeless out of control
8 months ago

The homeless situation downtown is out of control and is chasing away tourists, locals & Asheville's reputation as a great please to be.
8 months ago

https://publicinput.com/report?id=13968
The homeless situation downtown is out of hand and is turning away tourists & locals. A solution must be found asap.
8 months ago

The homeless situation downtown is out of hand. Solutions need to be found asap.
8 months ago

Investments in tourism have not been matched with investments in sustainable, community infrastructure. So the workers and their communities that are needed to serve the tourism industry are marginalized.
8 months ago

Clear cutting has to stop. It’s horrifying what is happening to our trees and habitats due to rabid construction with no care for the outcome. We used to be proud of our green county -- it’s horrible now.
8 months ago

Would be good to have affordable housing lower income people can afford to buy as opposed to lots of apartments. We do not want to discourage tourists, but they do affect our infrastructure. I hear people say they never go downtown any more due to all the tourists plus the tourists raise the cost of many activities. Maybe a thought would be to initiate a “locals” discount at restaurants and some of the venues bombarded with tourists.
8 months ago

Asheville has and always will be a tourist destination, but there has to be thought for those who actually live here. How will they afford houses when so many new residents are bringing their jobs with them via technology? How do we respect the African American community, the history of the city from past residents to architecture to neighborhoods? The short term rental rules need to continue to be strict within the city limits. Maybe they need to be stricter in the county with allowing someone to operate only 1 STR. When investors continually outbid the local residents, locals lose in the long run (and I say this as realtor with a lot of investor clients).
8 months ago

Development in the county must serve the needs of those who live here. The lack of affordable housing is at a crisis level.
8 months ago

There is no mention of the fact that the population of Buncombe County is out-pacing the infrastructure.
8 months ago

My special interest is in developing a larger and more interconnected greenway system available to all residents for both recreation and transportation.
8 months ago

Fund and support our police, given them the training to excel amid our current challenges, to provide protection while serving all people consistently and fairly, and make them the example for other communities of how the police can be an asset and driver of positive change.
8 months ago

My biggest concern is climate change brought about by carbon dioxide emissions from our industrial system. Climate change will degrade our environment and lead to drastic weather events. Going carbon neutral has to be the fundamental idea in any plan for Buncombe County.
8 months ago

1. Specifically food costs and housing. 2. The natural beauty of this area is why so many people want to live and visit this county. Though it does limit how large of a community we can become, we should protect this natural beauty. 3. See #2.
8 months ago
I am concerned about the cost of living vs. the pay rates in Buncombe County, there are not enough higher paying jobs to make up for all the high real estate and rental prices. It is hard to find employees due to the housing costs. I am also very concerned with the crime rate and the homeless population. It is bringing a lot of drugs to the area.

8 months ago

I am concerned about the environmental impacts of development and tourism. I hope that we can develop policies that allow for needed development (increased housing) but with tools to prevent environmental degradation and increasing climate change. I would like to see increased housing density and multiuse development that makes walking and other non-car transportation more possible. Overtourism has the potential to deplete our natural resources, strain our infrastructure, and further exacerbate inequities.

8 months ago

I am in the tourism industry and have seen the city do such a good job at promoting Asheville that I do not believe that our tourism is sustainable to the community anymore. The influx of hotels and more development is changing the things I loved most about this city. The roads were not built to sustain the city's growing population plus all of the tourists visiting. The staffing shortages are not that people do not want to work, but that they can't afford the cost of living here without sharing a house with 3-4 other contributing to the rent. I know plenty of people that loved living here and waited tables and worked on art and music and they are moving bc they can't make a living here or build a future. I love Asheville but am contemplating relocating for more job opportunities and lower living costs.

8 months ago

Tourism has benefited the county tremendously and to have this listed as a potential problem is outrageous.

8 months ago

Homelessness

8 months ago

NIMBYism limiting housing, which is driving up costs. Property taxes and values keep going up. Government not doing enough to invest in housing, but has money to put solar panels on all County buildings and building new offices and parking structures. Use your limited resources wisely, including your people. Stop blaming tourism for all your lack of leadership. Invest in the infrastructure and not just greenways.

8 months ago

I feel there needs to be some type of limitation on the number of people from out of the area moving in. This is rapidly changing the dynamic of the community, and pushing the lower income families out of the area.

8 months ago

There is a desire to address the needs of some populations at the expense of other populations

8 months ago

We will never be able to build our way out of the affordable housing deficit. We must create careers (not just jobs) for people to be able to afford the housing that is here today. Essentially wage rates need to increase faster than housing cost rates.

8 months ago

The taxes on my home that I own have increased so much, I can no longer afford my home on one income. In the last year, house payment went up $300 per month due to taxes or $3600 per year and I lost my husband to covid so now down to only one income. My annual increase of pay was only 1% this fiscal yr and no raise in 2019 or 2020 and no bonus paid out so loss of $8K per yr in bonuses. I love the police and support them needing the city behind them 100%. Need to get a grip on crime and move homeless people out of downtown.
Rising Cost of Living - By far my greatest concern. I love living here - but it is very expensive. I'm very fortunate to have moved here in 2020 when rent was slightly cheaper than it is now. But we can't move from our apartment without paying a lot more, and the possibility of buying a house seems impossible at this moment. This is really sad because I want to raise my family here but I'm not doing that in an apartment.

8 months ago

Too many hotels going in.

8 months ago

Please give us our County back with the value of God, family, Country, safety, police protection. And equality for all...not just a few!

8 months ago

We are becoming entirely too dependent on tourism. There is no other source of income for businesses or people. We must diversify the jobs available here, prioritize locals over tourists and businesses, and create deeply affordable housing. No more 1200$+ apartments

8 months ago

It's becoming more and more unsafe. Crime, drugs, and idiot democrats are OK with their changes.

8 months ago

I am most concerned about the lack of effort being taken in rising crime rate, overwhelming drug issues and the “homeless” issue directly related to addiction/mental health issues. Enabling is not the answer, the area looks awful and is spiraling out of control very fast. I no longer feel safe living here, we go out of town to enjoy a day away just to step away from being asked for money, seeing trash and just the ugliness the county has become.

8 months ago

Commissioners should be of parties that represent the entire county. Not one sided

8 months ago

I am so concerned that the county commissioners are going to follow the COA and destroy the county. The apartment building is overkill and destroying the beauty. You've already allowed 4109 apartments within an 8 mile radius. The traffic is horrendous. I never go into the city of Asheville - it's too dangerous and filthy. The county is becoming just as trashy - our LEO's need to enforce the litter laws. I appreciate the Pratt & Whitely business coming in for new jobs - move on other industries for the future of our children and grandchildren. NO low barrier shelters anywhere near communities. Poor decisions made by drug addicts and criminals' part does not mean that you have to put families in danger by housing them close by. And what a horrible thing to do to folks who are down on their luck by housing them with dangerous thugs. Quit supporting their bad decisions by enabling them.

8 months ago

Lack of government transparency, idiots are running the county who do not serve the good of the majority

8 months ago

People can't live here without good paying jobs.

8 months ago

The cities lack of support for officers and enabling of crime through low barrier shelters, no permitting on food sharing, and much more contribute to the crime in Asheville. Leadership is at an all time low.

8 months ago

Lack of regulation and/or planning re residential and commercial development; and push for more hotels/tourism is very concerning. I fear Buncombe Co cannot handle growth at the current pace without serious loss of quality of life: traffic, crowding, loss of open space, increase economic and social disparity, etc, etc.

8 months ago
Government not serving all citizens of the county
8 months ago

End worthless tyrannical masking
8 months ago

Proliferation of misinformation eroding public health, trust in public institutions.
8 months ago

For some reason my “other” response in question number 5 is not being accepted
8 months ago

Something must be done about the out of control housing costs. My family needs to live within 30 minutes of Asheville for my husband’s job, we cannot afford to live within that range and have a standard of living worth anything.
8 months ago

Lack of quality recreation areas and greenways, which contributes to a lowered quality of life experience.
8 months ago

Liberals are ruining Buncombe County. Needle exchanges, homeless camps and crime ridden government housing are out of control
8 months ago

Liberal government causing heroin epidemic
8 months ago

The apparent lack of work ethic of elected officials.
8 months ago

ACS is imploding, make bad decisions and failing kids and teachers.
8 months ago

Asheville City Schools
8 months ago

Buncombe County has embraced a Tourism economy as a way to revitalize the urban area and bring outside investment into the community. In many ways this has been successful as evidenced by a thriving downtown and west Asheville corridor. However, investment in tourism has gotten to the point where it has outpaced investment in our community and the effects of this are showing and reaching a point that requires immediate action to rectify. Communities only work if all facets of its population can continue to live and participate in it. Getting tough on prioritizing affordable housing and investment into our local population must happen.
8 months ago
Buncombe County is experiencing growing pains, but the fundamental problem is that growth is happening in a way that exacerbates long-standing inequities. The most vulnerable and low-income residents are getting pushed further out, affordable housing is not being built at a rate to keep up with exploding demand, and (especially) there continue to be a lack of resources to address racial injustice/inequity and the harmful legacies of disinvestment and marginalization of historic black communities. We need to grow AND we need to do it in a way that makes it possible for our low-income households to continue to exist here.

There needs to be a lot more affordable, long-term housing built. Infill building (like where the old Fuddruckers is) with 50% rent-controlled/50% non-rent-controlled mixed-income housing would help hugely!!

It's been really sad seeing trees on mountaintops (which everyone can see from around town) be cut down and replaced with giant mansions.

There needs to be a different, stronger, more varied economy built, instead of only depending on tourism (lots of low-paying jobs) and Mission Hospital (which HCA is completely gutting and destroying).

Invest in the people who live here! Not just the rich hotel owners or rich people who want to mess up our mountains to build mansions.

Buncombe County has become urban sprawl> second homes and vacation homes, more landscapes and trees being decimated pushing wildlife on to the highways. The amount of roadkill now is like a massacre. This is new. drivers are aggressive, their is a loss of neighborliness and slow pace. Billboards everywhere, ugliness and man made everywhere. Garbage and litter everywhere, trail heads over run. Trail heads trashed. the NCDOT will not be able to keep up with the pace. Asheville is big enough and rich enough. Time to stop NOW

Worried about cutting down trees, not enough parks and green spaces. Worried about enough jobs that pay a living wage for younger people and other local workers. Worried about losing arts scene due to high cost of living. Worried about people throwing garbage and litter all over the place, including rivers and greenspaces. Need better public transportation.

Safe options for human-powered and e-bikes transportation connecting housing, recreation, and commercial or public services.

Economic development is an issue. Many of the issues identified (housing, transportation, food, etc) could be addressed by recruiting more companies with good paying jobs and enhanced training for future employees.

Providing human-powered transportation options connecting housing, recreation, and local commercial services.

Ensuring safe and effective (well connected) human-powered transportation between housing, recreation areas, and commercial service areas.

Increasing traffic is an issue. Seems like development happens but roads stay the same and are no able to accommodate increased traffic. Example: Sardis Road.
My largest concern is the quality of public education...there needs to be more investment in both teacher pay and resources. Better schools = a strong workforce and a better community.

low professional wages

Homelessness and lack of affordable housing

Homelessness & Lack of affordable housing

Lack of affordable housing

In my opinion, the appeal of Buncombe county is the natural beauty and diversity of outdoor-centered activities... and the appeal of Greater Asheville is the fierce independence, unique character, and quirky personality. I fear that a rush to capture tourism dollars will change these features and the overall character of the region to the point that it becomes overly bourgeois like Charleston or utterly uninteresting like Myrtle Beach. Please preserve the outdoor-centered character and quirky personality of the area.

WNC is a discovered gem in terms of life style, climate and cost of living. Influx of climate refugees, especially as coastal areas become too hazardous, is already stressing infrastructure and cost of living. The forecasts of population growth which the Country has already communicated, creates concerns. Also, the political seizure of ETJ by Republicans hand-cuffs communities' ability to manage growth.

The current cost of living is already prohibitive for low-to-mid income level residents to live near the city. People have to move further and further out, creating challenges with transportation and access to a variety of food and stores. Rising costs will only exasperate this gap.

Growth is out of control. So many new housing developments are going in where there was once farms. This raises taxes and makes it difficult for families with farms to make ends meet. It's a cycle that results in the conversion of rural into urban areas and all the problems associated with that.

Concern over young educated people being able to support themselves here

Need bike lanes in side roads as well as areas to walk on side roads in Weaverville. It's dangerous to walk downtown from Dula Springs Road and other side roads.

County needs to contribute to reducing climate change and prepare for climate impacts

Affordable housing through increased density also important

Racial inequity also includes pushing meaningful reparations

Regulation promoting tree save also important

better public transportation in Weaverville and Black Mountain

Education
Lack of human-powered transportation facilities
9 months ago

Lack of human-powered transportation facilities
9 months ago

Development not coordinated with infrastructure capacity
9 months ago

Lack of human-powered transportation infrastructure
9 months ago

The rise in homelessness coming to our area that are not from NC is disturbing.
9 months ago

From my understanding the land use rules are more lenient in Buncombe County compared to Transylvania and Henderson counties. Why?
9 months ago

I would include county taxes in the "Rising Cost of Living category. Also, Impacts of climate change is a top concern buy more on a global/national level.
9 months ago

Don't give away taxes for an extended future when courting new businesses.
9 months ago

We need to preserve the natural attraction of the region and watch out for overbuilding that is not supported by other infrastructure needs. Look at Sweeten Creek Road (US25A). Recently, there has been a lot of apartments developed there with plans for many more. The two lane Sweeten Creek Rd cannot support this additional traffic, nor can Hendersonville Road (US25) at present. How will the County address this immediate need? And, where else in the County is this happening? Last, as goes natural areas, we should prioritize the clean up and maintenance of the French Broad River as a start. But, there are other areas being built out that is nothing but a play for $$$. That is not the problem, but doing this without a clear plan for maintaining natural areas alongside development is.
9 months ago

If we want our children to be able to remain in the region after college, then we need a path for them to find good paying jobs. Further, for older and more experienced workers, why would I choose to live in Asheville versus Charlotte, Greenville, Knoxville, RTP, or Raleigh when I have few high paying jobs to move to should I leave my present job? In larger cities this is less an issue.
9 months ago

The rising cost of living (in particular, housing) does not help the many people who work in the service industry supporting all the tourism. Also, jobs in the service industry don't always pay a living wage.
9 months ago

Continued racial inequity and rising cost of living are also tied to "not enough high paying jobs or training for local workers". Buncombe county has only focused on tourism which has mostly brought low-wage service industry jobs for locals and rising cost of living as people from large cities continue to move here and use wealth from remote jobs/family wealth/retirement.
9 months ago

Loss of natural areas and agricultural lands plus continued construction of new cheap-looking and crowded housing units which are not nearly as cheap as they look, unfortunately.
9 months ago
I don't mind paying taxes. I mind wasting tax dollars. County buildings that a private developer would not build based on cost per square foot, chrome wheels on ambulances, potential new libraries??? What would be the cost per user. Would county staff spend their own money this way? Staff is insulated from the "share holders" or tax payers by commissioners that are dealing with immediate issues. Commissioners generally rotate out of office alot quicker than staff.

9 months ago

High taxes
9 months ago

road safety for all modes of transport
9 months ago

I am a small farmer and am concerned about overdevelopment, gentrification to the extent of pushing poorer residents away, and social instability related to climate change. I hope we can avoid environmental issues to the extent some people are worries about, but I think it is more important to have a unified and resilient community that can take care of itself and who's residents can depend on each other if times go bad. I want to see our community working together to support our community, and don't want economic growth to drive all of our decisions. Making my living is important, and I'm grateful to all the people who buy our produce, but there's so much more to life than that.

9 months ago

We need to conserve our natural resources, including farmland, to ensure that we maintain these strong assets. We also need to recruit and support innovative and diverse businesses that create high paying jobs so that people can continue to afford to live here and thrive. We must be smart about where we do put the development and not just end up with sprawl that could be anywhere USA.

9 months ago

We need to alter our apparent destiny of "older, whiter, richer"
9 months ago

I'm doubtful about the sustainability of growth that lacks basic infrast such as greenways and parks, or transit.
9 months ago

Tourism is a great resource for us, but does not produce enough living wage jobs. We need to divert more of the money we earn from tourism to creating an economy with better paying jobs. We also need to make sure we have invested enough in education to make sure kids are ready for the higher paying jobs.

9 months ago

Tourists are making it difficult to go downtown for those of us who live here. The streets and sidewalks are crowded. There is no parking. Tourists are renting houses short term in the county making it impossible to find a place to live. Short term renters wander onto private property like it is a public park. They think that everything is for their use, so entitled. People who are moving in are paying very high prices for homes driving property values and taxes higher and higher. People moving in make nasty comments on Next Door about those who live here.

9 months ago

Older adult supports -healthcare
9 months ago

being ready to take care of older adults/healthcare
9 months ago

Being ready to take care of older adults
9 months ago
homelessness situation
9 months ago

Safe travelways. Bike lanes and sidewalks make everyone safer, including motorists
9 months ago

Safe travelways (bike lanes and sidewalks make things safer for everyone, including motorists
9 months ago

7. What is most needed for you and your family to succeed and have a healthy life? 
(Select your top three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More safe and affordable ways to travel to places (biking, walking, or riding a bus/public transit)</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More affordable housing options</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better public education</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved access to healthcare and social services</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More access to job training and higher paying jobs</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More access to recreation and the outdoors</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for small business development</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved access to mental health services and/or drug treatment care and services</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don't need anything else to have a healthy life</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better access to high quality internet service</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection from being evicted or priced out of homes or businesses (rental or owner-occupied)</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More childcare options</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,194 Respondents
8. What should be the County's priority for assisting residents with health and social service needs? More availability and options for (Select your top three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mental health services</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affordable healthcare, health insurance, and prescription drugs</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General health services (medical, dental, vision)</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisting residents with drug and alcohol addiction</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting healthy, affordable foods</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation and exercise</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,167 Respondents

9. What are your biggest concerns for housing in Buncombe County? (Select your top three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing is not affordable to many families and households (renter or owner-occupied)</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are not enough choices of housing types to meet the needs of different households</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhoods don't have enough opportunities to walk and bike close to home</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is too much housing being developed</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing is not located close to commercial areas and people must drive far to shop, dine, or work</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The need to make updates and repairs to existing housing.</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New houses are not built to last several generations</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe weather events and climate change pose threats to homes and property</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,175 Respondents
10. What are the most important needs for protecting land and water in the future? (Select your top three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>Protect the County's environment (air, water, soil, etc.)</td>
<td>759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>Ensure water sources are clean</td>
<td>724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49%</td>
<td>Protect working lands (farms and forests)</td>
<td>567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46%</td>
<td>Protect views of undeveloped mountains and rural areas</td>
<td>532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Protect communities and property from flooding</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23%</td>
<td>Provide new recreational options, such as hiking trails and parks</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>I don't think the County needs conservation efforts</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,167 Respondents
11. What are the top needs for parks and recreation facilities in Buncombe? (Select your top three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Need</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57%</td>
<td>Greenways and trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38%</td>
<td>Nature centers, nature preserves, botanical gardens, and open space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Smaller neighborhood parks close to home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Community gardens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Picnic areas, playgrounds, and spray parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13%</td>
<td>Community centers and indoor fitness facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13%</td>
<td>Outdoor courts (basketball, volleyball, tennis, pickleball)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13%</td>
<td>Publicly accessible pool (indoor or outdoor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Indoor sports fields and courts (pickleball, basketball, skate rink, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>Athletic fields (baseball, field hockey, football, lacrosse, rugby, soccer, softball)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Boat ramps and kayak launches for safe river access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Dog park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Outdoor amphitheater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Bicycle or skateboard facilities (pump track, skate park, mountain bike park)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>I don't think the County needs additional parks and recreation facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Disk golf course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,156 Respondents
12. How do you travel to most places in the County today? (Select your top choice.)

- 96% By myself or with family in a car
- 4% Others

1,160 respondents

13. If you could choose a different option, how would you prefer to travel to places in the future? (Select your top choice.)

- 25% Biking
- 25% I wouldn't pick another mode
- 19% By myself or with family in a car
- 16% Walking
- 10% Bus (Mountain Mobility/ART)
- 4% Others

1,145 respondents
14. What are your biggest transportation needs and wants for the future? (Select your top three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%</th>
<th>Need or Want</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Better access to sidewalks, walking trails, or greenways</td>
<td>524 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39%</td>
<td>Less traffic</td>
<td>453 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>Better access to bike lanes or bike trails</td>
<td>312 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24%</td>
<td>Better safety while biking</td>
<td>276 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21%</td>
<td>Not needing a car to get to most places in the County</td>
<td>239 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Better safety while driving</td>
<td>231 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19%</td>
<td>Better access to parking</td>
<td>216 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Less pollution from cars</td>
<td>171 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Better safety while walking or using a mobility aid</td>
<td>133 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>Less travel time from place to place</td>
<td>133 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>Better access to bus stops and routes</td>
<td>132 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>I don't have any transportation needs and wants</td>
<td>62 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Reduced cost of bus tickets or other public transit</td>
<td>60 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>46 ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>More handicap parking</td>
<td>37 ✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,156 Respondents
15. What should be the County's priorities for creating a more sustainable future for its people and businesses? (Select your top three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46%</td>
<td>Support development of housing affordable for all residents and local workers</td>
<td>524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>More biking and walking options (sidewalks, trails, greenways, and bike paths)</td>
<td>456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33%</td>
<td>Help bring higher paying businesses and jobs to the County</td>
<td>379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26%</td>
<td>Reduce the community's carbon footprint (reducing carbon pollution)</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Fix aging and historic buildings (businesses, homes, schools, community centers, etc.)</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24%</td>
<td>Decide where different types of new development will be located (housing, business, shopping areas, hotels, etc.)</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22%</td>
<td>Incorporate nature into new housing and commercial developments</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21%</td>
<td>Prepare for climate change and severe weather events</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19%</td>
<td>Support development of different types of housing (single-family, manufactured homes, apartments, townhomes, etc.)</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>Better designs for new buildings (how they look and how they function)</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>I am not concerned about the County creating a more sustainable future for its people and businesses</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,141 Respondents

16. How should the County support workers and development of new jobs? (Select your top choice.)

- 12% Increase employment opportunities for historically disadvantaged or marginalized populations (BIPOC, People Living in Poverty, Latino/Hispanic Population, People with Disabilities, LGBTQIA+, Youth, Rural Communities, etc...)
- 12% Make it easier for businesses to move to Buncombe County
- 12% Increase number of trained workers in the community by providing more affordable housing options
- 12% Support entrepreneurship and small business development
- 9% Increase safe, affordable, and efficient transportation options for workers to get to job training and jobs
- 7% Promote small business growth
- 7% Provide more job training for local workers
- 7% Increase employment opportunities for employees with varying levels of educational attainment

1,098 respondents
17. What are the most important benefits that tourism brings to residents of Buncombe County? (Select your top choice.)

- **30%** Creates job or income opportunities for local residents and supports local businesses
- **21%** Generates tax revenues for funding facilities that benefit both residents and visitors (e.g., trails, parks, etc.)
- **17%** Creates more arts, music, restaurant, and shopping opportunities for local residents
- **10%** I don’t think tourism provides benefits to Buncombe County
- **9%** Creates demand and support for new recreational amenities, such as parks, trails, and river access that are available to local residents
- **6%** Puts the County/Asheville “on the national map” as a place people want to visit and live to better compete for economic growth with other parts of the country
- **5%** Creates demand for regional travel and as a result more flight options are provided at the Asheville Regional Airport
- **2%** Others

1,103 respondents

18. Using the scale below, indicate your level of concern about the growth of tourism in Buncombe County.

Not at all concerned

Very Concerned
19. If you are concerned about the growth of tourism in the County, what are your biggest concerns? (Select up to three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing costs will continue to increase and make it hard for residents to afford to stay</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More housing will be used for second homes and vacation rentals leaving fewer options for year-round residents</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County will feel more like a vacation destination than a community for locals</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More workers will have to move out of the County to afford housing and will have longer commutes, which could create more traffic congestion on roads</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New tourism jobs won't pay higher wages, creating more affordability challenges for workers</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourism is an economic driver for the County and the problems it may cause do not outweigh what it provides to the County economically</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not concerned about tourism</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New tourism development (restaurants and hotels) will not look like traditional County development</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,098 Respondents
20. As we look to the next 20 years, where do you want the County to grow (build more homes, businesses, offices, schools, shopping areas, nightlife and restaurants, etc.)? (Select up to three choices.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In areas that have access to sewer, city water, and broadband internet AND ARE AWAY from environmentally sensitive areas (steep slopes and protected ridges on mountains, floodplain areas, wildlife habitats, water supply watershed, etc.)</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adding more development (homes, businesses, offices, schools, shopping areas, nightlife and restaurants, etc.) to areas that already have it. This could mean filling in empty lots or fixing up older buildings.</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In areas that have access to sewer, city water, and broadband internet AND ARE AWAY from working lands (farms and forests)</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would prefer no new growth, but understand that growth cannot be completely stopped.</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In areas that have access to sewer, city water, and broadband internet AND ARE AWAY from rural areas</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wherever the real estate market wants to locate new development</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,098 Respondents

What is your race/ethnicity?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I prefer not to answer</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African-American</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,119 Respondents
What is your age?

- 1,124 respondents
- 1,124 respondents
- What is your gender?

- 1,123 respondents

See image for draft Priority Planning Issues. Does this list include all of the priorities you would like addressed in the new Comprehensive Plan?

- 899 respondents
- 899 respondents
- 899 respondents
- 899 respondents
If there is another priority issue that is not listed, please tell us what it is, and recommend specific action items you would like to achieve through the plan for that issue:

Safety for women walking in Asheville
4 months ago

Specifically tourism and reducing its negative impacts on the community
4 months ago

Our hospital system is a mess. We used to have a top-rated system that attracted some of the best physicians in the country. Since HCA has taken over, in a health emergency, it would be less risky to drive myself to Charlotte or Knoxville than to go to Mission. That is criminal.
4 months ago

Plenty of other cities have implemented car-free zones, and it's paid off hugely for them! (Mexico City has a few, for example)
4 months ago

Walkability and cutting our dependence on cars (car-free zones)
4 months ago

Higher paying jobs
4 months ago

Jobs with upward mobility. This place will never be sustainable as long as the jobs are all tourism-centric and don't offer ability for people to escape the lower class. STOP with tourism and begin focusing on bringing businesses here that will pay better.
4 months ago

More bike lanes
4 months ago

There is no mention of code, law, and ordinance enforcement, and am generally concerned that the deemphasizing to such issues has a very negative impact on the quality of life in Buncombe. There is nothing progressive about people not feeling safe in their own neighborhoods and in the community at large, and it sends the wrong message to those who are already struggling (especially the homeless, addicted, and mentally ill) if they are left to feel that there will be no response or consequences for unacceptable or criminal behavior. I live in the midst of the Battery Park and Vanderbilt apartments which provide affordable housing for the elderly. Many of these neighbors are now afraid to leave their apartments because of the lack of police presence and due to multiple bad encounters with those with profound problems. They struggle to keep their own lives together, yet now feel left on the front lines of problems they did not create and cannot solve without necessary backing and protection.
4 months ago
Asheville needs to create more centers that help young entrepreneurs pursue and refine their skills. The economy would thrive even more if we invest in our youth in this way, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds. Asheville also needs more free tennis courts, indoor and outdoor exclusively for tennis, and courts exclusively for pickleball. Not combining them into one court, this creates a lot of tension between both groups in the Asheville community. I have witnessed many verbal arguments break out because players feel there is simply not enough good quality courts in Asheville for each group to play on. The tennis community is growing rapidly in Asheville which is a great source of physical activity especially for those of older age, and a great source of community building. We would appreciate having more free courts to meet this demand. There are no public indoor facilities that have free indoor tennis courts. This means in the winter months people can not play, which leads to inactivity and health conditions related to a lack of physical activity. Please consider building a free indoor tennis and pickleball facility, it will be in high demand by players in Asheville. For the outdoor courts Asheville does offer for free, there is a serious issue with people looking to be active in the Asheville community and having to wait hours to get on a court and engage in physical activity. There is a higher demand for the sport than ever before and it will continue to grow and as such the Asheville community would be so grateful for more tennis and pickleball courts to be supplied. If you want a healthier Asheville, please listen to their pleas and create spaces for free recreational use for tennis and pickleball exclusively. A healthy Asheville is a thriving Asheville. Making the courts free allows for equity, as it allows people of all socioeconomic backgrounds to engage in the sport. Thank you.

5 months ago

I see education listed - but I do not see that building a new High School in the county is listed? Our high schools are old and out dated compared to other areas, classrooms are full and we must expand and grow to offer the best high school education for our kids. They must be prepared for the future. Also vocational schools should be added to train for much needed labor force that has dwindled. This should fall under your sustainability model - the youth are the future.

5 months ago

why does the working lands protection not include recreational lands?

6 months ago

Homelessness - Provide Mental Health Options

6 months ago

WE RAISE OUR VOICES AGAINST CENSORSHIP. FOR INSTANCE MANY CREDIBLE DOCTORS, ETC. HAVE BEEN CENSORED OR WORSE FOR TRYING TO WARN AGAINST ALL OF THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE "JAB" CENSORSHIP IS WHAT THEY DO IN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. IT IS HAPPENING HERE NOW. THIS SHOULD CONCERN US ALL!

6 months ago

Public safety (crime/traffic)

6 months ago

Affordable housing, better education

6 months ago

Police protection, better schools --> better wages and respect for these professions

6 months ago

Get rid of billboards...Vermont is so beautiful without them.

6 months ago

high quality child care especially for children under 4 and for the children of parents who work shifts or weekends. I am afraid that this might get lost within the broad category of "econ devt, education & upward mobility."
Review current county policies for sediment control when developers build (over build). If the development touches on a stream or spring or river, ALL parities that are down stream need to be notified of project...not just those within current requirements. Developers should be required to have buffer zones, not just plastic put up to prevent runoff.

6 months ago

OVER DEVELOPMENT. Saturation point of tourism vs locals

6 months ago

“Equity” is losing its meaning and being thrown about too casually.

6 months ago

This looks good assuming that affordability is underlying all issues.

6 months ago

A pledge to Net-zero. Aggressively address climate change through the reduction of fossil fuel use in policy decision-making with respect to energy sources, equipment purchasing, and land use planning

6 months ago

supporting and protecting/expanding local food production, regenerative agriculture for more sustainability and local food economy to support our people as supply chains are increasingly challenged.

6 months ago

Peace of mind .... freedom from commercial pressure

6 months ago

I see the terms "sustainability" and "environmental protection", but what I'm looking for is an emphasis on the need for carbon neutrality and specific action to address the climate crisis. Without that, we are just rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic.

6 months ago

Don't make swannanoa a mini Asheville.

6 months ago

Diagram is ineffective.

I want a community that is less tourist and developer focused. Affordable housing is a term being maligned. Let's help out teachers, nurses and other low paid people that contribute to our afford a reasonable place to live. Let's not subsidize the hospitality or service industry. Those Business owner can increase their wages to livable or close if they can't. Residents should t subsidize the tourist business. After 25 years of declining quality of life in Bumcombe I'm over it. My tax money should not be spent to aid developers or tourist business.

6 months ago

continue to encourage the schools to close the knowledge gaps in low income, racial, and ethnic groups

6 months ago

I don't completely understand why equity is in the center of planning priorities. Is this really the overarching priority for the county? It seems like “the most good for the most people” should be more what we are striving for.

6 months ago

focus on local and non-corporate business development

6 months ago

Climate Action

6 months ago
Less homeless. Do not put homeless shelters in town or near businesses
6 months ago

Stop logging, more land to SAHC
6 months ago

Less emphasis on growth More emphasis on Bust prevention
6 months ago

Mental Health support services and access
6 months ago

Focus on lifestyle- and providing services for those WHO LIVE HERE. We pay the taxes. we want to receive the services- we want less noise - we want dependable law enforcement - not as it is now- we want pickleball courts for our recreation (- and would even increase tourism- not great ,...) We want the roads to accommodate the traffic and be safe- but also accommodate bicycles-(Intermodal) .. WE want every development to build on their property 100% of the parking need-- which is above 1.24 parking spots per bedroom- and must include staff- patrons- meeting room parking needs -- etc.. etc..
6 months ago

Strongly believe in Nashville for discontinue promoting tourism, eliminate tourism and development authority. Continue to collect occupancy taxes, and use these taxes for local infrastructure and curing poverty.
6 months ago

Tennis is big in Asheville, but run ins with pickleball players occupying the courts for hours have been a problem. They generally are less familiar with court and noise etiquette and should have their own separate courts. Free public courts are already at a premium without pickleball players. Also it would be great to see a couple courts in my neighborhood Shiloh.
6 months ago

Dedicated pickleball courts!!!!
6 months ago

Dedicated pickleball courts are needed.
6 months ago

Food security. More property tax relief for people growing food on less than 5 acres for local markets.
6 months ago

Stop allowing so many air bnbs and camping along Highway 9.
6 months ago

Where is noise pollution, off radar private campground, shed, air b and b, litter control enforcement?
6 months ago

Arts and culture
6 months ago

Please add pickle ball courts WITHOUT REDUCING the number of tennis courts.
6 months ago

I would need to review my answers to compare to this chart.
6 months ago

Recreational facilities. The city is woefully behind my home town that is one fourth the size of Buncombe County.
6 months ago
Please provide more pickle ball courts so they can play there, rather than taking over the limited community tennis courts.
6 months ago

Need dedicated Pickleball courts in Asheville.
6 months ago

Dedicated pickleball courts for our communities.
6 months ago

Community areas! Revitalize downtown Swannanoa and old beacon site please!
6 months ago

I think transportation deserves it's own segment. Working lands protection...probably not.
6 months ago

Clean up the homelessness situation and not let people just camp and spread filth wherever they want to. Also, we need good jobs here. We have empty store fronts that can be used rather than building new things and taking up more space.
6 months ago

"Housing" and "Community Health" could be broken down into "Homelessness" and "Drug Abuse Treatment".
6 months ago

Indigenous involvement/empowerment - acknowledge the people whose land this is, form economic partnerships w/ Cherokee/Qualla Boundary, history and education (monuments, museums, displays at airport/city hall/etc.
6 months ago

Homelessness. The county is becoming unaffordable to many residents and development focuses on tourists. Development should be community focused and should take care of local needs first before tourism
6 months ago

The definition of "equity" is pretty difficult to define and so I'm not sure it should be the central or controlling value for the project. The survey itself provided several definitions of equity. So... what are we talking about here?
6 months ago

Slow down growth, and get rid of the Trojan horse 'Equity'. Decentralize, and utilize locals rather then 'consultants'
6 months ago

More emphasis on job creation that isn't tourism related. A resilient community is one that can sustain it's tax-paying citizens through work that pays the bills, whereby citizens can afford to purchase a home and live here. Those snowbird transplants are not going to be washing dishes at your favorite downtown restaurant, so protect and empower your citizens to keep the whole economic engine "sustainable".
6 months ago

Thanks for this opportunity!! yes
6 months ago

citizen education and forums.
6 months ago
lobby for more local control of storm water ordinances!
6 months ago

n/a
6 months ago

Health and education
6 months ago

Density needs to be addressed. We need less density to protect the environment and runoff.
6 months ago

We really need to have safe access public transportation where we have housing developments.
Sweeten Creek Road does not have any bus lines to support it and there are no sidewalks for people to use to get to Hendersonville Rd which does have a bus line
6 months ago

Homelessness -- increase of violence, drug use, littering, tents/shelters - in close proximity to children and elderly
6 months ago

The circles should not be seen as silos but viewed as interconnected. The problems are certainly entangled, and demand seeing solutions as networked so as to derive multiple benefits and gains in solving multiple problems.
6 months ago

There is continued neglect of poor neighborhoods and minority residents. As an older adult (living in comfort) I am hesitant to go downtown when the tourist season is busy. I wish that there would be parking around the perimeter of downtown with many more streets designated just for pedestrians. I like the model of Boulder, CO.
6 months ago

More efficient busses with less wait times or late busses would be very helpful
6 months ago

I think it has everything I would want on it, but I feel like some of the priorities have too much in them, which feels like it diminishes some of the protection/action that could be done on that area. Such as "Environmental Protection, Recreation, and Community Health" which feels far more broad than "Working Lands Protection" - I would like to see equal priority among them so I know each element is actually being prioritized.
6 months ago

I'm not sure where health care fits into this picture. But I will reiterate my concern about HCA. It is a big employer, but too many employees are now locums or travelers. They don't live and work here. They don't have an investment in the community. Neither, apparently, does HCA. Buncombe County's growth comes from in-migration. Mission was one of the reasons that people moved here. My parents felt comfortable moving here because they knew they would get top-flight medical care. That isn't the case anymore. Down the road, this is going to be a problem. The only ways this is going to be remedied is by the county joining others who are putting political pressure on HCA to 1) increase access to care 2) improve the quality of care 3) be price-competitive. Mission is now an unregulated monopoly, and we are all paying the price for that.
6 months ago

More sidewalks!!!!
6 months ago

Too much congestion
6 months ago
Homeless issues
6 months ago

Work toward changing the state regulation that pours tourism dollars into more marketing rather than using the funds for needed improvements in the community!!!
6 months ago

I would like to see more accessible homeless shelters and soup kitchens.
6 months ago

Lower taxes for middle income
6 months ago

Protect - don't attack - ability of religious nonprofits to operate (e.g., hire) in alignment with their religious belief.
6 months ago

Ways the city can reduce taxes for senior. Stop building so many apartments and hotel [illegible] bears and all wildlife out.
6 months ago

The city approved all apartments and hotel and charge everyone for a bear trash can to your water bill. If they stop approving all the wildlife stay in the woods
6 months ago

no more large box stores in neighborhood service zoned areas
6 months ago

Public Safety - needle clean up in the homeless camp - shopping carts on the road.
6 months ago

Seek neighborhood input when developing in area that was rezoned over 10 years ago to NS. Rowland Rd. Dollar General
6 months ago

Really would like more focus on the schools, good higher-end shopping, and getting rid of abandoned houses/building and beautifying commercial areas.
6 months ago

Childcare
6 months ago

resource rehabilitation
6 months ago

resource rehabilitation for homelsness
6 months ago

Reparations through land and housing allocation.
6 months ago

Connections for ecological integrity and protection of green space and urban/rural/wild land forests
6 months ago

Green Infrastructure as a whole
6 months ago
into which category do mental health, homelessness, and safety belong?
6 months ago

I assume mental health resources for those experiencing homelessness would be in the "community health" section, but add this, if not.
6 months ago

What do things cost: parks, libraries, sidewalks - and are residents willing to pay?
6 months ago

Better understanding of historic preservation, what's worth saving and how to do it.
6 months ago

Recognize and celebrate local craft artists and craft tradition
6 months ago

Hoping that the county can increase sidewalks, parks, safe bike lanes, and public transit that considers the environment, promotes health, and community. I would like to see city planning incorporate beauty; smaller local businesses, and lots of parks. I would especially like to see smaller hardware stores, healthy grocery stores, and pharmacies that are more prevalent in neighborhoods, so that people can walk or ride bikes for groceries, pharmacy, and restaurants, tea houses. Decrease the dependency on driving - much friendlier to walking and biking. I live out Riceville Rd. now, and we need sidewalks and bike lanes. People from Warren Wilson College like to ride their bikes and it is not safe out here. And there a quite a few people who don't have cars. I see them trying to walk on the low shoulder on the curvy roads on Riceville trying to get to Ingle's. A sidewalk would be great, esp. where people are already trying to walk. And I miss walking and riding my bike, like I did when I lived in Montford. I would love it if there were bike lanes and trails that connected with a Greenway on the Swannanoa and then to the French Broad Greenway. Thank you for the Greenways - and for edible landscaping!
6 months ago

The type of housing being built along with with the half thought out infrastructure and urban development
6 months ago

There is no reason for equity to be in the center of this. I'm all for duality of opportunity, but not artificial affirmative action to ensure an equal outcome for all. People are born with different capacities and if people are free, they are not equal and if the are equal, they are not free.
6 months ago

Animal Welfare
-County spending funds on animal control activities that help keep animals in their homes and out of the shelter system (expanding on the foundation that Asheville Humane has built through their Community Solutions program)
-County spending man power/funds on TNR (trap neuter return) program to humanely cut down on the number of unhomed, outdoor cats
-County spending funds on subsidizing spay/neuter so that it's affordable for low-income families to get their animals altered, therefore reducing the number of animals being born in our county and leading to less animals entering the shelter system
6 months ago

Direct financial support for POC, Cherokee relations, reparations
6 months ago

Increased mental health services that are both accessible and affordable for ALL residents of Buncombe County.
6 months ago
Building bridges among members of the community; example, I live south of the Biltmore Estate, if I could ride my bike through the Biltmore Estate (along the river) I could connect with the Greenway in the River Arts District. I would love that level of access to areas of interest within Asheville by using my bike instead of driving.

Racial Justice: funding and programming to support the development of BIPOC businesses, funding and programming that supports BIPOC homeownership,

Policing and appropriate responses to mental health, homeless and minority disturbances. Dealing with the horrifying traffic issues - speeding, road rage, loud mufflers (you all do realize that the mountains amplify sound so you need to more, not less strict with noise all these unrestricted mufflers make?).

change development approval process to limit Board of Adjustment to only smaller projects. allow Commission to have flexibility in review and approval process

Add bike lanes.

Attracting wealthy people to move to Buncombe imports money and spending. There is NOTHING in this survey to promote that.

Ecological design of new construction that 1. Reduces pressure on already overloaded sewer systems with intentionally designed waste water systems
2. Prioritizes native perennial landscaping that provides habitat for wildlife.
My consulting company Encompass Land Design works with residential landowners trying to solve erosion issues caused by development 'upstream', but when the root of the problem is a LACK of ecological Design and implementation by the county, all we can really do is band-aid the issue. We have a lot of data on this topic, and would like to be a part of the greater conversation regarding this initiative. Get in touch via email at encompasslandco@gmail.com or at www.encompasslanddesign.com

Food security - expand mobile food markets via WNC YMCA to include free cooking instructions.

Aging population, who is helping them?

Drinking water

We need to protect the welfare of mitayuke oyasin - all our relatives*. "We do not inherit land from our parents; we borrow it from our children." *animal and human

Equity is not that important

como apoyan económicamente el tiempo que toma poder participar en estos procesos?

Cuáles son sus herramientas para llegar a la gente de color e inmigrante, no vamos que refleja su voz y que el nivel de respuesta es muy bajo

*animal and human

https://publicinput.com/report?id=13968
Equity for ALL, not just minorities. Equally opportunities, not equal outcome
7 months ago

The plan is living out development for elder community.
7 months ago

considerations for the aging population
7 months ago

minority protection and higher quality of life for low income families
7 months ago

renewable resources
7 months ago

The way schooling is taught and upkept
7 months ago

Personally I would love to see a part of this diagram that specifically speaks to helping unhoused folks. It doesn't do any service to the city to pretend that we do not have a homeless problem here - and to be clear, by "homeless problem" I do not mean the homeless folks themselves, I mean the inhospitable environment in Buncombe County that has created the high rates of homelessness here. There's a reason we have the highest homeless population per capita in the state, and it isn't the fault of the homeless folks themselves.
7 months ago

Better management of traffic around school areas during peak traffic times for more safety and efficiency. More sidewalks and business development and historical restoration in places like the old village of Swannanoa.
7 months ago

Cómo apoyan económicamente el tiempo que toma poder participar en estos procesos?
7 months ago

Cuales son sus herramientas para llegar a la gente de color e inmigrante, no vamos que refleja su voz y que el nivel de respuesta es muy baja
7 months ago

I liken working land protection, but would add I'd like to see farmers get incentives
7 months ago

Alternative forms of transportation such as biking and walking paths should also be designed with recreational use in mind.
7 months ago

More detail for each area in the chart is needed. What does each "category" really mean?
7 months ago

Racism. Income inequity. Protection of voting rights and civil rights. Improvement is needed.
7 months ago

If environmental protection was separated from recreation and community health, it could focus on a healthy ecosystem for wildlife as well as for human inhabitants.
7 months ago
I don't think environmental protection, recreation, and community health should all be lumped together. These are each separate issues and each very important but with different concerns and priorities.

7 months ago

There needs to be some sort of bus transportation to far reaches of the county, or a park and ride and more parking downtown.

7 months ago

Unincorporated areas, like Swannanoa, have little opportunity to be prioritized for things like Greenway, sidewalks, and access to services. This leads to inequity and reduced access for this community members with little means to advocate for themselves.

7 months ago

I love all of these priorities. I would add creating a family-oriented community and finding ways to strengthen community connections and build community more in all parts of the county.

7 months ago

Crime

7 months ago

Climate Change

7 months ago

Climate change is the overriding issue that will affect everything. Solar and wind, and green will create higher paying jobs and a better environment.

7 months ago

Homelessness

7 months ago

Support local libraries. Do not consolidate.

7 months ago

A comprehensive plan will need the input of all in the community - all income levels and others who may be overlooked - the disabled, detainees in our jails, etc.

7 months ago

Slow the growth. Seems that powers that be just want an influx of more money, taxes, etc and I realize that is important but feel they have gone overboard without thinking of the long-term effects.

7 months ago

I know "education" and "community health" are listed. Which issue area would include "information literacy"? I feel part of "community health" and "education" should include county support for community news. The decline of local journalism and newspapers has hurt communities. Citizens need help with "information literacy" skills. These skills will benefit citizens and the community as a whole.

7 months ago

If environmental protection includes measured and sustainable development with a focus on green buildings, preserving the tree canopy and green spaces, protecting scenic areas and wilderness areas, developing and maintaining greenways and trails, and promoting electric vehicles for county and personal use then I have nothing more to add.

7 months ago

Partially covered under COMMUNITY HEALTH, access to affordable and nutritional dense food, which includes local, walkable community gardens.

7 months ago
Tourism
7 months ago

Very concerned about short term rentals causing crime in residential neighborhoods.
7 months ago

Gun restrictions and more of them in order to keep communities safe from bad choices using weaponry with too loose of rules
7 months ago

Supporting LOCAL artists and performers
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago

It may be included in environmental protection. We cannot exceed what our local water resources allow in use of water. In plain words we cannot dry up our creeks to provide water for new housing developments we need to stay within the limits of what our environment gives us without harming the rivers and creeks which is the driver for why many people want to live here. We also need a larger and more efficient waste water treatment plant to handle the new residence and also the tourism. The French broad river does not need to be an E. coli biohazard.
7 months ago

ninguno
7 months ago

Racial justice, equity training for all police, use social services & mental health professionals for mental health & not criminal cases. Also, we need to address addiction & substance use in this county including alcohol even though we are beer city. We have a real problem on our hands as a community with addiction that the jails won't fix. We need a revamp of our police force, justice system, and most especially mental health services in this county. Wr could lead the nation if we keep corruption out of it. Solicit help from the schools who deal with this every day.
7 months ago

Values that unite diverse populations not simply advantage the majority population
7 months ago

Crime related to drug trafficking and the homeless. Bolster the law enforcement staff. Pay County employees a better salary so that they can afford to live in the County.
7 months ago

would like to see native plant initiative for new development.
7 months ago

would like to see a dedicated mental health, social work, ems unit to address issues related to homeless population
7 months ago

la inseguridad
7 months ago

I would love to see dedicated greenways/paved bike trails connecting the various parts of Asheville as well as the towns and communities throughout Buncombe County. Perhaps this falls under the "Infrastructure" category heading.
7 months ago
Reparations for black residents of Buncombe County historically impacted by redlining, displacement and other anti black actions taken by the county.

7 months ago

No desalojó de vivienda

7 months ago

I would like to see Asheville become a premier bike & pedestrian friendly community. A safe bike and pedestrian transportation infrastructure contributes to every single area identified in the priority planning issues.

7 months ago

Environmental Protection and climate change mitigations needs it's own thing. It's related to public health, but Public health should also be it's own thing, that addresses all the issues of addiction, mental health etc.

7 months ago

More access to good healthcare and doctors. Mission Hospital is no longer a working option for people. Please don't add homes to Pinners Cove area. The roads cannot take the traffic. It's already very dangerous and the roads are eroding. Would interfere with working farms, water runoff sewage. Very dangerous to have more traffic on narrow, curvy roads, blind driveways on curves. Please clean up all of the litter and trash all over South Asheville.

7 months ago

Low wages need to be explicitly addressed with regard to inflation and irrelevant rent/housing increases.

7 months ago

Cutting down on crime by addressing poverty and education

7 months ago

I would love to see economic development include a plan for keeping the arts alive in our community by ensuring artists will be able to afford to live and work in Asheville.

7 months ago

Unless BCS and ACS are consolidated into an ALL ONE government school system FOR the children AND the taxpayers then all the other 'equity' and 'inclusion' goals are mere bullshit !

7 months ago

Accountability and safety for those in the community that are being being victimized by drugs and crime that have grown in the last 4-5 years.

7 months ago

Keeping property taxes low for residents who have owned their property for 10 years or more.

7 months ago

more funding for public schools, more community involvement in public schools

7 months ago
Education and mental health have significant overlap, especially as we emerge from the pandemic. The social, emotional, and mental health of our students is at the highest level that we have ever seen while the worker shortage has decreased the available providers of mental health supports. It may be that school districts have to be able to hire therapists. We need support across the community to meet the mental health and social emotional needs of all children.

7 months ago

Government and Accountability
Also, Equity should be its own area of priority, in addition to being included in each other area.

7 months ago

It depends on how "equity" is defined...also if equity means that working people give to non-working people...then NO~

7 months ago

I would like for people who live in apartment complexes and condominiums to have a place to plug in an electric car. This seems part of infrastructure and energy.

7 months ago

Invest in pre-k childcare so more parents can be employed and work jobs that are outside of the 9-5 realm. Many working moms cannot work the premium shifts in our hospitality industry because they are at night and weekend. Childcare can help change this inequitable situation.

7 months ago

Protecting rural areas from development!

7 months ago

Protection of existing neighborhoods from over development!

7 months ago

DO NOT put dense housing developments in rural neighborhoods!!!

7 months ago

Protection for rural lands

7 months ago

Housing affordability needs to be its own bubble. It needs the most attention out of all of these topics.

7 months ago
Look at consolidating key services county wide with municipalities- fire water police planning etc. Become more efficient and effective.
7 months ago

County politicians need to be replaced
7 months ago

Stop development on mountain tops. Should not ruin everyone else's view
7 months ago

I see no equity for taxpayers who work to pay their taxes to a county government who believes that equity is to provide services for a select few. Buncombe County should be providing services that are equitable and accessible to all its citizens and do so at a reasonable cost.
7 months ago

Health should be its own priority not under (less than) recreation and enviro protection. Not clear on why those are bucketed together.
7 months ago

More activities for seniors / senior centers
7 months ago

Tourism Diet. Tourism Diet for 2-5 Years, Focus Action PRIMARILY on Community Needs, Housing Not Hotels, Safety, Fixing existing infrastructure
7 months ago

Accessible Healthcare
7 months ago

reparations
7 months ago

Need a plan to deport all the hobos who think Asheville is Mecca.
7 months ago

free preschool and affordable childcare
7 months ago

Quality of life focus.
7 months ago

The need for universal child care is critical, along with elder care!
7 months ago

Public safety
7 months ago

Seems as though preK-12 Education might deserve its own bubble.
7 months ago

Crime reduction which I believe is related to many of these issues
7 months ago
Health and wellness through increased access to mental health care, drug and alcohol addiction treatment.
7 months ago

Anti-racism, diversity and inclusion
7 months ago

Infrastructure needs to focus on repairing/maintaining existing in addition to expansion of municipal services.
7 months ago

Wages of employers in Buncombe County should all be evaluated.
7 months ago

Public safety and controlling crime by supporting law enforcement by bringing our police force back to full strength
7 months ago

I don't view community safety / law enforcement / policing as a big issue from my "perch" in Weaverville, but there are likely other Buncombe County residents who do. Effective collaboration between governmental entities > cities (mainly Asheville) > Buncombe County > State and Federal.
7 months ago

I would put sustainability in the middle. This chart implies it is outside your goals. Equity us an ill-defined buzzword that, being in the middle, suggests you sacrifice everything else to attain it?
7 months ago

Attracting business that supports our thriving arts communities
8 months ago

The homelessness and drug issues need to be addressed rapidly. If you think it's bad now, wait five years. It will quadruple. This city needs access to mental health facilities, emergency shelters and places for people to get clean. The mild climate ensures that transient, homeless folks will continue to flock to the region.
8 months ago

... doing our part to mitigate climate change, creating net positive environment for all
8 months ago

Stop catering to the homeless, drugs, and those that come here for handouts.
8 months ago

... allow 1 new home for 1 new affordable home, stop with the hotels downstairs, the city aesthetic has been based on tax dollars and the architectural review is being done by money hungry non-architects. Asheville is an old mountain town and starting to look like a mid-century modern mistake. Stop with the tax breaks to developers. Either they will build what is allowed or not build. Profit cannot continue to be the driving force. Stop advertising! Make Biltmore and the hammer pay for their own advertising without tax dollars. Audit large businesses to make certain they are paying taxes.
8 months ago

Homeless and mental health
8 months ago

I would rather see Community Health above Recreation ... and want to make sure "infrastructure" includes broadband ...
8 months ago
Asheville was known as a great place to retire. I would like to see a new concept for community development that includes Asheville culture, nature, gardens, enrichment, walk ability, and independence for our senior residents.

8 months ago

Protect our God given, and Constitution protected individual freedoms and rights by not allowing elected officials to undermine these rights in any way. Our schools need to teach students about our history accurately so that they understand why the US Constitution is so important. Freedom of choice, (without harming others) is the bedrock of our society and we must all protect it or it will be lost.

8 months ago

not sure why equity is in the middle of this, as it is not the most pressing issue.

8 months ago

Take equity out of the center of everything.

8 months ago

Affordable housing

8 months ago

Canopy and tree/forest protection

8 months ago

We need to significantly increase investment in addressing issues of addiction, mental health and poverty that are driving over-use of our criminal legal system, which too often just exacerbates the issues.

8 months ago

Que tomen mayormente en cuenta las casas móviles en nuestra área para que así sean mayormente protegidas y no desaparezcan es muy importante la vivienda económica como lo son las casas móviles

8 months ago

Develop local businesses and jobs that are well paying so that we do not have to promote and rely on tourism for our well being. there will be a time when Buncombe county will not be “the place” to visit and we need to develop a reliable source of sustainability

8 months ago

I do not want my tax dollars going to giving out needles, sterile water, spoons, and other drug paraphernalia. This weekend they broke into our non-profits brand new grant funded 50k bus that was given for our artists with disabilities to integrate into the community. They broke into it and had a party. They trashed the inside with needles, and heroin cooked foils. There was even sex toys. Why are we enabling this behavior. If they don't want to overdose or catch Hep C then they can make other choices or ask for help. Instead the natural consequences that we are letting them avoid our falling on the public.

8 months ago

We need to address the growing junkies situation. Enabling them is not helping.

8 months ago

No more mandates!

8 months ago

I don't see the foundation of every community, The Family

8 months ago
Slow down new building of businesses on tunnel road, utilize the existing vacant buildings. Example: in Swannanoa the plaza next to Ingles has had empty space for years, have the owner beautify the exterior, this plaza is an eye sore to the community, especially with the low income housing across the street being so close to the road.
8 months ago

Average housing costs in line with average salaries in the area.
8 months ago

The trash around Asheville has gotten so bad. And the amount of homeless people begging aggressively. I am okay with homeless folks, but I am not more fearful with how many have approached me. Downtown does not feel safe anymore.
8 months ago

Community Safety. Get tough on crime, support law enforcement, prosecute criminals.
8 months ago

discourage tourism and add industry
8 months ago

Climate mitigation and Resiliency (including Local Food Security) commensurate with predicted climate scenarios over next 20 years.
8 months ago

Equity needs to highlight Citizens with Disabilities in relevant, high impact, ethical, and proportional manner. Each BCG unit needs to embrace CwDs.
8 months ago

Arts & Culture. How can our county government model and support our creativity and the creative arts?
8 months ago

Racial equity
8 months ago

How to mitigate damaging effects of tourism
8 months ago

More family support - childcare, transportation, SAFE communal spaces for families (and just not well off nuclear families - working families, single parent families, diverse families, families who need a support system)
8 months ago

no, looks good
8 months ago

Get the drug and organizations that support drug use out of Buncombe County. The needle exchange is simply enabling drug use.
8 months ago

People.
8 months ago

wages
8 months ago
I am a new realtor, a mental health RN, and creative/marketer. I have a dream of a single mom tiny house community. I have no idea how I can afford to build/maintain such a place. Seems like making anything affordable is becoming more and more impossible. It has been very frustrating to advocate for THOW communities. So many are interested. And I want to have THOW communities because it would allow moms to be mobile as their needs change, yet have a home. So many people are inquiring about having THOWS or tiny houses on foundations on unrestricted land. One beef I have is that these developments have minimum square footage that doesn't allow for tiny homes. I would love to see some more smaller home options. They just don't exist unless you want a mobile home. Not everyone wants to live in those because they become so junky.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS TO BECOME PRIORITY. ZONING REGULATIONS HAVE NEARLY ELIMINATED THE ABILITY TO BUILD TRULY AFFORDABLE HOMES EXCEPT IN RURAL AREAS. THIS FORCES THE WORKING CLASS TO THE OUTSKIRTS WHERE THERE IS NO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE AND COMMUTES ARE GREATER, WHICH RESULTS IN LARGE NUMBERS OF THE WORKING CLASS RELOCATING TO MORE AFFORDABLE COUNTIES AND THEY ARE NOT GOING TO CONTINUE TO COMMUTE WHEN WAGES ARE EXACTLY THE SAME IN OTHER COUNTIES AND THEY CAN ELIMINATE THEIR COMMUTE.

Parks and greenspace is kind of hidden in Environmental Protection and Recreation. Its has a specific theme/implication to citizens that is more than those two existing categories. Environmental protection is a very cold hard to pinpoint word....

"Equity" is political jargon that doesn't make enough sense. I would refrain from using words that are just trendy. Call it what you will, but I worry that this promotion of the word leaves politicians an easy exit when it doesn't work out the way they intended it to.

The homeless situation needs to be addressed. They need to have aid outside of downtown. The sleeping, begging & defecating downtown is affecting our precious local small businesses. I am seeing fewer & fewer locals visiting downtown and are choosing other areas. Downtown is the heartbeat of Asheville and must be preserved.

Our homeless problem is out of control and I truly feel that over half have incredible problems, even criminality. Working part time now and knowing that feces are found outside of restaurants, drug use happens in shopping areas, etc. If arrests need to be made, do it.

Development is ruining our city and county environment and habitats and beauty. There needs to be rules in place. Are there no boundaries for developers?? New builds don't have to look like Lego blocks; keep the character in our city/county.

Focus planning and support for TOURISM. Lobby and enact better usage of tax revenues developed by hotel and vacation rental taxes, more specifically to allow local counties and cities to raise taxes and use moneys for infrastructure and local initiatives, (police, fire, education & development). Cultivate tourism growth to reflect the opportunity this business sector provides for a growing and thriving local economy. Tourism has been he lifeblood for WNC since the Vanderbilts constructed the Biltmore Estate, helped form the National Parks, and brought a spotlight on this amazing and vibrant area.

It is very important that we use a holistic approach in all of the focus areas. Creating an environment of community members helping each other is the only way healthy changes can be supported. It is imperative that we address the community as a whole and seek to serve all who live and visit our region.
reaching underserved areas
8 months ago

No Open Burning-https://chng.it/K6pjWyjcJm
8 months ago

insecurity
8 months ago

Affordable housing; homeless people; food insecurity
8 months ago

NA
8 months ago

It doesn't matter what I think. The Comp Plan and Commissioners will do what they want regardless of all this work.
8 months ago

1.) Crime- comprehensive understanding of how we rank versus other communities. What we can do to make our citizens feel safe in the County. (e.g. emergency call response times, minimum patrol coverage, metrics of violent and property crimes etc...)
2.) Governmental operations efficiency - Understanding of how government processes may speed delivery of these priorities or hinder delivery of these listed priorities.
8 months ago

Our healthcare system is now broken now that Mission has gone to a for profit company. Great Dr who located to this area no longer have privileges' in the hospital. It is under staffed and has lack of supplies. It took us 16 hours in the Emergency Room in Jan to get my husband admitted. They did not want to give him a covid test because they were running short. He died of covid.
8 months ago

Abolish the TDA. STOP funding so much tourism. You are driving generational families out of here. No one is going to be able to afford to live here and serve the rich white tourists that flood Asheville constantly.
8 months ago

Crime and safety and growing homeless population
8 months ago

In conjunction with Community Health we need Community Policing efforts - police in the neighborhoods, working with the local community.
8 months ago

I would have to read all the existing objectives/goals..strategies, action plans and measurables to answer anything below
8 months ago

Well not sure where Public safety is in here? And not sure why equity is in the center...equity is not defined or really measurable at this time
8 months ago

Drug use, Homeless. Lack of Law enforcement officers.
8 months ago
I think we need more law enforcement presence. I understand the times and keeping doors locked - but we should be able to feel safe going from the car to the store. Quality of life means feeling safe in your community. I'm over the city of Asheville - it's being destroyed. But the County Commissioners need to protect the county and its' citizens. I feel so bad for those living in Asheville.

8 months ago

Law Enforcement and Safety

8 months ago

Crime and safety are a huge issue that is not being handled. Vagrants with mental and drug issues running rampant on the streets. We need accountability and serious action taken with crimes committed. All these questions above mean nothing if the city is not a safe place to be in. We need desperately more mental health places built or bought. Sad to see what this city has become due to jaded views of this government in Asheville. Asheville has been put on the worst national list now. Very sad!

8 months ago

Enforce our laws! Fund law enforcement!

8 months ago

Education

8 months ago

Homelessness. Bringing communities to the table before implementing programs into their residential neighborhood with no plan on how to mitigate crime, and with a DA who doesn't uphold the law. Also, Supporting police, fireman, and first responders at all costs. Figure out a way to tackle the retirement package or lack thereof for the officers to incentivize working in a city they can barely afford but have to serve.

8 months ago

If by Equity you mean using tax revenue to provide benefits for less than all taxpayers, then that doesn't represent equitable distribution of taxpayer's hard earned money. There should be no special giveaways.

8 months ago

Follow the law. It is clear

8 months ago

I would like to see a Master Plans for both city/county parks and for greenways (updated). These services should be considered core services. Quality education is vitally import to the future of Buncombe County. The City of Asheville is failing in this regard. Consideration should be given to consolidating the two systems. Increase broadband accessibility in rural areas.

8 months ago

Education for our youth with quality affordable childcare

8 months ago

who decided that equity was the most important goal going forward? Why?

8 months ago

safety and cleanliness of public areas

8 months ago

END MASK MANDATES FOR SCHOOL

8 months ago
Stop enabling drug addiction
8 months ago

Please protect the farmers and farmland in our county. If it's developed we can never get it back for land to grow food.
8 months ago

Provide high speed broadband to rural areas.
8 months ago

We HAVE to talk about housing for locals and restrictions on temp housing for tourists. There aren't enough homes for local middle class residents. It's a crisis for middle income residents. Wealthy people who have moved to Buncombe County don't notice this so they don't care and it's not being talked about. The people that made Buncombe County and Asheville the way it is are going homeless and living in horrible conditions. It's unfair.
8 months ago

Public education & parks & rec are my top two.
8 months ago

This goes along with environmental issues: light pollution. The amount of light that bleeds out to more rural settings from areas of development has increased dramatically as the Asheville area has grown. One way of protecting "nature", agricultural lands, wildlife and the natural beauty of this area would be the development of lighting standards that reduce light pollution.
8 months ago

Some of these circles are enormous. Economic development and education are massive concerns and should have their own bubbles.
8 months ago

I would love to see special emphasis on urban planning as it relates to incentivizing urban design for healthy, equitable neighborhoods- not just one off developments with scattered infrastructure
8 months ago

Saving the mountaintop forests
8 months ago

Environmental protection needs its own circle, not lumped in with two other things. protect Nature for Nature's sake
8 months ago

Is social unrest and increasing hostility addressed? How do we create a community that understands and respects that we have vastly differing viewpoints, but need to address issues in a respectful manner?
9 months ago

Economy should be top priority and the quality of education.
9 months ago

Concern about the rise of homeless population. Support law enforcement and see they are well trained and up to date socially. Support the business community as well as residents
9 months ago
1. Transparency, quality, efficiency, sustainability, and effectiveness of county government and county-supported services (like public health, planning/zoning, permitting/inspections, recreation, indigent care, etc.), perhaps collectively titled "Good Governance".
2. Very good coordination with City of Asheville with respect to areas of overlapping or shared interests (perhaps entitled City-County Cooperation).

Tourism - stop promoting Asheville on 10 ten lists of just about everything. People visit then wind up moving here. It's loosing it's lost it's small city charm. Too many people, too much traffic and it's effecting the natural beauty of the area and the wildlife.

Tourism; rampant and uncontrolled tourism growth in the county has many adverse effects and should be studied

Overbuilding of hotels and motels along with the conversion of residential into temporary rentals. Limit number of high-density hotel/motels and strict zoning laws concerning temporary rentals (AirBNB, VRBO, etc.)

I didn't see anything explicit about creating spaces for historically marginalized groups in the plan above. I think there could be value in small business grants, community action to support these populations, reparations etc., that could be part of the plan.

I also didn't see anything in the plan about homelessness (though this is more of a City of Asheville issue) other than addressing affordable housing and the question about mental health. I think there's value in a comprehensive plan to address this concern through zoning, support initiatives, repurposing existing infrastructure etc., to help folks who need it.

Cultural assets - promote and protect; could add this to become Environmental and Cultural Protection... Our cultural assets are threatened by growth. We must protect them and build them up in the future.

Stop planning and do something, please. Concentrate development where development is already in place. I know Buncombe County is going to grow. I'm fine with that. Just keep it concentrated and dense.

I'd like to see reducing carbon footprint specifically called out.

Some of the issues are combined and should be their own agenda item/issue for planning and consideration. And also feel that crime, as well as climate change, should be uniquely noted.

Should Technology be broken out from "Infrastructure & Energy" (I assume that's where it lives)? I raise this questions as large-scale infrastructure projects (i.e., bridges, undergrounding electrical, wastewater treatment) are significantly different from technological advancements made within the County (i.e., ensuring all residents have access to WiFi). Another option could be further breaking apart "Infrastructure" by Soft, Hard, and Critical infrastructure components.

Another broad action/recommendation, would be to not nest priority issues together as it seems to dilute/deprioritize the importance of each. Would it be possible to either have each priority issue stand alone (i.e., decouple land use, housing, & transportation, so each is a standalone priority like "Working Lands Protection" is)? Or, to resolve this dilution issue, could all priority issues be placed under single word/phrase umbrellas?
Public Safety: specifically creating a culture of accountability and respect for all citizens. Goal would be something like: All citizens, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation, feel safe, protected and respected in all situations by County (and City) law enforcement (hint: they don't now).

9 months ago

Public Safety
9 months ago

Limits to growth
9 months ago

Discuss limits to growth based upon environmental factors
9 months ago

Recreational facilities
9 months ago

infrastructure and safe communities...
9 months ago

EASY and obvious accessibility points to services and supports
9 months ago

I believe assistance and programs for Hispanics are totally lacking. Also economic inclusion such as pickleball, gardening and neighborhood festivals should be a focus.
9 months ago

Parks and recreation like pickleball where everyone no matter their economic status can play and community gardens and assistance at our libraries to help with government forms, immigration issues and reading assistance for the elderly and minorities.
9 months ago

I'd like to add "sustainable" to all of these categories except maybe "resiliency and hazard mitigation."
9 months ago

Affordable and fair property taxation for established property owners that actually live on their property full-time.
9 months ago

Re-fund the police
9 months ago

Protect and support wildlife by mitigating the effects of climate change. Protect the health and natural beauty of our forests and mountains. If we don't respect the natural world around us, we'll lose much of what sustains us as humans.
9 months ago

Less $ going to promote tourism. More of the tourist $ going to infrastructure. This is a beautiful city. And yet, we allow some of really unattractive homes to be built. They look like bird houses, how are they going to stand 50 years from now?
9 months ago

Lack of coordination between development and infrastructure. development approval seeking conditional use permits exceeding county zoning
9 months ago
Job pay, especially in the service industry is simply too low to live. Climate Change needs to be called out directly as the emergency that it is. Crime. Far too narrow and sometimes falling apart sidewalks in downtown makes the growing crowds even worse.

9 months ago

Food security/justice needs to be named and/or stand alone

9 months ago

Efficient government

9 months ago

Improved access to rural health and dental care

9 months ago

This community should be a leader in developing environmentally sound practices. I have seen too many large old growth trees removed in my neighborhood which has permanently changed its character. What rules and regulations need to be changed or modified to allow for sustainable development. Does every new house in the county need to be connected to the grid. How is solar energy encouraged and facilitated. Are there options available in the building code to allow for inventive and green buildings or are we locked into old ways of thinking. What communities exist that we should be looking at as a role model.

9 months ago

I do not think that Equity (forced equality of outcomes) should be part of this. I understand the need to create a sustainable future, but that doesn't happen because we prioritize a political mantra. It happens because we hold people accountable for their actions and choices, not enable their poor actions and choices.

9 months ago

Zoning that reflects comprehensive plan...ie aligned policies. Ability to "test" decisions based on CP policies.

9 months ago

Individual/Family Health & Well-Being

9 months ago

Preserving our sense of community rather than advertising all over the country to be a vacation wonderland and haven to which everyone should move

9 months ago

Reparations for the black folks and truth and reconciliation process for Black and Indigenous people.

9 months ago

farmland preservation

9 months ago

not sure what "equity" has to do, other than continue the current "theme", with the issues

9 months ago

Reducing policies that prioritize automobiles.

9 months ago

housing affordability. implement a max rent allowed to be charged.

9 months ago

The crime rate has me really concerned. I no longer feel safe.

9 months ago
Equity is not the center of my focus. It is a "feel good" term for today and can not be achieved. We do not need to spend resources on this to the detriment of critical issues like housing, jobs, education and infrastructure. If we are focused on the best for our community, it should be equitable for all who want to make the effort to take advantage of the opportunity.

9 months ago

Not sure where the problem with transient and homeless people fits in, but it is a BIG problem here. It creates fear and filthy conditions--I have seen tourists turn around and not walk down a street because someone was sitting on the sidewalk acting crazy. For solutions, I know that the Veteran's Quarters of ABCCM are great--more places like that with supervision and leadership can help, I think.

9 months ago

Airport growth and development, revision of DOT road planning and construction, regional cooperation on large challenges and issues, new approaches to law enforcement, improving county and state relations; nonpartisan county elected leadership;

9 months ago

Diversity & Inclusion are missing. “Equity” could mean “let’s just work with what we have now,” but changing demographics imply we must be intentionally inclusive to attract, welcome, and integrate diverse populations.

9 months ago
Encourage use of renewable energy.
4 months ago

Stop the farce of curbside plastic recycling, and put any money spent on that to lobby (with other municipalities) the manufactures to switch to consumer packaging that can be logistically processed at a municipal level.
4 months ago

Redirect, at least temporarily, funds from tourism marketing to reinvest in the updating and repurposing of already developed areas.
4 months ago

Asheville is a beautiful area and I'm sure the majority of us would like to see it kept that way, even of that means forsaking growth and profit. We must focus on securing clean drinking water and should put every effort available to be on the forefront of tackling climate change. Not only would I love to see asheville set standard for local cities, but in the state as well as the country.
4 months ago

Invest in your community and stop throwing millions of dollars at catering to tourism.
4 months ago

Drastically limit deforestation, provide incentives for eschewing lawns in favor of native plant gardens.
4 months ago

Limit new development in woods. Especially limit new development along the tops of mountains! Not only is it really ugly for everyone else to look at, but it increases soil runoff, decreases natural habitat, and forces bears down into communities.

Infill development. Plenty of vacant (Steinmart on Merrimon, buildings across from Yolo on Merrimon) properties that could be changed into helpful, beautiful housing and commerical properties. For example, the Steinmart (and its way-too-big parking lot) could be changed into mixed use housing with plenty of nature mixed into it.
4 months ago

Ramp up incentives and/or encourage composting (for both businesses and households). Single largest thing we can start doing TODAY.
4 months ago

Prioritize density over sprawl.
4 months ago

Teach sustainability concepts in all public K-12 classrooms including providing funding to an organization that is best suited to teach the most current, relevant science. Fund restoration projects to update old and condemned buildings and housing options in the county.
4 months ago

N/A
5 months ago

Create and enforce building codes to improve the efficiency and long-term utility of new buildings; improve and prepare our power grid for new climate hazards and increased electricity needs, with a focus on utilizing solar power as much as possible; improve and prepare our roads and housing for increased flooding; increase walkability of neighborhoods and commercial areas (more sidewalks, fewer sun-baked giant parking lots)
5 months ago
Protect natural resources and consider and control environmental impacts of all development.

5 months ago

In 20 years, I want lots of clean places to swim. More people should use food from the garden & the grocery store to create yummy foods.

5 months ago

In 20 years, I want neighbors to be friends. Food should come from my moms house. We have a garden w/ tomatoes & hot peppers that will burn my tongue.

5 months ago

I want to see more of my food, like in gardens, I like to relax in the pool and the river.

5 months ago

I want there to be more recycle bin.

5 months ago

I want garbage, compost, recycle in the right places

5 months ago

County programs focused on creating a culture of interest for farming, protection of the environment

5 months ago

solid waste planning is failing in this county and only expanding the life of landfill is not the answer- we need better waste diversion options to accommodate such a this rapidly growing population. the recycling program and education in this county is extremely lacking compared to surrounding areas and even city of Asheville. economies of scale with other counties could be a solution to offer cheaper waste diversion options for residents but landfill will not be our best solution.

more emphasis on local and regional food security to reduce the burden of WIC and other social services on already-strapped govt programs - how the county participate or support local food systems?

6 months ago

Maintain and support local agricultural and horticultural efforts.

6 months ago

Retaining natural landscape views, encouraging more sustainable environmental practices (less plastic, more composting, new recycling incentives, reusing old structures and materials for new construction, permeable surfaces, more/retaining the tree canopy, etc), sustainable business practices (encouraging new small/local businesses), and sustainable social practices (making space for people and not just cars, encouraging local events and gatherings, etc)

6 months ago

Recycling Center expansion other than the Transfer Station - in Black Mountain or Swannanoa

6 months ago

HUGE COMMUNITY GARDENS. WE DON’T WANT THE DIGITAL CURRENCY. IF WE DON’T AGREE WITH SOMETHING THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO DO THEY CAN SHUT OFF OUR BANK ACCOUNTS. WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO SURVIVE WITHOUT THEIR “CURRENCY”

6 months ago

Greater incentives for alternative energy sources

6 months ago

Affordable housing, better schools, better paying jobs.

6 months ago
Essential composting. Fixing existing homes. Fixing existing public housing and creating programs to make them less hazardous to live in. Ban plastic bags. Work out how to stop one time use plastics. More LED lighting. More solar programs
6 months ago

Sustainability is an empty reference without specific definition of what the county wishes to sustain.
6 months ago

Reduce volume of cars on the road by increasing bike and pedestrian traffic. Requires more and safer sidewalks and dedicated bike lanes.
6 months ago

supporting and protecting/expanding local food production, regenerative agriculture for more sustainability and local food economy to support our people as supply chains are increasingly challenged.
6 months ago

Less commercial development; far more green in all modes of work and life
6 months ago

Less commercial development
6 months ago

Need a carbon neutrality plan that includes a pledge but also a concrete and specific plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 at the latest. (If the county already has such a plan, I could not find it on the county website.) Creating and implementing this plan needs to be priority #1.
6 months ago

realize the global impact of climate change and plan accordingly to reduce carbon footprint, seek improved building practices (location as well as density and materials use)
6 months ago

More investment in solar power, getting the county to Net Zero and reducing dependency on fossil fuels. Building more greenways & bike lanes to provide alternatives to cars to support increase in population. Make sure all new residential housing, industrial and commercial buildings are done so using energy efficient methods and AC/heating (e.g., use heat pumps, not gas).
6 months ago

Climate Action!
6 months ago

Renewable energy
6 months ago

Engineer roads for less maintenance demand
6 months ago

Protect water quality. We see chemicals and debris in Cane Creek from farmers up stream.
6 months ago

Small business old downtown Swannanoa- more Family restaurants
6 months ago

Just make this a part of everything that’s done. Every new building, every new project, etc. make it standard operating procedure.
6 months ago
Better education will benefit all of us in our futures.

6 months ago

Land Use, Housing, Transportation - make areas of downtown pedestrian only, like Denver, CO 16th St Mall or Boulder Pearl St Mall, increase public transportation options and make Asheville more bike friendly (more bike lanes and greenways); cooperate with NGOs to fix up vacant lots to provide housing for homeless population; increase affordable housing supply - more affordable apartments in and around downtown for the people who make Asheville run (it hurts our environment, degrades our quality of life, wastes our time, and damages our roads the further we have to drive to work. One should be able to live where they work and enjoy the community that they help function)
Working Lands - subsidize/incentivize local produce in stores, lease/purchase land from farmers for conservation/protection
Environmental Protection, Recreation, Community Health - See above; Invest in public health services, especially for the homeless (it is a SIN of our community that people sleep on the streets while there are empty beds and empty lots all over the city)
Resiliency - Be prepared...
Infrastructure - Focus on reducing the number of cars on the road/miles driven; become carbon neutral NOW - set an example for the rest of the U.S.; invest in solar, wind, hydro;
Economic development - make AB Tech as affordable (free) as possible; raise minimum wage to $18 and tie it to inflation; attract companies that are making the world better, i.e. not war-profiteers

6 months ago

Programs supporting community gardens, economic incentives for retrofitting homes and other buildings to be more energy-efficient.

6 months ago

Perpetual outward and upward expansion cannot be viewed as sustainable for people who already live here.

6 months ago

Investment in alternate energy sources

6 months ago

look into feasibility of wind energy; solar panels that don't cost more than your 20 year electric bill

6 months ago

READ 'TECHNOCRACY, The Hard Road To World Order' by Patrick M. Wood . . . . also his other books. https://www.amazon.com/Technocracy-Hard-Road-World-Order/dp/0986373982

6 months ago

Incentives for renewable energy - for businesses, government buildings/spaces and residential

6 months ago

Clumped development for less driving required, rather than spread out businesses.

6 months ago

Recycling drop-off center in eastern Buncombe Co.

6 months ago

Preservation of green space

6 months ago

More renewable energy sources

6 months ago

Community education regarding recycling. Holding businesses accountable for responsibly discarding waste.

6 months ago
If possible, restore existing buildings to slow new buildings
6 months ago

As noted above, sustainability includes many facets when describing a community’s long-term well-being. Focus on supporting local job creation that can pay well above living wage. There’s no reason we can’t attract entrepreneurs to bring tech jobs to the mountains. Tourism dollars used to subsidized and support start-ups would be a great way to ensure that Buncombe is invested in its local population and not just the industries that continue the growth of tourism.
6 months ago

More local food! Invest in local food HUB. More renewable energy incentives. Lower transportation needs by better rural options (via satellite lots w/ shuttle to town and employers). Protect our open lands/working lands/streams and rivers/dark skies
6 months ago

culture change initiatives to prepare. fire - flood - heat
6 months ago

Protect and expand net metering for rooftop solar
6 months ago

sustainability
6 months ago

Concentrate on teaching the basics, reading writing & math, science. Make sure all can read at grade level.
6 months ago

Pushing for NCUC (NC Utility Commission) to adopt regulatory incentives that recognize the value-of-solar benefits from agrivoltaics on distributed small and medium size farms. Push for any State legislative amendments that may be necessary for aligning with the NCUC incentive-based regulations for distributed Agrivoltaics.
6 months ago

No new apartment housing that is not on public transit routes.
6 months ago

training + job opportunities for young adults to keep them in Buncombe Cty
6 months ago

living wage businesses in Restaurants
6 months ago

recycling center - upcycle + sell items
6 months ago

Full transparency on what the county means by Sustainability that is easy for the public to find and understand.
6 months ago

Create commercial hubs, a one-stop-shop approach so people don't have to drive from place to place to get what they need.
6 months ago

Reduce fossil fuel usage; protect natural area
6 months ago
Local citizens should have the right to yay or nay commercial business development in their neighborhood.

6 months ago

More affordable housing. Stop taking habitat from our wild life

6 months ago

Better paying jobs for people who live and work here

6 months ago

More residential single family homes. Less box stores. Protect residential homes from commercial buildings.

6 months ago

Electric community trains, eco-friendly buildings and developments

6 months ago

consider vertical farming on large buildings in densely populated centers to reduce transport cost/improve access and freshness (also in a food desserts/rural areas)

6 months ago

cities grow best when they grow vertically support polices that encourage in town higher density rather than sprawl, which is an inefficient for delivery of services and transportation

6 months ago

jobs that pay a living wage and the proper training

6 months ago

preservation of natural areas and steep slopes required in all types of development

6 months ago

Ecological connections, corridor view shed and green space protection

6 months ago

That we protect waterway edges from development and have a network of greenway/bike paths to encourage foot and bike travel

6 months ago

Clean energy, refurbishing old buildings, better recycling programs/ use of recycled material,

6 months ago

Stop expanding until you know how to handle all aspects of growth.

6 months ago

More jobs that are not linked to the service sector. Attract businesses, not more tourists!

6 months ago

Focus on developing areas already developed, fixing up historic homes, attention to solar/wind, landscaping that incorporates permaculture design.

6 months ago

set up free recycling stations in high traffic shopping areas

6 months ago

Absurd zoning and development that only make it difficult on single family homes

6 months ago
Protecting forests, not building by rivers/steep slopes, more public transit, walkable communities, carbon net 0 commitment
6 months ago

Need housing that meets the residents budgets.
6 months ago

Set goals to make Buncombe county a model for environmental best-practices and sustainable development and aim to only welcome and allow new development that furthers these goals.
6 months ago

LOL - you all could care less about sustainability. You've just weakened the little that developers were required to do, you let anything develop anywhere, the city is so unbelievably congested and miserable now - what a joke that you are even asking.
6 months ago

Make sure development does not create problems for mudslides and flooding. In other words, keep the trees as much as possible
7 months ago

Protect the natural environment even while making it more accessible.
7 months ago

Implementing ecologically sound landscaping to all new homes including better water management practices like rain gardens, greater flora diversity in green spaces like native perennial plants and less grass, and maintaining wildlife corridors in dense residential areas.
7 months ago

Solve erosion and water issues through ecological design mandates on new development. Incentivise ecological design of water systems and landscaping on existing buildings through funding. Canada and California have had programs in the past that cover 50% of the installation costs of waste water / native landscaping projects on residential and commercial buildings, to incentivise green planning. Look to these initiatives.
7 months ago

Build more charging stations.
7 months ago

Improve energy efficiency on buildings.
7 months ago

Better land use policies.
7 months ago

Better environmental protection policies.
7 months ago

More renewable energy use.
7 months ago

Increase electric vehicle charging across the county.
7 months ago

Continue to emphasize and support sustainability and renewable energy.
7 months ago

Pass green bills and ordinances
7 months ago
sidewalks
7 months ago

more public transportation
7 months ago

fixing up abandoned stores and buildings closer to town
7 months ago

address major polluters of the French Broad
7 months ago

preserve untouched natural areas
7 months ago

ban single use plastic bags
7 months ago

Use existing structures
7 months ago

Municipal building energy efficiency, improved efforts for solid waste/recycling education and thoughtful waste reduction programs, flooding mitigation and directing development away from floodplains
7 months ago

rentas accesibles de vivienda
7 months ago

Precios justos en rentas de vivienda sustentables.
7 months ago

Mas ayudas de Becas para Familias de Bajos Recursos y niños con buenas calificaciones, y ganas de salir adelante.
7 months ago

ayudas a los adolescentes en finanzas
7 months ago

rentas accesibles de viviendas
7 months ago

queremos precios justos para la renta
7 months ago

More restrictions on corporate development: include the voice of the communities where the development will happen
7 months ago

support projects and initiatives that accomplish economic environmental and community health goals sustainability
7 months ago

protect forests for future generations. stop stripping the land for apartment complexes. stop the building near the parkway
7 months ago
nesesito mas informacion
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago

none
7 months ago

no estoy seguro
7 months ago

Stop development on Sweeten Creek and Pinner's Cove. The traffic is bad enough already, not to mention the ecosystems. The animals have already been pushed so far out of their homes... bears already spend enough time "foraging" in neighborhood trash cans, something has got to give. We are failing our environment and all the beings in it. Pinner's Cove is not built for more traffic than already exists on it, and the neighborhoods potentially effected aren't either. It would change the way of life there entirely. Walking neighbors who know most cars in passing to cars who don't know and don't care speeding through, wrecking on the tight curves, creating more sound pollution, more pollution and taking away the joy of living where we live. Enough is enough.
7 months ago

Sustain well paying jobs so residents can afford to live and work here.
7 months ago

ayudas a los adolescentes en finanzas
7 months ago

Más ayudas de becas para familias de bajos recursos y niños con buenas calificaciones, y ganas de salir adelante.
7 months ago

precios justos en rentas de vivienda sustentables.
7 months ago

Queremos precios justos para la renta
7 months ago

rentas accesibles de vivienda
7 months ago

pólizas más humanas basadas en el bienestar de la población y no en el # de producción de resultados.
Priorizar el bienestar sobre resultados de calidad y no cantidad
7 months ago

Anything to reduce car travel - greenways, sidewalks, expanded bus service
More solar on government buildings
7 months ago

Promote affordable development of sustainable energy production such as solar and wind. Promote purchase and use of electric vehicles including school busses and city busses. Require all new tourism-focused developments (especially new hotel construction) to incorporate carbon-neutral or carbon-negative power generation via solar. Continue to enact "road diet" changes to major roads - especially Patton avenue and Tunnel road.
7 months ago
New housing developers should pay/contribute to a County Wide Environmental Sustainability Fund for current and future projects that improve our county’s resilience.

7 months ago

More grants for solar for poor homeowners and poor business owners. Sliding scale cost for solar. Any programs to help poor people become more sustainable.

7 months ago

QUE LA GENTE SE PUEDA QUEDAR VIVIENDO EN SUS LUGARES

7 months ago

Fair and equal housing availability

7 months ago

We need to be looking more about preserving lands and creating shared spaces before the opportunity is lost. We also need to move away from fossil fuels with true urgency. I realize that we have a target date, but I don’t hear much about how we will achieve that goal.

7 months ago

Implement zoning ordinances to protect rural regions of the county from development. Establish an urban services boundary to prevent the expansion of water and sewer services beyond the existing service areas. This will be important for preventing expanding urban sprawl. Make developments more transit-oriented and encourage the building of high-density mixed-use development in the urban regions of the county. Enact a County Climate Action and Response Plan to strategically reduce carbon emissions and improve resiliency.

7 months ago

Public institutions and small businesses all restaurants should use compost paper products. Large CCRC’s should do the same. Gardens, water conservation should be encouraged by everyone.

7 months ago

Broader knowledge on recycles.

7 months ago

Planning for flooding and climate change.

7 months ago

Establish a program to collect the plastic and oil based products that cannot be recycled and see that those items are used in some way or safely disposed of. Use electric vehicles as much as possible.

7 months ago

Job possibilities

7 months ago

County vehicles should be electric. All new buildings should have insulation, windows that hold heat/cool inside, and other construction that makes less power need to run.

7 months ago

Working plan for sustaining what currently exists. Feel that is getting lost due to growth. Slow down on the growth to make we can sustain what is happening.

7 months ago

Make sure robust development review occurs to prevent our natural resources from becoming overwhelmed.

7 months ago
Make sure robust development review occurs to present our natural resources from becoming overwhelmed.

7 months ago

Increase tree canopy, increase green spaces, increase protections for environmentally sensitive areas, scenic areas, and wilderness areas, increase walking and biking trails, bike paths, and safe sidewalks, incorporate solar panels, green roofs and living walls wherever possible (why not cover outdoor parking areas with solar panels?), convert county vehicles to electric and improve infrastructure for charging vehicles, expand composting capabilities throughout the County, single use plastics ban, lights out for migratory birds, use native plants for all new plantings, and repurpose existing buildings rather than developing new ones.

7 months ago

affordable housing and food issues

7 months ago

Apartment buildings and condos must separate trash

7 months ago

More restrictive laws on weapons

7 months ago

I wish Buncombe County commissioners would consider communities when they strip the land and build apartment complexes - destroying communities. It's like only new construction counts.

7 months ago

NA

7 months ago

necesito mas informacion

7 months ago

Proteger a las comunidades historicamente vulnerables. Los edificios historicas y las comunidades que enfrenta barreras sistemicas.

7 months ago

Massive education/outreach program directed at all residents defining and clarifying importance of sustainability efforts.

7 months ago

trabajo bien pagado, servicios medicos, y reconocimiento ala clase trabajadora imigrante

7 months ago

Investment in high-quality affordable housing near job opportunities and other development to reduce pressure on infrastructure and natural resources.

7 months ago

Make cleaning up waterways a priority, as we need them and will continue to need them to sustain our population. Take action to bring roadways up to meet current and future needs of increased population.

7 months ago

no entiendo

7 months ago

Seek guidance from land of sky regional council for first action steps

7 months ago
Housing not going to vacation rentals
7 months ago

new development should be required/incentivized to use native plants, shuttle to the airport, allow more multifamily development in single family residential areas, address homeless population with addiction problems, rebuild housing authority properties
7 months ago

Require green building methods and materials, including solar panels or other renewable energy
7 months ago

"3 cents for sustainability" property tax set aside used for energy programs
7 months ago

rentas accesibles
7 months ago

Growing programs that are already active in the community with a proven record-example-Beloved, United Way.
7 months ago

identify region/area for population growth and focus on those areas for added infrastructure such as public transportation options to grocery/pharmacy/town support. Attempt to preserve open space to serve all
7 months ago

Quality educational system available to all students.
7 months ago

No c
7 months ago

Develop world class bike and pedestrian infrastructure
7 months ago

Incentives for rooftop solar.
Aggressive lobbying of duke power to be more aggressive combating climate change.
Restriction of development on slopes and above a certain elevation to protect our viewsheds.
Concentration of development to certain cordon to combat sprawl and increased traffic and car pollution.
Better transportation infrastructure to limit commute times and provide alternatives to driving.
Education about sustainability to the public and why it is important.
Stream and groundwater protection.
County facilities %100 renewable ASAP
Grants for businesses to become more sustainable.
EV infrastructure.
Protecting family farms and food security.
Shifting from a growth lens to a sustainability lens.
7 months ago

Maintain roads and infrastructure
7 months ago
Land Use, Housing, Transportation: Investing in affordable housing, cap housing and rent increases, draft land reservations for future planning to mitigate future traffic congestion and road expansions, improve safe and accessible transportation such as bike lanes and bus access.

Environmental Protection, Recreation, Community Health: Investment in a large local ski mountain could be beneficial to recreation as well as tourism. Tourists only come to Asheville for the mountains and the drugs so protect the mountains when considering expansion and provide more QUALITY affordable mental health and addiction services.

7 months ago

All new roads should be built with sidewalks and bike lanes. We should be investing in adding bike lanes, sidewalks in greenways not just for entertainment but for alternatives to driving. I would also like to see more ride share parking lots directly off the highway exits and a marketing push to encourage and help facilitate car pooling.

7 months ago

Remember: elected democrackks DESTROY cities, counties and states! WHY are they so effing EVIL? Always malevolence, never benevolence!

7 months ago

Supporting the justice system and not politicizing the courts and those who enforce it.

7 months ago

Regulations on new development to minimize environmental impact of the construction process and the building itself. Bans on steep slope building and natural gas installation in new structures, for example. Look to indigenous science to learn about best practice.

7 months ago

Solar in new development, plastic regulations in breweries etc., water and air pollution controls

7 months ago

Change how we approach trash, recycling, and composting. Charging residents and businesses for trash but not for recycling or for composting. We could reduce landfill costs and stop adding to the mountain of trash we have already accumulated.

7 months ago

Do not drive existing residents away by continuing to over develop the area which raises prices, crime, and traffic. You are destroying the whole reason people want to be here! A big reason housing costs are SO high is because new people keep being moved into the area. This kind of growth is not sustainable! Many friends and family have had to move to other counties because Buncombe County is so greedy for development. Shame on you!

7 months ago

Repair older homes for locals only. Most energy is used for the heating and cooling of a house. Help with insulation and windows can reduce energy use significantly.

7 months ago

Planning for development should include traffic/road planning

7 months ago

Infrastructure maintenance

7 months ago

More recycling, Recycling picked up more often, More green spaces

7 months ago

Gardens, conserved lands, walking areas, electric public transportation.

7 months ago
Institute a tax on real estate and tourist services to support environmental sustainability
7 months ago

Zoning to protect clean air, water, natural beauty, wildlife.
7 months ago

Restructuring of current property tax model that makes older folks keep their homestead from being targeted.
7 months ago

1) Incentivizing/encouraging higher-density housing, ideally near areas with transit connections 2) getting rid of single-family zoning
7 months ago

Tourism is a fact of Buncombe County and Asheville. Room taxes should go toward sustainability and needs of the community and not towards recruiting more tourism. The TDA should be underwriting land conservation, greenways and parks
7 months ago

Conserve working lands (farms and forests) and environmentally sensitive areas.
7 months ago

Invest in affordable housing of variable types.
7 months ago

Reduce carbon footprint through green building, renovation and reuse of existing development and infill, more Greenway, sidewalks and bike facilities.
7 months ago

More recycling—does WastePro even truly recycle?! Why are we contracting with them anyway? No plastic bags
7 months ago

Good paying careers, high quality education for ALL students in a safe environment
7 months ago

Working lands protection to include planning for farm and agribusiness profitability
7 months ago

recycling center for plastics, cans, etc., where people might be paid for amount they contribute
7 months ago

Land use zoning that requires new development to follow infrastructure patterns of the County / City and improve roads, bikeways, walkways and environmental protection to offset increases in population, traffic, and meets needs for recreation and public education
7 months ago

1. Focus on affordable housing with more efficient use of lands zoned for housing. Focus on transportation future not dependent on single driver automobile use.
2. See #1 regarding working lands protection.
3. Focus on environmentally sustainable transportation infrastructure and well planned residential and business development focused on protecting our natural environment (which is what makes WNC so attractive)
4. We're not immune to the hazards of global climate change. Don't ignore it. Wildfire is a significant risk and increased risk should be planned for.
5. Incentivize renewable energy and reduced carbon footprint (county-wide transportation planning)
6. Improve diversity of post-high school educational opportunities, particularly technical training. Push to expand UNCA into more STEM disciplines.
7 months ago
Preserving the character, environment, and experience of our community, while raising the standard of living for its current citizens
7 months ago

Plant more trees to replace the beautiful canopy that used to decorate and protect our county. Stop developing areas of high environmental and aesthetic value vs destroying our biggest strength for a few large homes and man made structures to pollute and occupy our ridge lines.
7 months ago

Better paying jobs
7 months ago

For Community Health, address the homeless community needs.
7 months ago

Clean energy benefits for business, density bonuses for development that adds additional green space. Wastewater reclamation. Increased restrictions on steep slopes, increase in minimum lot size and buffers or development setbacks in county zones adjacent to Blue Ridge Parkway, National Forests, etc
8 months ago

Balance tourism with amenities for people who live in the area. Protecting land, water, flora and fauna of the area from development so that a healthy environment for people is created.
Have a certified environmental department that anyone building residential or commercial property must go through to have said development be one that promotes native flora and fauna; prove safe wildlife passageways; and do not use invasive species of plants. Also prohibit the use of the commercial fertilizers and pesticides that are a threat to clean water and to native insects and especially bees and birds.
Promote jobs for all income levels, educational levels and also age levels. Many seniors now live and are productive well into their 80's and the social aspect of work can help their mental and emotional well being.
8 months ago

The economic sustainability of the city demands more affordable housing options, or you will extinguish all remnants of the artsy, bohemian culture that are the bedrock Asheville's reputation and regional draw. If you do not put a stop to landlord greed, unlimited rent hikes, and unnecessary roadblocks for affordable developers, you will be left with a hollow shell of a city that only serves the wealthy. It's very hard for a builder to justify building a sub 500k home in this city presently, just due to simple economics.
8 months ago

Massive action is required to curb sprawl into undeveloped tracts of land, which are the very character and draw to this region. Develop denser, more walkable, neighborhoods that place work, services and play exist in a walkable radius.

Improve connectivity with sidewalks, mixed use trails, and alternatives to driving.
8 months ago

Encourage mixed-use retail & housing adjacent to dense, central areas (i.e. South Slope), especially on large surface parking lots that currently exist. Design a community that is resilient to gasoline scarcity. Design a downtown area where you can live on foot, and this includes being able to grocery shop downtown.
8 months ago

Accessibility to single family housing that is affordable within city limits
8 months ago
Put more money and resources towards sustainability staff and programs
8 months ago

build and maintain greenways
8 months ago

bring in high-paying jobs so people can live here
8 months ago

balance carbon offsets
8 months ago

protect farmland and bring in green jobs
8 months ago

Improve public schools so that our young people - especially BIPOC - are better prepared for the future.
8 months ago

Very much agree with the 100% renewal energy goal -- could there be financial or some kind of benefit for residents who are early adopters
8 months ago

What is an "equity lense"? Seems to me an undefinable, woke term that can mean whatever the planners want it to mean. When you mention "education, upward mobility", the first thing to do is eliminate "D,E,&I" and focus on reading, writing and arithmetic and require students to achieve academically measured by standard testing.
8 months ago

Building codes and requirements.
8 months ago

Continue strong public participation in planning, and use continuous, concrete measures of success so that actions can be modified as needed.
8 months ago

Incentivize green buildings and green builders
8 months ago

Dense development on transportation corridors
8 months ago

Investment in affordable housing. Disallow out of county businesses and individuals to own property and businesses in this county
8 months ago

Not appropriate role for local government
8 months ago

Please no more destroying natural habitats, especially to build unaffordable housing or another chain store. Improve what is already established, build more community gardens.
8 months ago

Promote locally owned businesses. Support local food producers.
8 months ago
I think you should randomly choose 25 parents in the county and let them determine which lense through which to view these priorities.

8 months ago

Invest on affordable solar energy. Protect the wildlife and greenery from developers.

8 months ago

Better recycling system

8 months ago

Sidewalks and crosswalk's in Swannanoa

8 months ago

Develop a forward-looking view of government-funded programs that assesses them and "budgets" our ongoing commitment to them

8 months ago

Determine how the community can better support local farmers.

8 months ago

more public transport and safe walking/biking spaces

8 months ago

Invest in repairs on older homes and increase bus stop access

8 months ago

stop tourism and add industrial and tech jobs

8 months ago

Hydrogen Systems, electrolyzers, shipped H2, and fuel cells working with renewables and batteries.

8 months ago

Promote safe pedestrian and bicycle use to reduce energy use; restrict new construction where soil stability and slopes are an issue; limit the construction of impermeable surfaces in new developments.

8 months ago

continue with renewable energy/carbon reduction goals. expand recycling and add composting.

8 months ago

Thoughtful consistent zoning to protect some areas and encourage building in other areas. Make rules clear and consistent so developers can know where to invest.

8 months ago

Transparency in decision-making.

8 months ago

clean water, clean energy

8 months ago

affordable housing

8 months ago

Equal opportunities in all areas

8 months ago
Limit the growth of tourism and ensure affordable and missing middle housing remains for people in the community.
8 months ago

Plant more trees, develop more Greenways, ensure that forested areas are not plowed down.
8 months ago

100% Renewable energy goal for all county property. Offer incentives for carbon reduction in the private sector. Protect and conserve drinking water sources.
8 months ago

Ensure protection and sufficient supply of water projected to meet future needs.
8 months ago

Require new and re-development projects to meet strict requirements to minimize impacts on stormwater runoff, tree loss, and downstream flooding
8 months ago

Focus on improving county with energy and water usage, improve canopy cover and green space, better trash management and education. Promote business to be more responsible with regards to people and planet.
8 months ago

Conservation of lands in all areas of Buncombe Co., including more trails. Newfound area/Leicester/ north of Asheville. Not many trail access points in north section of county. Kudos for Pisgah State Park! Potential tracts of land for hiking need to be snatched up before they get developed, or included in a privatized development like Enka Lake/Biltmore Lake (that is tragic for locals).
8 months ago

Foster rehab & reuse of existing older structures, through tax & financing incentives
8 months ago

incentivize green building and green certifications, increase recycling and waste station areas in the county, increase faith in recycling program (lots of people think most recycling goes in the landfill despite being separated), development of land must be sustainable, it is not renewable.
8 months ago

I think that the county should focus on controlling the exponential growth that we are witnessing. Hotels and apartment buildings are popping up around the county, rent is going up, gentrification is running rampant through our neighborhoods, and I don't think that enough is being done about this.
8 months ago

Discuss how we can be open and friendly with those who want to come to Asheville while promoting and maintaining our environment. Be creative and consider ALL options. Support LOCAL!
8 months ago

discourage the use of plastic bags. They are illegal in Iceland. However, Iceland has a bag that looks like plastic. Unfortunately I neglected to learn what the material is.
8 months ago

Truly focus on affordable housing in real and impactful ways, and NOT by “blaming” tourism, hotels, STR’s for negatively depleting access to affordable housing. Create real solutions in partnership with private and government partnerships.
8 months ago
More investment in our children as they are the future of our community. It appears there aren't enough "proactive" programs and services offered for children and young adults. Meeting basic needs, like food, clothing, and house along with mentorship and career exploration programs starting at a young age is important for long-term success.

Coordinate water, sewer, land use amongst all jurisdictions & MSD / H2O providers. Shared policy. Focus on infill, avoid sensitive natural areas & working lands, particularly steep slopes & floodplains.

Prioritize recycling and composting

Create zoning to stop development in sensitive areas. Development will and needs to happen, but it should be done with a lens on the bigger picture of the community and land.

Recruiting green, carbon neutral or carbon reducing industries. Improving the infrastructure for Electric Vehicles.

Water resources need to be considered with development. No Burning policy and Clean Air with Environmental initiatives

Reduce Carbon pollution. Require new and renovated commercial buildings to be LEED certified. Require new housing developers to build LEED certified housing.

As Asheville has transitioned from factory/trade town of old to a major tourist center most of the infrastructure and development focused on that. This is perfectly fine and the way it will be for a long time I think. However we must be very careful to not overly develop tourism so that we kill the proverbial Golden Goose. The recessions of 2008 and the more recent Covid-19 issues have proven that tourism can be fickle and change with little or no notice. Our overall tourism support should try and sustain businesses that can weather these hard times well, verses quick profit business models that focus on immediate returns and having enough options from the county so that the majority of these stable businesses can be helped in times of trouble. Coupled with that we MUST make sure that we push our infrastructure beyond what we think will be growth, especially in the area of roads and potable water. Overdeveloping beyond this capacity for short term money will not sustain our county

The community should have a voice in managing tourism. Destination planning should be part of the county's role in determining the future of our community.

We should balance infill with the need for nature in our developed areas. We need infill and trees and unpaved open ground.

We need connected sidewalks and bike paths throughout the county that are safe.

We need more flexible public transportation options like vanpools and carpool supports.

Public schools and other government agencies should be on the forefront of reducing carbon footprint. Agencies should be subsidizing the use of public transportation, ridesharing and solar energy.

Sustainable Tourism! Sustainable Growth!
Tourism continues to be a pillar of this community. The fabric of our downtown and charm of the County will change significantly if tourism is pushed out. I believe that tourism is an important factor of sustainability and helps keep our natural resources thriving and protected.

8 months ago

Protect environmentally sensitive areas. Higher higher standards for new development and redevelopment. Provide safe options for alternative modes of transportation

8 months ago

Modify flood return frequencies to reflect climate change and mitigate flooding based on the new reality of our climate. Work on public education surrounding climate and sustainability. Plant more trees in areas without a canopy. Plant more trees in all city and county land use areas.

8 months ago

- Allow more dense and walkable development

8 months ago

Natural selection from Mother nature

8 months ago

Think long term about where buildings are going. More houses. More farms. More green spaces. Less hotels

8 months ago

Figure out a plan to actually help homeless instead of enabling and “loving them to death”

8 months ago

Limit growth

8 months ago

Additional solar

8 months ago

Apartments and hotels are not sustainable long term

8 months ago

Stop the crime

8 months ago

Bring in new industries and manufacturing. Quit allowing those that don't want to work in the first place influence your decisions.

8 months ago

Jobs

8 months ago

Stop bringing people here when you are not taking care of the ones who have always lived here!
Invest in rehabilitation and mental health programs for those in need and make it free to at least affordable or implement some programs using Covid funds or the opioid settlement to better combat the core issues.

Invest in affordable housing.

Use existing buildings to house new businesses.

Restore the Vance monument.

Invest in Oakley Elementary and Oakley park. They have been left behind when it comes to updates and need some serious tlc.

Land use, housing and transportation: promote home ownership, support homeowners' needs, create contiguous bike trails. safe and suitable for commuting, in all areas. Environmental protection, recreation, community health: involve residents in citizen science to promote accurate understanding of health and environmental issues.

This is the most divisive and racist concept ever pushed down the throats of taxpayers. We demand better

Land Use, Housing, Transportation: We must find a way to allow people working in Asheville to be able to afford to live in Asheville. Working Lands Protection: I am assuming this is about protecting our farms and making sure they are using best practices to protect the environment. Environmental Protection, Recreation, Community Health: When the federal government weakens environmental protections our local county does not need to follow suit. It is our responsibility to protect our citizens. Federal standards were created to be a bare minimum standard encouraging local municipalities and states to write more stringent laws to protect their citizens based on localized threats. Instead we wait for the federal government or the state to make laws for areas they know nothing about. Do better!

Resiliency, Hazard Mitigation: It seems like any building plan (other than locals wanting to fix their own homes) is blindly approved without thought to the environment or what will happen to housing costs. This is not a path I would like to continue to walk down.

Infrastructure, Energy: Duke energy is robbing residents blind. Our winter bills for less than 900 sq ft is over $250/month and we are still cold and end up from frozen pipes (I know, you're thinking fix it....the red tape is too much).

Economic Development, Education, Upward mobility: As a resident the only upward mobility would be, being able to leave Asheville and live in another community where housing costs, food costs, living expenses are not completely out of control.

3 year review and updates

Better Recycling and simpler recycling

Expand bus routes into County and have park and ride parking lots in the County.

Consider the impact of all decisions in the context of future generations.

Ensure compatibility with County's existing commitments to renewable energy and carbon neutrality, or adopt even more aggressive goals.
Infill building to build up downtown and surrounding areas instead of continuing development sprawl around Asheville and surrounding areas.

Sustainable tourism

New businesses need to be required to use solar, plant more trees and use hybrid fuel efficient modes of transport. i.e. Amazon, Fed Ex massive warehouse hubs. Use lots in RAD and on Tunnel Road to re-purpose for affordable housing with clean, safe public transport. No second homes. People are killing the forests, farms and mountains for investment and get rich quick. They have no connection to the land, animals, people or community. Limit vacation rentals. Highly tax the rich who come here and build gated communities and then don’t live here year round. They breathe in and breathe out thinking this is their playground, they want conveniences and luxuries that are not in keeping and price the rest of us out and kill wildlife.

We do need to look at ROI in projects. We need to invest in those projects that will create more income opportunities for the residents and thus the County.

Encourage and incentivize renewable energy development and use (eg, hydro, solar, etc). New buildings should be carbon neutral. Restrict new development of forests/mountains.

Include a diversity of action items to ensure any adaptability that is needed.

Infrastructure that keeps up with development

Variety of affordable housing unit types across the county to prepare for lower income populations that will be a large part of climate migration

Workforce and the need to have living wages here.

Protect high quality agricultural lands and working farms and forests

Improve transportation and services so people can move around the county safely without a car (lessens traffic, provides more options that are active and also improve air quality)

Stop promoting Asheville as a tourist destination and getting on the top 10 lists.
Incentivize land management practices that are regenerative and not extractive because they provide ecosystem services that help prevent downstream issues that are tied to resiliency (Good pasture management = better water retention = less downstream flooding). Minimize new building growth where possible because watersheds cannot handle that much more impermeable surfaces. Job training at AB Tech and working job training in K-12 to help people understand that working class jobs are not wrong and that not everyone should go to college. This would fuel more working class job growth which increases household income and also solves issues related to lack of services or slow turn around time due to labor shortage.

I think BC needs more affordable housing that is close to where the jobs are. Also because of climate change and extreme weather events there needs to be long term planning to avoid the types of flooding we have seen with tropical Storm Fred.

Improve partnerships with adjoining counties to for better transportation and economic development planning.

We need more incentives to use renewable energy sources and a stronger recycling program (that includes more materials are not normally permitted...like batteries and shredded paper

Create opportunities for tourists to generate value outside of just their spending. For instance, partner with tourism businesses (e.g. hotels, campgrounds, and tour providers) and non-profit orgs (e.g. RiverLink, MountainTrue, and AVL Greenworks) to develop/fund safe and practical eco-tourism opportunities. This includes trail/river/road/park cleanup, construction, and improvement.

Prioritize areas with existing development over destroying natural habitats, slopes, forest lands, and watersheds. I think the county has already pledged a net zero carbon initiative, I also think we could set the standard by meeting that goal early.

Buncombe County needs to secure as much local authority as possible from the State of NC. Local control is key to sustainability.

Allow growth to occur but in a controlled way and at a much slower rate than is currently happening.

1) The County should greatly improving its resilience to flooding and extreme heat caused by climate change.
2) Institute climate adaptation trust funds.
3) Upgrade infrastructure to high standards of resilience.
4) Scale up renewables.
5) Electrify buildings and vehicles.
6) Remake underutilized auto-dependent landscapes.
7) Turn environmentally burdened neighborhoods into healthy communities.
8) On city streets, prioritize people over cars
I support the goals of net carbon neutrality for County government and the County as a whole. Enact a building code implementing those energy efficient and environmentally sustainable practices shown to produce long-term cost savings and allowing innovative practices that use sustainable materials and practices consistent with protecting health and safety. Create a culture of problem-solving and flexibility within the County's building codes department. Be sure that zoning laws allow decentralized energy systems serving individual households and small communities. Adopt building code provisions that require structures to sustain severe climate-induced events in vulnerable areas. Avoid, however, blanket regulations that unnecessarily increase the cost of construction. Prohibit development in vulnerable areas that cannot be adequately protected from severe climate events.

9 months ago

1) Identify and then 2) Remove barriers to compact urban development so that development allows people and business to coexist closer together. Results should disallow development or severely limit it outside of urban areas.

9 months ago

Invest in making Buncombe County a Pickleball destination ...there are TONS of tourists that seek Pickleball play while visiting... this investment would pay for itself over a short period of time...

9 months ago

Prioritize permaculture educational opportunities

9 months ago

Conservation, protecting land

9 months ago

Encourage most economic way to maintain current rural environment with the least amount of govt intervention

9 months ago

Transportation or lack of it is huge for minorities who rely on carpools which aren't always consistent. Job choices are dependent on the transportation.

9 months ago

Develop and enforce tougher land development rules to protect the environment.

9 months ago

It is not sustainable for service industry workers to live further and further out in Buncombe County (or adjacent counties) and commute into Asheville for their low paying job.

9 months ago

Can we please ban the use of plastic bags in stores? For a forward thinking city, this is really backwards. Lets make Asheville green and ban those bags!

9 months ago

Strict enforcement of zoning ordinances. tougher requirement to secure conditional use permits

9 months ago

Plan for dealing with homelessness. Allow more housing options to promote affordable housing and ingrowth of already developed areas.

9 months ago

reduced tax burden and more efficient government

9 months ago


9 months ago
Give people the tools to develop sustainably and creatively by removing policies that are locked in to outdated and less environmental and less sustainable practices.

Minimize inputs needed to maintain

I would like to see a focus on housing in the urban center and nearby so that we can reduce the amount of sprawl and growth into rural areas.

To ensure community sustainability it takes a wholistic, multi-pronged approach of environment, economic and educational aspects.

Public transit beyond AVL city limits

Annual reporting on carbon emissions.

Invest in locals. That includes those who are native as well as those who have lived here for a long time.

1. Reduce carbon footprint by providing a regional transit system
2. Help make homes more energy efficient
3. Begin county-wide compost program

Change land use development patterns to require more infill, higher density, taller structures, and more amenities to reduce car use and sprawl. Find more ways to help residents reduce their carbon footprint. Consider sustainability measures when deciding whether to approve a big commercial/industrial project. Lure more sustainable businesses to the area.

Creating 5, 10, 15+ year plans which aim to reduce our carbon foot print and contributing to preventing the one degree rise in the ocean's temperatures. IE: Zero waste initiatives, solar energy/renewable energy plans, more public transportation (bus, train) to reduce the number of cars on highways, and ways to keep waterways and national forests clean from pollution and trash.

Preserve green spaces, parks publicly held land.

1) I lived in Italy for many years. Whenever new apartment housing went up that was over a certain amount of units, the builders HAD to also make a public and easily accessible park area. The size of the park was in direct correlation to the size of the development. I strongly believe we should be doing this here and we should not be stingy with the requirements! Make the real estate agents and builders have to give back to the community.
2) Education about sustainability and programs to enhance/reward people using care for the environment

Require developers to adhere to strict guidelines with respect to design, adequate in house parking and impact to local neighborhoods
Promoting within our community the value of Tourism (a clean industry) and how it brings and sustains
and touches all work/jobs and income in some form or fashion. That is to say, leverage the natural
beauty & quaintness of our mountains that attracts income opportunity to our area. Create jobs and
training for jobs around that. Restrict big business & national chains that will eventually run out the
quaintness that attracts....leverage what the mountains have: local crafts, hiking, biking, trails, clean
water, rivers, outdoor pursuits, the natural world, independent restaurants, micro breweries. The area
is about small businesses and that is what attracts tourists, money and jobs. Provide job training
around tourism and small business creation.
Build diverse neighborhoods that have socio-economic diversity, sidewalks, entertainment, mixed use
with small business, schools, places of worship, walking (walking areas = safer areas). Gated
communities with no business, private recreational or and zero socio-economic diversity do not bring
sustainability for long term growth.

9 months ago

Protect trees and create greenways and green spaces; reduce carbon footprint of operations and help
residents do the same.

9 months ago

Infrastructure, energy - work to change state laws so more tourism dollars are put back in to the local
economy vs advertising for more tourism

9 months ago

Revising zoning to protect environment and neighborhoods

9 months ago

repair and upgrade existing notable buildings consistent with LEED for Existing Buildings standards

9 months ago
Suggested action items for REGIONAL CONTEXT

Provide help to secure funding for cross township green way connection, and help surrounding areas connect to Asheville's close the gap plan.
Provide training to get Asheville's surrounding municipalities zoning codes up to date to support growth of Urban Centers, instead of single family and commercial sprawl independent of each other.

4 months ago

Adding a focus on the upkeep of county maintained roadways to include a reflective paint that doesn't disappear from the visual spectrum every time it rains in low light conditions. Also, solar powered street lights on major highways such as I-40 would be a great benefit.

4 months ago

Accountability and clarity.

4 months ago

The county needs a mental hospital. The ideal would be a hospital for inpatient care with some long-term supportive housing for very troubled people. The City of Asheville can't deal with homelessness on its own, and better care for the homeless mentally ill is needed. This is a long-term project, which probably requires working with other counties to build state support for these services, but homelessness can't be adequately addressed without it.

4 months ago

Create cross-functional team of representatives from the city and county to collaborate on utilization of funds. Utilize tax revenue from tourism to benefit the city and county residents, not just to promote more tourism

4 months ago

N/a

5 months ago

improved shared services for broadband, transportation, sustainability initiatives with surrounding counties. Land of Sky Regional Council does not have enough of a public interface and offers so many great programs- how can their services and other regional partnerships be leveraged?

6 months ago

Realize that WNC is not a priority in Raleigh so regional collaborative efforts are essential.

6 months ago

Lightrail!! This would be huge for traffic alleviation and would create new opportunities for development at stations.

6 months ago

Improve mass transit along existing traffic corridors

6 months ago

Realize that if it is a truly regional effort to not overlook the areas outside of Asheville metro

6 months ago

Require any future mfgr given tax benefits to meet 2042 100% Clean Energy goals -- i.e., they must support our Climate Action efforts and the effort to end the drain from fossil fuel expenses off our mountain.

6 months ago

Expand the airport and increase number of nonstop flights.

6 months ago
Lower taxes
6 months ago

Preserving the uniqueness and historic context of the region
6 months ago

Encourage regional heritage - continue summer downtown on the ave, blue grass music, Blue Ridge Parkway events (Folk Art Center, etc), regional arts and performances in the local theaters, etc.
6 months ago

READ 'TECHNOCRACY, The Hard Road To World Order' by Patrick M. Wood . . . . also his other books. https://www.amazon.com/Technocracy-Hard-Road-World-Order/dp/0986373982
6 months ago

Encourage and prioritize local businesses and limit national/international chain- make sure Buncombe Co. stays specials and unique.
6 months ago

Encourage and prioritize local businesses and limit national/international chain- make sure Buncombe Co. stays specials and unique. If we look like every other area, why would people want to come here?
6 months ago

Stimulus for locals from state budget surplus. Asheville is the most expensive city in state of NC locals need help.
6 months ago

More internet options among internet providers and expanded access throughout the region. We saw during the pandemic that internet is a very valued commodity among educators, businesses, democracy, and neighborhood/community engagement. Increased access can also reduce congestion on our roadways. Invest in internet!
6 months ago

Protect wildlife corridors, dark skies initiatives, satellite parking areas along corridors I-40/I-26/etc., local farm and food hubs, housing, walking/biking trails
6 months ago

walking & biking trails
6 months ago

Buncombe County - one district! geographic districts are old world and not helpful
6 months ago

knowledge
6 months ago

Low density development.
6 months ago

Pushing for NCUC (NC Utility Commission) to adopt regulatory incentives that recognize the value-of-solar benefits from agrivoltaics on distributed small and medium size farms. Push for any State legislative amendments that may be necessary for aligning with the NCUC incentive-based regulations for distributed Agrivoltaics. Buncombe County should work with the two dozen Western NC counties to push policies and regulatory incentives for the 10 GW to 20 GW of farm-based agrivoltaics economically available in WNC.
6 months ago

convert or lease New Leicester Hwy houses to retail and Arts & Crafts markets
6 months ago
Plan tourism - tour buses and shuttles for farm tours
6 months ago

extending bus system to Leicester
6 months ago

Once more, just transparency and a specific definition so it's clear what it means to people viewing the plan.
6 months ago

Is there a way that tourism development authorities (or chambers of commerce if there isn't a TDA), could collaborate on projects that would spread the tourism dollars across multiple counties? This would increase length-of-stay and benefit counties that don't have the kind of powerhouse TDA that Asheville has. Case in point: Yancey and Mitchell Counties. They are an easy day trip from Asheville and provide additional opportunities for visitors without depriving Buncombe of the room tax dollars.
6 months ago

protect locale town culture and uniqueness
6 months ago

Commuting because of a lack of affordable housing in county is a problem. Environmental + cost. relates to affordable housing.
6 months ago

Regionally appropriate built and natural environment. Buildings that reflect our mountain climate. Consider a "Strong Towns" planning approach…..don't overbuilt infrastructure, etc.
6 months ago

regional rail! Please let me ride a train to visit family
6 months ago

County approves development without water available, putting pressure on Weaverville to provide more water than we have to share. Developers should build where infrastructure exists.
6 months ago

Asheville needs to promote its identity as a "gate keeper"
6 months ago

make planning decisions thru environmental lens, not developer lens
6 months ago

Greater access to public transportation, that's practical, reliable, and efficient.
6 months ago

Better Collection & Engagement w/ Regional Munis to take Holistic Approach
6 months ago

collaborate w/ similar regional economies w/ airports like Roanoke to boost Local tourism + small business development corridor
6 months ago

recognition of local artist (not those that are always in the "spotlight") and recognition of arts in general
6 months ago

Promote the regional industries like furniture, hitech electronics, software development. Encourage conventions and meetings.
7 months ago
Preserving natural rural spaces from new development, utilizing already developed land to create new housing rather than undeveloped land.

7 months ago

Stop suburban sprawl. Keep communities connected through intentional highway systems, but limit the exponential growth of suburbs bleeding into other suburbs. We need rural communities! Farmers are being pushed out of our communities due to land access issues. The further away we push farmers, the more fragile our food system becomes.

7 months ago

Implement Hellbender regional trail system.

7 months ago

Work across county lines to improve infrastructure, trail systems, air quality, transportation, etc.

7 months ago

Connect priority sites regional infrastructure.

7 months ago

Each community have its own resources to decide how to spend and needs.

7 months ago

Each area have their own funds - like Big Ivy.

7 months ago

Focus on what benefits LOCALS

7 months ago

Regional waste diversion efforts with adjoining counties to create better opportunities for circular economy (sharing economies, materials, energy, transportation)

7 months ago

Stronger census work to identify nationalities and languages of communities.

7 months ago

Make a concrete plan on outreach different communities to council the master plan.

7 months ago

creating spaces that are mutually beneficiary for residents and visitors to the region

7 months ago

necesito mas inf.

7 months ago

no se

7 months ago

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7 months ago

n_a

7 months ago

I'm not sure if this is the right category but I would love to see more manufacturing jobs return to the area.

7 months ago
Stronger census work to identify nationalities + languages of communities.
7 months ago

Gobiernos más comunicados en la región que sirven a la población, llamando a la participación democrática. Recursos que se invierten en el alcance comunitario para informar a la población de manera escrita, oral y en persona de acuerdo a la demografía y acceso de cada lugar.
7 months ago

Get the money out of politics.
- Raise wages to living wages not dependent upon the performance or generosity of others in order to be successful.
- Provide excellent education to all. Protect public resources like water and air.
- Make internet coverage a public utility like Chattanooga did! Rethink policing and hold them accountable.
- Criminal justice reform and decriminalize poverty.
- Separate church and state 100%!
7 months ago

NO SE
7 months ago

Better transportation opportunities for outer county residents so they are less dependent on single car use
7 months ago

We need to look at how to include the members of the county that do not have strong advocacy groups.
7 months ago

Increase education about local heritage and indigenous culture and history in our k-12 public schools.
Encourage more Appalachian heritage events such as Shin Dig on the Green and the Mountain State Fair
7 months ago

The plans for climate change must have a regional context. Low cost housing and transportation!
7 months ago

Secure faster internet service for the whole region.
7 months ago

Maintain beauty of area
7 months ago

Safer roads. Roads that make sense not like the intersection by the carport where you are facing oncoming traffic.
7 months ago

Actually look at how growth is impacting outlying towns and traffic.
7 months ago

ease of transportation modes; e.g., light railway system
7 months ago

Because each governmental agency has its own rules and timelines often litter and trash piles up which makes our lands disgusting. More litter fine signage will help.
7 months ago
More sidewalks
7 months ago

NA
7 months ago

achieve county wide broadband access
launch Buncombe County 100% living wage initiative
7 months ago

no estoy seguro
7 months ago

No apoyar politicos que quieren sacar los recursos de la tierra y la naturaleza.
7 months ago

IDEM
7 months ago

Look into ways the city could pay for and support free adult education for job force, free community transportation, and free community healthcare
7 months ago

Consult with public schools and universities in our area create a think tank from those entities first
7 months ago

Increased focus on the environment that makes WNC special and more greenway and in-town activities
7 months ago

vivienda accesible
7 months ago

There needs to be an interconnection between counties to insure land use is assessed for proper coordination between all municipalities.
7 months ago

No entiendo
7 months ago

Not sure what you mean by "reginal context" but if I were to guess... 

Appreciation for the cultural heritage of the mountains.
Protecting family farms and rural areas.
Protecting our mountains, forests, streams etc.
Honoring the contributions of African Americans and their central role in building the county we know today.
7 months ago

Prioritize indigenous and black perspectives on development.
7 months ago

More developed rural community centers with sidewalks and small business opportunities, with charm and identity
7 months ago
Do not drive existing residents away by continuing to over develop the area which raises prices, crime, and traffic. You are destroying the whole reason people want to be here! A big reason housing costs are SO high is because new people keep being moved into the area. This kind of growth is not sustainable! Many friends and family have had to move to other counties because Buncombe County is so greedy for development. Shame on you!

7 months ago

home affordability

7 months ago

Integrate County planning with neighboring jurisdictions through Land of Sky Council of Governments

7 months ago

Recognize the value of water. Prioritize protection of Watersheds.

7 months ago

Teach skills sets needed in day to day life and also peaceful conflict resolution.

7 months ago

Supporting the connection of greenways, paths, and trails in the region. For example, working to connect Asheville's greenways to the Ecusta Greenway, Fonta Flora trail, etc.

7 months ago

Agricultural Preservation and tax incentives for citizens who farm and/or own undeveloped areas of environmental significance (riparian corridors and open floodplain, steep slopes and ridgetops, farmland)

7 months ago

Economic development that creates a living wage.

7 months ago

Development of the Hellbender Trail plan. Major thoroughfares should include multi-use trails or at least sidewalks. There could and should be a multiuse trail from Ridgecrest to Asheville along US70.

7 months ago

Intercity transit to connect people to jobs.

7 months ago

Not sure what this means. Celebrating Appalachian heritage and land?!

7 months ago

Long range planning for water, sewer and transportation

7 months ago

Plan on a regional basis. Use councils of government to link counties and municipalities in each region.

7 months ago

establish mutual buffers (for views, growth and environmental protection) coordinated with adjacent counties

7 months ago

1. Regional transportation planning and economic growth opportunities (similar to what has been done in the Greenville - Spartanburg areas).

7 months ago

Most of the new people moving here have high ignorance and disdain for the culture of WNC. We shouldn't concede our vibrant history for a culture of luxury consumption.

7 months ago
Perserve historic buildings
7 months ago

Keep Asheville true to its spirit.
7 months ago

We have nationally significant natural resources that are a major economic driver for tourism as well as business and residential draw. We need to value those areas and stop building right up to the Parkway and the forests. We are going to ruin the natural beauty of these places!
8 months ago

Provide public transportation that goes from town centers in different cities. For example from Asheville to Weaverville or Black Mountain. Tourists and locals can do a park and ride or have stops near hotels that would bring people to different towns and public areas such as the River Arts District.
8 months ago

A regional approach to development and transit is needed to allow Greater Asheville to flourish. Currently, the mass transit system is so weak, that a person making 40k a year is really stuck between a rock and a hard place. They cannot afford to rent in Asheville, and they cannot afford to commute from outlying places they can possibly afford.
8 months ago

Constrict growth on mountaintops, and put limits on the amount of clearing that developers can do. Stop incorporating new roads. Put stricter penalties on developers who ignore erosion-control measures.
8 months ago

Include the community in your decisions and planning processes, especially BIPOC folks
8 months ago

hire locally
8 months ago

produce events to teach REGIONAL history
8 months ago

provide historical markers for modern achievements
8 months ago

don't lose sight of our heritage whenever possible
8 months ago

There needs to be more coordination between city, town and county functions so that all are not treading the same water and/or going in different directions. This includes consolidating agencies across municipalities to reduce administrative expenses.
8 months ago

There should be more and broader coordination between town and county agencies. There should also be more consolidation of agencies to reduce administrative expenses.
8 months ago

Work with Land of Sky and other regional bodies to improve/diversity healthcare options. Mission is too much of a monopoly - my own Asheville doctor is recommending I go to Greenville for procedures because Mission is too expensive!!
8 months ago

Crime and begging on the streets
8 months ago
Actively engage different local communities and types of people in the planning process, without allowing any one group, or a minority to dominate decisions.

Regional transportation planning, and collaboration via Land of Sky Regional Council

Protect environment

Create more parks.

Reserve areas for Western North Carolina to hold true to its origins.

Develop an inventory of regional assets, strengths, weaknesses, and needs. How can Buncombe partner with other counties in the region to support each other?

Work towards clean energy

work with other counties on environment and stopping development.

look for regional transportation options, including merging city and county transit systems as a first step and expanding transit further into the county.

clean energy

Stop allowing non-suitable designs for hotels and modern buildings. New structures must compliment the historic nature of the architecture in the county.

clean energy

public transportation connectivity and BRT for the entire metro area

Changes to zoning and development patterns in one municipality can have impacts on adjacent communities- on traffic, schools, fire and police services, and healthcare facilities. Need to make sure future changes to zoning and approvals of new developments don't take place before the infrastructure is available.

I am super supportive of regional bike trails connecting communities. If we aren't using the train tracks, rails to trails out to Jackson Co would be awesome. Air quality has been a big issue for me. I think it has improved a little, but still could use some improvement. Water quality of French Broad and Hominy are questionable. Not to mention homeless drug scenes along that corridor. Safety at area schools seems to be worsening. More tourism buses/tours. How to make traffic less congested? Maybe a silly idea, but every time that I have to drive south of Asheville, I wish there was an electric train down the center of I-26 run on solar. Wouldn't that be cool? All the way to Greenville or Spartanburg.

I am super supportive of regional bike trails connecting communities. If we aren't using the train tracks, rails to trails out to Jackson Co would be awesome. Air quality has been a big issue for me. I think it has improved a little, but still could use some improvement. Water quality of French Broad and Hominy are questionable. Not to mention homeless drug scenes along that corridor. Safety at area schools seems to be worsening. More tourism buses/tours. How to make traffic less congested? Maybe a silly idea, but every time that I have to drive south of Asheville, I wish there was an electric train down the center of I-26 run on solar. Wouldn't that be cool? All the way to Greenville or Spartanburg.

Strengthen and re-build Asheville's historic role as the center of cultural life in WNC by building a new performing arts facility, perhaps in partnership with UNCA (to get some state funding).
Lead by example,
8 months ago

Trains and transportation. Buy local and cheaper goods and services with neighbors than expensive supply chains.
8 months ago

Am not sure what this means.
8 months ago

Address and re-appointment how "Occupancy Taxes" are used to allow for local governments to have control over spending and focus dollars on real & local issues. Empower local governments to further tax tourism to allow for visitors to bear some greater burden for social programs, education and infrastructure costs and improvements.
8 months ago

Transportation is a huge issue. Even if we offer great programs and services to all, if they cannot get to them; it is useless.
8 months ago

Regional transit system, bike/ped, regional industrial site development.
8 months ago

Facilitating the development of a much larger interconnected greenway system that has connections to larger trail systems such as Fonta Flora State Trail and the Hellbender Trail Network.
8 months ago

Increase public transportation
8 months ago

We need regional transportation planning and regional housing planning.
8 months ago

An investment in transportation other than airlines, buses, and driving to Buncombe, such as train travel between Charlotte, Asheville, GSP and Atlanta.
8 months ago

Provide alternative transportation connections to adjoining counties
8 months ago

Partner with neighboring counties to amplify the impact of the plan in areas where such cooperation would bear fruit.
8 months ago

Perhaps light rail to connect Asheville to surrounding towns and rural areas to make it easier for tourists to reach outlying areas and for residents to live and work in different areas. We want the entire area to thrive - not just our county.
8 months ago

County should not focus regional but within its borders
8 months ago

Stop trying to turn every outside town into Asheville. We don't need tourists in Weaverville.
8 months ago

Good public transportation (trains) between communities
8 months ago
Stop the crime
8 months ago

I don't think the County Commissions should support / supplement any plans made by the COA unless the county residents get a voice in it. We can't vote on the COA commissioners, and they do not represent the county.
8 months ago

Job opportunity
8 months ago

See previous comment
8 months ago

Create a network of greenways that connects all communities. Create opportunities for volunteering in parks and schools.
8 months ago

None
8 months ago

Seek inclusion in the Land of Sky Regional Council or establish a Regional Council of Counties
8 months ago

Work to blur the lines (social, economic, racial, etc.) between Buncombe County and Asheville.
8 months ago

Look at how rate of growth in Buncombe County is impacting our neighboring counties. Is it time to consider regional transportation options that cross county lines? Do we need to identify specific areas (not just corridors) for targeted growth more centrally or around urban center “nodes” in order to discourage continued sprawl into adjacent counties?
8 months ago

Asheville is big enough. Stop Urban Sprawl
8 months ago

WNC is divided in its economic and workforce development. I suspect that to address many of the challenges (housing, transportation, etc.) we need to include those areas outside Buncombe in planning for the future. Buncombe is growing. How do we partner with surrounding counties to address the challenges?
9 months ago

coordinate with other counties.
9 months ago

Understand that urban density is the best and most efficient way to grow and therefore channel resources and incentives to supporting that kind of growth
9 months ago

intercity and intracity bus, streetcar and trolley routes
9 months ago

Coordinate with cities, towns and counties in and near Buncombe County on planning, transportation, etc.
9 months ago
When building the context, I HIGHLY recommend leadership looking at "Holistic Management" a very effective tool to manage complexity. When building the context please make sure you hear from and keep the BIPOC community involved. Be open and honest about BIPOC history in our region and don't hide the truth in public education. Keep in mind the working landscape and the natural landscape that surrounds us and assign inherent value to nature.

9 months ago

Work with Asheville to provide affordable housing for jobs located downtown.

9 months ago

Improve partnerships with adjoining counties to for better transportation and economic development planning.

now

9 months ago

The area is known for the forests, the Biltmore, and the community. I think tourism is a net positive, but I think there's room to petition the state to allow the TDA to use more of their funds to support community initiatives rather than advertising. The word is out already...let's support the area.

9 months ago

Organized partnerships with collar counties and townships can help develop consensus and an appreciation for shared vision across the County.

9 months ago

The county should strive to implement policies that will encourage residents to reduce their carbon footprint. Renewable energy incentives are an example. Another example would be increased bike infrastructure to reduce the amount of car driving.

9 months ago

1) Promote partnerships between anchor institutions and local communities.
2) Protect low-income residents from displacement.
3) Remove barriers to transit-oriented and mixed-use development.
4) Build affordable housing in all communities across the region.
5) Scale up renewables.
6) Electrify buildings and vehicles.

9 months ago

Merge Buncombe County and Asheville City Schools

9 months ago

Align development and growth strategies to urban areas and associated plans. Invest in Asheville transit and support it. Use political capital to push the discussions about expansion of passenger rail to Asheville.

9 months ago

Buncombe County should be the regional hub for Pickleball -over 500 citizens play a week on the TENNIS COUNTS marked as Pickleball Counts a week and this is a conservative number

9 months ago

Create a regional Pickleball facility

9 months ago

N/a

9 months ago

I believe the Hispanics are leaders in the regional connections. Have relationships, churches, community get togethers all over Buncombe county.

9 months ago
Collaborate with area counties to build relationships and to be a leader in sustainable development.

Buncombe needs to work with adjacent counties to continue and expand partnerships .. if Haywood or Henderson county lands a large business, how many of its employees will live in Buncombe County or come into Buncombe for food/entertainment?

land use planning

Tie-ins with existing trail systems and between existing parks and forests.

Work with neighboring counties and local municipalities to strategize how to best implement effective public transportation, strong economic development that is based upon our natural assets and entrepreneurial spirit, diverse housing options and conservation. Look at the wholistic approach to WNC.

Cooperative planning with neighboring counties.

The county is destroying our areas charm. We are becoming a tourist attraction.

See sustainability

1. Regional Transit System (bus rapid transit and inter-county dedicated bus lanes)
2. Regional Greenways

Collaborate more with cities and area municipalities to connect greenways and expand transit services. Develop a regional climate change action plan to address the coming challenges.

Ways to preserve the traditional mountain culture while introducing sustainable growth measures.

Policies that discourage development by large out of the region developers.

Tie together transportation corridors and restrict traffic in downtown areas with satellite parking and shuttles that are innovative, fun to use and cool to look at

Understand and leverage who we are, where we are, and what is here... the mountains, clean water, recreational opportunities. Promote who we are and where we are. Bring communities together through healthy promotion of tourism - there is a lot of bad mouthing of tourism and the city and county and region need to pro-actively promote it and develop it. There is too much fear within neighborhoods, and tourism is used as a wedge to divide rather than promoted as an amazing opportunity to come together, build together, live and work together with pride for ALL members of our community through opportunities for all.
Work collaboratively with other counties versus in competition
9 months ago

Airport expansion, regional public health resources;
9 months ago

Upgrade the airport state of the art. Install first rate technology and make Asheville a Smart city.
9 months ago
Work to promote, use of new green ways to all potential users who may be spectacle of their practicality weather its to car minded rural residents or racial groups who might not see themselves represented in the current biking population.

4 months ago

Community programs for low-income families should be a focus.

4 months ago

More affordable housing. Special tax for people who own a second home in Asheville, or don't live here full time. Help the people who DO live here full-time! I know so many people (teachers, etc.) who have had to move recently due to insane costs.

4 months ago

Provide minorities with financial opportunities to purchase homes or to retain homes when taxes increase

4 months ago

Please see my above comment on making recreational activity accessible to all people of asheville, irreagless of socioecomnic background.

5 months ago

Grants for families that lost real estate value because of the 240 cut and for families that will lose real estate value or be displaced because of I-26

5 months ago

homeless people get free money and free houses, so we do not have to worry about lives.

5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have an orphanage because some people cannot air

5 months ago

It's a utopia for kids and grown-ups alike to have fun and stuff! so yeah!

5 months ago

The county needs to work harder on the most entrepreneurial minorities in the US , namely Latino. County and City Government have done a great job to uplift the black community while latinos remain unseen.

5 months ago

Identify historically underserved areas and look for ways to improve conditions for those living there. Red lining maps could be used as a starting point.

5 months ago

more focus on cultural equity in this county to help preserve the cultural identities of generational families, BIPOC communities, Hispanic and Latino contributions to our community

6 months ago

Create, support and maintain a culture of acceptance.

6 months ago

food banks

6 months ago

businesses supporting homeless services

6 months ago
safer places for homeless to stay
6 months ago

Ensure POC and women have access to improved education, health care and housing
6 months ago

improve schools
6 months ago

Equal access to healthy living for all
6 months ago

promote alternative modes of transportation besides by car
6 months ago

Make housing options more affordable
6 months ago

Equity for all is important, especially in this political climate. Do not focus just on one group (ex. people of color). Instead, focus on all marginalized people (ex. people of color, LGBTQ+, poor and middle class, folks with mental health issues, homeless, etc).
6 months ago

Fair pay
6 months ago

low income persons need to be highlighted in the Equity area
6 months ago

Focus on educational opportunities with a tie in to job placement. Provide incentives to attract new employers. Increase housing development surrounding Asheville and provide bus access to the city from those locations.
6 months ago

More affordable housing, longer term solutions to homelessness
6 months ago

Ban Woke
6 months ago

Protection from gentrification for neighborhoods of people of color and low income people.
6 months ago

Safe trails and sidewalks for everyone for transportation access
6 months ago

Commitment to reparations, even though it is an incredibly difficult and complex issue. The dominant culture of this region (white people) have to atone for the advantages we have enjoyed for generations at the expense of our fellow citizens.
6 months ago

Opportunities for all
6 months ago
treat people like you would want to be treated - fairly, with respect and encouragement for personal and professional growth. develop (or expand) opportunities for small business growth; increase access to high quality healthcare at affordable pricing

6 months ago


6 months ago

Too many areas are being gentrified and working people can’t afford to live there. This affects black people disproportionately.

6 months ago

Greenways and sidewalks help provide transportation for the 1/3 of the population that doesn't drive: The poor, the elderly, people with disabilities, children.

6 months ago

Make housing options more affordable

6 months ago

Talk with the historically disparaged communities about what works best for them and go from there. Don’t come up with your own back room ideas and just “check the box” that you spoke with someone who has a friend in Pisgah View. It’s all too often that our locally elected officials already have in mind a plan that they think is what’s needed, without honest consideration about what people here are actually asking for. It’s historical behavior like this that has continued to erode away trust among our communities in need and those elected to represent them.

6 months ago

Start w/ acknowledging all the harm done to historically marginalized folks by policies, offer more pre-K opportunities, continue to work closely w/ people of color & listen & trust they know what they need - then support it, encourage/support more programs like working wheels, free tech education to BIPOC in Buncombe County

6 months ago

excellent pre-school

6 months ago

election safeguards

6 months ago

love

6 months ago

Don’t favor one group over another.

6 months ago

Accelerate agrivoltaics on farms in Opportunity Zones and distressed areas. Finance solar PV canopies over community gardens in distressed and underserved communities, as well as on all schools.

6 months ago

Keeping equity issues at the forefront of everything.

6 months ago

Reach out to previously excluded individuals + groups

6 months ago

Look for things we all cherish and paint a mural

6 months ago
Looking at projects not just to make them "fair" but to help bolster areas that need bolstering without hurting the original inhabitants.

6 months ago

Easy, affordable access to health care is an important factor. Likewise, access to healthy fresh foods. Community gardens can be a big help, and Buncombe County Cooperative Extension is the perfect partner. Good paying jobs at all levels of employment is another action step.

6 months ago

Reparations to African American descendants who have been affected by racial discrimination

6 months ago

Groceries Stores in Housing Area. missing those things - food deserts

6 months ago

Prioritize energy efficiency for low income residents

6 months ago

Build public electric vehicle charging in low income and rural areas including Leicester Hwy, Fairview, Weaverville, Enka Candler, etc.

6 months ago

Increase minimum wage for all workers in the county

6 months ago

Wide variety of housing types including co-housing
Upward mobility opportunities through training

6 months ago

The county took land from or Black citizens. Now it is time to do some kind of housing effort to get those folks and their families back in home ownership. Stable housing makes for stable and economically productive citizens. This has to be done in concert with what Asheville is doing.

6 months ago

Gender affirming healthcare and services

6 months ago

More support for mental health, homeless, drug issues. Affordable housing!

6 months ago

reparations

6 months ago

Equity is not something we should strive for. People are born with different capacities. If people are free, they will not be equal, and if people are equal they will not be free. Equal opportunity is a worthy goal, but not equal outcome.

6 months ago

Financial support for POC, women, LGBT+ people, anti-racist education in schools/ community centers, more accessibility for disabled folks, good quality+affordable housing, higher wages, funding mental health, drug safety, and healthcare programs, less use of police force especially in POC communities

6 months ago

Affordable housing for people making a living wage.

6 months ago
Education, education, education. The American culture I've grow-up in and lived with for sixty years is not equal.
6 months ago

Again, I find it laughable - how much is being paid for this plan that will never see the light of the day? It's about money and power and lip service isn't going to make a difference.
6 months ago

Get off this topic. Not an issue in Buncombe
7 months ago

Unchecked development and realty markets only benefit the wealthy, who move into the area and push out locals, farmers, and essential members of the community. Equity means protecting our lands from unchecked development.
7 months ago

Make sure everyone has access to digitally inclusive needs (devices, skills, broadband)
7 months ago

Listen to BIPOC solutions to their issues.
7 months ago

Insure all communities have equitable / equal access to parks, housing, transportation.
7 months ago

We can't success as a county unless we all succeed. "A rising tide floats all boats" - or should.
7 months ago

Provide incentives to increase diversity.
7 months ago

Access to internet to even know where meetings are
7 months ago

Equity is not as real problem. Stop blowing out of proportion.
7 months ago

Take actions to avoid displacement from historically BIPOC communities (i.e. Shiloh, Burton Street, etc.)
7 months ago

help homeless people
7 months ago

defund the police and put money towards real community services
7 months ago

None equity is a made up issue
7 months ago

Fall ALL, not only minorities.
7 months ago

Give access to BIPOC to be informed and to have a voice on the design of any Olán the county has about the future our our county and region.
7 months ago
igualdad para todas las razas
7 months ago

tener las mismas oportunidades sin importar el status migratorio, raza/etnia
7 months ago

tratar a todosx por sin importar raza o color
7 months ago

igualdad condición para todos los personas
7 months ago

centrality and awareness of racial/economic/language justice in county plans
7 months ago

RED PANDAS FOR ALL.
7 months ago

necesito mas inf.
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago

Oportunidades para todas las razas
7 months ago

More access to healthy activities and education for all residents.
7 months ago

Igualdad para todas las razas
7 months ago

Tener las mismas oportunidades sin importar el estatus migratorio, raza/etnia
7 months ago

Tratar a todosx por igual sin importar raza o color
7 months ago

Igualdad condición para todos los personas
7 months ago

Awareness and centrality of racial/economic/language justice in county plans
7 months ago

Igualdad para todos sin importar religión raza o sexo
7 months ago

creación de pólizas que toman en cuenta a las diferentes comunidades y las incluyen.
7 months ago
- Reckon with our history and pay reparations. Do the research, the diversity of the African American community needs to have a seat at that table. And cut the check, fund all the things, because they have always been nation builders and wealth builders and community builders, let's fund it and support it and stay out of their way. That should give our whole county pride, be an example for the nation.

7 months ago

I feel everyone has equal opportunity to choose their life, and it isn't up to individuals to work towards their goals.

7 months ago

Is there the appropriate mix of racial representation on these committees?

7 months ago

Improve outreach and increase phone availability, increase library loaner laptop program, free or low cost computers or smart phones and tech support.

7 months ago

MAS VIVIENDA ECONOMICA

7 months ago

Have better public housing that is more racially diverse and fair

7 months ago

I know that we are close to the deadline, but can this survey be brought to vulnerable communities? Especially those without broadband access?

7 months ago

Increase access to affordable housing. Improve public transportation and bicycle connectivity. Encourage high-quality jobs in Buncombe such as Pratt and Whitney.

7 months ago

None

7 months ago

Give contacts faster and more often for construction that includes low and moderate income housing.

7 months ago

Parade on Martin Luther King Day. Activities in schools 1-12 to encourage equity and inclusiveness for all children.

7 months ago

Various price ranges for housing and rentals. Invest in how transportation will effect this.

7 months ago

Formulate standards of equity for all county operations and have county departments make periodic reviews of their compliance with those standards.

7 months ago

Less building of mcmansions in neighborhoods. This raises the cost of living. They are often only seasonal, they are rude to locals and upset balances - ruining the spirit of community. moderation please.

7 months ago

Hear from all ethnic and economic tiers to get input.

7 months ago

education beginning with elementary school

7 months ago
Judge people on their merits not their color
7 months ago

LGBTQ+ awareness and acceptance
7 months ago

Nose
7 months ago

expanded support for improved and equitable public education opportunities for everyone, increase job training and placement resources, protect neighborhoods, support and enforce legislation regarding human rights
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago

trabajo bien pagado, servicios medicos, y reconocimiento a la clase trabajadora imigrante ahora
7 months ago

Investments in affordable housing, job training and recruitment to increase diversity.
7 months ago

Look into ways the city could pay for and support free adult education for job force, free community transportation, and free community healthcare
7 months ago

See above equity training for all police government officials judges da's etc consult mlk jr association ymi etc and give these groups the lead on this
7 months ago

Affordable housing for low to middle income earners. New housing has opportunities for people at the poverty line as a requirement, but nothing for the middle to low income earners (like industry workers).
7 months ago

provide assistance for long term renters in formerly redlined areas who are wanting to purchase homes in formerly redlined areas, similarly, provide rehab funds for homeowners in these areas so they can preserve their homes, provide financial counseling courses in high school addressing credit building and homeownership and auto financing, free tuition in community colleges,
7 months ago

The country commissioners board needs to be politically diverse.
7 months ago

Require all new apartments or townhomes to include 25% permanent affordable housing units.
7 months ago

que la vivienda sea accesible
7 months ago

educational opportunities, housing
7 months ago

No se
7 months ago
Many Black folks and families have been here way longer than my family and all the folks moving to the area. And yet they have been systematically disadvantaged, displaced and ignored. Urban renewal bulldozed their communities and forced them into under funded and crumbling public housing. Gentrification is now forcing them out of the areas they were able to hold on to. Communities are still very segregated as are our schools.

Acknowledge the history
Affordable housing and programs to keep people in their homes especially if they have lived their for generations.
Programs to make home improvements as needed.
Completely overhauling public housing and vouchers to be able to live elsewhere.
Fixing the huge disparity in our public schools.
Proper funding of public education and mentorship programs.
Funding of community programs and ideas developed within those disadvantaged communities.
They know what they need better than me.
7 months ago

Promote diversity. Educate old-timers.
7 months ago

Focus on affordability and quality care for everyone without the need of relying on insurance for services.
7 months ago

Consolidate the schools systems or STFU about 'equity' !!!
7 months ago

Have multiple voices included in these discussions please, especially from historically marginalized communities.
7 months ago

Consistently prioritize the needs expressed by historically marginalized folks - it’s their turn to make decisions.
7 months ago

Active community forums with local political representatives
7 months ago

Equal access to pay, jobs, housing, food, & healthcare for everyone.
7 months ago
ent caps.
7 months ago

Give back black owned land to families who used to own it. Or pay them for it at fair market value.
7 months ago

More opportunities for lower socio-economic incomes, more opportunities for BIPOC members of the community, more opportunities for Gay and Trans members of the community. Healthcare, Jobs, Housing, Mental Health, Job Training
7 months ago

Expanded opportunities. Listening to community leadership. Listening sessions. Affordable housing.
7 months ago

Stop defining “equity” on the basis of skin color. Use socio-economic condition/health/age instead - more difficult, true, but far, far more equitable
7 months ago
Affordable housing.
7 months ago

Help others help themselves. Build cooperative self-reliance.
7 months ago

Increasing funding for child care, pre-K, and other early interventions for children in low-income families.
7 months ago

Invest in affordable housing.
7 months ago

Support for public schools. Every child should have access to quality education. Increase pay and benefits for teachers!! Support technical education and after school programs beginning in middle school.
7 months ago

Quit with the performative actions and work for real change, fix Asheville City Schools, low income housing in the county.
7 months ago

Justice system that insure equal access to education, jobs and housing.
7 months ago

Ensure education opportunities are available to all students
7 months ago

ongoing training for public officials of all kinds as well as general public.
7 months ago

Focus on changes for all and equity will take care of itself
7 months ago

permit additional housing (by price) in proportion to the income levels of the community, rather than only meeting higher income demand. Don't allow only high cost options to grow without also increasing lower cost alternatives - this will greatly dampen the growth and make managed growth sustainable for the community as well as the environment
7 months ago

Imbed equity into every major action Buncombe County takes. Require equity assessments.
7 months ago

Equity is a concept of applying policy unequally in the hopes of producing an equal result. A policy of equality across the board is how a community flourishes
7 months ago

Equity is a uniformity of opportunity, not an unequal redistribution of resources or trying to make up for historical inequities. Equity is the just reward of accomplishment in an environment of equil opportunity.
7 months ago

Support our historic minority neighborhoods so that they aren't wiped out by outsiders buying up and destroying our history.
7 months ago

You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.
7 months ago
Encourage community activities.

7 months ago

We need to consider the needs of all economic strata. There are a lot of convenient places for renewal and restoration of county structures that should be repurposed for affordable housing close to jobs.

8 months ago

Having public transportation or other means, such as sidewalks and safe biking lanes so that residents do not have to so heavily rely on a car to get to schools, jobs or recreational centers. Foster an inclusive community that takes into account no only different ethnicities; genders; sexual orientation but also different ages.

With the movement to cell services as the only form of telecommunication and the necessity for reliable broad band, these two services should come under an umbrella of necessary for every person to have affordable access to. Since AT&T was no longer required to put in lines for land lines the only option for phone service is a cell phone. Cell phone services can be very expensive and people have little choice as the more inexpensive service provider may not have reliable service in all areas. The same with internet. Now since many essential services, including communication with utility companies, health care providers, banks and government agencies is limited to almost exclusively online communication reliable and affordable broad band has become a necessity.

8 months ago

Honor the history of the Asheville Municipal Golf Course, the first fully integrated course in the Southeastern United States, by restoring it to its former glory.

8 months ago

Stop making it so hard for affordable housing developers to do business in Buncombe County. Get rid of unnecessary redundant hurdles for affordable developers, such as slowing down the permitting process by asking for details that have already been approved.

8 months ago

Fix the decades of wrong that you have done, support BIPOC in any and every way possible

8 months ago

invest in places that have been underfunded for too long

8 months ago

promote small business as well as large business

8 months ago

reparations. make it happen

8 months ago

Provide incentives for BIPOC-owned businesses: for county contracts (as prime or subs); grants; tax incentives; etc.

8 months ago

Campaign for kindness.

8 months ago

Do not replace racism with more racist policies. Equality of opportunity, quality education and equal justice for all, as well as promotion of private business are the only way to improve conditions for low-income minorities. Provide more resources for those who experience discrimination in any form.

8 months ago

Reparations focused on investment in education and affordable housing

8 months ago

Required minority hiring if taking government money

8 months ago
Create affordable housing. Raise the minimum wage to $22/hour
8 months ago

Address the needs of all the people living in Buncombe County. Take a survey of what can be done to improve quality of life.
8 months ago

Increase better paying jobs, beautify downtown Asheville, increase police presence in the county. Plant trees. Fix sidewalks, beautify the downtown parking ramps—other cities have. Stop ruining neighborhoods with unnecessary buildings: on Tunnel Road, there are too many Dollar Generals (etc), there is rarely more than a few cars in the lots, the buildings need to be beautified, they are so rundown. The new Dollar General in Swannanoa is disgraceful—driveway is in a residential neighborhood, there goes property values!
8 months ago

Job training/placement and business tax credits for hiring
8 months ago

Ensure enforcement of federal and state anti-discrimination laws.
Work to ensure equality. Do not pit people against each other based on race.
Do not support defining a welfare class based on skin color or national origin.
8 months ago

Increase access to continuing education classes and certificate courses to county residents.
8 months ago

Support school systems.
8 months ago

Spend tax dollars fairly
8 months ago

Add Citizens with Disabilities
8 months ago

Fair treatment and equal opportunities for everyone. Measure educational achievement and do what it takes to make sure everyone has equal opportunity to education at all levels.
8 months ago

Implement recommendations of the reparations task force; continue to look for options to allow long-term residents to remain in their homes as property values increase.
8 months ago

Investigate policies using data. Demonstrate that equity solutions are in what the county can control and change.
8 months ago

Affordable housing
8 months ago

Review all policies to weed-out inherent bias and create more opportunities for those displaced by urban renewal to regain mobility and equity within the community
8 months ago

Ensure people of color and low-income people have opportunities to purchase homes at an affordable price and build their generational wealth
8 months ago
Penalize any business whose workers are not paid a living wage. It is inappropriate for businesses to rely on public services and nonprofits to help their employees make ends meet.

Many of the people moving to the area are affluent and are driving up the cost of new housing at unsustainable rates. Developers will always build to meet the highest priced housing needs first. The plan has to require proportional areas for all levels of housing rather than just catering to the higher end buyers.

Prioritize marginalized communities

Please remove the barrier at the bottom of erskine St. that divides the street for more equitable access and transportation for neighbors.

Fix wage gap. Hardcore effort for drug rehabilitation and mental health. Link supportive housing to employment openings at low wage jobs. (Housing above the retail). Provide community within the pocket neighborhoods for childcare sharing. Community gardens. Neighborhood watch programs with law enforcement response to concerns. Safe neighborhoods! Get these panhandlers off the corners. I could go on...

Focus City of Asheville reparations initiative wisely, emphasizing community resources centered in minority neighborhoods, such as child care, pre-K education, etc.

Hire good staff to lead efforts - people who have done it/seen it done in other regions and can bring fresh ideas and programs to our county.

Equality? Fairness? Justice? Not sure what this word means and why its meaning is different than already well-established philosophical and political thoughtful historical consideration with hundreds of years of human civilization and evolution.

We have come a long ways from the 1960s. However, implicit bias exists in all of us, but not everyone acknowledges it. I would think efforts to counter or minimize implicit bias needs to occur at a very young age in preschool. This can be challenging due to private schools. Hence, tools and exercises need to be provided. Similar exercises would work for adults to get them to confront their implicit biases. Meanwhile, we need to ensure that everyone has the same opportunities.

Serving ALL is critical. There are many needs among our residents; it takes a full-blown community effort to help instill investment in each person's community in which they live.

Focus on housing & transportation options.

More aggressive engagement of existing underserved communities in this planning process (listen to them and get their ideas).

Mental Health services to help increasing homeless population. Need to get them off the street and into treatment facilities.
Affordable housing and expanded and affordable childcare and preK are essential for our future.
8 months ago

Quit catering to only rich people in this area. Listen to your locals and the people who make Asheville so special to begin with.
8 months ago

Affordable housing and accessible transportation in all parts of the County. Diversify the City and County leadership teams! We've swung from one political party to the other - balance is key for success!
8 months ago

Improve education in all areas of the county. Provide equity and inclusion training and information to local businesses. Work with law enforcement as a partner in progress.
8 months ago

Let them fight it out
8 months ago

Have them fight it out
8 months ago

Put POC and the LGBTQ+ First.
8 months ago

Provide more opportunities across all communities
8 months ago

Job training
8 months ago

Get rid of the democrats in office it will all be fixed
8 months ago

Equal means equal for everyone, and no one deserves to be discriminated against. This should not entitle any group from bullying another just because of a past iniquity. Move forward.
8 months ago

I'm not sure why "equity" is central to our growth. If we provide opportunity through jobs and housing it will be equitable
8 months ago

Enforce the laws and that will stop the growing divide
8 months ago

Equity means everyone. Invest equally and not just to one minority or another in a way that makes you leave behind the low income majority in the mean time. We have many of all colors whether majority or minority that are struggling with much more then the concern over how equitable you are. Just be fair to all and move forward tackling the serious issues we need handled right now that you are ignoring while being completely distracted by being inclusive. We get it. It's enough. Move on and do the work already.
8 months ago

Provide support for families where needed in the areas of child care, transportation, and job training to address inequities.
8 months ago

None
8 months ago
I have been working with a population who face roadblocks at each turn as they try to better their lives. The most disgusting problem is that if a young man works hard, begins to succeed, then is pushed on their face because they have aged out of foster care, and cannot get housing because they didn't get some girl pregnant! You are rewarding the wrong efforts and penalizing the right ones. They end up feeling like it doesn't matter what they do, they will never get ahead, and because of the way you have sat the system up, you prove them right. It is disgusting to watch.

8 months ago

the government needs to not pick winners and losers based on race. besides being immoral, it is very illegal and will get the county sued. Many people advocating "equity" are advocating for illegal discrimination based on race.

8 months ago

Investment in public library service.

8 months ago

Establish an inclusive Equity Review Board with members representing minority groups and neighborhoods.

8 months ago

Ensure that those who have been left out or left behind in all areas actively participate in the conversation and have access to all resources.

8 months ago

Apply racial equity impact lens to every recommendation proposed in the comp plan. Coordinate with City of Asheville on equity initiatives, and address equity impacts in staff recommendations for approval/denial of all zoning permits.

8 months ago

Not only is there Gentrification in regards to race, there is Classism. There is now a Struggling Class. People who work multiple jobs but still cannot afford to live here due to tourism, second homes, investment & vacation properties. People who cannot build a future and one economic problem can spell disaster.

8 months ago

Social equity and geographic equity are likely to be conflicting with limited resources.

9 months ago

Education can provide opportunity. We need to ensure that all have access to quality learning and training.

9 months ago

Use an equity "lense" in your decision-making and plans
Include age as an aspect of equity

9 months ago

Invest in and prioritize underrepresented identities within the planning issues action items.

9 months ago

Regardless of what residents think that "equity" means based on this pole, please use the correct definition so that underrepresented members of our community have the ability to truly rise up.

Equality ≠ Equity.

9 months ago

All residents of BC are entitled to the same level of services and access to health care.

9 months ago
Ensure that all residents have access to broadband; pre-school and 2 year technical college at affordable/supported rates.

9 months ago

The city has committed to a reparation initiative, I think the county should too.

9 months ago

Not just WNC and Buncombe County, but the USA as a whole has a problem with money as protected speech and monopoly corporations driving profit over the common good at every level. The banner for Equity needs to resound a vision for the common good of County residents, not just that for the donor class. A "common good" perspective sees development and land use beyond "investor good."

9 months ago

Identify and redress County ordinances, regulations and policies that perpetuate institutional racism. Institutional or structural racism in this context can be defined as any public action or set of actions that consciously or unconsciously produce racially disparate outcomes. This includes but is not limited to property assessment and public safety arenas, as well as public education. Create and fully fund programs to redress past injustices that have robbed the County's minority citizens of generational wealth; programs should provide mechanisms to allow those affected to build back and recover lost generational wealth. Mandate a policy that Buncombe County Public Schools will teach the factual truth about American, North Carolina and Buncombe County history with regard to race relations, including but not limited to the reality of slavery, the White supremacist Jim Crow policies and actions of the post-Reconstruction era, state and federal policies that promoted de facto segregation, the Civil Rights struggle and the opposition mounted to the Civil Rights movement, and the lingering effects of past racism and the persistence of racism in today's society. Remove any textbooks that downplay the brutality of slavery and the harshness of slave conditions, paint the Confederacy as anything other than a treasonous insurrection, or fail to address the pattern of racial injustices that are part of this nation's history (e.g., lynchings, KKK, the system of convict labor, mass incarceration, etc.). Ignorance of the truth about racism in America is a major vehicle that perpetuates institutional and unconscious racism.

9 months ago

Update, or expand on the term "equity" to ensure that participants understand the importance of equity across a multitude of typologies - intergenerational, able bodied, education, race, gender, national origin, etc. There was a large focus on racial equity in our group, which is incredibly important, but is a sticking point for some participants, so reframing the focus to be on inclusivity of all minority types could be useful.

9 months ago

Produce a greater variety of housing types through incentives and support human-powered transportation.

9 months ago

same as above

9 months ago

Investment in Pickleball as a Recreational focus would provide and support a fun, easy sport that cuts across all populations, all races, all cultures, disabilities, soc/economic status, all ages, etc

9 months ago

Ensure EQUAL access (not outcome) for communities and neighborhoods to services

9 months ago

What are you doing for Hispanics? Never here any ideas.

9 months ago

Define diversity and create targets to support a diverse community.

9 months ago
Everyone needs equal access to government services..

9 months ago

"Equity" is an illusory construct and current buzzword that means nothing but flowery rhetoric in a county planning effort. Don't waste my time.

9 months ago

Equal access. Outreach and support.

9 months ago

I want to see our plan address the achievement gap in education between the African American and white communities.

9 months ago

Ensure equitable access to housing, employment, healthcare, education and recreation.

9 months ago

Attract more diverse residents

9 months ago

Outreach to diverse communities about the benefits of living in Buncombe.

9 months ago

Move away from reparations as a program. People whose land was taken through urban renewal should be compensated. Then make sure that everyone is treated equitably.

9 months ago

1. Language justice - all county materials should be available in Spanish
2. Take an equity in policies approach to all ordinances in the county

9 months ago

Focus on reparations in ways that are fair and that ensure that people will use the funds to lift their families and communities up so that it has a true ripple effect over time. Build more mixed-income affordable housing, and make those properties beautiful, walkable, and set up in a way to encourage community to grow.

9 months ago

More program's like Lenoir Rhyne's Equity Leadership Program, more DEI awareness and transparency around DEI initiatives/results.

9 months ago

buzz word

9 months ago

Promoting greenways, sidewalks, public transportation which benefit the 1/3 of residents who don't drive including: people with disabilities, poor people, senior citizens and children.

9 months ago

The ability for working class (middle class, not retired) to afford homes in Buncombe County. Lots of ideas already to help low income and homeless. But not regular working class families. That's why I have moved to Hendersonville, can't afford Asheville or any of Buncombe County making a wage of $85,000/year. That's not equity.

9 months ago

Public transportation that runs frequently and 24hrs

9 months ago
Tough one. There is such a divide economically in our nation. People in our country, much less our area don't start life out on an equal footing and the divide is growing. Education, job training, job opportunity. Teach and provide Networking somehow. I am an employer in Buncombe County (very small business). I have a very difficult time finding people to work with me that have the right skills, desire, flexibility, schedule, etc. I prefer to hire people through other people I know. This is a deep issue that needs a whole lot of thought and it is incredibly important, not only locally but nationally.

Move on

Public finance incentives to help encourage disadvantaged businesses and home buyers

Embrace Diversity Equity and Inclusion as your keynote strategy! Find a DEI office, create a community leadership team, publicize a DEI Mission and Vision, fund and build an action plan to embed belonging in the community. Mandate diversity in civic boards and institutions.
Suggested action items for LAND USE, HOUSING, and TRANSPORTATION

Increase affordable housing near job centers and bus routes. Invest in bicycle infrastructure to make biking to work a viable commute option.
4 months ago

Provide training and information to municipalities why density of an Urban Center land use can provide a stronger tax base to support maintenance of existing infrastructure, and predictable growth to finance any infrastructure improvements needed as growth comes.

Look at a Strongtowns.org approach to see if a Land Value tax would help encourage more of the development of the urban centers I want to see. Look at if providing access to https://academy.strongtowns.org/p/strong-towns-academy courses to different municipality leaders or access to citizens would be a feasible education method to get grass roots organizing going that would convince more people that local walk-able development is better for our region than car centrist design.
4 months ago

Outlaw all Airbnb
4 months ago

It is not sustainable for every new complex to be condominiums, nor is it sustainable for all of our current housing to be purchased by out of state investors to turn them into short term rental properties. A limitation on how many properties a non-resident can own would be a good start.
4 months ago

Institute progressive taxation for short term vacation rentals, invest in high density urban housing, and increase the amount of affordable housing.
4 months ago

More affordable housing. Special tax for people who own a second home in Asheville, or don't live here full time. Help the people who DO live here full-time! I know so many people (teachers, etc.) who have had to move recently due to insane costs.
4 months ago

Limit the amount of houses people can own. It's not just short term rentals that are bad- people hoarding long-term rentals and overcharging for rent, as opposed to letting people purchase, is just as much of a problem.
4 months ago

More frequent bus routes
4 months ago

Affordable Housing: Don't add unnecessarily to the cost of development. Things like appearance standards and review, mandating building techniques, etc. make it harder to build. The county desperately needs affordable housing for working people. That said, the basics, like traffic planning and stormwater management, do need to be taken care of.
4 months ago

Widen 240 through town; prioritize completing the 26 construction; create financial support for options for middle class residents to be able to purchase a home
4 months ago

NA
5 months ago
Require more affordable housing units with each project; use County land for affordable housing, homeless shelters, and mental health treatment facilities (possibly following the VA model); add sidewalks and make existing sidewalks more accessible; increase security of buses, homeless shelters, and mental health treatment facilities
5 months ago

Environment comes first
5 months ago

add more forests and more hospitals and more forests keep chicfila add more houses and gardens and schools
5 months ago

it is about what I want to add to the country i want to add more stores and more houses.
5 months ago

A girl driving a car because she can do whatever she wants.
5 months ago

my picture is about to be kind and super quiet cars.
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have some pools and parks some restaurants maybe some libraries
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have nature, a Library, an arcade, and a big backyard because I like video games, and books. I like big yards, and woods. Nature is good for the Earth.
5 months ago

There is a public park and a pool, paved roads connecting schools, theaters, operas, restaurants, stores, etc. There is also a Great lake, mountains, and forests surrounding peoples houses.
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have a school, houses, and food and lambos, fun thing and sidewalks because people should have fun go to school and live somewhere ya.
5 months ago

I like the restaurants and parks in Asheville. I wish there were more toys Chick-fil-A and Wendy's. Everyone would ride bicycles in the future. I don't want any more yellow jackets!
5 months ago

In 20 years I want the buildings of asheville to all be rainbow colored I love the restaurants, and wish there were more parks!
5 months ago

Asheville is my favorite place. We need more playgrounds w/ ducks. In the future, we should get around by train. It would be nice if more people could have gardens.
5 months ago

I want everyone to have a house. My favorite place to go is the farmers market. When I go outside in the future, I want to see more crocodiles.
5 months ago

Floating car to get around powered by electricity
5 months ago

I want more theaters and bike people and babies.
5 months ago
I really want a sidewalk in my neighborhood so I can ride my bike or skate, and a tree house.
5 months ago

we need new roads cuz the roads we got now are Bad
5 months ago

I want there to be a cul de sac that has houses on it.
5 months ago

mine is a map of things I want to change in my apartment complex. (a new yard)
5 months ago

I wish there would be more playgrounds. I want to travel with rocket ships. I don't want the parks and the restaurants to go away. I wish there were more barn owls.
5 months ago

keep development in town
5 months ago

County could work with local leaders on promoting community ownership of land and neighborhoods.
5 months ago

Incentivize or require electric vehicle charging infrastructure in multifamily housing.
5 months ago

I understand the issues that are effecting housing cost, there are some many factors to this complex issue. Also look at cost of housing that government regulations is adding to housing cost. National Association of Home Builders has a great study showing cost, and I believe there is one available for buncombe county as well.
6 months ago

there is SO MUCH TRAFFIC in every direction- what is being done on county-owned roads or in partnership with DOT to reduce/calm traffic? why is so much new development being approved but without increased level of road service? it's unbearable to get around any day of the week and pedestrians have no chance
6 months ago

Do a better job of evaluating and researching proposed development plans in regard to the effects on the community that will be changed.
6 months ago

Stop putting apartments in Swannanoa. We have three complexes in the last two years. Enough!
6 months ago

Responsible Development with infrastructure considerations
6 months ago

YOU FOLKS HAVE ALREADY RUINED SWANNANOA WITH YOUR HIGH-RISE APARTMENT BUILDINGS! [expletive] YOU FOR THAT!
6 months ago

efficient bus stops/transit
6 months ago

donations from companies to help homelessness/food
6 months ago
homeless shelters  
6 months ago

generate public transport reduce cars  
6 months ago

increase transit  
6 months ago

Increase higher density housing along existing traffic corridors and do more "in-fill" housing and commercial development  
6 months ago

Protect Historic Preservation Areas, sites, buildings.  
6 months ago

Más transporte público  
6 months ago

Empleadores de grandes empresas tener su propio transporte para sus empleados.  
6 months ago

6 months ago

Smaller buses for more flexibility. Private buses using the same routes to fill in the gaps. Only allow development of large projects along bus lines to create an efficient public transportation system.  
6 months ago

Dealing with Asheville's homelessness issue somehow  
6 months ago

Less building, more green ways and canopies  
6 months ago

transportation need EV buses and other county/city vehicles where possible  
6 months ago

Increase housing development surrounding Asheville and provide bus access to the city from those locations. Building more greenways & bike lanes to provide alternatives to cars to support increase in population. Make sure all new residential housing, industrial and commercial buildings are done so using energy efficient methods and AC/heating (e.g., use heat pumps, not gas).  
6 months ago

Protect View Ways like Paris and D.C.  
6 months ago

Road improvements to increase safety such as replacing/filling potholes and increasing in overhead signage. Encourage development of affordable housing for lower income workers/youth.  
6 months ago

Concentrate on stability not "progress"  
6 months ago
Restrict use of current housing stock being used as overnight and short term vacation rentals. Allowing widespread use of housing for short term vacationers limits housing availability for local residents and local workers.
6 months ago

Dedicated pickleball courts
6 months ago

FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING
6 months ago

Stop camping just anywhere. Provide affordable housing so people don't have to live in the streets.
6 months ago

Can we still grow enough food to feed those that reside here year round?
6 months ago

Amend the building permit regulations to make it easier for people to build their own homes.
6 months ago

Sidewalks, green space
6 months ago

Need more bike routes. Specifically, need a bike route that connects Fairview to downtown/Tunnel Road. It is LITERALLY impossible to ride a bike from Fairview to Asheville without riding on the interstate, which is illegal.
6 months ago

Stop building so many new homes. It is out of control and effects resources, traffic and safety.
6 months ago

Are there ways to work collaboratively with the land for mutual benefit rather than reduce the issue to land "use?"
6 months ago

Gobbling up every inch of spare land in Swannanoa and cramming in more and more apartment complexes cannot be the solution for the affordable housing issues in this county. Swannanoa deserves better development than that.
6 months ago

Affordable housing
6 months ago

expand A.R.T. routes to areas with out infrastructure support... local grocery store, etc
6 months ago

READ 'TECHNOCRACY, The Hard Road To World Order' by Patrick M. Wood . . . . also his other books. https://www.amazon.com/Technocracy-Hard-Road-World-Order/dp/0986373982
6 months ago

Land use: Protect environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands.
6 months ago

Land Use: Have more sustainable development practices with proper zoning laws in place to protect land from over development.
6 months ago
Land use: protect green areas, parks, forests, trails. Concentrate development.
6 months ago

Land use: protect and expand parks and greenways.
6 months ago

Land Use: Approach Biltmore Estate to discuss a special tax or voluntary commitment to assist in affordable housing ventures since that property is so unreasonably large.
6 months ago

Land Use: No builds in our parks and greenspaces. A daycare almost went into Veteran's Park...No!!
6 months ago

Land Use: Protect environmentally sensitive areas.
6 months ago

Land Use: Develop already built out areas via repurposing/remodeling old buildings. Support repair/reuse of old homes.
6 months ago

Housing: More affordable housing
6 months ago

Housing: Affordable housing that is beautiful, multigenerational, and is accessible to parks/green spaces, fresh food, high quality of life.
6 months ago

Housing: Require developers to provide more affordable housing at least at the 60% AMI but even lower would be better.
6 months ago

Housing: Put limit on short term rentals to decrease the negative effect of short term rentals in affordable housing.
6 months ago

Housing: We need more affordable housing.
6 months ago

Housing: Restrictions on short term and vacation rentals - taxes regardless of owners state of residence.
6 months ago

Housing: Affordable housing is desperately needed.
6 months ago

Housing: Housing costs/options that match wage rates of service employees. Low wage workers can't afford to live here; unsustainable for tourism industry.
6 months ago

Housing: Address overcrowding: at what point are there too many houses in an area; good stewardship of the environment by not allowing such density in population.
6 months ago

Housing: Place more restrictions on short term rentals so that investors won't buy smaller more affordable properties and use them as AirBnBs etc. We need affordable housing available for young families.
6 months ago
Housing: Affordable
6 months ago

Housing: Land Trust buying program
6 months ago

Housing: Repair old homes
6 months ago

Housing: Repurpose commercial to become housing
6 months ago

Housing: Multi-age neighborhoods with gardens, green space, greenways.
6 months ago

Housing: Protect parks nearby
6 months ago

Housing: require landscaping with native plants.
6 months ago

Transportation: Need bus service that serves all areas of Buncombe County.
6 months ago

Transportation: Would love great public transportation options for more of the County (not just Asheville).
6 months ago

Transportation: Increase bike lanes and sidewalks across the County.
6 months ago

Transportation: Develop Greenways.
6 months ago

Transportation: County should go to all electric vehicles.
6 months ago

Transportation: Increase active transportation options such as greenways and sidewalks.
6 months ago

Transportation: Non-car ways to get to Asheville from the East end of the County.
6 months ago

Transportation: Would love light rail to move throughout county (at least main destinations)
6 months ago

Transportation: Develop more greenways.
6 months ago

Transportation: More bike lanes
6 months ago

Transportation: More greenways connected from Asheville to Black Mountain
6 months ago

Transportation: More sidewalks
6 months ago
Transportation: Overall increase of pedestrian/bike transport and decrease car use.

Transportation: more safe access for bikes and walkers

Transportation: connected and protected bikes lanes

Transportation: E-cars and bikes

Incentives to bike/walk to work/ work remote

Housing: Put limits on short term rentals to decrease the negative effect of short term rentals on affordable housing.

Placing limits of air bnb's again. Blocking bills like HB829 and HB911. Incentivize long time landlords to sell properties to families who need it for a tax break.

Homeless population needs to be addressed. It will only increase if the housing market rises

More high-density live/work/shop/dining communities. Enough of the flat, 2-story strip malls that waste so much space without providing an affordable home for those working in the communities. Also, find a way to prioritize home-ownership among current locals and residents. It's all too often where you have six people living in a small 1920's bungalow each working three jobs. This is NOT sustainable.

Increase land conservation efforts, increase stream buffers & don't let county funds be spent on landowners that don't have proper buffers. Including county soil & water funds. Dark skies initiative! Protect Buncombe's skies for humans & critters. Increase soil and erosion protection, actual fine ppl not just threats. Increase clustering of housing in major subdivisions, increase stream restoration efforts, incentivize more food growing business & small farms/community gardens

support wildlife preservation!

Tax breaks/incentives for small family farms to control development of rural lands

Screening ordinance to protect viewsheds

Ridgetop protection, viewshed protection

Whew housing is a bear! More workforce housing for families. I like what y'all did w/ teacher housing & feel that method should be expanded. Perhaps built into the development review process. Community Benefit Agreements can help with this issue

Truely affordable housing. <10% median income doesn't cut it
Public housing needs a complete overhaul. Better quality, not pushed out of sight & mind
6 months ago

Vacancy tax! Regulation of real estate speculation & investment
6 months ago

Sidewalks
6 months ago

Bike lanes
6 months ago

Bike Trails *cause lots of traffic problems
6 months ago

Interconnect smaller communities within the county & other counties (Mad Co, Haywood, etc.) via bike lanes, walking trails/greenways. Rails to trails comes to mind. More satellite parking areas (defined) w/ shuttles to large employers & or towns. Folks on lower incomes can't always [illegible] their vehicles to town but can get dropped @ satellite parking areas w/ simple shelters from weather. Shuttles could just operate 2 or 3 times morning & evening.
6 months ago

No
6 months ago

Less dense development.
6 months ago

Secure public-private funds to implement greenways along French Broad and Swannanoa Rivers, especially as any condition for upgrading or point-of-transfer of properties located adjacent to the Rivers.
6 months ago

increase density and types of housing (ex. for low- and middle-income) within incorporated areas so that transit can also be more efficient. Mixed-use development to increase walkability/biking/transit options
6 months ago

Consolidate housing to be more dense so that open spaces can remain.
6 months ago

central leicester
6 months ago

New Leicester Hwy frontage homes leased to Artists and Crafters
6 months ago

Need more enforcement of existing regulations and real action taken when there is a violation. (private landfill violation and creek pollution in area)
6 months ago

Walkable Arts and Crafts and Artisan food market
6 months ago

Silt and runoff from the developments happening near Dix Creek, needs to be addressed and prevented. Stormwater/erosion
6 months ago
Increase variety of grocery choices in Leicester, Sandy Mush (Big Sandy and Little Sandy) to decrease driving distances
6 months ago

More Affordable Housing
6 months ago

Affordable
6 months ago

Affordable housing for workers in restaurants, groceries, etc.
6 months ago

Time machine
6 months ago

Sidewalks
6 months ago

walking paths
6 months ago

Most county roads are shoulderless and narrow, making walking and bicycling unsafe
6 months ago

Please more protected bike lands, especially on roads with 35mph and up. Specifically old 70
6 months ago

- Changing the definition of affordable housing so it's actually affordable to low-income people.
- Taking median wages into account, instead of the average wage
- Increasing the safety and reliability of public transit so that everyone feels comfortable using it, it's not only used by those who don't have cars or who can't drive, and it doesn't take your entire day to get to and from work/grocery store
- More mixed land use, more walkability/bike-ability to smaller stores within neighborhoods, rather than having to leave the neighborhood every time you need groceries, which may help with traffic congestion too
- More connectivity between side walks and bike lanes
6 months ago

Address the growth in South Asheville with better roads, better planning for open spaces, medians on major thoroughfares, planting trees (because Rusty Pulliam keeps cutting them down). Zoning in the county would be ideal.
6 months ago

Sidewalks!
6 months ago

protect working lands, avoid development in areas at risk of fire and flood and chemical contamination
6 months ago

Before new developments are approved, require considerations for developing vacant properties rather than destroying trees and natural lands.
6 months ago

New housing developments should not be allowed to impact existing homes. Residents should have a right to vote for or against new neighborhoods that are an eyesore and/or add to traffic issues.
6 months ago

https://publicinput.com/report?id=13968
Develop a plan for agrivoltaics - using some combined with agriculture
6 months ago

I like the Buncombe County Land Use Plan! Good work!
6 months ago

Repairs on existing homes for the elderly
6 months ago

Affordable housing
6 months ago

Cater less to tourists and more toward buncombe county residents. Green energy - solar
6 months ago

Improve energy efficiency in homes - especially low income, through programs like energy sales network.
6 months ago

I think Buncombe County should re built
6 months ago

Increase density along transportation corridors
6 months ago

Townhomes sidewalk
6 months ago

More affordable housing for people who live and work here
6 months ago

Housing is very expensive. Relatives with low paying jobs can't afford housing, jobs are not paying enough to live here
6 months ago

Just more affordable housing. Love the community oriented development that the county is doing!
6 months ago

Object to destruction of natural areas in Swannanoa for so much affordable housing. This is distant from areas of work and amenities too.
6 months ago

Improve electric vehicle charging infrastructure - esp. in low income areas.
6 months ago

Sidewalks, paths for bikes, better crosswalks and slower traffic on Tunnel Rd/70. Road Diet Please!
6 months ago

more bus service county wide
6 months ago

sidewalks
6 months ago

sidewalks near all of the new housing developments in East area
6 months ago
Thoughtful design of roadways for expanding traffic, perks for electric or hybrid vehicles, more community transportation options, outreach programs for homelessness

Some, not a lot of commercial land development along Leicester Highway, past the community center. Might allow for more subdivisions and better access to food, medical, and other resources

agri voltarics on farmland (solar/wind)

zoning for proper protection of land not currently zoned

develop around farms and farming communities

protect steep slopes and stricter regulations

protect and increase farm lands

limit over development

keep rural areas rural

providing access to more urban areas

increase farmland incentive

make sure zoning is in line with what is coming with climate change

discourage clear cutting for development

enforce current zoning

severe consequences for breaking the rules

strategies/incentives allowing local people to find housing within their communities instead of having to move their families away from where they want to be

give tax breaks to landlords that provide affordable housing

private/public partnerships to address climate migration influx/ allow workers who make buncombe work be able to afford to live here
encourage mixed use/ mixed density developments along public transportation corridors
6 months ago

stricter standards for mobile home park and homes (heat/energy/structure repairs)
6 months ago

increase bike and sidewalk infrastructure and expanded public transportation network
6 months ago

more bike sharing renting programs
6 months ago

more electric vehicles and charging stations (including buses/taxis)
6 months ago

more mass transit
6 months ago

no vehicle areas in downtown asheville
6 months ago

Diversify transportation options......use as business opportunities
Wide variety of housing types
Map and connect key components of future green infrastructure network including urban/rural/ wild land forests
Wide variety of transportation options
6 months ago

zoning to prevent sprawling apartments like some that were just built on Leicester Highway. Outside the bus line. More sidewalks. Park and Ride, I will leave my car in the county if I can get on a bus on Leicester Highway!
6 months ago

Metro system, more sidewalks/greenways, tiny home developments
6 months ago

Change BOA process to put more responsibility with Commissioners
6 months ago

Buncombe BOA process is too long on wait times for hearings. Developer ran into contract issues because of time. Takes 4 months just to submit. Turn into a 8-12 month process! Over multi months of hearings.
6 months ago

Asheville needs to grow in such a way that it enhances and/or improves the beautiful natural areas that exist in WNC. It does not need to be a clone of other mid-size southern cities. in 2043 the local population needs to be proud of what Asheville has become and what it has protected.
6 months ago

The state's commitment and lack of planning has not provided street and highway access to the number of cars that new housing creates.
6 months ago

Better marketing of the bus system and its usability.
6 months ago

More bus lines.
6 months ago
Too much congestion where individual students are dropped off and picked up after school. It is
dangerous and schools need to have places which are off road for waiting cars. School buses are not a
viable option.
6 months ago

Maintain and improve existing trails/greenways.
6 months ago

Cluster development with shared parking. No more 5 acre mini farms or strip centers.
6 months ago

too many houses being built without adequate services for those who move in. Stop building houses if
you don't have wider streets and sidewalks.
6 months ago

We need small clusters of retail stores that residents can walk to. Think about the Hendersonville Road
near the Blue Ridge Parkways. 3-4 groceries, 6-8 small restaurants and takeout, 3 banks, 2-3 hardware
stores, 2-3 hair salons. All within walking distance and on bus route.
6 months ago

Put more requirements on project that DOT can't or won't do.
6 months ago

What is annual cost of new bus route?
6 months ago

Protect our mountain sides, rivers, streams, and promote less car use in the city and county!
6 months ago

affordable housing as major percentage, not minimal
6 months ago

Limit corporate housing tracks
6 months ago

construction should focus on previously developed areas, and be sustainable, as well as put the needs
of the community first. Shorter bus rides would be nice, more housing for in houses people
6 months ago

Cultivate a network of Greenaway’s, bike paths and neighborhood parks
6 months ago

Keeping the roads safe. Incorporating walkers and cycling into the transportation plan.
Need affordable housing, or we will become Detroit.
Use the land with respect for mother nature and the impacts of growth.
6 months ago

Make new greenway, bike path and walking trails a high priority, on particular consider connecting
more marginalized communities to other parts of the city with these trails
6 months ago
Stop development. Yes you can. It's done all the time. Called a moratorium. Deal with infrastructure to help alleviate the misery it's already caused. Actually create REAL affordable housing in the quantities needed to support the existing needs before creating more. Allow smaller homes and tiny homes for living (not renting out as vacation rentals please - somehow you seem to think people who live here don't want to live sustainably). Put in some sidewalks and more greenbelts, update your 30 year old water “safety” which is no longer safe, put in more neighborhood parks, gardens that poor people can eat from - local farms are great but only for hipsters, community centers - standing for an hour in line at Biscuit Head (and every other restaurant or coffee shop) is not “the new community”. Find a sustainable way to deal with homelessness because look around - it's only getting worse. Get heads out of the sand about climate change and the wave of people wanting to move here because its a climate “haven” and make decisions that will deal with influx without destroying the environment (facepalm).

6 months ago

change zoning districts to reflect actual densities. 1 unit/ac - R-1, 2 unit/ac - R-2, etc.

6 months ago

More public parks, greenways

6 months ago

mixed use commercial & residential

6 months ago

Incentivize conservation subdivisions

6 months ago

Commercial stays in city centers. Rural stays rural preserve farming/open space. Do not allow building just to provide housing - and if building allowed builders not taxpayers bear all costs of infrastructure and NO development in questionable environment areas

6 months ago

Gear open-use zoned space towards agriculture/rural preservation

6 months ago

Change BOA. Where in Comp Plan? Conditional Zoning

6 months ago

Coordinate with the City on Zoning and land use Policies w/in the former ETJ

6 months ago

Consider neighborhood stabilization policies

6 months ago

affordable/smaller lots for more options

6 months ago

More affordable housing, halfway houses, long-term shelters

6 months ago

First Right of Refusal for Non-Home Owner. Provides opportunity for affordable housing

6 months ago

Housing corporations buying & turning into Airbnb & price people out

6 months ago

Invest in affordable housing

6 months ago
Low-density housing in rural areas
6 months ago

Build for-rent single family homes & neighborhoods instead of large apartment complexes. Helps reduce traffic density/congestion, affordable for renters, will subsidize good jobs.
6 months ago

no fares for public bus transit, fares are small portion of operating budget, mobility equity important
6 months ago

Free Mall Ride in Downtown Asheville
6 months ago

Connectors to other/outside communities i.e. Black Mtn. or into Hendo (Bike Path, Bus line)
6 months ago

We must improve our transportation networks in order to improve other services.
6 months ago

Childcare/Transportation Hub linking to Downtown (AVL Mall location)
6 months ago

Mass transportation never works except in direct city centers
6 months ago

carpool programs for workers
6 months ago

Reduce or eliminate minimum parking requirements. Let the market dictate parking requirements.
6 months ago

Can county put higher standards on roads - over NCDOT standards?
6 months ago

Expand greenways
6 months ago

Create safe routes to schools, including options for biking and walking
6 months ago

Increase opportunities for walking, biking, and transit. Enhance Safety.
6 months ago

change development approval process to limit role of Board of Adjustment and allow Commissioners more flexibility in review and approval process
6 months ago

Make sure road are sufficient to handle volume of traffic in areas of residential growth.
7 months ago

Florida places tourist housing on the beaches. Buncombe needs to encourage tourists along the French Broad, within the parks, in agricultural areas, on mountainsides. There are plenty of private trips/tours/adventures to help promote
7 months ago
Involve ecological practices into residential areas to create corridors for wildlife and people. (Greenways, riparian restoration, creating zoned agricultural land)

Unchecked development and realty markets only benefit the wealthy, who move into the area and push out locals, farmers, and essential members of the community. Equity means protecting our lands from unchecked development.

Multi-modal infrastructure.

More multi modal transportation pathways - bike paths/ greenways/ trails

Shuttles to move people around.

Finish I-26 connector. It will allow industry to move in and reduce traffic in and around town and county.

Collaboration with NCDOT

Need a comprehensive downtown Asheville plan to reduce car traffic and increase opportunities for people to safely maneuver around Asheville.

Public transit options would be great! Need options for moving between outlying areas and Asheville, also to the airport.

Better exit/entrance to highways.

Would like to have more bicycle and walking greenways (separate from roadways with cars)

Need more public transportation, especially in Asheville, and that transportation should be electric / solar.

Need more access to downtown transportation options. E.g. trolleys / electric buses for downtown and south slope area.

Need additional parking in easy access to those trolleys / buses / etc.

Need better transportation for areas out in the county - no bus line - no taxi.

Merrimon road diet.
Bike lanes connecting all points of the county.
7 months ago

Expanded bus services.
7 months ago

Plan now for a loop from Swannanoa to Candler around North Buncombe.
7 months ago

Bypass downtown Weaverville New Stock to Dual Springs or Flat Creek.
7 months ago

Make Merrimon Ave three lanes from 1-240/Broadway to Beaver Lake.
7 months ago

Developments with more green space included; required.
7 months ago

Conservation easements.
7 months ago

Protect agricultural lands
7 months ago

Stricter penalties for polluters (trash, materials, chemicals, large items)
7 months ago

The taxpayers should not subsidize commercial development.
7 months ago

Reducing green spaces as housing developments become the predominant form of growth.
7 months ago

The best use of the land is to leave it as it is. We dont live here because we want a lot of development.
7 months ago

How to balance the need to preserve open spaces and natural areas with the need for more housing, especially affordable?
7 months ago

Farmland, forest land, public parks are important.
7 months ago

Increase density requirements for urban areas.
7 months ago

Housing should be in higher density along transportation corridors- where development naturally occurs already.
7 months ago

Zoning changes to decrease density.
7 months ago

Concerned about lower income workers being priced out of Buncombe County. Rent controls?
7 months ago
We need more low cost / low income housing.
7 months ago

Growth in multi-family housing development changing the small town feel of Weaverville.
7 months ago

Incentivize long term rentals and partnership with the Housing Authority and Thrive program.
7 months ago

Offer additional incentives to investors to build or invest in lower income single family homes, townhomes, condos, etc.
7 months ago

Restrict short term rentals.
7 months ago

Invest ONLY in NOAH project and provide incentives for developers to construct affordable housing especially for 30% AMI or below units. Also provide homeownership programs for local residents
7 months ago

more public transportation
7 months ago

put limitations on the amount of rental property
7 months ago

more buses that run more regularly to further areas
7 months ago

Repair and maintain existing areas before urban sprawl
7 months ago

Protect more land for land for mobile home parks, empty land views and extend hours of public transportation and add more lines.
7 months ago

The character of 1191 /outlet area/sardis rd/brevard rd is being completely lost-its all commercial and corporate.
7 months ago

191 is dangerous for bikes/walkers near outlets all the way up to hwy 280; need sidewalks or traffic calming
7 months ago

transportation is key to the economy and it serves as the model for creative infrastructure to support our community
7 months ago

do your homework before building check out current traffic issues before adding to it
7 months ago

more resources to encourage housing developments for aging in place
7 months ago

look at areas that are already heavily populated with apartment complexes 4200 between ingles on long shoals and sand hill. thats too many housing units
7 months ago
stop building up so much that you destroy existing communities. traffic issues. its all about new build and no concern for older communities
7 months ago

mixed use development that is practical and walkable, also close to bus routes/bike lanes
7 months ago

muli family complexes seem to be popping up all over but no additional transportation options to support growth
7 months ago

limit areas for multifamily or condense
7 months ago

at some point we are full. the infrastructure cannot handle more traffic. there is overdevelopment in the bent creek area.
7 months ago

empleadores de grandes empresas tener su propio transporte para sus empleado
7 months ago

mas transporte publico
7 months ago

ayuda a la comunidad con mejor medio de transporte. con mas lineas
7 months ago

expanding hours and routes of public transit
7 months ago

expandir las horas del transporte público expandir las rutas
7 months ago

Mas recorridos, mas rutas.
7 months ago

mas transporte pública y expandir horas del transporte público
7 months ago

Me gustaría que hubiese una expansión en el medio de transporte. (Rutas) que permitiera poder transportarnos a todas las áreas del condado.
7 months ago

viajar en autobús
7 months ago

proteger y conservar casas móviles como vivienda económica
7 months ago

vivienda accesible
7 months ago

protecting existing affordable housing in our neighborhood mobile home parks
7 months ago

Queremos viviendas para todas las familias.
7 months ago
conservar parqueaderos de casas móviles.
7 months ago

Support (financial+) for resident-owned mobile home parks/coops - affordable housing
7 months ago

vivienda propia y accesible para todos los residentes del condado
7 months ago

vivienda accesible para todxs
7 months ago

vivienda economica
7 months ago

informacion y accesibilidad
7 months ago

Mas ayuda para poder tener nuestra propia vivienda y facilidades de pagos
7 months ago

Mejores tipos de vivienda y congelamiento de pago de vivienda.
7 months ago

viviendas económicas y poder comprarlas
7 months ago

no tirar tantos arboles
7 months ago

hacer parques
7 months ago

que se usa para vivienda económica para la gente de clase trabajadora ("MHP")
7 months ago

stopping development from rich investors
7 months ago

motivar los arboles porque nos ayuda para el medioambiente
7 months ago

hacer parques para mas niños no tirar mas arboles
7 months ago

necesito mas inf.
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago

not building in flood areas
7 months ago

n
7 months ago
Instead of allowing housing development that designates a small percentage to "affordable" housing, why don't we actually prioritize affordable housing.

Give tax breaks and incentives to multi-family housing (like houses where multiple single individuals/families live together) - make it profitable for landlords to provide housing like this.

Develop more public housing.

A low barrier shelter that provides ample enough beds for our community - homelessness will only increase in our community in coming years (even with PSH projects coming)

Stop development on Sweeten Creek and Pinner's Cove. The traffic is bad enough already, not to mention the ecosystems. The animals have already been pushed so far out of their homes... bears already spend enough time "foraging" in neighborhood trash cans, something has got to give. We are failing our environment and all the beings in it. Pinner's Cove is not built for more traffic than already exists on it, and the neighborhoods potentially effected aren't either. It would change the way of life there entirely. Walking neighbors who know most cars in passing to cars who don't know and don't care speeding through, wrecking on the tight curves, creating more sound pollution, more pollution and taking away the joy of living where we live. Enough is enough.

Affordable housing for locals! Better and safer public transit.

No tirar tantos Árboles

Que se use para vivienda económica para la gente de clase trabajadora "MHP"

Stopping development from rich investors

No tirar los árboles porque nos ayuda para el medioambiente

Hacer parques para más niños. No tirar más árboles

Quisiera que se protejan más los terrenos para uso público. parques, caminatas, y espacios sin edificios

Proteger y conservar casas móviles como vivienda económica

vivienda accesible

protecting existing affordable housing in our neighborhood mobile home parks

Queremos viviendas para todas las familias
conservar parqueaderos de casas móviles
7 meses ago

Support (financial) for resident-owned mobile home parks/coops - affordable housing
7 months ago

Vivienda propia y accesible para todos los residentes del condado
7 months ago

Vivienda accesible para todxs.
7 months ago

Vivienda economica
7 months ago

Información y accesibilidad
7 months ago

Más ayuda para poder tener nuestra propia vivienda y facilidades de pagos
7 months ago

Mejores tipos de vivienda y congelamiento de pago de vivienda
7 months ago

viviendas económicas y poder comprarlas
7 months ago

Que se protejan los parques de casas móviles
7 months ago

Que las persona que viven en parqueaderos tengan la posibilidad de ser dueños de su vivienda
7 months ago

Quiero que se protejan los parques de casas móviles
7 months ago

Empleadores de grandes empresas tener su propio transporte para sus empleados
7 months ago

Mas transporte publico
7 months ago

Ayuda a la comunidad con mejor medio de transporte con más lineas
7 months ago

expanding hours and routes of Transportation - public transit
7 months ago

Expandir las horas del transporte público - expandir las rutas
7 months ago

Más recorridos, más rutas.
7 months ago

Más transporte público y expandir horas del transporte público
7 months ago
Me gustaría que hubiese una expansión en el medio de transporte. (Rutas) que permitiera poder transportarnos a todas las áreas del condado.
7 months ago

viajar en autobús
7 months ago

Quiero que se extiendan los horarios de las rutas del autobús y que abran más rutas hacia las áreas rurales.
7 months ago

-Let's make building custom homes more affordable (invest in architects that have designed these before [it's been done well]). Let's build sustainable homes with homeowners (including multigenerational families) in mind in order to build pride in the communities. -Let's help plan community parks and gathering spaces to ensure healthy communities, let's not allow developers to steal all of our public beauty and recreation for a pretentious, walled-off community (see Enka Lake, a.k.a. "Biltmore Lake").
- Parks, trails, greenways for bikes and walkers would be nice. (Do not compete with hiking or mountain bike trails)
- Roadside litter is an abomination. All drains (and roadside litter) leads to the ocean, by way of our rivers and streams.
- We have poor planning for roads, ($2M bridges to nowhere), why can't we look at other cities our size (or larger) and see which ones work because cramming more car lanes is almost never a positive for business or safety or traffic.
- Regulate headlights. There is no need for headlights to be shining 200 yards ahead at an angle that isn't the road. The premise is sold on that basis of "safety" but headlights shining into the eyes of oncoming traffic or into the rear view mirror is not safe - for any of us. Also, perhaps a P.S.A. to "Turn on your headlights when it's dark, or in weather (rain, fog, snow)" "Use your directional indicators" "...for safety AND consideration".
- Limit monster trucks. Monster truck tires spit rocks, gravel and roadside debris up into the windshield of others in traffic. Monster truck drivers notoriously cannot stay in lanes on curves on small rural roads, limit their use unless they can prove they are actual work trucks (such as actual construction use or agricultural use). Make them pay an extra tax for use on our roads to cover their carbon footprint and excessive wear.
- Limit diesel burning exhaust pipes that spew noxious fumes for show, monster truck or otherwise.
7 months ago

Anything to reduce car travel - greenways, sidewalks, expanded bus service
More solar on government buildings
7 months ago

Much more parking downtown
7 months ago

Let's build out our EV charging station infrastructure. Require condo/apartment complexes to build in EV charging stations.
7 months ago

Make input easy and extensive for Diverse land use housing, and transportation.
7 months ago

cap on Air BNBs outside of asheville! I live in black mtn and its nearly impossible to find affordable housing.
7 months ago

PROTEGER LOS PARQUEADEROS Y MEJORAR EL SISTEMA DE TRASPORTE
7 months ago
Make public housing more attractive with playgrounds and parks, more hiking trails with parking, more transportation opportunities for outer county residents.

7 months ago

Stop allowing people to do short term rentals in the county to return houses to the community members. Use money that is currently earmarked for tourism for Greenway, sidewalks, parks, and recreational facilities- this will help the community and serve tourists.

7 months ago

Encourage denser development in urban areas and prevent sprawl. Put in place ordinances to limit development in rural areas such as Leicester. Create a rural buffer in the rural regions of the county similar to the rural buffer zoning surrounding Chapel Hill and Carrboro in Orange County. Make developments more transit-oriented and high-density mixed-use.

7 months ago

Keep big trucks out of downtown Black Mountain

7 months ago

Need bus service for handicapped

7 months ago

Restore empty buildings.

7 months ago

Investing in opportunities for people to live and work in Buncombe County.

7 months ago

Expand transportation as county grows provide transportation to outlying locations.

7 months ago

Affordable housing public transportation improved land should be controlled to improve area.

7 months ago

Our newspaper / tv reports consistently spotlight the need for more affordable housing close to employment centers.

7 months ago

Denser housing should be near bus routes. Are we big enough for light rail?

7 months ago

More smaller neighborhood parks with play areas for children and gardens.

7 months ago

Tiny homes for the homeless.

7 months ago

As more seniors come into not able to drive a service to take them to grocery, doctors, to vote, etc.

7 months ago

Stop building until infrastructure is fixed/improved so that the traffic backups are lessened. Desperately need more downtown parking. Currently, we avoid downtown due to not enough parking and would like to support the merchants

7 months ago

Build the swannanoa River greenway!

7 months ago
Strict zoning rules to prevent over-development.
7 months ago

Establish protections for local property owners such as 3% maximum increase on assessment increase in property value and homestead exemption of 25-50k for resident property owners (2nd home and vacation/investment owners do not receive exemption).
7 months ago

Stop approving new hotels!! Convert public buses to electric. Improve walking and biking options. Bike share. Repurpose existing buildings.
7 months ago

affordability and access
7 months ago

Allow higher structures with smaller footprints
7 months ago

Short term rentals in established neighborhoods cause burglaries.
7 months ago

Awareness of land usage and where the usage is being done on land and how much, affordable housing for low income families, and more affordable safer transportation
7 months ago

Allow use of THOW's for 365 days
7 months ago

Do traffic studies and consider how you affect the lives of people when you cause congestion in areas.
7 months ago

Nose
7 months ago

affordable housing, efficient use of land...high density, in fill, rehab and revitalized areas previously developed, public transit, bike lanes
7 months ago

si viviendas con menos trabo para conseguirlo
7 months ago

Luchar contra la gentrificacion
7 months ago

Quit allowing hotel growth to support tourists and take up land use, and let all residents that want to offer short term rental in the form of Air BnB or other rentals do so, eliminating the amount of more builds and letting the community benefit economically from the tourists. Also, make local transportation more available and more consistent, helping the growth in traffic problems.
7 months ago

Conduit eight National think tank ad other towns first what guidance can they give for first steps
7 months ago

Restrictions on vacation rentals in the county. No AirBNB/VRBO/etc. Rent increase caps. More public transportation.
7 months ago
provide assistance for long term renters in formerly redlined areas who are wanting to purchase homes in formerly redlined areas, similarly, provide rehab funds for homeowners in these areas so they can preserve their homes, provide financial counseling courses in high school addressing credit building and homeownership and auto financing, free tuition in community colleges, free bus service

7 months ago

Have another 1 year moratorium on hotels.

7 months ago

Housing is completely unattainable for a majority of people. My oldest will be 18 in 2 months and there is no possible way he can move out. Every teen dreams of leaving home, but its way too hard

7 months ago

vivienda accesible

7 months ago

Make the bus route more user friendly. Is there an app? Social media campaign to increase ridership. Better routes to rural areas.

7 months ago

Create incentives (and update zoning) for development of multi-family housing (duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, small apartment buildings) in established neighborhoods, whether building on available space or remodeling existing large homes.

7 months ago

increase public transportation options, focus housing incentive on less productive non prime lands and in closer access to water/sewer

7 months ago

Promoting smaller affordable homes and apartments with much more public green space. (pocket community parks), green-ways, and smaller buses with connecting routes

7 months ago

Investment in affordable housing; regulation to protect waterways, steep slopes and open undeveloped viewsheds

7 months ago

Más parkeaderos

7 months ago

Connect the city with greenways / bike paths!

7 months ago

NO development on steep slopes.
No development on mountain sides to protect viewsheds.
Preservation of agricultural lands and support family farms.
Concentrating development to prevent urban sprawl.
More greenways out into the county.
Free public transportation.
Actual Affordable Housing! The way y'all calculate "affordable housing" is was off. It is not really affordable for lots of families here.
Extra taxes on vacation homes and empty homes. If not banning them entirely.
Limits on speculative and investment real-estate that is accelerating ballooning house prices.
Programs to keep people in their homes and prevent eviction.
Stop advertising!
Moratorium of zoning changes and housing and subdivision development in existing low-density and rural areas.
7 months ago

Please give us more handicapped parking spaces and don’t make seniors with handicapped placards pay the parking meters. The streets are not allowing enough handicapped parking spaces. It’s a big hardship. Take care of your senior citizens. Please stop destroying the beauty and animal habitat and environment for the sake of development and greed. Put covers over the bus stops to protect people from rain and wind, heat from direct sun. Unprotected bus stops are inhumane. You only seem to cater to tourists, not the tax paying citizens of Buncombe County.
7 months ago

Please stop destroying forests, animal habitat, environment, roads, with more building. Fix the roads and allow more room for increased traffic. There is no more room for building. Asheville is being destroyed. It wasn’t designed to handle so many cars, traffic. Crime is increasing.
7 months ago

Land Use, Housing, Transportation: Investing in affordable housing, cap housing and rent increases, draft land reservations for future planning to mitigate future traffic congestion and road expansions, improve safe and accessible transportation such as bike lanes and bus access.
7 months ago

As the county and city plans for housing it must consider the deplorable condition of many of the cities public housing communities. We need to modernize what public housing looks like by creating mixed communities that do not isolate low income families away from the cities amenities.
7 months ago

Implementing a mobility accountability system for those in need of government assistance. I.E. Section-8 prices for 3 years, the 4th year, paying 50% of going rate, 5th Year 75% of going rate, 6+ paying full price. I’m wondering if it’s not a “supply” problem, but more of a “mobility” problem. While in years 1-5, supports and systems in place for those to get assistance landing back on their feet.
7 months ago

Increase public transportation routes and frequency. Connect these to safe greenways in areas not reached by public transit. Increase density in areas already developed, focusing on essential services and housing.
7 months ago

Diverting tourism money into local housing efforts. Help the non profits do more for the community and expand the amount of people they can help.
7 months ago

Density! Infill development! ADUs! Bike lanes that are protected from traffic and functionally go all over town.
7 months ago

Promote some local commercial development for rural fast developing areas to cut back on driving
7 months ago

More resources close to rural developing housing areas
7 months ago

We need housing for working-class individuals, the county should provide benefits to developers who can create long-term multi-use and multi-type housing.
7 months ago
*Have bus access every half hour instead of once an hour.
*Protect existing neighborhoods from dense developments.
*Stop calling housing developments “affordable housing” when only a small number of units in each development are actually affordable!!! This hurts everyone, helps no one & lets everyone know that government does NOT actually care about their own residents and is willing to lie to line their own pockets. Stop screwing your constituents to make a profit. We are not stupid and see what you are doing!
7 months ago

Protection for rural, farm, and environmentally sensitive areas.
7 months ago

please build affordable housing.
7 months ago

Let NCDOT finish promised interstates
7 months ago

The city has got to find housing for the unhoused citizens. Many of the homeless are working and have been priced out of the housing market. It is unacceptable for people to be sleeping in tents on the sidewalk!
7 months ago

no tiene idea
7 months ago

Affordable housing
7 months ago

More effective public transportation and lower cost housing
7 months ago

Electric efficient bus routes.
7 months ago

Develop and enforce standards for environmental assessment for all new and major repair projects
7 months ago

Again: zoning. Electric buses serving rural areas. Support for insulating and other repairs for deteriorating housing.
7 months ago

In build. Preserve open space. Diversify transportation models
7 months ago

1) Incentivizing/encouraging higher-density housing, ideally near areas with transit connections 2) getting rid of single-family zoning 3) increasing the frequency and coverage of bus service (as opposed to making a limited, infrequent service fare-free)
7 months ago

Invest in affordable housing for renters and buyers.
7 months ago

Sidewalks or multi use trail along US70 and US25, especially urban areas. Areas near I40’s exits 44, 55, and 59, are ridiculously dangerous for pedestrians. The area around the VA should be safer for pedestrians.
7 months ago
Multiuse trail (Hellbender) build out.
7 months ago

Intercity bus routes.
7 months ago

7 months ago

Affordable housing (please!!!), train travel availability, more walking paths and sidewalks across the county.
7 months ago

Long term planning for responsible use of land for housing that give safe, environmentally friendly transportation alternatives. Tax breaks if you use public transportation? Tax breaks if apartments or housing developments are built with transportation alternatives? Solar energy? Charging stations?
7 months ago

Infill development and protections of working lands and scenic lands are vital to why people love this area
7 months ago

more bike lanes and sidewalks so people don't always have to drive, more greenways as a way for people to actually go from one part of the city/county with out driving.
7 months ago

Discourage "low-income" housing in one general area of county as is happening now. Build better, more attractive units that don't impact parks and recreational areas nearby.
7 months ago

Focus on infill development and updates to the UDO that make infill more useful (mixed use, multi family, mix of commercial & residential)
7 months ago

increase density of housing adjacent to commercial development and allow multi-family infill in single family areas
7 months ago

Denser development with access to alternative transportation.
7 months ago

See suggestions above under sustainability.
7 months ago

Taking land out of its natural state should be a rare and cautious endeavor. This county is not to be destined to be paved over, we have plenty of cities. Population in developed countries is DROPPING, so we do not need to raise the population here. We should plan to make more efficient and sustainable what we have. Arrange the current pieces on the table for sustainability, not add more pieces. After we have everything where it should be, We need to improve the roads, buses, etc to service it. If buling new developments the roads go in FIRST, but I prefer no new development unless it replaces something we are returning to nature
7 months ago
Stop developing ridge lines and environmentally sensitive areas. Stop filling up every slope with houses and causing water erosion of our already compromised county roadways. Concentrate new housing as affordable and in the more urban areas of the county with actual infrastructure vs just desperately stuffing homes in wherever without regard for whether or not it holds true long term benefit. Stop letting developers loophole their way into destroying our assets just to make a quick buck. More bike and pedestrian-friendly designs of our communities. More support for bus lines and public transportation.

7 months ago

Concentrate new development in areas where there is actual transportation infrastructure (adequate roads, bus lines, etc) vs spreading it all out every which way in the chaotic way it is now. We are destroying our county due to a lack of a long-term view. Put the infrastructure in BEFORE you burden the people. We can grow slower; it's actually the right way to grow.

7 months ago

Affordable housing for middle income

7 months ago

Focus on affordable housing.

7 months ago

I'd like to see special zoning and larger setbacks along the blue ridge parkway and forests and other public lands to protect it from encroaching development. I'd like to see larger stream buffers, less residential density and larger minimum lot sizes in areas of higher than 25% slope. I'd like to see incentives for creative re-use of in-town buildings for live/work units. I'd like to see better bike lanes on roads across the county. Biking here is frightening. I'd like to see public shuttles for residents and a county-wide gas tax for transportation projects.

8 months ago

Land use of all kinds needs to be done with all of the current and possible future environmental impact in mind. The continual creation of cement islands with no greenery; the HOA rules of housing developments that foster the use of non native plants and commercial fertilizers and pesticides to maintain an artificially “green” look of grasses, plants and shrubs but are destroying the water quality and threaten native plant and insect species. This habitat destruction affects the quality of human life as well as the plants and animals of this area. People that have even a small connection to nature through plants, walking paths and places to sit in the outdoors have a healthier mental and emotional life that affects their physical health and life. Including with every development from housing to transportation, creating green space, planting appropriate trees and plants will benefit all.

8 months ago

More robust bus system with greater frequency of services and wider hours of operation.

8 months ago

I would enact an immediate MORATORIUM on new INGLES GROCERY STORES. We do not need more irresponsible land use practices that encourage auto-driven sprawl and provide low wage jobs.

Develop a more robust, well served network of electric buses that run more frequently and later at night. Charge a fee that discourages people from abusing the system, and offer discounts for locals.

8 months ago

Trains

8 months ago

create more affordable housing, and more affordable mass transit

8 months ago

More county funds for affordable housing development including a potential housing bond. Just do it better than the City of Asheville.

8 months ago
enforce zoning and consider the impact changes have on residents
8 months ago

support City of Asheville efforts whenever you can
8 months ago

continue conservation efforts
8 months ago

affordable housing and transportation
8 months ago

Create a list of existing corridors that can support new infill development, increased bus transit options & walk|bike-ability to reduce single-occupant automobile trips and make from land-use & zoning plans & regulations that focus growth on these corridors.
8 months ago

Improve and enforce zoning. There are far too many exceptions (exemptions?) requested that require citizen organization and protest to avert. County Commissioners and staff should stop them before this stage. Consider use of tax incentives to keep owners in homes - i.e. "Homestead Exemptions" of $25K or $50K on appraised values. Maybe more a City of Asheville problem, but we seem to have too many homes turning into short-term rentals ...
8 months ago

Growth/development of Asheville Regional Airport should be prioritized since such a large portion of economic value comes from tourism
8 months ago

Provide tax incentives for more affordable housing of all kinds, in all locations. Develop efficient public transportation that won't be a drain on tax payers in the future. Protect natural beauty and resources by limiting development of expensive estates which can only be enjoyed by the rich.
8 months ago

Invest in greenways, parks, green space
8 months ago

More money in county budget for affordable housing
8 months ago

Create affordable housing
8 months ago

Let the land be used for the native plants and wildlife.
8 months ago

Improve public transportation system and connect the greenways throughout buncombe. Allow for Housing opportunities for lower middle class individuals that don't qualify for affordable housing.
8 months ago

Give families a sense of ownership with proper land spacing that is affordable. Create bike paths and sidewalks in communities
8 months ago

See above.start beautifying the city, improve/better city planning, increase police force, Stop funding the homeless,
8 months ago
Parks in rundown abandoned lots

8 months ago

Do not limit government support to only those in need. We need to support taxpayers, as well. Compile statistics related to the use and cost of public transportation. Examine efficiency. Honestly examine current affordable housing initiatives. Does demanding that developers offer some number of "affordable" units cause rents on the other units to be higher than might otherwise be the case. What truly DRIVES housing costs higher? Zoning committees and boards of adjustment member selection processes need to be reviewed to ensure that decisions about one area of the county are not being made by residents or business interests in another area of the county.

8 months ago

Invest in affordable housing development

8 months ago

Require or highly incentivize inclusionary zoning in all new developments and build accessible communities across all income levels. Deter the purchasing of residential neighborhood homes as rental or vacation properties.

8 months ago

Support affordable housing and home repair initiatives.

8 months ago

government SHOULD NOT BE IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING

8 months ago

Work with the city to add a "synthetic" ETJ around the city so development in that area has to meet city standards.

8 months ago

Innovate transportation. Look for more flexible, decentralized solutions to mobility.

8 months ago

Housing and transportation must go hand-in-hand. To develop affordable housing where there is no public transportation does not make sense. We need affordable housing developed with transportation hubs. People have to be able to get to where they are going SAFELY - we need pedestrian and bike trails/paths that do just that.

8 months ago

Affordable housing

8 months ago

Affordable Tiny Home Communities
Ubers with wheelchair access

8 months ago

Communities of low-moderate housing need better access to AND shopping (food and necessities) within walking distance.

8 months ago

Preserve existing affordable housing (make properties aging out of LIHTC affordability periods affordable in perpetuity), create more affordable housing closer to areas where people work and play
Establish/strengthen meaningful county-wide zoning and land use planning. Conservation easements for farmland and rural spaces. No steep slope development. Explore public transit alternatives to large buses in concert with the City of Asheville. Would a publicly-funded Uber type service be viable?

Explore existing housing stock in need of restoration and repair. Work with private builders to renovate.

Help neighborhoods protect remaining green space in urban areas, creating pocket parks with community gardens/trails/playgrounds so that denser urban spaces remain attractive options for families, shortening commute times and traffic.

The timing of Land use changes has to be directly linked to the availability of infrastructure. This almost never happens and then the existing local residents bare the brunt of the impacts on traffic, schools, and other critical local services.

Build and remodel in town - stop raping the land to build ugly apartment complexes. At what point do we say - full - no more. The highways can't sustain it and the communities are getting tired of the gridlock - do you even care???

Protection and preservation of our wild spaces which brings so many to the area. Avoid urban growth cutting into rural areas who provide food for the county. Prohibit short term rentals and promote affordable housing- cap rental prices per square foot.

more affordable housing, for workers, for families, for families with pets, for young people. BUSES Are a joke even with years of work of Just Economics' work and your 'plans' DISASTER. MORE bus stops, punctual, late night, safe, affordable routes!!!!

Are there going to be linked committees from the various communities (ex. Candler, Fletcher, Leicester, Swannanoa…) to customize to each area? Transportation….more workaround? Sardis Road needs help. And talk about smart development potential. Another link from Leicester to I-26? The Blue Ridge Parkway in Arden area has become a beltway….can we fix that somehow to have an alternative?

ONE METHOD TO START CREATING MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS IS TO CREATE REGULATIONS THAT REQUIRE LARGER DEVELOPERS TO GIVE BACK AS THEY ARE PROFITING MILLIONS. REQUIRE ANY DEVELOPER FOR EVERY 20 HOMES/CONDOS/APARTMENTS CONSTRUCTED THEY MUST BUILD AND SELL ONE HOME OF MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS FOR $125000 (OR HALF OF THE AVERAGE HOME PRICE AT THAT TIME) REGARDLESS OF COST OR LOSS TO THE BUILDER (NOT REQUIRED TO BE IN THE SAME COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPER CAN CHOOSE LAND/LOCATION AND THIS WILL NOT EFFECT THE PERCEIVED PROPERTY VALUES AND NEIGHBORHOOD STANDARDS OF THE HIGHER PRICED SUBDIVISION). THE DISCOUNTED HOME PROPOSAL AND PLANS CAN BE MADE A PART OF THE PLANNING APPROVAL PROCESS FOR ALL LARGER DEVELOPMENTS/APARTMENT COMPLEXES. THIS HOME SHOULD ONLY BE ALLOWED AS A PRIMARY RESIDENCE AND A CAP PLACED ON THE RESALE PRICE OF THE HOME AND NEVER ALLOWED TO BE USED AS AN INCOME PRODUCING PROPERTY. THIS WILL NOT DETER REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AND WILL BENEFIT THE DEVELOPER WITH A TAX INCENTIVE AND THE COMMUNITY. BUILDING A FEW LOW INCOME COMMUNITIES WHERE FAMILIES DO NOT FEEL SAFE AND CRIME SOARS IS NOT THE ANSWER TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING. A LARGE NUMBER OF SCATTERED OR SMALL SUBDIVISIONS OF HOMES OF ALL TYPES, MOBILE, MODULAR, SITE BUILT, CONDOS, ETC. IS THE ONLY WAY TO PROVIDE DESIRABLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING. THERE MUST BE HOMES FOR ALL INCOME LEVELS MADE AVAILABLE TO OUR COMMUNITY AND PREVENTION PUT IN PLACE TO KEEP INVESTORS FROM PURCHASING THEM AND CHARGING EXORBITANT RENTS.
Solid county-wide zoning to protect productive and scenic spaces appropriately, to encourage development where infrastructure can be satisfactorily provided, and to make it economically feasible for the private sector to create attractive, livable, housing units.

Sound zoning for the county to preserve productive and scenic lands needing protection, to encourage development where infrastructure can satisfactorily be provided, and to make it feasible for the private sector to develop attractive, livable, affordable housing options.

8 months ago

We must implement zoning and architectural review in a county wide effort! Greenspace requirements for high density or new subdivision development/incentives for high density development and infill. Zoning is so critical! We must have a plan for the county in terms of land use and appropriate housing density for given road and utility networks, and we must be able to plan ahead for parks, greenways, sidewalks, etc. It will allow us to be proactive and progressive, which is critical. Conservation subdivisions.

8 months ago

Lots of research on what other cities have done here. Re-zoning slowly in a cadence that doesn't overheat or undervalue our real estate market. Transportation could be a winning endeavor with the right partner network. Buy up as much land as you can, but be thoughtful about city density and distance from work.

8 months ago

Affordable housing could be built on the outskirts of town, but reliable/regular transportation needs to be available. This should not only be apartments but townhomes and single family homes. With landscaping and community spaces, these subdivisions could be very attractive. However, the residents may never have lived in "nice" housing before and may need to be taught how to take care of their homes. Hopefully, if they own the property they will gain a pride of ownership.

8 months ago

Apply reasonable standards to help facilitate positive and reasonable developments, and growth. Do NOT attempt to limit private homeowner's rights.

8 months ago

Coordinate water, sewer, land use amongst all jurisdictions & MSD / H2O providers to concentrate growth in ways that enable affordable housing and robust transit options.

8 months ago

Add sidewalks to neighborhoods; add bike lanes throughout; add more reliable public transportation options.

8 months ago

See Boulder, CO. Every new development needs to include a percentage of units that will remain "affordable" for the future. In order to own one, you must go through a program. The value of the home is capped at a certain percentage increase every year. More trails, bike lanes, etc... to make commuting via bike easier and safer. Again, see CO.

8 months ago

The principles of Social Determinants of Health provide a good basic framework for policies that promote healthy, safe, and vibrant communities.

8 months ago

Roads need to be built and developments need to be better planned infrastructure layout.

8 months ago

Reduce Carbon pollution. Require new and renovated commercial buildings to be LEED certified. Require new housing developers to build LEED certified housing.

8 months ago
Create more affordable housing for the hospitality and essential workers, musicians and artists, and the people that help run the community that all the new transplants, retirees, and tourists depend on to serve their food and run their hotels. Hotels won't be able to run without these workers who can not afford to live here on entry-level wages and are still essential in running a business. Limit the amount of 2nd homes being bought and used for Air BnB that are changing the make-up of neighborhoods

8 months ago

Restore our historic buildings and open lots for affordable housing. Protect our viewsheds and make transportation accessible 7 days a week!

8 months ago

See above

8 months ago

Allow ADUs to be built as infill and rented short term to bolster the market and provide long-term rental stock over time. If housing cost is high it is a result of market activity, so to reduce the costs, find ways to increase the supply.

8 months ago

Affordable housing needs to be addressed rather than just discussed. It seems nothing is being done to create enough affordable housing.

8 months ago

Lower taxes on current home owners and perhaps charge at a higher rate to those moving in. Those in areas where gentrification is taking place, need to help aging home owners with upkeep to keep them in their homes. Roads need attention to eliminate pot holes.

8 months ago

Choose density over dispersal for future development

8 months ago

What ever the market can sustain

8 months ago

No. More. Hotels. Put more money into the bus system. Don't charge poor people for it

8 months ago

Put priority on people who are working and help them before spending so much money on people that cannot or will not be helped.

8 months ago

Limit growth to infill to the extent possible, limit short term rentals, improve greenways

8 months ago

Affordable housing on major corridors

8 months ago

Apartments and hotels are not sustainable, this only adds to the transportation issues the county already cannot handle

8 months ago

No restrictions on the number of AirBnB's. I know there are those that hate them but it's income for many and for those that have planned ahead for retirement income. Support landlords as well as renters. I know of 5 previous rentals that went AirBnB because renters destroyed their properties, in addition to not paying rent for Covid - but the mortgage still had to be paid. Some commons sense here would be nice too.

8 months ago
Convert old buildings into apartments and condos. We only have so much land - quit allowing contractors to cut down every tree in sight to build new complexes. Use some common sense. And when they do - they need to use better sidings - the bricks they use look like they came from Michael's craft shop.

8 months ago

Do your homework before allowing additional apartment complexes in the county. You allow excessive overbuild and no one benefits. It should not take an hour to travel from Fletcher to Sand Hill.

8 months ago

You are taxing citizens out of their family homes, this has to be evaluated

8 months ago

Housing here sucks. It's all completely unaffordable and your pushing out natives and replacing them with tourists or ripping them off. Either way this isn't sustainable and if you keep putting up houses that cost an arm and a leg you will create an environment like Asheville has never seen. It's already happening. It's a shame.

8 months ago

Arrange with private landowners to create a network of greenways for safe walking and biking throughout the county, especially in the rural areas. Provide incentives if needed. Create community gardens and plant food crops on vacant or public lands.

8 months ago

None

8 months ago

extend ART service further from Asheville

8 months ago

More specific zoning

8 months ago

Protect green space and uncontrolled expansion

8 months ago

Consider these three together, in context.

8 months ago

More restrictions on house sizes, development on steep slopes, and reduce the number of vacation homes.

8 months ago

We MUST talk about the housing crisis for locals that ALREADY LIVE HERE and have no choice to move. Wealthy people are coming in and building expensive homes. Local middle income residents are in crisis.

8 months ago

Dramatically increase supply of affordable housing by leveraging existing resources (for example, 4% tax credit program) and substantially increasing investments by County.

8 months ago

More long-term affordable housing. More mixed-income housing (community with a 50/50 split between affordable homes and other homes). Better support for bike lanes and continue pushing for bus system improvements (I ride and like it now!).

8 months ago
Affordable
8 months ago

Use Tunnel road and RAD to repurpose in to true affordable housing that has parking. Accessible bus shelters with protection from weather, that are cleaned regularly. More wide pedestrian friendly sidewalks to get to bus stop shelters
8 months ago

We have to gain control of development. Again, surrounding counties with proper transportation could help to address this.
9 months ago

Housing needs to be more affordable and available.
9 months ago

Plan land use, housing and transportation together so people can easily travel between their homes and their work and daily needs. Focus on supporting, promoting and building affordable and accessible housing for people of all ages and abilities. Provide a more robust public transportation system/options Require safe pedestrian and bicycle transportation facilities in new developments and neighborhoods
9 months ago

We are way behind in affordable housing, lets get rent control here
9 months ago

Investment in affordable and accessible housing and transportation. Sustainable land use management and development
9 months ago

Mass transit options that are environmentally sound
9 months ago

Stop all the development
9 months ago

Strict development rules with high expectations. Public transportation that is electric. There is plenty of housing around, and plenty of affordable housing, just look at everything south of town or the new housing along 74. People still can't afford it though. The problem is our economy is built on cheap labor and an undervaluing of working class jobs. I think the root cause is what people get paid and ultimately what consumers are used to paying when they buy goods and this is what drives people's inability to access housing.
9 months ago

before development is allowed on a lot that should be an impact study done on the traffic in the area. That does not seem to happen right now.
9 months ago

Improve rebuilding on existing "brownfields" versus greenfield construction.
9 months ago
The river corridor along Amboy Road is shaping up to be a real asset for the county and city with its outdoor-centered recreation (Carrier Park, Karen Cragrolin Park, Greenway paths, and French Broad River Park) and small businesses (ClimbMax, Wrong Way Campground, Wilson's RV Park, French Broad Outfitters, and Asheville Outdoor Center). These outdoor activities and businesses are bringing more community members and tourists to this area and driving the outdoor brand identity of the region. However, Amboy Rd is heavily trafficked with many vehicles not observing speed limits or pedestrian crosswalks. I fear it is only a matter of time before someone is killed or injured.

Another benefit of this outdoor-centered corridor is its proximity to communities with predominantly minority populations. This would be an excellent opportunity to drive equitable access to outdoor recreation. However, this would require better pedestrian access and safety between these areas and all along Amboy Rd.

Please continue to support the improvement of the Amboy Rd corridor and its evolution into an outdoor-centered asset for all to safely enjoy.

9 months ago

Fund construction projects that create connectivity of protected biking paths all the way into, and throughout, Asheville. Bike path connectivity can help with parking issues, pollution, community health, and a host of other benefits. And the rise in popularity of e-bikes is reducing/negating the argument that hills present a big barrier to bike usage. If the connectivity and storage facilities are available, more people, including tourists, would see bikes as a practical transportation option.

9 months ago

Like the sustainability point above, I think building housing, businesses etc. where existing infrastructure lies is the highest priority. I think we should resist the urge to build out, and instead build up whenever possible. Let's also build around the transportation of the future with more bike lanes, protected walkways, and EV charging infrastructure. Highway 251 is a perfect location for interconnected multimodal transportation that could connect Marshall to the River Arts District to west Asheville. If I had the option of commuting on my bike instead of in my car through that corridor, it would mean a significant change in my quality of life.

I know there are plans for bike paths/greenways along this corridor, I just think they should be prioritized. I would even be willing to pay a little more in property taxes to make it happen.

9 months ago

Development must include the contribution of green space and preservation of Buncombe County's grand trees as a condition for permits. Preserving the existing green character of our landscape is key. If tourism is a given for us. we can see a nice county-wide network of electric trains linking tourists to our spoke destinations (Hendersonville, Waynesville, Marshall, Mars Hill, Barnardsville, Black Mountain, Castle Rock, etc.) with Asheville as the hub. Public transportation investment always influences economic development, and should be the core initiative to the County's plan.

9 months ago

More bicycle infrastructure throughout the county. The city of Asheville is making great progress, but I don't see any effort from the county to encourage bicycling.

9 months ago
Implement affordable housing requirements for rezoning and conditional use applications from residential developers.

Be sure that Zoning and building regulations do not discourage high density development. High density development increases housing supply which is one of the most effective ways to bring down housing costs.

Require traffic studies for all major developments and require developers to provide or fund traffic mitigation measures.

Downzone areas along roads that cannot handle more traffic until traffic improvements are made. Do not grant rezoning requests unless the developer provides or funds transportation improvements that will result in no net change in traffic congestion along roads that are affected by development.

Diligently require that developers retain stormwater on the developed property/allow no increase in stormwater run-off from the developed property. This may be federal regulation (it is in at least many situations, i.e. watersheds of navigable water bodies). It needs to be rigorously enforced to protect adjacent property owners from flooding and protect the French Broad River and its tributaries from increased pollution from runoff.

Cooperate with other local jurisdictions in North Carolina to lobby for changes in state laws that prohibit local governments from effectively regulating development.

9 months ago

1) On city streets, prioritize people over cars.
2) Reduce highway congestion without adding new lanes.
3) Develop a public transit option to the airport.
4) Remake underutilized auto-dependent landscapes.
5) Turn environmentally burdened neighborhoods into healthy communities
6) Expand and improve public space in the urban core.
7) Protect low-income residents from displacement.
8) Strengthen and enforce fair housing laws.
9) Build affordable housing in all communities across the region.
10) Enable quick and efficient development of ADUs in the County.

9 months ago

Same as above.

9 months ago

Avoid significant developments in rural areas of county

9 months ago

Land needs to be protected or we lose our natural beauty and therefore a lot of our value.

9 months ago

Develop tougher land use rules that create affordable, sustainable housing. Incorporate transportation into all developments. Expand and respect all forms of transportation. Educate people so residents know how to take advantage of what is available. As an aside, I wanted to use the bus to travel to the airport and a normal 15 minute ride is an hour on the bus.

9 months ago

Light Rail!

9 months ago

Continued construction of apartments without supporting infrastructure expansion is problematic (think highways, main thoroughfares, as well as location and cost of housing options.

9 months ago

Allow ingrowth and all housing options in existing housing areas. No zoning. More bike lanes to increase safety for riders and drivers.

9 months ago

https://publicinput.com/report?id=13968
Preservation. Access. Protected areas. Accessible mass transit and/or bikes. Affordability. Extra taxes on vacation and short term rentals, tax goes to support affordable housing or something such. Ease restrictions on tiny houses and compost toilets.

9 months ago

Free transportation

9 months ago

I want to see the plan address the bias in the property tax assessments that overvalue the homes of lower-income houses that are often owned by people of color and undervalue the homes of higher income folks in the community that are often white. If we are going to address issues of equity, the first thing we do before reparations, is to make sure that everyone is paying a fair share to begin with.

9 months ago

Increase diverse affordable housing stock in areas close to public transportation and employment.

9 months ago

Affordable housing and transit

9 months ago

Development of density hubs connected by rapid public transportation.

9 months ago

Charge extra taxes and fees on houses, apartments, etc that are used for short-term rentals, investment properties, etc that into the needs of the city and community. Why should people in the county, who avoid going into the city, have to pay for needs of tourism such as sidewalks?

9 months ago

Preserve neighborhoods. Do not put apartments or condos there. Control short term rentals. They are destroying our neighborhoods. They have no regard for the neighbors or private property

9 months ago

Housing: create a more robust affordable housing program in the County
-provide funding for home repairs to existing homes
Transportation: make sidewalks a requirement for new residential and commercial developments
-adopt a complete streets policy for the County
-Create a multi-modal and active transportation plan
Land Use- Create a UDO
-adopt more protections for environmentally sensitive areas
-create more density in areas of the county that have sewer and water access and develop with walkability in mind

9 months ago

Increase density in areas with existing development. Buildings should be able to be built higher, with smaller units, more infill development, more mixed-use development, etc. Provide incentives to build townhomes and multi-family rather than single family homes. Provide incentives to build ADU's and mother-in-law suites. Prohibit short term rentals in the county, only allowing them in a limited number of commercial zoning districts, and requiring on-site management, or a homestay in order to qualify.

9 months ago

Increase multi-modal transportation options - prioritize the completion of the greenway system so that a person in Candler can ride their bike all the way to downtown, or their e-bike to Black mountain if they needed to.

9 months ago
Make the land use regulations more restrictive- less development on steep slopes, more protection of mountain views. No more subdivision roads being cut up and looping all around mountains. No more gigantic retaining walls on top of mountain tops. Increase funding for county-built or county-funded mixed affordable housing. Taxpayer funded housing should be permanently affordable, not just for 10 or 20 years. Lobby the state to make inclusionary zoning legal so the county can require a % of affordable housing in every new apartment building and subdivision.

9 months ago

Affordable housing options, addressing issues of homeless camps and the issues they create, balance between preserving farms, national forests, community gardens, and development.

9 months ago

**Complete the I-26 bridge at westgate**

9 months ago

**Investment in affordable housing**

9 months ago

**Housing affordability**

9 months ago

Establish some kind of “reward system” for builders who use already existing edifices rather than bulldozing fresh lots and building (yet another) commercial building.

9 months ago

**Strict rules for development and more vertical buildings than land hogging types**

9 months ago

More parks, link up neighborhoods with walking ability, sidewalks, too many bus stops are on roads with no sidewalks. Bus transportation is great, but for those without other transportation, schedules are too limited, I believe. If bus schedules were better, would more people use them? I don’t know. Wish there was a way to get Americans to use public transportation. Mixed use neighborhoods. “Projects” should be mixed use. Turn pure “project” neighborhoods into socio-economically mixed neighborhoods... by upscaling (putting money into them). Mix percentage of subsidized housing with non-subsidized.

9 months ago

Continue to make sure land use fits the highest and best use for the community.

9 months ago

**New zoning for smaller projects and incentives for green works**

9 months ago

Add more bike lanes to roads. Repair sidewalks. Twice a year or so have a No Cars Day in a designated area as European cities do.

9 months ago
I think if we encourage growth in areas that support it, we won't need and economic supports for working land protection.

4 months ago

Creating a network for those who work the land for purposes of mutual support and to keep such lands in the hands of families that will put the lands to use rather than sell them for development would be a good idea.

4 months ago

Keep your development off of protected areas.

4 months ago

NA

5 months ago

Protect small farms

5 months ago

I want to grow my food and have more chickens.

5 months ago

bigger tax breaks

5 months ago

more incentives for conservation easements to protect generational farms

6 months ago

Use funds to support current programs and encourage more working land development.

6 months ago

Maintain strong standards for protective ridges and view scape protection...this is a "treasure" for Buncombe Cty

6 months ago

Require buffer zones that include trees, shrubs, wire mesh seeded mulch.

6 months ago

I guess the only thing you can do is tax incentives.

6 months ago

rather than reserve land for industry, reserve land in conservation for farming etc. The need of industry is probably more flexible that farmland

6 months ago

Lower taxes

6 months ago

Don't put too much emphasis on this. Farmers have private property rights and should be able to exercise them. If they want to develop their lands, let's just make sure it's done well.

6 months ago

Do we care about farming in Buncombe County?

6 months ago
Incentives for this
6 months ago

farms and land use needs to be protected, but I have little experience with this, except for my 5 acres.
6 months ago

READ 'TECHNOCRACY, The Hard Road To World Order' by Patrick M. Wood . . . . also his other books.
6 months ago

Incentivize local restaurants/food establishments to pair with local farms.
6 months ago

Incentivize sustainable practices- example: grants for renewable energy
6 months ago

Protect farmlands and encourage small scale farming
6 months ago

Maintain/improve community gardens
6 months ago

More at farm farm stands
6 months ago

More affordable farm stands
6 months ago

Higher standard for safe farming practices and sustainability.
6 months ago

Keep up the good work of farmland conservation, increase farmland conservation. Utilize the $$ paid for Present Use Valuation (PUV) lands that are being converted to non-working lands. Now those funds go into general fund & should be added to conservation fund. This is $250k to 1/3 million per year last five years. Allow small farms to get a PUV type tax break. 1-3 acre organic farms & or community gardens.
6 months ago

farmland conservation
6 months ago

support agritourism
6 months ago

Land use
6 months ago

If an area is zoned rural or farmland don't change it just so a developer can make more money or you can get more tax dollars.
6 months ago

An economic security option for working lands protection par excellent is to accelerate the speed and scale of distributed solar PV installations, and especially replacement of combustion with electrification powered with onsite and locally distributed solar-battery microgrids.
6 months ago
support conservation efforts within the county (ex. conservation easements) and consider zoning in unincorporated areas that would reduce sprawl and development
6 months ago

Protect working farms and forests, it is what provides much of the natural beauty.
6 months ago

farmers markets
6 months ago

Artisans Produce Markets
6 months ago

Protect and Promote Farmland
6 months ago

protection of farm lands
6 months ago

Support the work of WNC Communities. They are doing an amazing job. Look into partnerships with Warren Wilson College that is researching cash crops that will help small family farms grow and prosper. Work with the WNC Farmers Market to develop opportunities for local farmers and food purveyors. There is a new manager there - Phil Jacobus -- who is a breath of fresh air. Has lots of good ideas. Create agricultural zones.
6 months ago

Support local farms and local marketing for local food
6 months ago

Working land owners need to have a say in new developments that might impact the quality of their land.
6 months ago

Continue to preserve farmland with conservation easements
6 months ago

put more resources towards preserving farmland
6 months ago

incentives for working lands protection...conservancies,etc.
6 months ago

Help connecting local farmers to distribution networks? Local veg in local schools. Promote regional foods (more ramps please!)
6 months ago

Need programs to form partnerships between rural areas and small businesses. Example: farmer-fiber artists partnerships at local cloth
6 months ago

Better support of agri-tourism i.e. maps widely distributed that show what's available, like farm towns, b&b, you-pick
6 months ago

increase incentives
6 months ago
I'm sure a farmer can offer a better opinion to that. All I can say is read a couple of articles on agricultural runoff and address those issues.

Farmstead Act or tax relief for Farmers & Agriculture

Are we pricing out farmers? Or making it too expensive for family farms to stay.

Protection for working farms from the development of lands next door which increase their property taxes

Preserving agricultural lands, ridgetops

Large homes at high altitudes triggering floods and landslides and runoff, destroying farms and agricultural lands

Market their products locally. Hendersonville Apple fair is a good example.

Adding protected acreage yearly to ensure long term conservation of land while creating sustainable access to public lands

Encompass Farm is an urban farm operating in downtown Black mountain, on residential and undeveloped land. I started this farm as a response to land access issues - purchasing acreage was not possible for me. In three years, I have acquired 8 urban sites, which combined, total an acre of year round organic vegetable production for my community. I have a lot to say about this topic, get in touch via email at farmervanah@gmail.com or www.encompassfarm.com

Protect and preserve.

Agriculture preservation.

Invest in supporting farmers implementing sustainable farming practices.

Provide grants or incentives to first time land buyers committed to maintaining agricultural land.

More money for land protection.

Pass green bills and ordinances
More opportunities to work with local land conservation groups to encourage conservation easements for working lands where available.

7 months ago

Give more support to local farmers and incentives to younger generations to local food grow.

7 months ago

crear jardines comunitarios para todos

7 months ago

crear accesos para hacer granjas comunitarias.

7 months ago

engage with land conservancies to improve opportunities for conservation agreements of farms when the property might go up for sale.

7 months ago

proteger granjas y jardines

7 months ago

Protégér A-productores y estimularos

7 months ago

necesito mas inf.

7 months ago

no se

7 months ago

n

7 months ago

Sustain and encourage local agriculture.

7 months ago

Crear jardines comunitarios para todos

7 months ago

crear accesos para hacer granjas comunitarias.

7 months ago

proteger granjas y jardines

7 months ago

Protégér A-productores y estimularos

7 months ago

Protect the workers and the environment as well.

7 months ago

incentives for farmers, perhaps tax breaks. this county has high taxes as it is.

7 months ago
No building on ridges or steep slopes even if a town claims jurisdiction
7 months ago

NO SE
7 months ago

More farm preservation, more open spaces around commercial buildings
7 months ago

Increase funding for conservation easements. Improve economic viability of farms through grant programs to encourage investment in sustainable agriculture to strengthen our local foods systems. Improve support for County Soil and Water and Extension.
7 months ago

Keep industry from taking away from beauty.
7 months ago

Lower taxes on farms.
7 months ago

Farmers need tax breaks especially if crops don't do well. Food supply and water will be the most important future issues. We need to plan for both of them now.
7 months ago

More protection for green space.
7 months ago

Land conservation. Conservation easements. Training for farmers in regenerative agriculture. Support for small farmers. Say no to factory farming. It appears that there is already one tool in place to protect working lands: The Farmland Protection Plan provides the County with updated analysis of loss of farmland, types of farming in the County, and recommendations for next steps to move the Farmland Preservation Program forward," explains Soil Conservationist Ariel Zijp. The new Farmland Protection Plan offers up-to-date surveys on existing farmland, input from County farmers, threats to agriculture, and other pertinent information that will inform multiple County plans and goals.

Benefits of farmland protection: Local food for residents; Viewshed for Asheville's tourism industry; Agritourism; Food resilience; Clean air, clean water, and healthy ecosystems for wildlife; Agriculture saves the County money (e.g., cost of Community Services Study) Agriculture makes the County money (e.g., easement grant funds, agritourism)
7 months ago

affordability and availability for our future farmers
7 months ago

Nose
7 months ago

mejor trato para los empleados
7 months ago

Clean up and the waterways we have and police homes and businesses that could be jeopardizing that, as water will become our most valuable resource as climate change happens. Right now, we can't even play in the French Broad on most days for fear of Ecoli and other bacteria.
7 months ago

Again, consult with specialists, researchers & scientists first; have them guide action steps
7 months ago
Subsidies for farmers and working lands, county level conservation for farms so they aren't turned into developments.
7 months ago

Leave the "country" sections of the county alone. Protect all thats left
7 months ago

vivienda accesible
7 months ago

continue, and increase as possible, protection efforts to keep working lands WORKING..educate public why important..evolve to benefits of carbon capture and water resources as key public benefits to protection of lands in addition to economic preservation of that section of production capacity
7 months ago

active "working lands " should have tax breaks
7 months ago

Direct programming support for working farms including tax breaks and agricultural infrastructure grants
7 months ago

No c
7 months ago

Free forestry assessments, Protections for historical agricultural lands, Programs to to put out of use working lands back to use. Matching new farmers with land, Apprenticeship programs matching young farmers with ageing farmers who need help. Education and money for combating invasive species and maintaining healthy forests and streams, Incentives for protecting forests, wetlands and streams. And Farmland
7 months ago

Laws for protection
7 months ago

Leave them alone. No building.
7 months ago

Make it easier to preserve farmland and forests, which will be crucial as climate challenges increase. Toughen approval process to disallow large destructive development, and provide incentives to maintain farmland.
7 months ago

Education and return of the earth day event at MLK - parks and rec expansion within communities
7 months ago

Support, not drive out, small farms & dairies!
7 months ago

Protection for rural, farm, and environmentally sensitive areas.
7 months ago

Save family farms from developers.
7 months ago

Less tourism funding and more focus on building up and supporting locals
7 months ago
More greenways
7 months ago

Reduce taxation
7 months ago

Zoning. Conservation easements planning and with financial support.
7 months ago

Support sustainable practices. Regionalize food production.
7 months ago

Helping working farms secure land trusts, low-interest loans (or refinance existing loans into low-interest ones), and tax breaks. Contracting with local farms to supply food for Buncombe County schools, official events, etc. Providing financial assistance to farms and guidance for navigating federal farm insurance policies. Basically, make it much less risky to be a full-time farmer.
7 months ago

Direct new development to major transportation corridors and promote infill.
7 months ago

Tax incentives for property owners of farmland.
7 months ago

Tax breaks if farmers use environmentally friendly technology. Laws that encourage and protect farmers so they can make a living. Future development has to protect surrounding properties.
7 months ago

Work to increase the profitability of farm and forest operations through education and training efforts
7 months ago

give tax incentives to maintain working lands and greatly increased taxation on lands converted to other uses
7 months ago

Strengthen farmland and rural conservation programs.
7 months ago

See suggestions above under sustainability.
7 months ago

Just stop building, unless it replaces something being torn down. Steward this land. It is precious. It is why we are here. Protect it with all you have.
7 months ago

Keep developers away from our farms and forests. Full stop. It's not worth the cost.
7 months ago

buy local
7 months ago

Keep close eye on developers.
7 months ago

I'd like to see improvements in BMPS for forestry practices. Incentives for protections along waterways.
8 months ago
Realizing that what is done upstream of upslope affects what is downstream, more attention needs to be paid to the felling of trees and digging into slopes to create housing developments.

Something has to be done to stop housing sprawl into undeveloped forests and farmland.

protect land and support and promote biodiversity (land is not for timber production, but provides massive benefits if we support its health and biodiversity and connection to greater swaths of protected land)

Improve and enforce Zoning

Limit development of expensive estates that can only be enjoyed by the rich. Provide tax incentives for small working farms.

Farm conservation

Clean up land and river pollution. Do no build next to waterways.

Invest more in conservation easement transaction costs and easement purchase

For decades we have been told that we must "protect our green space". Now there are developments on every corner. Buncombe County should restrict the amount of development in order to protect the farmland.

Tax breaks for farmers

Continue with land use tax so that family farms can continue to operate.

Develop a list of threats to working lands and brainstorm protection tactics with farming families.

More pollinator projects

stop development.

expand land conservation funding and program

clean energy

Maybe density is better... along main corridors that are already loaded.
use zoning to ensure working lands are able to remain so.

Deed restrictions and/or conservation easements.

The plan needs to set aside and protect agricultural and forest lands. This can be challenging as farm ownership changes and family members want to sell to developers. However, it is possible - Europe has been protecting farms for decades.

Strong ties with conservation groups? Comprehensive plan to acquire large tracts for conservation and recreation...in all regions equally as possible? It would cut down on people commuting to recreation.

Sound county-wide zoning policies.

Continue/increase the conservation easement programs for working lands, secure more working lands as places people can go. Incorporate working lands into our parks and greenspace. Disincentives for development/conversion of working lands maybe also!

Such a cornerstone of our county is our local foods, without proper working lands protection we will watch these historical resources disappear before our eyes.

We do this well. Please continue.

I am not knowledgeable on this topic. I do suspect that there would need to be restrictions on land use.

Regulate development out of floodplains, where most of the good farmland is located. Invest county dollars in conservation easements. Resist utility extensions into agricultural areas until infill has been maximized. Don't forget about forestry as an industry and working land base.

It broke my heart to see farmers lose their crops last summer to flooding. We have such a vibrant farm community around AVL that we need to do something to assist them. Maybe keeping the lands at a lower tax rate if they are farmed, prohibit development or have strict guidelines for development on or near the lands. At some point, it is easier to sell off a farm for development than to continue farming. How do we incentivize the farmers to keep the lands for production rather than houses?

Enforce zoning code

We have been blessed to have access to large amounts of usable woodlands, farmlands and great sources of clean drinkable water. While I also strongly believe areas purely for conservation and recreation are vital, these working lands are a wonderful way to both preserve a less-developed portion of our land as well as providing money back into the community, some of which may be used for the aforementioned conversation and recreation. The truth of the matter is that working lands need to be kept clean of soil, air and water and have access to transportation to be of any long term use. High pressure agriculture and forestry is simply not going to allow long term use of the land. Neither will the changeover to a so-called low pressure Organic. This system produces much higher water use and provides a much lower yield. These must be balanced to find the right mix. Use our working lands wisely and we will have even more money to protect other natural areas.
We should identify and preserve open land now for when our county reaches one million residents.
8 months ago

Repurpose existing buildings vs clearing virgin land. Create communities that cater to middle-class workers that manage grocery stores, work in law enforcement, healthcare, restaurants, hotels, schools, etc.
8 months ago

Enhanced funding for conservation of working lands
8 months ago

What ever the market can sustain
8 months ago

Protect farmlands!
8 months ago

Tax relief for large land owners to help them resist selling their land to developers
8 months ago

We need to protect our farmland, residents feel pushed to sale due to the cost of living which is a result of massive growth rate
8 months ago

Find out what the people who work the lands wants.
8 months ago

Change the tax code for these properties
8 months ago

Create parks and trails adjacent to farmlands. Give farm tours to educate the public of their importance. Partner with farmers to increase access tho high quality food in all neighborhoods.
8 months ago

Restrict development
8 months ago

Provide legislative and financial support to help farmers retain and work their land, and for younger people to become farmers.
8 months ago

Look at opportunities for family farmlands to enhance their productivity through emerging sustainable technologies (i.e. Agrivoltaics)
8 months ago

Much more stringent protections for mountaintop forests and forests in general.
8 months ago

Make Conservation easement affordable. Provide grants to farms so they can diversify and include other revenue sources from their farms. Such as, camp spots, kitchens and cafe's, retail shops and greenhouses, tours. Do not make it attractive to sell a farm to big developers who want to turn the country side in to urban sprawl.
8 months ago
We need more green spaces for folks. Complete a greenway.

Continue to fund and support conservation easements and policies/incentive to preserve working lands
Promote and support local food and locally-produced products

This is so incredibly paramount. It's super challenging to tackle in a Free Market Economy. I think strict zoning around areas that are working landscapes is key and simply not allowing developers to develop our forests and farmlands of Buncombe County. We should shift our mind from "growth" to "development" and utilize existing areas and improve them. Think all the warehouses along the French Broad or Swannanoa River Road that aren't fully being used, instead of adding new buildings.

I would like land to be protected from over development.

I don't see a lot of working lands where I am, there are a lot of former fields that have been turned into housing (including my own home) so this is a tougher item for me. I guess if there's an option for lands that are no longer working into forests or parks...i.e. the county gets into the land buying business, I think there's value there, rather than turning these properties into subdevelopments, but I'm not sure how feasible that is. Maybe the county can set up a marketing campaign for people to deed their working land to the county for protection instead of selling it for profit? Tough sell, but who knows.

This is a conundrum, given the seizure of ETJ by the State. Cities and Towns in Buncombe need to be able to guide higher density development within their limits to help preserve working lands and the beauty of WNC. There's too much "hidden" development in the county that continues to consume our working lands with no plan. We can only host so many septic tanks.

1) Prioritize the protection of land to help adapt to a changing climate.
2) Connect educational attainment with working lands (i.e., AB Tech, or a new educational offering being paired with local farmers).
3) Introduce a food tax on foods that are sold in super markets brought in from X miles away, and use those tax dollars to support local land farming, development, and protection.
4) Expand access to healthy, affordable food.

Help landowners protect family farms; support community centers located in rural areas; find ways to engage residents in rural areas as leaders in conservation efforts; equip land owners as they consider having to sell so that lands aren't lost to development

Zoning to prohibit residential or commercial uses on these properties.

Avoid significant developments in rural areas of county

Like to see small 5 acres farms protected and businesses grow.

Develop tougher land use rules to protect existing open land and farms.
Continuing to promote and protect farms and woodlands is important. What we have here is beautiful, but only if we can continue to maintain the rural elements. Otherwise, we start to look like any other suburban community with mini-malls and subdivisions [like Hendersonville Rd, Airport Rd, Brevard Rd].

Restrict development in designated areas of the county

More property tax breaks for acreages that are NOT developed.

Reduced taxes for farmers. Incentives to keep land as farmland.

Tree ordinance

limit development within a certain mileage of town. Identify areas where farms are rapidly being dissolved because of encroachment and limit the development there.

Increase farm and forest conservation funding.

conservation easements.

Farm lands should be protected. Otherwise there are no fresh local foods. They are also beautiful and add to communities

1. More conservation easements
2. find a way to conserve small parcels of land, smaller family farms program

Provide more funding to protect farmland. Provide more training opportunities, loans, and grants for the next generation of farmers. Make farmers markets more accessible to all types of county residents-not just those with a car.

Working with organizations like Conserving Carolina to protect our mountains from being exploited, and remaining undeveloped.

Put more funds in conservation easments

non needed

Put more funds in conservation easments

Working with organizations like Conserving Carolina to protect our mountains from being exploited, and remaining undeveloped.

I don't have a suggestion but I love seeing farmlands. And I am so saddened to see that land sold and blocked off for homes and, especially, apartments.
Zone land appropriately and restrict variances

9 months ago

In terms of Working Lands as a sense of PLACE, while I promote wildlife protection, the bears need to be managed. Bears living off of trash is not good. County trash pick up, providing bear trash cans, something to manage bears in our area, and this is for long term care of the bears. It is not good for the bears long term when they know how to get into cars, when they are waiting for trash to go out on Fridays, etc. etc. Bears are not being managed well and Trash pick up is one of the weak links. I love our bears, but too much in the long term - the bears will lose out. Bear trash cans, better trash pick up system.

9 months ago

Continue to Promote farm to table. Promote Small farming. Train and provide transportation to link small farms with trained employees - or internship programs that link small farmer employers with potential employees. Same with outdoor recreation companies.

9 months ago

Tax incentives and aging farmer to younger farmer finance aids

9 months ago
Suggested action items for ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, RECREATION, and COMMUNITY HEALTH

For community health we need to utilizes harm reduction strategy and then fund recovery programs to help reduce the use of those programs like needle exchanges and low barrier shelters.

Environmental protection I would like to see is a county steep slope ordinance.

Community activities for low-income youths (possibly coordinated with YMI) should be discussed as well as maintenance of community parks. Funding for both of these are crucial to the health and well-being of the county as a whole.

Increase amount of protected lands, sharply limit development of new lands, and start planting wildflowers and other native plants instead of lawns

Limit new development in woods. Especially limit new development along the tops of mountains! Not only is it really ugly for everyone else to look at, but it increases soil runoff, decreases natural habitat, and forces bears down into communities.

Infill development. Plenty of vacant (Steinmart on Merrimon, buildings across from Yolo on Merrimon) properties that could be changed into helpful, beautiful housing and commerical properties. For example, the Steinmart (and its way-too-big parking lot) could be changed into mixed use housing with plenty of nature mixed into it.

Homelessness issue should be priority #1, before everything else that fits into this bucket. Drug use is too rampant, and if it continues, folks might stop visiting Asheville for their vacations. Imperative that we solve this problem.

Ramp up incentives and/or encourage composting (for both businesses and households). Single largest thing we can start doing TODAY.

Please prioritize new greenways and connectivity of existing greenways. Consider constructing greenways in the areas between Fletcher and Fairview (e.g. Gravely Branch, Emmas Grove, Concord, etc)

Expand access to health care clinics for middle class people who are under insured, specifically dental clinics

Protect slopes and waterways from development, traffic, and runoff; direct developers towards already-developed properties with access to utilities and walkable to other zones, rather than expanding into undeveloped spaces; support walkable, sustainable mixed-use development

Develop recreational facilities that protect and educate about the environment

Please do not take down 4 long street! The mountains! Thank you!
I want more spaces for kids. With things like wide open spaces and grass; playgrounds; statues; and pools.
5 months ago

I want a soccer field beside my home
5 months ago

What I want my neighborhood to look like a fresh view when I wake up AND see a beautiful view of the pool
5 months ago

more hiking trails
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have a pool in my neighborhood because I want to play in it.
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have park.
5 months ago

At my now house it is a fields please do not take away the fields.
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have lots of parks because I love to run and play. I also want my neighborhood to have a lot of Adventure and sports because I love to do sports.
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have a cat pool and a dog pool and a book store and to be nice and to have fun.
5 months ago

I want more gardens and trees and flowers and mimi and my daddy and mom in 20 years.
5 months ago

I would like to have more pools to play in, and more apple trees.
5 months ago

I like lakes, and jetskis, and fishing boats. I want more gardens!
5 months ago

I want my city to look like a rainbow marker in 20 years. I love my home. Kids can play at baseball games. I never want Buncombe co. park to go away.
5 months ago

I wish there were more playgrounds!
5 months ago

In 20 years I wish there will be more stuffed animal stores. Everyone would ride pet tigers. I hope that the dog parks will never go away!
5 months ago

I want to live and play on grass and grow food in gardens.
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have more parks because most parks I go to have too many people
5 months ago
I want more mountain bike trails and I like bent creek trail which is fun.
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have a fishing pound because I love fishing
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have a pool & parks because I love to play
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have a pool close to a bike park because when you ride a bike you get hot and you can cool down in the pool.
5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have wildlife and trees. Because I like it.
5 months ago

I want a skate park in my backyard
5 months ago

I hope that one day people would care more about the environment. Gas from cars are polluting our Earth. people are littering which is Bad for the environment. So I wish that one day people will make a law that nobody can keep littering,
5 months ago

soccer field, pool, park, mountains
5 months ago

a zoo next to my house.
5 months ago

I made a pool because I love to swim.
5 months ago

trees, water, more trees, pools.
5 months ago

I want to go to the pool with my sisser and my dog Ella
5 months ago

I want a motor cycle and a race track
5 months ago

one there is a arcade with a pool. one there is free ice cream. one there is a awesome building.
5 months ago

football field
5 months ago

nature and a creek.
5 months ago

My fav. thing in my neighborhood is flowers.
5 months ago

Within a City and County that heavily plays on Tourism a good % of the the room tax ect. should be going directly to the workforce sustaining this industry.
5 months ago
Require trash/recycling service in unincorporated areas of county. Add cost to tax bill. Address Waste Pro Issues that make this unattractive (people having to leave cans at end of long drive ways, etc). Reduce illegal trash burning and increase recycling. Include food scrap collection.

Better mental health and addiction resources!! The homeless population is primarily people who are struggling with untreated mental health issues, and/or addiction. Pushing these people away from the city and criminalization of homelessness will never fix the problem. People need help!

No Burning for Profit!! Air Quality -

Accessible/faster health care

Strengthen water infrastructure (cleaner water)

Pollution regulations

Reward system for collecting trash

Provide more neighbor parks and small sporting venues (tennis, basketball, multi-use parks)

Consider zoning and other policies designed to protect the natural beauty of Buncombe County. Stop building hotels downtown.

Not sure where this concern goes, but clean up the homeless trash (or have them clean it up). There are shopping carts everywhere...maybe get some actual carts they can use in exchange for a trash pick up. I have seen rats beside the tunnel, on South tunnel road by the haw creek at Lowes. There is trash everywhere one looks. I went to clean up an area, sorry ...there were too many needles and syringes...a medical waste hazard. Also tired of being hit up by panhandlers at intersections and down town. Many of the locals I know do not even go downtown anymore.

Supporting and protecting/expanding local food production, regenerative agriculture for more sustainability and local food economy to support our people as supply chains are increasingly challenged.

Increase health care for non insured and make sure they know it and where to get it at a reasonable cost

Additional pickle ball courts separate from tennis courts.

More flood control. Do not build in areas that can flood.

Discourage population growth
Height restrictions on new development.
6 months ago

Dedicated pickleball courts
6 months ago

Dedicated pickleball courts!
6 months ago

Pickle ball courts! Pickle ball players are always taking up the tennis courts and it is hard to find a court to play on!
6 months ago

Enforcement for river streams, contaminants, modifications, siltification, trout streams, straight piping, herbicide insecticide, contamination.
6 months ago

Save our mountains
6 months ago

FUNDING FOR SIDEWALKS AND TRAILS
6 months ago

Dedicated pickle ball courts. Every other city, small and large, is ahead of Asheville.
6 months ago

Please add pickle ball courts WITHOUT REDUCING the number of tennis courts.
6 months ago

Need a waste transfer station/dump on the east side of county near Swannanoa. The Hominy Creek location is too far for residents coming from the east, like Fairview.
6 months ago

Need more money put into the disc golf courses, and perhaps even a new one. They are very well visited.
6 months ago

Need a whitewater park on the French Broad, closer to downtown. Look at Bend, OR and Missoula, MT as examples. We need more river recreation opportunities for whitewater community, in town. The Ledges Park in Alexander, just below the wastewater treatment plant isn't going to suffice.
6 months ago

Keeping viewsheds
6 months ago

neighborhood/community gardens are a source of good food, exercise and community connection. How many exist in Buncombe county? How can we support (find key players) the growth of more of these gardens?
6 months ago

READ 'TECHNOCRACY, The Hard Road To World Order' by Patrick M. Wood . . . . also his other books. https://www.amazon.com/Technocracy-Hard-Road-World-Order/dp/0986373982
6 months ago

Greenway, Greenway, Greenway Connections.
6 months ago
Environmental Protection: Protect wetlands and green spaces
6 months ago

Environmental Protection: Jack up the gas tax to make gasoline more expensive.
6 months ago

Environmental protection: restrict development in fragile areas.
6 months ago

Environmental protection: protect green spaces and parks
6 months ago

Environmental protection: protect green spaces and parks. Don't let development whittle away at public green space.
6 months ago

Environmental protection: Fewer cars, more bikes, more walking, more e-vehicles.
6 months ago

Environmental protection: Stop building on wetlands, steep slopes, and floodplains. No More Tudor Crofts. Protect our trees.
6 months ago

Environmental Protection: restrict building on steep slopes and ridge lines.
6 months ago

Recreation: More parklands and open space conservation
6 months ago

Recreation: There are great options for outdoor activities in Buncombe County. This is one of our greatest assets.
6 months ago

Recreation: Protect and conserve as much undeveloped land and greenspace as possible. It is the one asset we can't get more of.
6 months ago

Recreation: Protect and conserve existing parks and greenways along with expansion of these things
6 months ago

Recreation: More recreation for health of community
6 months ago

Recreation: More connections between parks and greenways
6 months ago

Recreation: Greenway, greenway, greeneway connections.
6 months ago

Community Health: Expand Medicaid
6 months ago

Community Health: Affordable healthcare for all people. More affordable ACA options.
6 months ago

Community Health: get rid of HCA
6 months ago
Community Health: Health care for all accessible.
6 months ago

Community Health: Healthcare for all and more mental health providers.
6 months ago

Highest standards in WNC for safe drinking water, grants and programs for people who don't have access to water. Trash task force to help pick up trash around town. MORE PUBLIC SHARPS CONTAINERS.
6 months ago

Making sure run off water from farms are safe. Highest quality standards for safe drinking water for families. Picking up trash around town, and having a team in place for this. It's not good for tourism and is important for environmental protection.
6 months ago

Increase stream buffers. NO County soil & water should be allocated to farmers who don't have adequate stream buffers 20' minimum 50' is better. Proper buffers w/ native vegetation. Dark skies initiative. Lighting disrupts wildlife & human activities. Increase open space and land conservation. Protect slopes from buildings. Floodplain protection needs to be increased, not just insurance!
6 months ago

1/3 land set aside for conservation
6 months ago

Trails, horse trails, walking
6 months ago

Greenways & bike paths that connect municipalities to interconnect recreation & chores & travel
6 months ago

Trails, biking, gazebo, outdoor fields for playing sports for youth
6 months ago

Tracto
6 months ago

Wellness program development - free exercise courses
6 months ago

Protect open space/land conservation/dark skies. Rural food access via community food HUBS. Mental health wrap around services (including housing, counseling, substance use counseling, job training for a month minimum)
6 months ago

Affordable Grocery Store - Sandy Mush - rural areas
6 months ago

Satellite health clinic in rural areas - provide access & transportation
6 months ago

Satellite health clinics monthly in community centers, bring back school nurses & counselors, dental clinics
6 months ago

protection
6 months ago
More Greenways and walking/bike paths.
6 months ago

Secure public-private funds to implement greenways along French Broad and Swannanoa Rivers, especially as any condition for upgrading or point-of-transfer of properties located adjacent to the Rivers.
6 months ago

More parks distributed around the county with a focus on equity.
6 months ago

waterways
6 months ago

protect waterway from road runoff
6 months ago

Promotion of need for communities to develop roadside clean up events to keep trash out of creeks and waterways esp. out here in Leicester
6 months ago

Protection of terrain to lower flooding and limit buildings on mountain tops
6 months ago

More local access to hiking trails and adding hiking trails locally in Leicester
6 months ago

Safer biking routes available
6 months ago

The Leicester area seems to be devoid of bike trails (paved, not mountain biking) and hiking trails. Increasing these would benefit the Leicester area
6 months ago

public park walking trail in Leicester
6 months ago

Hot tubs
6 months ago

heated pool
6 months ago

technology/software training annex (art, 3D printing, CAD, music)
6 months ago

esports training facility
6 months ago

public parks in Leicester Area
6 months ago

I want very cool park. Diamond park.
6 months ago

Access for healthy food available to pick up or already prepared meal
6 months ago
park(s) Leicester - clean water - trash cleanup along roads
6 months ago

more parks and walkways
6 months ago

affordable healthcare
6 months ago

dog park Leicester
6 months ago

soccer field
6 months ago

more doctors in rural areas
6 months ago

- Preserving our tree canopy
- Ensuring sidewalks/bike-lanes are shaded
- Less concrete on recreation trails/fields/parking-lots, more shade
- Dog parks
6 months ago

Locate recreational facilities convenient to underserved communities. Invest in those that already exist. Walton Street is a good example. Push HCA to get moving on construction of the new mental health hospital. Copestone is a mess. Work with MAHEC to encourage family practice residents to remain in Buncombe County following graduation.
6 months ago

Support greenways and trails and encourage participation for families with economic and transportation barriers to greenways and trails
6 months ago

Definitely, more sidewalks and bike lanes are needed for the safety of all.
6 months ago

Water H2O Quality, River Clean-Up, Overpopulation - houses, traffic
6 months ago

More trash pickup on roadside and waterways! Oteen does not even get regular street sweeping
6 months ago

River water quality is big concern. Not enough being done to keep rivers clean.
6 months ago

No building on toxic waste sites on hazardous waste sites. No warehouses built near houses like Manna Food Bank is trying to do.
6 months ago

More resources and staffing needed to protect the environment and water quality
6 months ago

Require developments to be responsible for stormwater management and erosion control measures. Need to enforce the rules and protect the environment. Fines need to be levied when there is an issue.
6 months ago
Improve the stormwater and erosion control ordinance. Require developer post bonds to protect private property owners surrounding the development.

County commissioners should do more to educate and incentivize organizations to enter conservation easements.

more bigger parks

More tennis parks

Greenways, sidewalks on 70

More sidewalks and greenways

Parks accessible to seniors

Improve biking infrastructure and walkability in general.

greenways!

More greenways

More dog parks

Create a protected area with walking trails and conservation connecting Mountain Brook and Piney Mountain

Pickleball and greenways, biking trails

More sports complex for East. trails, Black Mtn Veterans type place for Eastside. Community Center for east

housing for homeless community health job placement

more mental health and addiction services

County needs to be primary place for homeless to get mental health and addiction services through county health department. City is incapable of handling this
More clinics available for low income for mental and physical health
6 months ago

Work to reduce pollution as a way to mitigate climate change and improve health
6 months ago

preservation of historic properties for education and to keep the spirit of what makes our communities great
6 months ago

more dog parks
6 months ago

more biking and some local mountain biking trail
6 months ago

treat mental health as equally important to other health determinants, including how insurance treats mental health
6 months ago

incentivize preservation of natural and recreational open space in developments
6 months ago

enforce rules and regulations when protected areas are abused
6 months ago

more protection in environmental areas (protected ridge, steep slopes)
6 months ago

protect urban forests
6 months ago

Green infrastructure planning
6 months ago

Reduce carbon footprint, better public education on conservation and awareness of how our lifestyles are affecting the environment. Global warming Prevention education. Local Business best practice regulation.
6 months ago

Develop more small parks and picnic areas along waterways. Parks for families, not crowds.
6 months ago

Indoor pool facility
6 months ago

Assistance for flood mitigation for communities at the bottom of hills. You must have a commitment to relieving individual communities from carrying the burden of the total cost of dealing with climate issues.
6 months ago

Community gardens (at least more and more visibility)
6 months ago
Protect wild places and the rivers, streams, and land in developed areas - work with permaculture design. Promote less car use by increasing safe bike lanes, areas for walking - maybe even pedestrian only areas, environmentally friendly public transport, increased greenways and parks, which promote better health.

6 months ago

bike lanes & trails
6 months ago

Police the bums. Convict those who are arrested. Catch and release does nothing but waste taxes. Clean up the streets and the businesses with high paying jobs will come to town.

6 months ago

County spending funds on animal control activities that help keep animals in their homes and out of the shelter system (expanding on the foundation that Asheville Humane has built through their Community Solutions program)

- County spending man power/funds on TNR (trap neuter return) program to humanely cut down on the number of unhomed, outdoor cats
- County spending funds on subsidizing spay/neuter so that it's affordable for low-income families to get their animals altered, therefore reducing the number of animals being born in our county and leading to less animals entering the shelter system

6 months ago

Cultivate a network of Greenaway's, bike paths and neighborhood parks

6 months ago

Places to play and enjoy the great outdoors, for each and every neighborhood

6 months ago

Traffic and noise pollution. I'm sick of the constant road kill because of speeding through neighborhoods, and the trash - haven't seen a street sweeper in years (and they used to come about what? twice a year at most?) More greenways and trails and sidewalks interconnecting neighborhoods. Make room for the bears please and put anyone that shoots one that isn't actually endangering someone in jail please. Community centers - not nearly enough or accessible. Stop cutting down trees and help homeowners actually manage what they have - did the government do anything to help the hemlocks from dying? What you cut down when trimming power lines leave a hazardous eyesore - and when you "fix" something underground you never actually come back and repave the sidewalk what of it there is.

6 months ago

Invasive plant management. preparations for climate change (more shade for streams)

6 months ago

EMF

6 months ago

Expand farmland preservation

6 months ago

County recreation areas within 30 minutes of every citizen

6 months ago

TDA: more $ toward infrastructure

6 months ago

better access to fishing sites on rivers and streams

6 months ago
more access to outdoor pickleball courts (indoor too), more recreation sites - and upkeep of them  
6 months ago

Harm reduction (narcan available, help for addicts)  
6 months ago

Drug Crisis is a health issue Primarily  
6 months ago

SEARS Building Renovate for outpatient healthcare facility  
6 months ago

Need general health medicaid coverage for single adults...not just family planning  
6 months ago

More community gardens, neighborhood collective gardens, wildlife education opportunities, safe river access along major rivers, long term, sustainable hunting/fishing conservation for our rivers/forests.  
7 months ago

Protect our water by mitigating erosion and flooding events. Require new development to have a sustainable waste water and erosion plan in place, and provide incentives to current landowners to make positive ecological change thru native plantings and water management  
7 months ago

More greenways - connecting trails, small parks.  
7 months ago

Increase greenways to places of economic need.  
7 months ago

More space for recreation, i.e. soccer fields.  
7 months ago

Build a community track(s) that people can walk to or bike.  
7 months ago

Tennis courts in weaverville!  
7 months ago

Community pools and ice skating rink.  
7 months ago

More community pools! (Natural waters too cold and often polluted)  
7 months ago

More parks / green spaces to promote fresh air, exercise, mental health.  
7 months ago

Provide telehealth locations.  
7 months ago

Medicare for all. How will you adjust?  
7 months ago

Assisting with co-pays for insured.  
7 months ago
Free accessible mental health programs for low and middle income people.
7 months ago

Provide more assistance to homeless population.
7 months ago

Can one make Mission a public hospital again? Bad move selling it!
7 months ago

Need more local health providers, preferably not affiliated with Mission Health. Also, more mental health options who deal with drug abuse.
7 months ago

Mission Health needs to be forced to straighten up - by ordinance, perhaps?
7 months ago

Water quality.
7 months ago

Protections for wildlife and steep slopes, water, air. Take care of it and achieve carbon neutral / solar goals.
7 months ago

Save land for forest and wildlife.
7 months ago

More penalty for trashing our waterways.
7 months ago

Promote and incentivize infill development.
7 months ago

Ivy River Watershed - Places undo burden on B'ville.
7 months ago

The county's environment literally serve as its greatest natural resource. Development needs to protect it even as it seeks to accommodate population growth.
7 months ago

We moved here from a large city to experience the options to enjoy the natural environment, which is rapidly decreasing due to development.
7 months ago

Environmental Protection is a high priority.
7 months ago

Environmental protection should be paramount, as the environment is Buncombe County's most valuable asset.
7 months ago

Pass green bills and ordinances

Use some of tourism taxes for recreation (i.e. greenways, bike lanes, park maintenance)

Use some of tourism taxes to fund BHUC to 24/7 operations
7 months ago

more protected land
7 months ago
support community health
7 months ago

skating rink
7 months ago

Reciclas todo de la basura por a parte.
7 months ago

reciclar
7 months ago

jardines comunitarios
7 months ago

more substance abuse resources/program
7 months ago

seleccionar, mejor a los trabajadores públicos, para que den un mejor servicio con educacion y respeto.
7 months ago

un mejor servicio de salud en cuanto a:
atención
consistencia en las citas
un mejor trato al Publico
7 months ago

Acceso fácil y factible para la salud de los residentes y nuestros hijos
7 months ago

Información a la ciudadanía sobre ayuda de salud.
7 months ago

cuidar el medioambiente para nuestra salud
7 months ago

o centros de rehabilitación de adición y droga. Centros multilingues para emergencias de salud mental
7 months ago

tener un centro comunitario para la comunidad de Emma.
7 months ago

parques para los niños y áreas recreativas
7 months ago

parques - juegos infantiles para los niños. canchas de deporte
7 months ago

Mas parques y centro comunitario accesibles precios
7 months ago

en cuanto a Recreación: seria fantástico tener un festival anual de las diferentes culturas.
7 months ago
more common spaces for recreation in communities of color
7 months ago

construcción de Areas Recreativas para niños y adultos.
7 months ago

support recreation on public and working lands, balancing needs and priorities for working forests with long term multi-faceted planning goals
7 months ago

focusing on connections and intersections with individual, economic, environmental, and community health
7 months ago

providing and more importantly implementing mental health resources for the homeless and other individuals
7 months ago

home health care for aging population
7 months ago

Looking at economic viability of private working farms and forest as a strategy for protection
7 months ago

Bear habitat should be protected/not destroyed
7 months ago

protect existing wetlands throughout county, especially on 191 access from French Broad River (191 towards Clayton Road near the Blue Ridge Parkway and Arboretum)
7 months ago

Protect the swampy land on Hwy 191 across from Sandy Bottoms
7 months ago

red pandas
7 months ago

necesito mas info
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago

.
HCA has exploited our community for profit at the detriment of their workers and their patients. Create incentives for HCA to pay their workers more CREATE a better working environment for the healthcare workers who keep us safe and place caps on the profit margins of their services provided here. Mission Hospital is the only hospital in the immediate Asheville area and they own nearly all of the specialists in the area as well. A healthcare company should not be profiting billions in just a few months. If HCA doesn’t find it profitable to operate Mission with less profit margin, we need to find a different solution for our community hospital.

We need more comprehensive mental health care and addiction treatment. We need more programs like SOAR that help individuals fast track their disability application processes. We need more providers providing ACT team services. All of this will help the unhoused individuals in our community.

Stop development on Sweeten Creek and Pinner's Cove. The traffic is bad enough already, not to mention the ecosystems. The animals have already been pushed so far out of their homes… bears already spend enough time “foraging” in neighborhood trash cans, something has got to give. We are failing our environment and all the beings in it. Pinner's Cove is not built for more traffic than already exists on it, and the neighborhoods potentially effected aren't either. It would change the way of life there entirely. Walking neighbors who know most cars in passing to cars who don't know and don't care speeding through, wrecking on the tight curves, creating more sound pollution, more pollution and taking away the joy of living where we live. Enough is enough.

More accessible exercise options in parks. More greenways and bike paths especially connecting areas as a commute option.

Reciclas todo lo de la basura por a parte

reciclar

jardines comunitarios

Tener un centro comunitario para la comunidad de Emma.

Parques para los niños y áreas recreativas

parques - juegos infantiles para los niños canchas de deporte

Más parques y centro comunitario accesibles precios

En cuanto a Recreación: sería fantástico tener un festival anual de las diferentes culturas.

More common spaces for recreation in communities of color

Construcción de áreas recreativas para niños y adultos

More parks/safe areas to play for children
More substance abuse resources/programs
7 months ago

selectar, mejor a los trabajadores públicos, para que den un mejor servicio con educación y respeto.
7 months ago

Un mejor servicio de salud en cuanto a atención, consistencia en las citas, un mejor trato al publico
7 months ago

Acceso fácil y factible para la salud de los residentes y nuestros hijos
7 months ago

Información a la ciudadanía sobre ayuda de salud
7 months ago

cuidar el medioambiente para nuestra salud
7 months ago

Centros de rehabilitación de adicción y droga. Centros multilingües para emergencias de salud mental
7 months ago

Access to mental health resources. Destigmatization of mental health problems
7 months ago

Acceso a salud más económico no tener miedo de ir al doctor por lo que tiene uno que pagar
7 months ago

Quisiera que se den más recursos para dar servicios de salud mental a la población.
7 months ago

Vote to expand medicaid for now, then work toward universal healthcare for all. Invest in shuttles to get people into town to their community health care center. Eliminate excuses for privatized health to monopolize the region, it's not healthy. It's criminal.
7 months ago

Anything to reduce car travel - greenways, sidewalks, expanded bus service
More solar on government buildings
7 months ago

I think it would be great to have a park somewhere along cane creek in fairview or fletcher! It would be nice for folks to be able to get down to the water and there might already be some county owned land that would work behind Cane Creek Middle School
7 months ago

More opportunities to bring people together for discussion from varying political ideologies. We can't be an area represented by such a dangerous outlier as Madison Cawthorne.
7 months ago

NO TENEMOS
7 months ago

Stricter environmental requirements and enforcements, more public meetings to address impacts of proposed businesses, better community health outreach
7 months ago

See above
7 months ago
Have a community park in Leicester with hiking trails and exhibits describing the history of Leicester. Increase the number of connected greenways.

7 months ago

Be sure animals have corridors for getting from one point to another in woody and water areas.

7 months ago

Persons being released from drug and alcohol abuse programs have little support after they leave their support centers. They need housing, jobs and support groups to become productive citizens.

7 months ago

Whenever possible, parking lots should be designed to include trees.

7 months ago

Provide more pools and playgrounds. Protect farms and forests. Affordable medical.

7 months ago

Infrastructure needs updating so traffic backups are lessened which would help the environment. Decrease building to lessen storm runoff.

7 months ago

Encourage and provide incentives for citizen community service opportunities.

7 months ago

Encourage county wide enforcement of litter laws already on the books.

7 months ago

Community outreach to educate about health benefits of good food. Combat the fast food crap found everywhere. Work to make healthy food affordable for all.

7 months ago

Address plastics pollution. Institute a deposit program where producers/sellers of beverage containers take an active role in ensuring the containers are recycled. Develop a plan to ban plastic shopping bags, wasteful to-go trash, single serve plastic beverage containers. Provide a community plan for more water fountains, filtered water fill-up stations for residents.

7 months ago

Greenways offer access to transportation, greater health, economic benefits, youth benefits.

7 months ago

The Craggy Wilderness and National Scenic Area will permanently protect 16,000 acres of old-growth forests, pristine watersheds, trout streams, world-class trails, and panoramic vistas less than 15 miles from Asheville, N.C. Over half of Craggy will be designated as wilderness, the highest protection possible.

7 months ago

Increase tree canopy, increase green spaces, increase protections for environmentally sensitive areas, scenic areas, and wilderness areas, increase walking and biking trails, bike paths, and safe sidewalks, incorporate solar panels, green roofs and living walls wherever possible (why not cover outdoor parking areas with solar panels?), convert county vehicles to electric and improve infrastructure for charging vehicles, expand composting capabilities throughout the County, single use plastics ban, lights out for migratory birds, use native plants for all new plantings, and repurpose existing buildings rather than developing new ones.

7 months ago

sustained action to alleviate climate change; bike lanes, greenways, affordable health insurance, including dental, hearing, and vision

7 months ago
Protect trees through legislation  
7 months ago

Litter control, septic system inspections every six years.  
7 months ago

Awareness of the amounts and uses of our community and environmental resources and how much we are using, more safer walking areas such as sidewalks, alternate roads to walk on, and affordable community mental health awareness and physical health places to help  
7 months ago

NA  
7 months ago

menos edificios y mas parques de recreacion  
7 months ago

No ala tala de Arboles , Educacion ambiental . Promover el resciclaje y brindar servicios ala comunidad margenalizadas  
7 months ago

Same as above - recreational education and recreational studies is a very real thing and these experts should be consulted  
7 months ago

Bigger riparian buffers, better floodplain mapping, increased tree canopy cover requirements. Don't allow for condensed construction that does not allow wildlife to move through and mitigating effects of intense storms and increased temperatures.  
7 months ago

mobile social work and ems units for homeless, free addiction treatment, require use of native plants in landscaping for public and commercial projects, plant pollenating plants in pack square, celebrate Bee City, neighborhood seed banks for native plants, wildlife corridors,  
7 months ago

Increase funding for addiction and mental health including more for the mobile crisis unit  
7 months ago

Maybe add an indoor fitness center into the community centers  
7 months ago

no queremos nuevos edificios  
7 months ago

Radon mitigation efforts. Free community health clinics/screenings.  
7 months ago

Un parke  
7 months ago

We need bike paths everywhere!  
7 months ago
Mental healthcare
Public safety focus rather than heavy handed policing. The way the City has been treating the homeless is appalling.
Addiction treatment.
No development on steep slopes or in viewsheds.
Protection of forest canopy.
Protection and monitoring of ground water.
Storm water systems to prevent runoff of toxins into our streams and river. Including agricultural pollution
100% renewable energy ASAP.
At least 50% reduction in CO2 by 2030.
EV infrastructure
Incentives for Rooftop solar.
Pressuring Duke energy to aggressively pursue renewable energy.
Rooftop solar on all public buildings
More walkable/bikable infrastructure.
Protection of public lands
Protecting forests, streams and ag land.
Concentrated development to prevent sprawl.
Stop Advertising, we are victims of our own success.
7 months ago

Put stricter laws and enforcement on car vehicle pollution, and motorcycles and noisy cars, littering. There should be fines.
7 months ago

Environmental Protection, Recreation, Community Health: Investment in a large local ski mountain could be beneficial to recreation as well as tourism. Tourists only come to Asheville for the mountains and the drugs so protect the mountains when considering expansion and provide more QUALITY affordable mental health and addiction services.
7 months ago

Looking at the health of our power-grid, water, and pipes being used to transport sewage and water.
7 months ago

Remember that health is not just medical. Mental illness, drug addiction, and economic access are all important to address.
7 months ago

Shuttle from downtown to the blue ridge parkway to lessen traffic.
7 months ago

Greenways, sidewalks, parks that promote fitness
7 months ago

Funding public transportation is crucial. Our bus system is tragic - limited routes, on-time schedule requirements, hours of operation. Providing incentives to small businesses to garner more worker usage for our public transportation system.
7 months ago

Protect fragile environmental areas from motored vehicles like motorcycles & ATVs.
7 months ago

Protection for rural, farm, and environmentally sensitive areas.
7 months ago

Build mental health facilities for those that are homeless.
7 months ago
More pickleball courts!
7 months ago

No tirar mas arboles y mantener la comunidad limpia
7 months ago

Link greenways together as a quicker form of transportation and build infrastructure to support moving as part of your day (i.e. like getting to work).
7 months ago

Think through the homeless problem before you start enabling them with drugs
7 months ago

More greenways, parks, community gardens, organic food
7 months ago

Free exercise group classes in the parks. Tai Chi, Yoga.
7 months ago

Institute environmental tax on tourist/hospitality businesses
7 months ago

Financial incentives for property owners.
7 months ago

End allowance practice of pollution of air, water, and soil. Recognize and eliminate toxins to living organisms.
7 months ago

More greenways. These essentially function like mini parks (mini Blue Ridge Parkways?) throughout the city. They're also extremely democratic: accessible to all, no matter their level of fitness, age, economic status, etc. They're also a powerful public health tool. The more greenways there are, the more opportunities there will be for county residents to get outside and move.
A connected greenway system also offers residents an alternative transit option. Getting cars off the road can mitigate traffic and reduce CO2 emissions.
7 months ago

Support parks and recreation lands and programs. Owen Park and Enka Park are vitally important.
7 months ago

More group fitness classes and offerings through the parks service or the county. More mental health and substance abuse treatment support options
7 months ago

If we have community health, access to recreation in safe environments, we will have healthy people. Programs that encourage people to work, to live healthy lives and to protect the environment will pay for themselves.
7 months ago

Work with private and public funders to protect natural resources and increase recreation options.
7 months ago

Larger, more compact health units in carefully chosen areas. Considering traffic, public access, etc.
7 months ago

Make repairs at Asheville MUNICIPAL Golf Course
7 months ago
forbid development in flood planes, the public drinking watershed and vistas. Develop parks, greenways and recreation open space proportionately to the populations growth.
7 months ago

Safe walking and bike routes along rural roads.
7 months ago

See suggestions above.
7 months ago

Urban sprawl is not what lures people to Asheville. Maintaining the rural scenic views is essential to the health and vitality to this area concentrated growth should be limited to city centers making public services better suited to aid those who need it.
7 months ago

Community health is just abysmal and I fear growing old in a county with such a terrible health track record. How we treat our land is always in tandem with how we treat our bodies. Show true respect for the land and we will become a culture where tending to is a shared value.
7 months ago

Zero waste to landfill businesses
7 months ago

Focus on reducing carbon footprint, keep natural areas free from contamination and address the homeless population needs.
7 months ago

Want to see a better greenway system and indoor aquatic center for residents.
8 months ago

Prohibition of residential development on steep slopes and significant constraints on medium and lower slopes. Significant disincentives to clear it for housing development and to leave buffers between lots. I'd like to see more constraints on development next to parks and the blue ridge parkway. I'd also like to see more community parks with interconnected greenways.
8 months ago

FIRE POPE GOLF. They have let our historic Donald Ross designed golf course, which is the FIRST INTEGRATED GOLF COURSE IN THE SOUTH TO ALLOW BLACK GOLFERS, to degrade into the worst municipal course conditions I have seen in 30 years as a golfer.
8 months ago

Clean water and air initiatives
8 months ago

Protect more land and regulate its use
8 months ago

Community health has done a pretty good job through the pandemic!! Thank you
8 months ago

Fund park system and build on it
8 months ago

Fix/maintain public pools?
8 months ago

Build more greenways
8 months ago
Improve and enforce zoning. Restrict Mission's price gouging and/or provide incentives to competition in health care. Increase opioid responses - community outreach, MAT, etc.

There are quite a few healthcare facilities seeking FQHC status that would ultimately benefit county residents -- is there a way for the county to support those application process?

Protect views and do not allow development of ridges. Build bike paths, sidewalks, and small local parks.

Renewable energy, greenways, parks, nature trails, make Asheville and BC a bicycle friendly city and county.

Greenways

Solar power requirements for housing and business.

Please no more destroying natural habitats, especially to build unaffordable housing or another chain store. Improve what is already established, build more community parks and gardens.

Invest more in natural resource protection,

determine where federal and state environmental protections fall short of what is needed. Do not duplicate those efforts. Instead, shore up any gaps and determine how best to support the existing regulations.

Inventory existing recreational facilities and their locations. Evaluate use/popularity and efficiency for each facility. Compile unsolicited requests for more facilities or facilities improvement. evaluate this information to help formulate a proposal.

Create an inventory of existing health facilities. Determine what medical services are needed but absent in the community and determine a strategy for attracting those services to the area.

More festivals

stop development.

improve stormwater standards to reduce runoff from new construction.

invest in reducing litter and bacteria pollution to waterways; encourage people of color to use parks, greenways, etc.

Quality, culturally sensitive childcare.
Greenways have proven benefits for recreation, health, community, safe transportation, the environment and the economy. We need to invest in greenways. One study conducted across 4 greenways in NC showed that every $1.00 of trail construction supports $1.72 annually from local business revenue, sales tax revenue, and benefits related to health and transportation.

8 months ago

clean energy
8 months ago

Turn Mission Hospital into a Non-Profit
Lobby to expand medicaid in NC
Fund organic farming interests
8 months ago

Become a green county; lead rather than follow. Keep as much green space/athletic space as possible. Light the scourge of drug use and mental health issues.
8 months ago

Continue investing in greenways
8 months ago

We should deeply consider how new industry/businesses will impact the environment in the LONG-TERM. Providing jobs and hiring people is great, but decades down the road when the company has left town and those jobs are completely gone, we are likely left with land that cannot be reclaimed. Sometimes carcinogenic toxins are left in the wake of abandoned facilities (i.e. the CTS Superfund Site on Mills Gap Road).
8 months ago

Fund the existing plans for Greenways throughout the county. Meaningful enforcement of erosion control, runoff, illegal dumping, point source pollution, and agricultural runoff into streams and rivers.
8 months ago

Plan for the next pandemic now and ensure public health work is well funded.
8 months ago

Make commuting by bike safer, especially in and around urban areas like downtown Asheville.
8 months ago

Clean up the French Broad (protect from sewer overflows and other urban pollution sources).
8 months ago

A strong tree ordinance and limitations on building on slopes and key view sheds is critical
8 months ago

Sadly - adding parks only encourages the mayor’s pet project - turning Asheville into a landing place for drug users.
8 months ago

More Greenway and trails, ways to access wealth of trails and recreation from city center without a car
8 months ago

Also we need more doctors and specialists that accept medicaid in buncombe county. I should not have to travel to Morganton, Lenoir, and Greenville and Charlotte to see an oral surgeon just because I have medicaid. I can't afford to travel that much anyway.
8 months ago

WE need a roller rink.
8 months ago
Fund more educational opportunities and nature centers/farm historical places. Leicester needs more before it sprawls with development. Recreation…I would love to share my experiences with other cities in the country who have made some unique parks. It would be awesome for Asheville to have some unique parks and recreation for the region. I asked my child what she would want to see brought to Asheville from the places she has visited. She drew me a picture of Taos Pueblo with buildings with ladders. Natural climbing areas in parks. She drew ladders coming out of mountains holes. Louisville has an amazing riverside park system. Some really cool swings for adults, unique playgrounds for kids, large splash park, musical areas, bike rentals, lighted bridge across the Ohio River with a river trail and parks on the other side. Asheville has such potential. It is so boring! Memphis has an amazing park. The slides are even fun for adults. Bounty swings. Extensive rope system. Musical instruments.

8 months ago

More greenways in particular, and more biking and walking infrastructure in general!

8 months ago

zoning, planning and development, *significant and comprehensive greenspace and parks plan* for the county. People need to see a vision for more local parks and greenways. Continue support/increase support of conservation easements through the LCAB. Dedicate entire FTEs to land conservation efforts and parks planning.

8 months ago

I think that without county intervention, we will watch the most beautiful and special part of our county, our environment, become unrecognizable.

8 months ago

Research how you can be open to as many business types as possible while maintaining a green, healthy, sustainable community. Drug friendly would be a good place to start.

8 months ago

Recreation facilities need to consider their impact on the environment. We do need sidewalks to encourage folks to walk safely. I am envious of the cities I have prowled in other countries with their walkability and broad bicycle paths. I do not think it is safe to ride a bicycle here as folks drive too fast and the lanes are very narrow. As for community health, the county could support the efforts of the Institute for Preventive Healthcare and Advocacy which visits people in their homes to ensure they get the help they need and to ensure that they understand their medical instructions.

8 months ago

Creating county laws that allow local incentives for solar, water, and alternative means for a greener community.
Partnering with local nonprofits and businesses to build rural community parks, pathways and pools for all.
Create ongoing testing for quality drinking water and environmental health impact in our land.

8 months ago

Regulate development out of floodplains, where most of the good farmland is located. Invest county dollars in conservation easements. Resist utility extensions into agricultural areas until infill has been maximized. Do more to manage stormwater on a watershed rather than site basis. Limit emissions through better transit and better land development patterns.

8 months ago

Better enforcement of trails violations (ex. no mountain bikers on hiker trails) could help preserve paths, reduce maintenance/upkeep demand, and improve individuals' recreational experiences in the area

8 months ago

See above comments on greenways.

8 months ago

No Open Burn
Increase public access transportation for elderly
8 months ago

The largest selling point of Asheville are the surrounding natural lands and the ability to work and stay in a modern city while enjoying these lands. See my notes above about Working Lands to help fund these places. We need these types of places to save what we have and make our living environment better and to better keep the tourist dollar.
8 months ago

Create more affordable/free mental health services, detox units, and rehab for those that need it. This could help curb homelessness by first treating the disease of addiction and properly diagnosing those with drug and mental health issues.
8 months ago

Mental healthcare access is in need!
8 months ago

The current empty buildings/land need to be utilized before considering new development.
8 months ago

Invest in Greenways
8 months ago

Hospital is broken. See comments above. Many seeking healthcare in Henderson Co which is too far in an emergency.
8 months ago

Continue to protect North Fork reservoir, add more fitness opportunities across all of the county
8 months ago

Recreation and community health. Work with the town of black mountain to connect greenways.
8 months ago

Enforce litter laws !! Good grief the garbage all over the county is embarrassing when out of town family come. Enforce the needle exchange if you're going to enable the drug addicts.
8 months ago

Appeal more to the nuclear family and not the fringe minority
8 months ago

The parks here need help. We need sidewalks so we can walk our kids around safely. You can't even manage the damaged pot hole filled streets. Get a grip on these issues and follow through. We pay taxes to cover such fixes do we not?
8 months ago

Expand and subsidize renewable energy programs. Build solar gardens for higher density areas. Use sustainable, non-toxic management strategies in parks. Promote the spread of accurate, science-based health information and quash misinformation.
8 months ago

None
8 months ago

Recreation - extend protected walking paths
8 months ago

Establish 4 or 5 area committees to monitor and make recommendations on these issues.
8 months ago
Establish legislation to protect our natural resources, scenic views, and ensure access for all members of the community.

8 months ago

The takeover of Mission by HCA has been terrible for patient care. Mission used to be one of the best hospitals in the country but the patient care has really declined and staff are leaving in droves.

8 months ago

Fund more greenways and provide more opportunities for people to walk to destinations in their neighborhoods.

8 months ago

Coordinate parks/recreation/community health investments in equitable manner - ensure all residents of Buncombe have access to parks, recreation, and community health resources.

8 months ago

Much more stringent protections for mountaintop forests and forests in general. More outdoor public pools! There used to be the Beaverdam Pool and JCC Pool.

8 months ago

Sustainable tourism

8 months ago

Asheville is big enough. you can stop this rampant urbanization and suburbanization of our County. No more new second homes, no more new investment properties, highly tax the ones that exist and use that money not to accommodate tourism but to help local farms, residents and landowners keep their lands and keep them natural and keep them thriving. Stop these abhorrent, expensive apartment complexes that denude the countysides and mountainsides, are all glass and concrete and parking lots. Make sure That communitites have greenspace and safe bus routes and wide sidewalks. Stop this put em up quick, trash everything for growth, and get rich quick schemes.

8 months ago

More green spaces.

9 months ago

Build more trails, parks and bike/ped facilities near where people live (to start with).

Create a network of trails throughout the county.

Enforce regulations that protect water quality (e.g., floodplain development, erosion control, stormwater control)

9 months ago

Invest in continuing to connect the RAD greenway. Utilize land use management practices to decrease flooding and flooding damages. Prioritize public health initiatives.

9 months ago

Community health should be a priority. All residents should have access to affordable healthcare and mental care.

9 months ago
The river corridor along Amboy Road is shaping up to be a real asset for the county and city with its outdoor-centered recreation (Carrier Park, Karen Cragnolin Park, Greenway paths, and French Broad River Park) and small businesses (ClimbMax, Wrong Way Campground, Wilson's RV Park, French Broad Outfitters, and Asheville Outdoor Center). These outdoor activities and businesses are bringing more community members and tourists to this area and driving the outdoor brand identity of the region. However, Amboy Rd is heavily trafficked with many vehicles not observing speed limits or pedestrian crosswalks. I fear it is only a matter of time before someone is killed or injured.

Another benefit of this outdoor-centered corridor is its proximity to communities with predominantly minority populations. This would be an excellent opportunity to drive equitable access to outdoor recreation. However, this would require better pedestrian access and safety between these areas and all along Amboy Rd. Please continue to support the improvement of the Amboy Rd corridor and its evolution into an outdoor-centered asset for all to safely enjoy.

Would like to see better pollution prevention and storm water management to keep garbage and pollutants out of our waterways, especially the French Broad River that has increasingly become a defining feature of our outdoor-centered personality.

Fund construction projects that create connectivity of protected biking paths all the way into, and throughout, Asheville. Bike path connectivity can help with parking issues, pollution, community health, and a host of other benefits. And the rise in popularity of e-bikes is reducing/negating the argument that hills present a big barrier to bike usage. If the connectivity and storage facilities are available, more people, including tourists, would see bikes as a practical transportation option.

As above, I think building for density rather than sprawl is the key here to protect the environment, offer more recreation opportunities, and improving community health.

Support business developments in all regions of the county that create living wage jobs, space for movement and recreation, affordable healthy food, and community centers with wraparound services.

Incorporate education on healthy eating into County administered food distribution programs. Unhealthy eating is a major cause of illness and morbidity and disproportionately affects poor communities. Identify food deserts (if any) in the County and seek to attract full groceries and/or produce suppliers to serve those areas. Continue to fund and construct the County’s planned greenway system. Insist that Complete Streets treatments be incorporated into all NCDOT funded transportation projects. Adopt a comprehensive drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation program to replace incarceration and criminal justice jurisdiction as much as possible. Enact the strongest possible tree save ordinance and cooperate with other North Carolina jurisdictions to lobby for local governments to be able to enact stronger tree save ordinances. Encourage high-density development as a strategy to minimize transportation pollution and increase healthy transportation opportunities. Examine building codes and development regulations to determine whether they allow practices that are harmful to the environment. Correct codes and regulations if such deficiencies exist.
1) Upgrade infrastructure to high standards of resilience.
2) Scale up renewables.
3) Electrify buildings and vehicles.
4) Focus on housing, sheltering, and supporting the homeless population (community health).
5) Helping those left out of access to healthcare insurance (i.e., the NC State Medicaid gap) gain access to community supported healthcare and services.
6) Build out the French Broad Greenway to connect across all four directions (N,S,E,W) of Asheville.
7) Increase community access to trails near houses.
8) Increase county bike lanes that are easily accessible from people houses to reduce the miles driven to access the outdoors.
9) Remake underutilized auto-dependent landscapes.

For highway projects, create bridges/tunnels to allow wildlife migration. Zone property to limit development in critical areas: closer to waterways, mountains/hills, forests, etc.

Avoid significant developments in rural areas of county.

Community health is a big one. Why not have a nurse in the church help with neighborhood health and referrals.

Make Mission Hospital a non-profit hospital. Pardee in Hendersonville has made it work. Increase mental health services and make them as well as health care in general available to all. Let's be a city that values the lives of all its residents. I thought we were a progressive community. It seems it only applies to solar panels for government buildings.

Clean up and maintain the French Broad river .. plus, add more walkways, greenways, bike paths, and possibly consider making part of downtown Asheville a pedestrian zone (with cars only allowed in for deliveries after 5:00 pm or before 9:00 am)

Plan to deal with homelessness and that includes addiction issues

Clean water. Protected areas. Trails.

We must control storm water run-off and farm run off better.

Increase conservation of public lands for parks and recreation.

More parks and greenways are needed, so is safety for cyclists
1. In a community that prides itself on building sustainability and preserving natural landscapes, a simple yet impactful step would be to ban disposable plastic bags in businesses. There are many counties across the country that have successfully banned plastic bags and it is time for Buncombe County to do the same. The environmental impact of single use plastic is well known and a ban on plastic bags in our county would help the environment, beautify our landscapes and put the county in line with other forward thinking and environmentally conscious places.

2. The addition of walking trails in the Fairview community would be a wonderful addition to the county. At this time, there are no safe places for residents in this area to walk and they have to drive at least 20-30 minutes to exercise. The roads are not safe for walking, jogging or biking because of the lack of a shoulder and drivers who don’t slow down or share the road. The addition of walking trails in Fairview would make a lasting impact on the health of residents and provide a place for people of all ages to enjoy outdoor recreational activities.

Environmental protection: limit development on steep slopes and protected ridges even further
-stormwater management regulations need to address water quality and the impacts of development on the downhill user
-require environmental impact reports and mitigation from large scale development projects

Recreation:
-Greenways!! Interconnected greenways throughout the county and the region
-more natural park space
-buncombe county botanical gardens
-community garden plots available throughout the county

Community Health
-create more access to affordable health care, maybe pop-up clinics on a rotation throughout the county much like covid vaccination and testing.
-better pay for healthcare workers

Prioritize recreation opportunities for all county residents. Increase access to greenways. Work with the state to try to get intersections changed to be more pedestrian friendly. Work to have traffic calming made a goal for all neighborhoods. Work to increase sidewalks where appropriate.

Increase fines for developers that do not abide by runoff and erosion control regulations. Create a tree protection plan to look at the impact of clear-cutting for subdivisions, the loss of urban trees, and how the county can create new regulations to help offset the losses. Require that all new plantings for commercial projects be native species. Change the zoning ordinance to require specific commercial parking lot and property landscaping requirements that includes trees.

More awareness about recycling, composting, and other sustainable measures that everyone can participate in at all levels. Measures in place to prevent waterways and soil from being contaminated/polluted beyond repair.

DO MORE TO PROTECH STREAMS

get rid of useless, unenforced, regualtions

Sidewalks, bike lanes, buried power

Enforce existing laws regarding the environment. Add or partner with an entity to develop an outdoor amphitheater.

Expand community health to serve the homeless and underserved.
Support for older adults to age in place

9 months ago

There seems to be a tacit agreement between the City and the homeless: you can stay here if you are non violent and leave tourists alone. This is not a sustainable solution as the population grows. Mental health and addiction needs to be addressed.

9 months ago
Establish a fund to buy people out of repeat rebuilds from floods or wild fires fire to turn that property to public land and keep private owners from continuing to loose money.

4 months ago

Diversity in our basic utilities should be discussed. Increased use of solar and better access to cell phone and internet services county wide should be on the table.

4 months ago

Be proactive and train routinely, stop being reactive and lazy.

4 months ago

New construction should be as energy-efficient and low-impact as possible (reducing runoff with porous surfaces, for example)

5 months ago

I think we should have more small ponds, and places for rain water to go.

5 months ago

Identify flood prone areas and those affected by floods that can cause poor living conditions. Flooding can lead to water damage, mold, asthma, etc. Make improvements in these areas to mitigate impacts.

5 months ago

too much development with impervious surfaces is increasing our flood risks, this is happening close to the rivers (FBR and Swannanoa) and increasing stormwater runoff. what sort of low impact development designs can the county require in new or redevelopment?

6 months ago

Be conservative with development in high risk areas, and increase standards for assessment of site/building to reduce risk of landslide, flooding, etc.

6 months ago

Improve the pay and hiring standards for police and sheriff department

6 months ago

limit through ordinances areas that either cannot be built on or requirements to insure the hazard is abated are met

6 months ago

Get people off of the floodplain

6 months ago

Need more County inspectors responding to stormwater violations from construction activities.

6 months ago

Keep protecting the steeps slopes and protected ridgelines from certain types of development.

6 months ago

Don't build in floodplains. Easy.

6 months ago
Disaster planning
6 months ago

READ 'TECHNOCRACY, The Hard Road To World Order' by Patrick M. Wood . . . . also his other books. https://www.amazon.com/Technocracy-Hard-Road-World-Order/dp/0986373982
6 months ago

Resiliency: Greater opportunity for rent forgiveness, small business grants, and other community supports to lift up those in our community.
6 months ago

Resiliency: small farms- support them as they need it (get their input). As we need local sources of healthy food.
6 months ago

Resiliency: Small farms and agricultural efforts including hydroponic.
6 months ago

Resiliency: stop building in environmentally sensitive areas.
6 months ago

Hazard Mitigation: Too many trees are being cut down and too much construction that doesn't meet environmental considerations. Floods and fires are becoming more common and more destructive.
6 months ago

Hazard mitigation: require or incentivize 1:1 tree plantings and removal for developers- any tree removed must be replaced to mitigate erosion, flooding, etc.
6 months ago

Hazard mitigation: if trees are cut down for development then comparable trees need to be planted to help offset water run off and erosion.
6 months ago

Hazard Mitigation: Improve stormwater management and help local communities financially to achieve this.
6 months ago

Hazard Mitigation: Better tree protection
6 months ago

Hazard mitigation: control steep slope development
6 months ago

Hazard Mitigation: Require native plants, lots of them from developers. Tree ordinance with teeth.
6 months ago

Sharps containers, more access for drug and substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation to get people back on their feet.
6 months ago

Those of us in the industry hate the term "resiliency". It's resilience. Resiliency sounds like a Bush-ism.
6 months ago

Focus on climate change impacts. Climate refugees, looming food crisis & emerging trends such as flooding & farmland loss
6 months ago
planning for climate change. proactive!
6 months ago

Less impermeable surfaces. storm water management
6 months ago

carbon capture agriculture
6 months ago

Increase emergency food supplies (not Ingles related). Increase wildfire mitigation (Firewise).
Strengthen steep slope ordinance to deter mudslides. Protect farmland & reduce barriers for new farmers. Support/promote C.E.R.T. in each area of county. Protect streambank buffers. No soil & water funds should go to farms that don't allow proper stream buffers
6 months ago

Flooding clean up & maintenance
6 months ago

Intentional development at urban forest margin to mitigate fire risk
6 months ago

keep going/don't touch
6 months ago

We have allowed to dense of development and now we have flood issues to deal with. Place like Tudor Estates in Black Mtn should not be allowed.
6 months ago

A resilience and anti-fragile opportunity par excellent is to accelerate the speed and scale of distributed solar PV installations, and especially replacement of combustion with electrification powered with onsite and locally distributed solar-battery microgrids.
6 months ago

Tree management and keeping our trees healthy
6 months ago

county help manage trees
6 months ago

Better management of local bridges and waterways to avoid disastrous flooding
6 months ago

managing water resources - managing building in rural areas due to requirement of wells for every residence
6 months ago

- More flooding protection/mitigation (more trees, more bushes and less pavement, better drainage systems)
- Less reliance on tourism for economic growth, so if, say, a pandemic hit again, our economy wouldn't be hit so hard
- More community gardens and local areas to get food, less reliance on Ingles and other supermarkets
6 months ago

Tropical Storm Fred taught us a dangerous lesson. Zoning matters!
6 months ago

Avoid rebuilding and development in areas subject to flood, fire, and chemical contamination
6 months ago
Find a way to expand solar and microgrids in county to provide disaster resiliency
6 months ago

Expanding resources beyond just the designated flood areas during storm events
6 months ago

Enclave development stormwater runoff and sediment spills into lakes. Need stricter regulations for stormwater and erosion control measures.
6 months ago

More protections for building homes on the mountains to prevent stormwater and landslides
6 months ago

determine what are water resources currently and determine maximum populations that the resources will support
6 months ago

pay attention to climate change predictions when developing new areas
6 months ago

adapations to sustain life with all the coming impacts coming
6 months ago

think of future impacts than mitigation strategies resilience
6 months ago

discourage development in flood/landslide prone areas encourage resilient/fire resilient building urban/wildland interface
6 months ago

this the most critical component of the process
6 months ago

A good green infrastructure plan will greatly increase resiliency if implemented
6 months ago

Stop building on river and creek banks. Flood plains going to flood.
6 months ago

think about flooding that will ruin whole developments - streams that flood after every rain.
6 months ago

none
6 months ago

Police the bums. Nobody wants meth addicts, urine, and heroine needles in downtown Asheville.
6 months ago

Pondering the impact of the action, before it is activated.
6 months ago

Stop development and focus on what is already here.
6 months ago

Flooding: clean water and flooding. too much pavement.
6 months ago
Clean out the river & streams so they don't flood.
6 months ago

DON'T APPROVE ANY BUILDING IN IFFY AREAS! floodplains, hillsides
6 months ago

crap topic. Not a problem
7 months ago

Efficient use of residential housing lots, filling unused spaces with wildlife habitat. Providing residents with access to consultants who can design sounds landscape/housing plans.
7 months ago

Protect our water by mitigating erosion and flooding events. Require new development to have a sustainable waste water and erosion plan in place, and provide incentives to current landowners to make positive ecological change thru native plantings and water management
7 months ago

Identify brownfields and remediation.
7 months ago

More state /county / city maintained roads in communities of old neighborhoods.
7 months ago

Limit development in marginal areas (flood zones)
7 months ago

Flooding
7 months ago

Steep slope protections.
7 months ago

Protect old growth
7 months ago

Use common sense in building. When you build next to a river you should expect flooding. When you change natural drainage expect flooding and landslides.
7 months ago

Protect lands and housing from wildfire.
7 months ago

Educate new residents on local natural disasters and steps to resilience.
7 months ago

Development regulations to prevent landslides and mud slides. Control angle of slope for buildings.
7 months ago

Invest in projects/ordinances/bills that create green jobs, affordable housing and environmental sustainability
7 months ago

oficiales mas sociables
7 months ago
Menos dinero para la policia
7 months ago

Fuera ICE!!
7 months ago

no discriminacion de raza
7 months ago

No ICE!!
7 months ago

Acceso a servicios públicos en nuestro idioma, educacion preventiva
7 months ago

no construir cerca de rios
7 months ago

assist economically burdened residents with heating/ac needs as the climate changes
7 months ago

support anc incentivise for private and small business to plan and implement prevention
7 months ago

flooding is increased with development all over the County and is getting worse year after year
7 months ago

necesito mas inf
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago

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7 months ago

n
7 months ago

Oficiales más sociables
7 months ago

Menos dinero para la policia
7 months ago

Fuera ICE!!
7 months ago

No discriminación de raza
7 months ago

No ICE!!
7 months ago

Más recursos para programas de arte, cultura, educacion fisica.
7 months ago
Acceso a servicios públicos en nuestro idioma educación preventiva
7 months ago

no construir cerca de ríos
7 months ago

The home owners in areas such as Town Mountain should have to pay when the city/county has to install very expensive wall structures to prevent future mudslides after such an occurrence. It looks very expensive and if you build there, those home owners should pay for it.
7 months ago

NO SE
7 months ago

Listen to residents' complaints concerning unrecognized hazards and give more immediate appropriate responses
7 months ago

We need to plan for flooding events. How will storm water and drainage be addressed? Can funds be allocated to help homeowners to be proactive?
7 months ago

Improve storm water runoff in Woodfin and improve the drainage infrastructure
7 months ago

Sidewalks would make our roads less hazardous. County roads often need shoulders on both sides of the road to reduce hazards. Narrow bridges are also hazards and should be replaced.
7 months ago

Protect areas from flooding etc. Do not overbuild.
7 months ago

Be sure new construction is not in the flood plain except for some recreation areas or built to withstand floods.
7 months ago

Decrease amount of building on slopes
7 months ago

Bury overhead wires. Leave the trees. Increase tree canopy and green space, Decrease pavement and nonporous surfaces. Increase sources of renewable energy.
7 months ago

improved sidewalk system; much improved enforcement of speed limits and stop light/sign runners.
7 months ago

NA
7 months ago

partner with Duke Energy to expand efforts in pursuit of weather proof and cyber attack proof power grid
expand efforts to reduce flooding risks
7 months ago

mas seguridad sin miedo a la policia
7 months ago
No construir desarrollos mobiliarios del bueno no ala tala de arboles
7 months ago

Seek help and guidance from los regional council, waste reduction partners first
7 months ago

Water conservation measures imposed on hotels and large businesses (they have to install low pressure showerheads, low flow toilets, etc). Make sure floodplains are adequately mapped and riparian areas are buffered with vegetation.
7 months ago

permeable driveways, plant oak trees in the parks
7 months ago

see infrastructure and energy
7 months ago

No c
7 months ago

Climate change is our biggest threat!
Flooding, droughts, heatwaves, Fires and other extreme weather is already here. We must do everything in our power to combat climate change.
%100 renewable energy ASAP
At least %50 by 2030
EV Infrastructure
Roof top solar
Aggressive lobbying of Duke energy to adequately address climate change and transition to renewable energy, They ARE NOT
Resilient infrastructure
Addressing storm water to mitigate flooding
Fewer impermeable surfaces
Concentrated development and less urban sprawl
less development in the urban forest interface zone that are at higher risk of fires.
Protection of clean drinking water and ground water
Clean up the Lake James Ashe pond!
Free forestry assessments and funds to maintain healthy forests
7 months ago

Stop spraying and allowing Duke Energy to install dangerous radiation without homeowners permission. I forgot what the name of what the installed on our house outside is. We weren't home and not asked or notified. It's very bad for our health. The roads have fallen trees out in the country, along the roads, and they are never cleaned up, nor is the debris. Very sad! We pay taxes for these things. Things are a mess, unsightly and a fire hazard.
7 months ago

Need to consider the long term affects of global warming and what increased hazards will do to the erosion of mountainous terrain
7 months ago

Eradicate the entire Bideng Regime now!
7 months ago
Preserve food sources (farms) and protect watersheds and waterways (reducing flooding and contamination)
7 months ago

Enforce environmental laws against polluting, including dumping toxic waste.
7 months ago

Support crisis planning and disaster prep
7 months ago

Use NOAA Climate Resiliency Toolkit as guide for developing/revising local zoning and building codes
7 months ago

Better oversight of logging, stream health, use of pesticides, building.
7 months ago

Developing stricter steep-slope ordinances and disencentivizing builders from putting houses on mountainsides and peaks.
7 months ago

Preserve riparian corridors and undeveloped floodplains.
7 months ago

More community centers that can truly help and support their communities in times of need.
7 months ago

Reduce the amount of filling in the floodplains. Have more over site over private bridges and culverts that often wash out in floods. Reduce building in floodplains. Promote disconnecting downspouts from pipes going straight to streams. Support watershed protection organizations.
7 months ago

seek diversified employment opportunities and employers who can utilize all skill and age levels. Do not permit operations that use or emit toxic or hazardous materials
7 months ago

See above
7 months ago

Not fixing roads before cramming in overdevelopment is a huge safety risk to our county. Allowing development that will increase storm water erosion and damage to our lands is a huge safety risk. Allowing overdevelopment in medium and high fire risk zones is a major safety issue. Allowing overdevelopment to encroach and destroy our farmlands reduces our resilience. All of these are more pressing than ever with major weather events occurring year-round due to climate change.
8 months ago

Incentives to remove homes from high flood hazard areas. Improvements in drainage along county roads leading from the blue ridge to improve erosion, runoff, and infrastructure damage. Higher use of permeable pavers and incentives for creative storm water solutions.
8 months ago

stormwater mitigation
8 months ago

prepare for next flood
8 months ago

prepare for climate change?
8 months ago
Who knows what this means?
8 months ago

Use fiscal responsibility in management of public funds so that there are always adequate reserves. Prevent waste of public funds by ensuring projects are evidenced based to get positive results for the future of the community.
8 months ago

No comment
8 months ago

Effective regulation and elimination of farm and business polluting chemicals and run off.
8 months ago

Improve drainage and other water diversion to mitigate flooding
8 months ago

Implement a plan for collecting and documenting "lessons learned" from past events. Define disaster recovery plans and periodic test exercises.
8 months ago

support net zero initiatives
8 months ago

stop development.
8 months ago

consider adopting fire-wise rules for certain developments, acquire greenspace with an eye toward flood mitigation.
8 months ago

Offer voluntary review of older homes to suggest hazard mitigations.
8 months ago

Ensure that county-owned buildings and properties are not contributing to community hazards.
8 months ago

Must be a clean and green county. Green canopies must be on the forefront of keeping the county cool and inviting.
8 months ago

invest in measures to keep rivers from flooding near at-risk disadvantages communities
8 months ago

Preserve green open spaces and provide incentives for property owners to preserve woodlands. Incentives to Convert paved parking lots to permeable surfaces with trees to promote cooling and reduce heat absorption. Prevent new construction on steep slopes with dangers of mudslides.
8 months ago

Ensure that the projected impacts of climate change are considered in all county planning or investments.
8 months ago

Incentivize small-scale renewal energy installation (e.g. solar on homes and businesses).
8 months ago
Do not allow development or land clearing in landslide hazard or steep slope areas. Regulate any disturbance of the "toe" downslope to maintain slope stability.

Prohibit water resources and ensure sufficient supply for projected future needs.

Need to be sizing our drainage infrastructure for the new reality of more intense rain events. Also need to consider limiting encroachment in some areas above the 100 year floodplain.

Living wages and sidewalks

Well, how do we make sure that people put out their campfires, or quit intentionally setting fires? Solar panels on all city buildings? Electric car infrastructure and availability? This one is a long discussion.

More attention to discouraging steep slope development, most especially in areas identified as having landslide hazards by the previous state geological survey mapping of the county's high risk areas. In the case of flood prone areas - such as Biltmore Village -- much more attention to planning for supposed "rare" flooding hazards.

Use zoning and planning tools to keep housing out of floodplains and away from steep slopes, and new roads off of those same slopes. Invest in stormwater planning and incentives to reduce flash flooding and increase infiltration of water in our neighborhoods.

Doing pretty good. Buncombe overhyped the mask mandate for groups that were not at risk. There were so many flaws in the way COVID was handled, to me, it shows how inept government will always tend to lean.

I guess this is about preventing flooding. I am not sure what can be done here.

Stop developing floodplains. Invest recurring funds into mitigation buyouts of flood-prone properties. Regulate floodplains based on buildout analyses that includes climate change impacts. Manage stormwater on a watershed basis. Stop developing steep slopes. Require multiple points of ingress / egress to new communities.

Have a zoning code that prevents building on flood plains or on steep hillsides

Create either a paid or voluntary group that is dedicated to improving our riverbanks and works in tandem with government agencies.

Clean creeks out to avoid material build up and thus overflow flooding.

Require downstream considerations for all development. Require open space be a significant part of development so as to reduce stormwater runoff
Enforce the needle exchange.
8 months ago

Adapt to climate change hazards by moving people out of flood zones and restoring wetlands. Enact building codes that require structures to withstand extreme weather events. Install erosion control features on roadsides.
8 months ago

Fully fund law enforcement
8 months ago

Prepare a hazard assessment for natural and human-caused disasters and develop plans to mitigate and/or respond to them.
8 months ago

Focus on the impacts of increased flooding due to climate change and increased development.
8 months ago

Plan for flood impacts using recent Tropical Storm Fred as a lesson in vulnerable areas and communities.
8 months ago

Stop allowing development, use ecologists and geologists who understand the Mountain terrain and climate to be the guiding voice. Politics and money do not care about community and safety and hazard mitigation or resiliency. Much can be prevented if development was based on geology, ecology and an understanding of the Mountains
8 months ago

Enforce erosion control and floodplain regulations
Provide more transportation choices
Encourage more use of solar energy (and lead by example with County-owned facilities)
9 months ago

Hire Laura Lengnick of Cultivating Resilience LLC to help with this. If not, make sure influencers and leaders know and understand the three capacity's of resiliency thinking. We often only think of our "recovery" capacity, but there is also transformational and and response, which is where we need to be thinking.
9 months ago

Coal ash is a primary concern and Duke should remove the ash safely from our community.
9 months ago

I think there is some merit in continuing the One Buncombe fund once the pandemic passes. I think if businesses or individuals could continue to access emergency funding it would make them more resilient as there are challenges in the economy.
9 months ago

Issue here is Spectrum, Dominion Energy and Duke Energy resiliency. We can't have a Texas Deep Freeze fiasco where folks endure days and weeks freezing. County must pressure these utilities to remedy deferred maintenance, continue to green-ize their products, and continue to guarantee rate payers uninterrupted service. Spectrum should be regulated as a utility. We can't function now without dependable internet. Utilities are NOT businesses: they are more related to municipal water supply.
9 months ago

See under Sustainability and Environmental Protection
9 months ago
1) Upgrade infrastructure to high standards of resilience.
2) Scale up renewables.
3) Ensure all County residents have access to high speed internet.

Stronger zoning for steep slopes and close to water ways.

Focus on modern utilities (Natural gas vs. propane)

Recognize and acknowledging differences and providing support and information to enhance resiliency. Emergency babysitting, food, transportation.

Develop and enforce stronger land use rules to prevent disasters.

Emergency/disaster planning needs to be more public forward; educate the public in what to do/how to behave.

Property tax breaks for landowners who implement hazard mitigation measures

Keep development out of the flood plain areas, and ensure that developers are not creating more issues for flooding downstream.

Flood and fire protection measures.

Resiliency
- ensure infrastructure can support the level of development happening. Improve roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, sewer access, water access, and broadband.
- create a program so people can weatherize their existing homes and make home improvements

Hazard Mitigation:
- allow for less impervious surface
- stricter stormwater management regulations for new development
- do not allow building in the flood plan

Create a Climate Action plan that studies how the county may be impacted by changing weather, disasters, and incoming migration of climate refugees over the next year. Identify ways to start preparing now, and what we will need to change about our building and development practices to mitigate some of the risks. Have a community conversation about our fire risks, and actions to reduce those.

More mental health access and de-stigmatization.

cause & effect
Policies that limit hard surfaces (parking lots) and disturbance of natural lands.

9 months ago

Tough and enforceable rules. Get better lawyers for county side with a budget

9 months ago
Lobby for Municipal broadband to be a thing again in NC.
4 months ago

Duke Energy is really sloppy about maintaining the infrastructure for our electrical grid. We need better regulations to encourage alternative energy sources such as solar because, goodness knows, we can't count on Duke Energy to keep a consistent voltage traveling to our homes.
4 months ago

Drastically increase public transit options. A bus route from outlying areas like Hendersonville, Leicester, Weaverville, Canton, etc. to Asheville would decrease traffic, improve air quality, and make 26 less hellish.
4 months ago

More biking, less cars. Car-free zones.
4 months ago

Invest in expanding/upgrading internet in the more rural parts of Buncombe County.
4 months ago

Prioritize renewable energy when building structures or new developments, specifically solar power
4 months ago

NA
5 months ago

Prioritize electrical grid and solar power
5 months ago

Lack of safe, off road sidewalks and bike lanes endangers us all. Updating existing high traffic areas needs to be prioritized. Make hubs for park and drive options.
5 months ago

I want in 20 years every powered house to be solar powered! It will save trees but still power!
5 months ago

better internet
5 months ago

more solar on county vacant lands or buildings
we need more sidewalks and calming traffic measures on 191-Brevard Rd
6 months ago

Maintain current infrastructure by addressing the actions necessary to keep it in good condition.
6 months ago

Improve construction of roads...better safety tools (reflectors; guard rails) repair roads faster (pot holes and collapsed roads
6 months ago

Make sustainable energy truly affordable. Loans for home solar panels only exacerbates inequity issues and debt.
6 months ago
Upgrade or fix the current water / storm water system. There is a leak on tunnel road by IHOP that gets patched then leaks again.
6 months ago

Increase the use of solar whenever possible on new buildings especially on businesses - anything with a large roof area
6 months ago

More investment in solar power, getting the county to Net Zero and reducing dependency on fossil fuels. Building more greenways & bike lanes to provide alternatives to cars to support increase in population. Make sure all new residential housing, industrial and commercial buildings are done so using energy efficient methods and AC/heating (e.g., use heat pumps, not gas).
6 months ago

#RealClimateAction!!
6 months ago

Less dependance on fossil fuels
6 months ago

Go Nuclear
6 months ago

Internet
6 months ago

Need broadband in rural areas, including Fairview. I'm 15 mins from the County Courthouse and I don't have broadband still.
6 months ago

Sustainability. this is part of it. Incorporate it into everything we do. Every new building, etc. make it SOP.
6 months ago

Alternative energy sources
6 months ago

Windmills, highway maintenance, perhaps DOT can pave (single lane) small gravel roads that tend to get very deep ruts every year, hampering safe travel to/from work, emergency medical care, etc.
6 months ago

READ 'TECHNOCRACY, The Hard Road To World Order' by Patrick M. Wood . . . . also his other books. https://www.amazon.com/Technocracy-Hard-Road-World-Order/dp/0986373982
6 months ago

Energy: More sustainable energy
6 months ago

Energy: Help remodel old homes, commercial to be more energy efficient.
6 months ago

Energy: Alt. energy sources.
6 months ago

Energy: More e-vehicle charging stations
6 months ago
Energy: Encourage/promote/facilitate small/individual solar energy for home/business.
6 months ago

Energy: Encourage use of renewable energy, both public and private.
6 months ago

Energy: Get the EV charging station at Public Works on Charlotte St. working.
6 months ago

Energy: Invest in renewables. The county should make renewables (Solar etc.) a priority in all county buildings.
6 months ago

Infrastructure: It would be great to have buried utility lines.
6 months ago

Infrastructure: Buried utility lines improve the attractiveness, especially of downtown.
6 months ago

Infrastructure: All new development has underground lines run to the property.
6 months ago

Infrastructure: electric car charging stations.
6 months ago

Infrastructure: We need a Buncombe County Fire Department. Resources are duplicated with more heavy rescue trucks in the County than the City of Charlotte. Fire stations are not well thought out, some are less than 3 miles apart. Training is not consistent across the board. Pay is not consistent across the board.
6 months ago

Infrastructure: Free wifi and underground utilities
6 months ago

Infrastructure: wifi sources.
6 months ago

More job opportunities for environmental stewardship, that include living wage and benefits. More electric car charging stations, incentives to developers for solar panels on new and existing housing.
6 months ago

Internet infrastructure in most of WNC has been behind the national curve, mostly because we face serious topological challenges. We can overcome this. Encourage other providers to see this as an opportunity and hopefully more competition will follow.
6 months ago

sidewalks
6 months ago

Farmlands are infrastructure/essential. Ensure all streetlights, commercial & residential lights are shielded to protect light trespass
6 months ago

CONNECTED GREENWAYS
6 months ago
We need to promote renewable Energy substations for extended power outages. Community centers or fire dept. as an example. More renewable energy that is not just feeding the corporate power grid. Increase energy efficiency of all County buildings (old & new), increase efficiency standards in the development review process, more local foods through food hubs to lower vehicle miles traveled.

6 months ago

support for families with solar generation. investment.
6 months ago

Lobby to protect net metering for residential solar. 50% renewable energy 2030
6 months ago

clean up lake julian ash pond (make Duke) without rate hikes
6 months ago

pipe/fast
6 months ago

Maintenance and update of infrastute.
6 months ago

Ensure all new building construction makes the roofs solar-capable and solar-ready. Accelerate the speed and scale of distributed solar PV installations, and especially replacement of combustion with electrification powered with onsite and locally distributed solar-battery microgrids.
6 months ago

Accelerate the speed and scale of distributed solar PV installations, and especially replacement of combustion with electrification powered with onsite and locally distributed solar-battery microgrids.
6 months ago

Adding local transfer stations or trash and recycling drop offs in Leicester
6 months ago

road repair in rural areas
6 months ago

Free Web3 basic onboarding info - what is blockchain? NFT? Web3 wallet security?
6 months ago

Internet to all areas - safe roads and bridges
6 months ago

internet for all areas
6 months ago

more reliable, faster internet in all areas of county
6 months ago

solar
6 months ago

wind power
6 months ago
- More mixed use development
- More alternative energy sources
- Reduced energy usage
- More infrastructure for not-car use

6 months ago

Require more of developers. They are in it for the money. They build and don't consider what the impact is on those already living here. I don't know what, if anything, they currently contribute towards water, sewer, road improvements and broadband expansion. But they need to have some “skin in the game.” Sadly, much of this kind of work requires state funding, and as we know all too well, Western North Carolina continues to get the short end of the stick. Also, we have a useless Congressman, and two Senators who only come here when they need campaign contributions.

6 months ago

increase use of solar, wind, water and other renewable energy

6 months ago

Require any new developments to contribute funding for ANY infrastructure needs including new or improved roads, traffic signals, sidewalks, etc., and not make residents/taxpayers pay for these improvements.

6 months ago

Keep it along main roads. Broadband expansion!!

6 months ago

Help small water systems that are struggling to make improvements that will benefit customers/residents - could be CapEx funding or helping to consolidate with larger municipality systems.

6 months ago

Reduce barriers to rooftop solar

6 months ago

Incorporate Blue Horizons Project strategic Plan for achieving 2042 100% renewable into comprehensive plan

6 months ago

Incentives for LEED or other higher efficiency program for new construction

6 months ago

Find a way to stop new fossil fuel infrastructures including new gas hookups in residences and industry

6 months ago

Provide property tax incentive for solar on homes and buildings

6 months ago

Create a public entity to promote renewable energy in county for large WIND and solar and hydro projects

6 months ago

Use affordable housing funds to end use of resistance heating, oil heat, and propane heat

6 months ago

SOLAR - build a floating solar installation on reservoir and other lakes in the area.

6 months ago

Solar incentives with tax breaks - encourage statewide and possibly provide locally

6 months ago
Perks like closer parking for electric vehicles, more electric community transportation like trains, larger roadways and more bridges for improved traffic flow
6 months ago

Investment in renewable energies.
6 months ago

new commercial buildings energy efficiency standards
6 months ago

provide more electrical charging stations throughout the county
6 months ago

broad use of agri-voltatics for both produce and grazing animals
6 months ago

100% renewable
6 months ago

Be a diversified energy leader
6 months ago

Please can we cover county buildings with solar panels and cistern the runoff for micro-hydro? Harvest methan
6 months ago

More investment and implementation of clean energy. Alternative energy sources.
6 months ago

Fix the water pipes.
6 months ago

Better insulation in old buildings - less energy used.
6 months ago

Encourage use of opening windows in businesses opposed to using AC.
6 months ago

Should be integral to all planning for additional homes, schools, streets - all are integrated and interdependent on your coordination.
6 months ago

More solar panels
6 months ago

Focus on solar and other forms of environmentally sound energy. Design infrastructure to promote local community, ease with getting basic needs without getting in a car, and places for folks to come together.
6 months ago

invest in solar
6 months ago

Stop letting duke energy dictate procedures
6 months ago
Water, Water, Water, Bring the water infrastructure up to par.

6 months ago

Sidewalks, figure out a better way to deal with electric and internet lines, put FREE solar and green roofs up on every home, more parks and greenways connecting neighborhoods so people can safely walk, bike, etc. A county sponsored electric vehicle ride share program with vouchers for those that aren't rich, energy vouchers for those that are poorer and a program to help them make their homes more energy efficient - this isn't hard folks. Lots of people want work. I don't see our tax dollars currently going anywhere that actually benefits the people that live here.

6 months ago

more renewable energy. (using public building roofs for solar panels)

6 months ago

Where W+S going to go? Who controls?

6 months ago

restrict large apartment complex building + high volume commercial development to X distance from highways. Force developers to pay to build/expand roadways to compensate/improve local infrastructure

6 months ago

More Sustainable Options. Water w/ River Access, Wind & Solar on older/not used land

6 months ago

switch from gas power to nuclear. will reduce fracking, good jobs, sustainable, clean, low-cost

6 months ago

nuclear energy. Get off the Solar kick.

7 months ago

Protect our water by mitigating erosion and flooding events. Require new development to have a sustainable waste water and erosion plan in place, and provide incentives to current landowners to make positive ecological change thru native plantings and water management

7 months ago

Disconnect with transportation infrastructure and development

7 months ago

Connect Buncombe with Broadband service.

7 months ago

Extend water and sewer to areas of failing septic/well.

7 months ago

Finish 1-26 connector.

7 months ago

Larger investment in public transportation.

7 months ago

Bring in Amtrak.

7 months ago

Insufficient infrastructure exists to support growth. Especially water.

7 months ago
Development displaces wildlife.
7 months ago

County should be concerned about current residents needs first.
7 months ago

Infrastructure needs to keep pace with (at least) or anticipate future development. Otherwise the county is relegated to playing catch up.
7 months ago

Concerns about insufficient infrastructure to accommodate growth, especially water.
7 months ago

Solar.
7 months ago

Require EV charging at multi-unit density housing.
7 months ago

Increase solar viability by working on energy policy.
7 months ago

Work towards more renewable energy sources / solar goals.
7 months ago

Electric charging stations for cars.
7 months ago

Renewable solar Duke policies.
7 months ago

Stop with the solar power.
7 months ago

Subsidize energy efficiency.
7 months ago

Nuclear.
7 months ago

No nuclear.
7 months ago

Support / increase use of sustainable energy.
7 months ago

Keep supporting sustainable energy
7 months ago

The County must promote and develop alternative energy sources in order to mitigate (at least) or reverse (at best) the effects of climate change.
7 months ago

Use tourism tax for activities that only benefit locals. Give no more tourism tax to marketing for tourism!
7 months ago
wind energy
7 months ago

more electric car charging stations
7 months ago

more public transportation
7 months ago

more solar panels on county city buildings
7 months ago

Mas fuentes de energía
7 months ago

mas energía solar para casas móviles
7 months ago

Mas energía solar para casas solas o móviles
7 months ago

energías menos agresivas con el medioambiente pero sin que sean las comunidades desplazadas
7 months ago

no privatizar los hospitales
7 months ago

hospital accesible
7 months ago

supporting sustainable energy use through infill development affordable housing
7 months ago

Looking @ opportunities for multi-use facilities that serve multiple uses and support goals across priority areas
7 months ago

consideration for aging population
7 months ago

red pandas
7 months ago

nesecito mas inf
7 months ago

nesecito mas inf.
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago
More incentives for prioritizing renewable energy - for businesses and individuals who choose renewable energy sources in structures and vehicles
7 months ago

More alternate energy sources and incentives. More beautiful buildings. No more cookie cutter hotels.
7 months ago

No privatizar los Hospitales
7 months ago

Hospital accesible
7 months ago

Mejores carreteras y caminos rurales, extensiones de servicios públicos a áreas rurales
7 months ago

Más fuentes de energía
7 months ago

Más energía solar para casas móviles
7 months ago

Más energía solar para casas solas o móviles.
7 months ago

energías menos agresivas con el medioambiente pero sin que sean las comunidades desplazadas
7 months ago

Acceso económico a paneles solares
7 months ago

Internet should be public utility. Electric could also be a public utility. Assist home & business owners to go solar and use gray water for toilet flushing. Eliminate "good ol' boy clubs" from public business.
7 months ago

Anything to reduce car travel - greenways, sidewalks, expanded bus service
More solar on government buildings
7 months ago

Let's be a leader of building out EV charging stations. And Please, we can't have a coal fired Duke Power station in AVL. It is so incongruent with who we are as Environmentally Conscious Citizens of AVL.
7 months ago

NO SE
7 months ago

Review solar and wind alternatives to provide sustainable energy
7 months ago

Will the state or county be helping with renewables for existing homes? How will we meet the current goals for renewables?
7 months ago

Follow through with the county's commitment to reach 100% renewable energy. More bike lanes.
7 months ago
Transportation costs and convenience to get to work, training, etc?
7 months ago

Use solar energy in county facilities and encourage its uses in the county.
7 months ago

New sewage system. Better roads. Energy increases to accommodate growth
7 months ago

Be sure there is no lead and other toxic elements getting into drinking water.
7 months ago

Solar roofs on all government and school system buildings and as many small larger businesses, apartments, single family homes, etc. All structures should go solar or wind power. Tax breaks for all.
7 months ago

Actually do the connector! Look at all the traffic coming in and out of the city/towns to come up with better infrastructure. If I was traveling on I 40 or 26, I would avoid visiting Asheville due to the backups on the interstates. It is as bad as Charlotte and we are nowhere near their size.
7 months ago

Encourage transition to renewable energy sources such as solar with strong incentives. Encourage shift to electric vehicles and farm tractors.
7 months ago

Electric cars, charging stations, solar panels, green roofs, living walls, lights out at night where possible. Less new development, less pavement, and more emphasis on using what already exists. Less pavement and more greenspace. Community gardens. Native plants in all County spaces.
7 months ago

Tax break for preserving wild areas and solar energy.
7 months ago

Commitment and follow-through on achieving near total renewable energy: sources & improved thorough building codes
7 months ago

Sustainable sources of energy i.e. wind turbines in Zone 7's, hydro power
7 months ago

NA
7 months ago

Improve cycling infrastructure to foster increased reliance on the bicycle for both transportation and recreation
Expand solar pv generation ...real estate tax credits for pv installations, county building pv installations, county funded 'open land' pv installations
7 months ago

Obtener mas paneles solares para cada vivienda.
7 months ago

Promover la energia mas limpia y menos abrasivas y hacerlas accesibles
7 months ago
Take action to bring roadways up to meet current and future needs of increased population. Promote energy self sufficiency by giving perks or tax rebates to those willing to invest in solar or wind power. Make these options more affordable. Give incentives to invest in hybrid or electric vehicles. Make it mandatory that all government buildings be using these energy sources and any new investors building in the area, have this in their development plan. If we are allowing new big business into our community, they should not get to benefit from our tourism and population, if they are not, also, helping in some way to better our infrastructure and energy future.

7 months ago

Same as above land of sky regional council waste reduction partners consult and let them help guide actin steps

7 months ago

Commitment from the county to use 30% renewables and have electric fleet. Smart grid installation. Solar on county buildings.

7 months ago

more frequent and free bus service, shuttles to west asheville, shuttle to airport

7 months ago

A free downtown trolley

7 months ago

paneles solares para todos

7 months ago

Please prioritize high speed internet infrastructure. I rely on a poor cellphone signal for internet and find myself unable to do work or school from home.

7 months ago

As Europe is currently finding out, and there is a lesson here....energy resources must be community based and multiple source. We should not attempt to replace Duke Energy but should be working in concert to utilize multiple production sources in the community infrastructure. We have a major WNC river in the county. The small hydro plant at Little Pine is still running. When I signed off of a right of way for 3 phase power coming thru our community, Duke guy told me then that 7% of power on line going into Haywood still comes from that hydro plant. If everything went south and the Julian facility was off line, they could still route some power to critical infrastructure from that hydro unit. I do not know if that is still correct or not, but the lesson should be clear. Solar stations and collective units should be included in infrastructure planning. Incentives could be created to encourage food/farm/grocery/fuel operations to install solar additions to supplement. Water and power options need to be in place for the high density developments and apt bldg complexes should the grid be hacked or power be interrupted by unfriendly actors, mega storms, or solar storms. Just as we are having to development climate resilient agriculture, we must develop climate and geopolitical resilient community infrastructure.

7 months ago

We are in the mountains- wind turbines should be considered.

7 months ago

No c

7 months ago

More bike paths!

7 months ago
Lobby Duke to go %100 renewable ASAP
County must go %100 renewable ASAP
At least %50 by 2030
Rooftop solar on all public buildings
Rooftops solar incentives for private homes and businesses
EV infrastructure
Clean up Duke energy Coal Ash Pond
More walkable and bikable greenways out into the county
Concentration of new development to prevent more cars clogging the roads
Resilient infrastructure with massive flooding and other disasters in mind
Planning for climate change, it is already here.
We are also likely to see an influx of climate refugees putting extra strain on our infrastructure. It is already happening
7 months ago

Traffic studies of major thoroughfares such as 25, 25A, Mills Gap Road, Gerber Road, and nearby areas with aim at better timing traffic lights to reduce ingoing traffic congestion in these areas.
7 months ago

Fix the roads. They are eroding and dangerous.
7 months ago

Plan out and reserve land for future communities to reduce and prevent future traffic and energy issues.
7 months ago

roflmao...
7 months ago

Continue making pushes towards solar, water, wind and bio-fuel technology/energy usage.
7 months ago

Make all future development or repair compatible with sustainable practices, even if it costs more now, it will save us money (and lives) in the long run. Renewable energy, saying no to fossil fuel-based sources.
7 months ago

Bike roads not just lanes - buses with better routes and service
7 months ago

More electric car plug in sites, including in multifamily residences, and a shuttle from downtown to the blue ridge parkway.
7 months ago

Solar
7 months ago

Broadband internet access
7 months ago

Our roads are falling apart and they aren't wide enough in some areas. No more bike lines in busy areas. No one can bike from Leicester to Merrimon Ave, even if you add a bike lane. I've never seen anyone use the one on Charlotte street.
7 months ago

Reduce carbon footprint
7 months ago
Fix existing infrastructure for safety. Don't ban cars until all the electric charging stations are planned and ready for install
7 months ago

Regular buses to outlying areas. Asheville to Leicester. Asheville to Marshall, etc.
7 months ago

Electrify all city and county vehicles and provide tax incentive to vendors of hydrocarbon fuels to install electric charging stations
7 months ago

Encourage solar energy and move rapidly towards a fossil free environment.
7 months ago

Just Say No to Fracking. Water is Life.
7 months ago

Offering credits or low-interest financing for solar installation on residential and commercial properties. Installing wind and solar on county-own lands where feasible. Taking a new look at our current auto-centric transportation and infrastructure and thinking about how it might be repurposed to better serve residents in the 2020s, many of whom want safe, slow, walkable, streets that foster a street scene and sense of community.
7 months ago

"Green" County buildings. Invest in electric vehicle infrastructure.
7 months ago

Storm water regulations.
7 months ago

Require or give tax breaks to developers that provide alternative energy sources to people living in their homes. Environmentally friendly means of collecting rain, water run off, etc. Require developers to plant trees or plants that are native to areas.
7 months ago

More robust land use legislation to regulate development and prevent sprawl
7 months ago

Consider agriphotovoltaics (APV), the co-location of solar on working farm lands. Both can co-exist if planned and designed intentionally.
7 months ago

extend public utilities along transportation corridors and into densely developed areas promote solar and wind energy collection / storage for individual home owners as well as businesses, government and non-profit facilities
7 months ago

Rural road repair.
7 months ago

See above
7 months ago

More wind and solar infrastructure NOW.
7 months ago
Deprioritize new developments and growth and accelerate infrastructure improvements. Roads need widening in several areas.

7 months ago

Better roads to control mitigate traffic jams

7 months ago

Invest in municipal wastewater treatment and get the county away from septic systems!

8 months ago

New development both residential and commercial to have a significant use of solar panels. The cost of the panels and maintenance would be paid by Duke Energy in exchange for the home/business providing energy to Duke so that number and size of power plants can be decreased to be used for facilities such as government buildings, schools and hospitals.

8 months ago

Allow for NZE requirements on new builds, support energy and efficiency upgrades with incentives

8 months ago

Increased water and sewer access to more parts of the county. Better road systems in the county to prevent local traffic from intersecting with interstate traffic. Incentivize residential solar additions.

8 months ago

Is it possible to bury all new power infrastructure?

8 months ago

can we get renewable energy sources spread out throughout the county?

8 months ago

Create a list of existing corridors that can support new infill development, increased bus transit options & walk | bike-ability to reduce single-occupant automobile trips and make from land-use & zoning plans & regulations that focus growth on these corridors.

8 months ago

Expand broadband - make Buncombe a “free internet” space!! Develop incentives for multi-resident housing to provide EV charging stations - right now incentives are limited to individuals and businesses, so condos have no incentives to install. Required new developments to include EV charging stations as part of plan approval. Establish a “safe camping” area for unhoused persons who prefer that option and put in/maintain more public lavatories. SIDEWALKS wherever possible!

8 months ago

Incentivize sustainability

8 months ago

Focus on modern upgrades and efficiency for energy needs. Much of the so-called ‘green energy’ that is being promoted is not good for the environment and is not sustainable. Don't believe the hype; do your research.

8 months ago

Renewables, wind, solar, geothermal

8 months ago

Solar incentives

8 months ago

100% solar and wind power.

8 months ago

https://publicinput.com/report?id=13968
Survey water customers and evaluate the effectiveness and competency of water distribution systems. Determine and prioritize needed improvements. Should the city of Asheville maintain control? Build a list of infrastructure requirements for the area and the owner of each of those components. Determine what’s missing, what’s working well (and what’s not). Evaluate the remaining life of each component and ensure that there is a plan in place that will maintain or replace needed components before they fail. Support and encourage the use of alternative energy sources among citizens and business and government assets. However, do not penalize those who choose to continue using conventional energy sources - do not attempt to force alternative energy sources upon the community.

8 months ago

Cleaner energy

8 months ago

support net zero initiatives

8 months ago

stop development, improve solar usage

8 months ago

incentivize higher levels of energy efficiency standards in new construction. expand broadband everywhere and help people pay for it.

8 months ago

Hydrogen Systems, electrolyzers, shipped H2, and fuel cells working with renewables and batteries.

8 months ago

Provide more information and guidance on solar and alternative energy options; encourage community colleges to provide training for alternative energy construction

8 months ago

Continue to update transportation (clean) and expand routes. Add incentives for energy efficiency for both the public and private buildings.

8 months ago

going rid of stringent requirements around solar panel installation certification

8 months ago

Encourage use of renewable energy in private sector though whatever means possible. Continue with plans to develop solar farm on old landfill. Continued investment in water system maintenance.

8 months ago

Make commuting by bike safer on urban roads.

8 months ago

Incentivize small-scale renewal energy installation (e.g. solar on homes and businesses).

8 months ago

Roads and bridges need to be maintained first and foremost but we need to also reconsider our electric grid and power lines. More power lines need to be below ground. More electric car charging stations need to be considered too.

8 months ago

The fire marshall puts a limit on the number of people allowed in a building for a reason - we need to put a limit on how many people the county can sustain - and we're there. I understand folks wanting to move here - but at some point - they should have to looks elsewhere.

8 months ago
Fix aging infrastructure, transition to solar, wind
8 months ago

sidewalks, crosswalks and bus stops WITH benches and WIND barriers
8 months ago

Please please please move along the I-40/Pisgah Hwy project. It is going too slow!
8 months ago

Incentivize green building. Require investment in/building infrastructure by new business and developments in progressive infrastructure and energy efficient buildings and charging stations, etc.
8 months ago

Yes. Be careful. Lots of overhyped technology right now. If a business wants to come to spend their own money putting in a solar farm, let them. Don't fork over taxpayer money until the certain tech is 100% worth it.
8 months ago

expanding broadband access is already being done. How about community solar panels or developing a way to make solar more accessible. Check on new developments in solar such as solar generating tiles and see if they can be incorporated. I have seen small solar panels attached to lamp posts and traffic posts in other places. Explore whether there is a way to utilize gases released from landfills. Encourage builders and developers to incorporate energy efficient materials and tactics.
8 months ago

Reward urban redevelopment and in-fill. Promote greater "city" density to focus housing in developed areas instead of mass "suburban sprawl". Promote sustainable construction practices to encourage solar, energy independant homes, etc.
8 months ago

Coordinate sewer / H2O / land use on a countywide basis regardless of jurisdiction to the extent possible. Make proactive utility investments where we want development, not where development is taking us. Incentivize energy efficiency & alternatives use. Proactively improve transportation systems while at the same time being more efficient via better land use policy.
8 months ago

See above comments under Sustainability.
8 months ago

Require sidewalks for all new development
8 months ago

A complete overhaul of the mass transit system would be good. A professor once said we don't have mass transit, we have a few buses that go a few places. That has changed a good bit, but the underlying sentiment is still there. Mass transit costs are reasonable, but better access to the places people live, work and recreate need to improve. We also need to work MUCH more in rural transportation. As our housing market gets more and more expensive people move further and further from our urban center. IF they are already moving because of limited means, have inexpensive, available transport to at least a few urban hubs would make a huge difference, especially in the "working poor" and the elderly
8 months ago

I am concerned about water quality and aging infrastructure.
8 months ago

Fix the roads and add turning lanes and bike lanes (Merrimon and Patton are prime examples of what overpopulation in the area has done to traffic with roads built long ago that weren't meant to handle the influx of people we have now.)
8 months ago
Increase solar use on county and city property. Incentivize electric vehicle purchases through tax relief and rebates. Also, provide charging stations in the county. Consider a solar farm. Consider ways to use hydroelectric generation. Consider nuclear power.

Buncombe county is way behind in upgrading the current infrastructure. Before adding more development the infrastructure should be upgraded far beyond what is currently happening.

Identify potential developable land that the county desires to be developed and purchase easements for future infrastructure. Land is not getting cheaper.

Too expensive and roads need improvements.

More tourist dollars toward infrastructure

Solar panels on public buildings and bike lanes/greenways

Additional solar.

No more hotels - the recent ones built are ugly and do not represent the beauty of the surrounding area. We have more than enough.

Underground lines moving forward. Funds to place existing lines underground

Additional efforts with other agencies for road maintenance and expansion to include opportunity for multiple transportation modes.

Increase renewable energy and decrease dependence on fossil fuels. Install charging stations for electric cars. Look for ways to reduce diesel fuel use in trucks and farm implements.

Beyond the scope of County or local government

Improve public libraries

Establish a sub-committee on the Board of Commissioners to work with the City of Asheville, the State and utilities on these issues.

Repair and maintain roads, sidewalks, bike paths, greenways. Encourage clean energy systems (wind, solar, geothermal) and support businesses and individuals who utilize clean energy.

Expand bus routes into County and have park and ride parking lots in the County.
Partner with developers and large land owners to meet regions energy needs through expanded renewable energy production as well as commitment to carbon neutrality.

8 months ago

More stringent laws for energy efficiency for new housing (hopefully curbing the new McMansions being built). Keep housing off mountaintops in general (tougher to get plumbing and electricity up there).

8 months ago

Solar should be required on any new and existing structures. Use tourism tax dollars for that. Every residential, hotel and business roof could have solar. Sidewalks to encourage walking and biking. Bus stops with maintained, clean shelters to protect people from weather, have a place to sit and a sidewalk to get to the bus stop. There are bus stops in this county that are just a sign stuck on a curb on a busy roadside, out in the baking sun or pouring rain with no where to sit, no where to put garbage and no sidewalk to get to it. Only a desperate person would use a bus stop like that. Our bus stops discourage bus use and create a social stigma.

8 months ago

(see previous answers)
Support creating and revising street/road designs to be safe for all modes of travel ("complete streets")
Encourage more use of solar energy (and other clean energy sources)
Build up infrastructure to support electric vehicles
Provide more public transportation that works for more people

9 months ago

Evaluate the ability to incentivize at home solar projects. Work to get all city and county vehicles on electric.

9 months ago

Invest in sustainable energy sources. Invest in environmental friendly infrastructure.

9 months ago

Better roads, mass transit,

9 months ago

Build the infrastructure FIRST, not after the fact!

9 months ago

I would like to see more use of renewable energy. Tax breaks for homeowners to install renewable energy on their property. Also for business owners.

9 months ago

Would like to see better pollution prevention and storm water management to keep garbage and pollutants out of our waterways, especially the French Broad River that has increasingly become a defining feature of our outdoor-centered personality.

9 months ago

I know this is likely not under the purview of the county, but I've always wondered why more of the power infrastructure wasn't underground. It seems like that would mean the community is less at risk during natural disasters and even ice storms.

9 months ago

I think there should be the highest possible priority given to clean energy production possible by the county. Widely distributed rooftop solar is an easy way to generate the energy of the future, and I think the county should take up more initiatives like they did with the Solarize program.

Bike paths and multimodal transportation is already listed, but this is a vote to raise its priority.

9 months ago
mentioned above
9 months ago

See under Sustainability and Land Use
9 months ago

1) Electrify buildings and vehicles.
2) Offer residents and visitors multimodal transportation options to access work, events, and places of exercise across the County.
3) Scale up renewables.
4) Modernize the electric grid.
5) Put in place County plans for all natural disasters (storms, flooding, snow).
6) Upgrade infrastructure to high standards of resilience.
7) Remake underutilized auto-dependent landscapes.
9 months ago

Limit where infrastructure/development is allowed. Support/incentivize more energy efficient/insulated homes & local energy creation.
9 months ago

focus on modern utilities (Natural gas vs. propane)
9 months ago

Provide education on energy solutions and reducing use.
9 months ago

Make public transit more user driven. Take a look at this city's transit plan where 70 percent of the commuters use their system. It's the Curitiba Bus System in Brazil. They use shuttle buses in neighborhoods and the buses run very frequently and consistently. https://www.reimaginerpe.org/curitiba-bus-system
9 months ago

Solarize county owned buildings.
9 months ago

We need to act on road expansion to support the influx of new renters and homeowners across the county. We also need high speed broadband available throughout the county and the only way to accomplish this is to incent one or more providers to offer it in the less demographically dense areas.
9 months ago

Maintain existing county facilities and enhance same rather than construction on new sites.
9 months ago

Public transit. Raise taxes on cars. Carpool parking lots.
9 months ago

We need a "family bathroom" as a new construction building mandate, when it fulfills the purpose. The #1 infrastructure need for the transgender community is the individual bathroom in every building. Frankly, there are times where everyone, including the disabled, needs that space.
9 months ago

Ensure that we have local microgrid battery storage to maintain critical services during emergencies.
9 months ago

The roads are not adequate to support the traffic. Stop approving apartments and housing developments until the roads catch up.
9 months ago
Infrastructure: create more sidewalk networks, create more bike lane networks
Energy: reduce carbon footprint by using more efficient and local materials
9 months ago

Work with the state to require traffic calming in all neighborhoods. Increase sidewalks when walking in the street is not safe. Help residents to reduce energy consumption, access solar and other technologies, and weatherize their homes.
9 months ago

Considering wildlife crossways in developments. Look at feasibility of Permeable pavement for our highways/roads, or other green alternatives to asphalt. Reducing our dependency on Duke Energy as their portfolio is largely coal--find more sustainable methods of energy--like solar.
9 months ago

nuclear fusion
9 months ago

Buried power, more affordable solar power, cable cars like San Francisco for downtown people moving, fun to ride and not a bus. Affordable Programs to upgrade house insulation and heating/cooling systems
9 months ago

Improve roads and local access.
9 months ago

Strong support for our police and fire departments. We depend on them to be there when needed.
9 months ago

Provide additional tax incentives for installation and maintenance for power generated by solar and wind and geothermal.
9 months ago
Suggested action items for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, and UPWARD MOBILITY

Abolish the room occupancy tax. It was regulatory capture from the start for an industry to force all their competitors to work together to advertise not designed to benefit the county, if it cannot be abolished continue to fight for the majority or all of it to benefit long term project to improve the quality of life of county residents such as expanded green ways, better sidewalks, better bus services, mental health, transitional housing, low barrier shelters anything that could remotely be argued to make a tourist's time here more pleasant by serving the needs of the residents.

4 months ago

Encouraging 'higher paying' industry to the area is often a trap. The incentives given to attract a business is almost never balanced out by the small number of employees that receive the higher wages. We are better served by encouraging our current businesses to hold to a higher standard.

4 months ago

Increase teacher pay. Focus on education, not on sports. Why did AC Reynolds need a $10,000 jumbotron when all of the textbooks were out of date and falling apart?

4 months ago

Encourage entrepreneurship. Work with Asheville Hatch and Venture Asheville on this! Free or reduced-cost office space for entrepreneurs.

4 months ago

Stop focusing on tourism. Start focusing on attracting companies that provide better jobs. The types of jobs that tourism creates are not sustainable long-term options. No more hotels. No more breweries. More tech companies, startups, etc.

4 months ago

Provide additional funds for public schools and allow input from teachers and parents on how to utilize funds.

4 months ago

Please see above comment in creating training facilities for young entrepreneurs in Asheville. This will have an incredible impact on the Asheville economy. HQ Raleigh is a great example of this model.

5 months ago

Attract and retain a talented workforce with first-rate public education, affordable and safe housing within walking distance of great amenities, high-speed internet and sustainable utilities, access to affordable childcare and health care, and high-paying jobs in diverse industries.

5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have a pet store because I don't want people to be lonely.

5 months ago

I want the restaurant%

5 months ago

Most of everything public but since that can't happen some of the stuff is public. like banks, books, gas, and businesses.

5 months ago

I want my neighborhood to have a library because I love to read and an edible forest because people could just go there and get free fruit to eat.

5 months ago

In 20 years, I want the city to look more like Asheville Montessori School. It would be nice if we had more places to walk the dog.

5 months ago
In 20 years, I want a Halloween neighborhood house w/ a giant spiderweb & spider. I like the restaurants here.
5 months ago

One place I want to go is Walmart.
5 months ago

I plan to open an ice cream stand in Buncombe County when I grow up.
5 months ago

Never take down the Retrocade.
5 months ago

better internet
5 months ago

redevelop the many many vacant buildings into local mom-and-pop stores with affordable leasing options or turn into multi-use development with multi-model transportation options for workers
6 months ago

Invest in childcare and universal pre-K
6 months ago

Provide local support monetarily and in messaging to promote our schools and businesses while creating communication processes for them to address their needs.
6 months ago

community college (more accessible)
6 months ago

equal pay
6 months ago

equal funding for all schools
6 months ago

Make community college free with work-study, required volunteer work or work in a needed sector to "payoff" the cost of the "free education?"
6 months ago

Upward Mobility: Encourage employers to consider natural/developed/ talent/skill as reason to hire, not just educational level.
6 months ago

Free community college and full support of the local community college is vital. Without an educated citizenry, none of the issues can be properly addressed.
6 months ago

Más oportunidades de educación social para la población. Disponibilidad de educacion practica con como manejo de finanzas, conocimiento legal civil básico, salud integral y manejo de impues
6 months ago

Pay teachers more and hire more teachers.
6 months ago
improve working on the gap in knowledge. i schools. Identify trade options in all schools and promote local training options
6 months ago

End economic development without full agreement to Climate Action and Community Quality of Life Protections including traffic, pollution, good paying jobs, etc.
6 months ago

Less homeless, reduce crime. Acres to Mental health
6 months ago

Voucher system for education covers all 3
6 months ago

Increased local stipend for all educators. We are facing a teacher shortage as it is and low pay is part of the issue.
6 months ago

FUNDING FOR UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL EDUCATION
6 months ago

Bring some new industry here. Doesn't need to be manufacturing necessarily, but need something besides tourism.
6 months ago

Our public schools, especially in the Owen District, are leaking participants. The education is viewed as inferior. There's insufficient investment in teachers, facilities, even sports. Much of the rhetoric is about social issues and diversity, which are needed topics of conversation. But I'd prefer the school system prioritizes basic education: literature, history, math, science, etc. Once it demonstrates basic competence, maybe even excellence, in these arenas, then I can trust the system to be able to teach about very complex issues to do with social justice. Right now, it feels like the cart is well ahead of the horse.
6 months ago

Encouraging entrepreneurship with unique business models
6 months ago

Where do the schools fall in educational grades/test scores? I do not know. If they are not all equal, we need to shore up the lower ones.
6 months ago

6 months ago

Economic Development: Investment in sustainability ventures and industries- let's build and employ a greener future!
6 months ago

Economic Development: pay a living wage!
6 months ago

Economic Development: raise the minimum wage
6 months ago

Economic Development: Less TDA money to tourism- more to county to pay for the damage by too many visitors!
6 months ago
Economic Development: Put a filter on all county funded projects/training/funding to first prioritize: BIPOC residents, women, or different abilities. Long-term/generational residents in poverty, and/or a certain percentage (70%)

6 months ago

Education: Increase teacher pay and school resources.

6 months ago

Education: Increase teacher pay

6 months ago

Education: Support public schools through improving facilities and employee pay

6 months ago

Education: Apprenticeship programs

6 months ago

Education: Job training programs

6 months ago

Education: Start Prepping kids in Middle School

6 months ago

Upward Mobility: Too many locally available jobs are in low-paying areas in the service industry.

6 months ago

Upward Mobility: More access to training programs with better pay and not requiring a 4 year degree or higher

6 months ago

Upward Mobility: Invest in equitable grant distribution for construction of deeply affordable housing.

6 months ago

Upward Mobility: Invest in equitable training and business certification programs

6 months ago

Upward Mobility: Invest in equitable on-ramp workforce training for high schoolers. Focused on BIPOC and women and varied abilities only.

6 months ago

More jobs for local creatives, supporting artists and creators who have lived here for years and worked in the service industry for years. Things like Grants, and internship programs, and loans. Help people feel like their skills are valued and make Asheville a better place.

6 months ago

Encourage growth in the tech industries. We are more than kitchen help. Affordable degrees that currently exist at our local colleges can provide the training needed for people to re-invent themselves here and have meaningful careers and livelihoods.

6 months ago

Develop bigger focus on Tech in Sandy Mush. build a tech hub - to provide tech related jobs to households who recently gained internet access

6 months ago

Make Community Benefit Agreements a crucial part of the review process. Developers need to earn a right to be here by being good community participants

6 months ago
focus on developing emerging market. highly skilled workforce
6 months ago

More pre-K and head starts. Free tuition to ABTech for BIPOC. Losing APS is a major downfall, I know it is CoAVL, but such a loss & needs to be filled. Montessori education is phenomenal
6 months ago

pre-school excellence - support excellent childcare.
6 months ago

high school vocational training for good paying niches.
6 months ago

Free ABTech for BIPOC, more Pre-K, better public transportation from more affordable areas (aka rural), rural healthcare more accessible
6 months ago

apprenticeships
6 months ago

low-income/ house / fast
6 months ago

Ensure all students perform at grade level before adding any thing else to a childs education. Work on the basics only until mastered.
6 months ago

An economic development opportunity par excellent is to accelerate the speed and scale of distributed solar PV installations, and especially replacement of combustion with electrification powered with onsite and locally distributed solar-battery microgrids.
6 months ago

Focus on ensuring that more rural residents have internet and transportation to access AB Tech and UNC-A.
6 months ago

Promote area as high arts and crafts market for local
6 months ago

train in Highland crafts - wood crafts and sewing
6 months ago

cottage industries - handmade crafts, clothes
6 months ago

Web3 and tech
6 months ago

I want schools not to be that long
6 months ago

after school programs further out in areas such as Leicester
6 months ago

Early Childhood nutrition
6 months ago
Some kind of system that recognizes each child's strengths and offers training/education to develop those strengths. Greater rewards for good grades, good behavior and community activism.

6 months ago

Free college for two years at trade schools, free college for 4 years for students that go into high demand fields, if they have the grades from high school

6 months ago

refining craft handmade items

6 months ago

Artisan farm produce for restaurants

6 months ago

AB Tech is a tremendous resource that is a valuable partner to industries moving here. We need more diverse employers, offering better salaries and more affordable housing.

6 months ago

AB Tech is a tremendous resource that has proven to be a valuable partner to industries moving here. With the loss of Advantage West, we need a concerted effort to bring more diverse

6 months ago

Increase access to higher education, eliminate the school to prison pipeline

6 months ago

Please require companies that the county is providing incentives to to hire local workers and pay them good wages and benefits

6 months ago

Bring more small businesses like restaurants and shops to Oteen to rebuild its neighborhood and community identity. No more national chains!

6 months ago

Access to preschool for ALL children, affordable childcare

6 months ago

Affordable childcare!

6 months ago

Affordable childcare and universal pre-K. More availability for childcare

6 months ago

Better school funding! A.C. Reynolds MS and HS have serious issues supplying sufficient food at lunchtime and basic supplies for elective classes

6 months ago

Computer and smartphone classes for seniors in the centers

6 months ago

Workforce training programs for the clean energy transition

6 months ago

Need to improve public schools to much higher national level including more innovative and advanced curricula, bringing in educators from prestigious universities for development ideas.

6 months ago
Better teacher's salary. Increase emphasis of trade skills in high school, not just the path towards a college degree.
6 months ago

attract better jobs than tourism/don't put all our eggs in one basket
6 months ago

quality of education partially through higher teacher pay; pay for other quality education amenities
6 months ago

Encourage entrepreneurship
Provide many training opportunities
Provide life long educational opportunities
6 months ago

Early child care so families can work without stress. Programs to encourage reading early. Investing in education is one of the most effective ways to grow our economy, now and in the future.
6 months ago

promote and support the development of more worker-owned and multi-stakeholder cooperatives, including the transition of existing small businesses to cooperative ownership
6 months ago

Pay teachers more than they are receiving. Make education equitable for minorities/upper class folks. All students need an excellent education.
6 months ago

Concentrate on supporting existing small farms. Stop recruiting industry from elsewhere.
6 months ago

With public utilities in county is running up the price of housing.
6 months ago

Need public water and sewer in the county. Property zoned in Buncombe can not get water from Weaverville, commercial zoned property EMP.
6 months ago

I hope that Asheville High School can get more funding. It is a lovely school, but it seems to be in decline, according to my son who is a junior. He often mentions the lack of funding for the art dept. and for teachers.
6 months ago

decrease equity academic achievement gap
6 months ago

Clean up the streets! Arrest and convict the criminals. Stop providing free needles and safe havens for the bums. New businesses will come.
6 months ago

N/A
6 months ago

Less hotels and tourism. Greater emphasis on small business development.
Well, addressing institutional racism might be start - how about ageism? And let's talk about women while we are at it...oh, and how about a library system that actually offers educational and serious books on its online offerings that are actually accessible? In community adult education (and I'm not talking basket weaving and art for seniors, thank you). Sigh. This used to be a community - that valued its community centers, and things that didn't involve going out to eat and shopping. It felt like the place you saw in the movies - now it's just a traffic jam with rude people and everyone with their hands out to pay for this and for that - including my tax bill as I watch my neighborhood become denser, louder, sidewalks crumble, no more quiet or peace or greenness. Angry people packed shoulder to shoulder and for what? It's insane.
6 months ago

Community Fund for BIPOC Biz owners, similar to Eagle Market St. Development Co.
6 months ago

Increase trade skill teaching in Public schools
6 months ago

Job training in high school (nurse assistant, trade, etc.) to get certifications
6 months ago

Merge county & city school systems
6 months ago

Establish mentoring program for disadvantaged youth
6 months ago

Local business emphasis, driving tourist dollars to small business/services rather than outsourcing.
7 months ago

More jobs, business, and employment opportunities with living (plus) wages
7 months ago

Subsidize low income first time home buyers.
7 months ago

Community grants.
7 months ago

Growth in housing affecting quality of education as classroom size increases.
7 months ago

Stop CRT
7 months ago

Push UNC system to offer more graduate degree programs at UNCA to grow and retain local talent.
7 months ago

Faster cheaper broadband, more access.
7 months ago

Fund Pre-K for all children.
7 months ago

Provide more grants to schools.
7 months ago
Pay teachers more.
7 months ago

Provide resources to retain teachers.
7 months ago

Confirm and implement infrastructure redundancy at economic development sites.
7 months ago

Incentivize companies that meet sustainability goals.
7 months ago

Prioritize businesses Buncombe County talent can access.
7 months ago

Offer large tax incentives in corporations to move to our county with higher paying jobs.
7 months ago

Invest in businesses that prioritize green built structures and business practices.
7 months ago

Let private industry take care of itself- I dont want my tax dollars spent on subsidizing any private commercial enterprises.
7 months ago

Again since our biggest industry is tourism, use tourism tax to fund schools, affordable housing, creation of Green jobs and environmental protection ordinances
7 months ago

raise the minimum wage to 17.40 an hour
7 months ago

20 minutos promedio para viajar al trabajo. = acceso a licencias de conducir
7 months ago

oportunidad de entrevista de trabajo sin importancia al record criminal o estatus migratorio sin miedo de la criminalización
7 months ago

equidad de pago para la mujer y el hombre
7 months ago

nuestros que ayuden a la comunidad con el idioma
7 months ago

Apoyo de educación cultural, apoyo de aprendizaje en ambos idiomas
7 months ago

In state tuition support for higher ed
7 months ago

Community schools - schools that are rooted in/driven by community members
7 months ago

queremos para todos la educación de los estudiantes
7 months ago
que todos los niños de la comunidad tengan buenos estudios a través de la ayuda de becas para lograr sus metas
7 months ago

educación para adultos mayores
7 months ago

que lxs niñxs de la comunidad puedan educarse en todos los niveles sin tener que renunciar a su cultura, identidad, lengua materna
7 months ago

ayuda para las escuelas económicos y policiales
7 months ago

involucramiento de las escuelas para los problemas de los jóvenes y niños ya que no se les está poniendo la ayuda correcta
7 months ago

igualdad de apoyo para todos los jóvenes de la comunidad sin importar el estatus de los padres
7 months ago

las escuelas se involucren más en los problemas de los estudiantes ya que no ponen interés en los acontecimientos y hay mucho bullying
7 months ago

apoyo y becas para la juventud
7 months ago

apoyo a escuelas y programas de la comunidad
7 months ago

mejores salarios para los trabajadores porque todo el valor de las cosas cada día está más alto
7 months ago

support for non-licensed FFN (Family-Friends-Neighbors) child care providers
7 months ago

mejoras y aumentos de salarios para los trabajadores esenciales.
7 months ago

Apoyo para las personas que realizan cuidado de niñxs.
7 months ago

Support (financial+) for worker-owned coops in communities of color
7 months ago

funding and support for local businesses start up
7 months ago

tying economic development to what makes our region and community unique. Authentically representing to vistors and making space/priorities for the needs of residents
7 months ago

more support for small businesses hard to compete against big box development
7 months ago
must have infrastructure to support and sustain economy: transportation, broadband, affordable housing, education, etc.
7 months ago

Support and expand quality early childhood education programs
7 months ago

support small business development and growth
7 months ago

courage manufacturing to come back to Asheville more jobs required
7 months ago

red pandas
7 months ago

mas inf
7 months ago

no se
7 months ago

making teacher teach certain ways not only 7 hrs sitting in a table
7 months ago

We need a living wage mandate in this city, hand in hand with rent restrictions.

Incentivize manufacturing jobs coming back to the area
7 months ago

Bring well paying jobs and training to the area. Create scholarships and opportunity for under privileged groups. Home ownership and education and neighborhood diversification are keys to upward mobility!
7 months ago

Mejores salarios para los trabajadores porque todo el valor de las cosas cada día esta mas alto
7 months ago

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7 months ago

Support (financial+) for worker-owned coops in communities of color
7 months ago

Funding and support for local businesses start up
7 months ago
Un pago mejor para los maestros y trabajadores de la educación
7 months ago

Salario de los maestros más presupuesto para más programas después de la escuela.
7 months ago

In state tuition support for higher ed
7 months ago

Community schools - schools that are rooted in/driven by community members
7 months ago

queremos para todos la educación de los estudiantes
7 months ago

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7 months ago

educación para adultos mayores
7 months ago

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7 months ago

Ayuda para las escuelas económicos y policiales
7 months ago

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Apoyo y becas para la juventud
7 months ago

Apoyo a escuelas y programas de la comunidad
7 months ago

Apoyo de educación cultural, apoyo de aprendizaje en ambos idiomas
7 months ago

Maestros que ayuden a la comunidad con el idioma
7 months ago

más presupuesto para las familias con problemas en las escuelas
7 months ago
Más presupuesto para las escuelas para tener servicios de salud mental para los alumnos y sus familias. más presupuesto para mejores comidas.

7 months ago

20 minutos promedio para viajar al trabajo. = acceso a licencias de conducir

7 months ago

oportunidad de entrevista de trabajo sin importancia al récord criminal o estatus migratorio sin miedo de la criminalización

7 months ago

Equidad de pago para la mujer y el hombre

7 months ago

-Public Schools should be fully funded at the highest level. Have teachers/educators at the table for decisions about educating children, not just administrators. Allow unionization of teachers more broadly so that representation is present. Pay teachers their value. Pay bus drivers a living wage that is an incentive to work for (not unlike garbage collection, it's an undesirable job, may it worth the time and inconvenience.

-Charter schools should receive no public funding if they are exclusive in any manner.
-Private schools should have no public funding [period].
-Incentivize the profession so we can have new teachers join the industry, make "being a teacher" an attractive career for kids that are growing up in the schools system now.
-Invest in students, they are your future constituents unless you incentivize them to leave town for their only hope for success.
-All public service should be an admirable and prestigious path for a citizen.

7 months ago

Increase the local supplement for those working in the schools. The state refuses to pay them more and they can hardly afford to live in our community. If we want the best teachers, we need to have the best pay.

7 months ago

Support public schools

7 months ago

Just Economics work for a Living Wage provides a great context for this. And can we build out our Community College/High School offerings to teach the trades better - solid paying jobs for plumbers, electricians, tech workers, etc. Good paying jobs that don't require a 4 yr. college degree and the exorbitant amount of debt that can accompany it.

7 months ago

NO SE

7 months ago

The outer county residents have an underestimated amount of high school dropouts and many older residents cannot read. There needs to be some way to combat this growing problem. Education promotes upward mobility and entrepreneurship. How can we help educate the children locally without LONG bus rides to and from school?

7 months ago

We have good public schools, but college prices keeping climbing and they make it hard for students to see a college education as an option. How can college affordability be prioritized. Can we provide more apprenticeships? Local programs? Etc?

7 months ago

Increase foreign language immersion programs in k-12 public schools.

7 months ago
Support small businesses. Make it easier to build develop. Improve education. Sustainable employment.
7 months ago

Work with civic groups for scholarships for low to moderate income people to attend ABTECH, UNCA, etc.
7 months ago

Upward mobility is through education. Free tuition for lower income families or individuals. Jobs for students in the community while going to school.
7 months ago

Convenient transportation access—near schools and jobs. wages? costs?
7 months ago

Lure higher paying industry or companies here.
7 months ago

Strong emphasis on information literacy skills for citizens. Develop plans to improve opportunities for a profitable local journalism model.
7 months ago

thorough training and better paying jobs. Eliminating achievement gaps among student races. Improved affordable education for all.
7 months ago

Make sure legislation is passed to keep minimum wag in keeping with cost of living, Support programs developing low cost housing like Habitat for Humanity.
7 months ago

More affordable education
7 months ago

NA
7 months ago

Buncombe County 100% Living Wage initiative
Strengthen public education system with increased funding, teacher and admin salaries
Jobs training programs in concert with industry and businesses, apprentice and intern programs with county assistance
7 months ago

obtener mas trabajo y buena paga.
7 months ago

Mas apoyo para los jovenes en las escuelas, de salud mental, cultura.
7 months ago

Educacin de calidad Equitativa Aceso ala educacion para todas las comunidades y las comunidades marginizadas mejor pago alos maestros
7 months ago

Consult area schools and universities
7 months ago

Support for small business owners through loans and rent assistance.
7 months ago
Increase teacher pay  
7 months ago

Public schools need to step it up  
7 months ago

flexibilidad de horarios para el trasporte publico  
7 months ago

Support programs that help single parents and low income people make ends meet while attending school.  
7 months ago

Whew. without the economic development, the mobility is for the young talent to move out of the region and then a depopulation of local human resources occurs ...as in most of the northern and western counties. Without the younger generation, the economic development stagnates or evolves to the migrating inflow and locals are left with serving food or cleaning hotel rooms and family properties get sold to generate income or pay taxes etc.... Somehow (?) we must find balance to attract new world technologies to be employers of OUR people. We have an awesome cluster of educational facilities that somehow educated the employment of an entire brewing industry (which still amazes me). If that could happen, surely we could do the same in health care, fabrication, tech applications. And we do need to emphasize that with the shift in demographics of population, the opportunity for electricians, plumbers, house maintenance etc as economically viable professions. Our world has changed and we have to change with it or be left behind. We are in a world where Elon Musk can move a starlink system in space and provide internet to a war torn country...and yet on the west end next to Haywood/Madison...I can see towers and not be able to get a cell signal. We can anchor in our mountain heritage but live in an interactive world community. If we can do that, the mobility will be the young people wanted to come back to here. My guess is that we are going to lose at least one generation in the transition. A LOT of seasoned, experienced talent has moved into this area from areas that were permanently altered beyond recall by similar processes that can be drawn upon. The balance there is to draw upon that talent to adapt to our needs without losing policy development and gvt power to those resources.  
7 months ago

Free 2 year degrees and/or apprenticeships whenever possible.  
7 months ago

No entiendo

7 months ago

Truly deeply affordable housing.
Support for small businesses
Equity focus.
Stop real estate speculative investment
Fix education disparity in Public schools.
Properly fund public schools.
Hold industries moving to the area accountable
Too often they get huge tax incentives and don't hold up their end of the bargain
I am against the Pratt Whitney Raytheon Plant. And the pipeline proposed to pass under the Blue Ridge Parkway putting our river and groundwater at risk. No War profiteering.  
7 months ago

We have enough hotels, tourist destinations. Crowded, Asheville has lost its charm, locals can't go into town due to traffic, crowded sidewalks and streets, restaurants. It's all about the tourists, who have crowded out the locals.  
7 months ago
Upward mobility is not an issue so long as your residents are able to afford to survive and are able to put money towards savings. Unfortunately they are unable to do so due to pathetic wages in an ever increasing unaffordable city. Force businesses to provide LIVABLE wages and not "market adjustments" to ensure proper growth and prosperity.

7 months ago

Oooh, but remember: democrackkks do NOT want upward mobility for individuals for any reason. They need subservient underclass for their evil agenda ... government DEPENDENCE is how they roll ...education has been destroyed by NAE, NCAE, etc...the teachers have become the enemy of education it seems...

7 months ago

Require any apartments/developments that a certain percentage of income each year be given directly to the school that is impacted by the addition of kids that come with each apartment complex/housing development.

7 months ago

increase funding for Buncombe County Schools

7 months ago

Support our local public schools, especially early childhood education.
Fund social services better in order to help address economic and social disparities.

7 months ago

I love AB Tech! Preschool for all.

7 months ago

Continue to boost and develops our strengths, art, nature, culture

7 months ago

We need pre-k childcare education that's accessible and free!

7 months ago

No one can move upward when rent consumes our financial life. Rent caps are necessary.

7 months ago

Less tourism - it is too crowded and I can't afford my own town. Cut tourism advertising for goodness sake.

7 months ago

Stop the reactive decisions that come from loudmouth activists. Prime example using money unwisely to tear down existing historic monuments.

7 months ago

Revise K-12 curriculum to include civics, economics, along with strengthening STEM+H

7 months ago

Free college for environmental studies.

7 months ago

Support Artisans. Teach living skills. Look at our Elders for their wisdom of what once worked. Love one another, Lift each other.

7 months ago
So much more housing. The hard truth is that even if BC landed an employer offering hundreds or thousands of high-paying jobs, without more housing options it would simply raise the floor to buy or rent. For example, in the Bay Area there are 4 or 5 jobs per housing unit. And many of these jobs, especially in tech, are very high paying. But the extreme reluctance to build housing in the area has created a situation where (as recently reported) modest ranchers sell for $1 million over asking (!). It’s not the lack of high-paying jobs that’s made housing so unaffordable—it’s the lack of housing. Bringing lots of high-quality jobs to the area without building much more housing to accommodate these workers will just put them in competition over existing housing—and these buyers will win.

7 months ago

Invest in our school system. Pay our teachers a living wage.

7 months ago

Access to internet. Completely close homework gap.

7 months ago

Improve public schools, more pre-k childcare options!! Affordable housing plays into this as well

7 months ago

Free child care; two years of college or trade schools. Reward students that maintain certain grade level, attendance and behavior requirements with scholarships or other job opportunities. Provide education opportunities to adults along with transportation and child care help.

7 months ago

Invest in education and small business development. Focus on programs with direct ties to good jobs in our area.

7 months ago

raise teacher salaries

7 months ago

More job training which means more public transportation to focused facility. How is someone without transportation expected to get to job or college without bus service? Higher paid teachers.

7 months ago

Have skilled craft training in all public high schools for the full range of service industries (construction, hospitality, personal care, etc.)

7 months ago

Home ownership assistance.

7 months ago

Non profit academies. Internships work experience...non traditional hands on training

7 months ago

See above

7 months ago

Provide a hospitable business environment that encourages manufacturing migration to the area providing higher paying jobs for a wider variety of the population

7 months ago

More schools so that our kids aren't crammed together like sardines. More insistence on building actually affordable housing, not some pity 10% of a total number of units.

7 months ago

Attract teachers

7 months ago
Continue to strengthen county school system

Target low performing schools with increased county funding for supporting educators (lower student to teacher ratios). Create community centers for better affordable afterschool options for working families.

Continue free lunches at schools. More access to Parks and Rec summer camps and after school for working parents. More pre-K.

Support BIPOC communities in any and every way possible

Stop relying on tourism as economic development. Attract higher-paying jobs to the county and region.

Invest in public education: teachers, supplies, facilities. It is the most important thing to protect our community

Increase vocational training in public schools. Many students that do not excel academically can thrive in different educational formats and they need to know they will have a future, even without four-year university.

Diversify industrial and job base. Improve K-12 education. Leverage AB Tech, a great resource. Create a boomerang program to encourage former WNC residents to return and bring their good paying jobs with them.

Better paying jobs

Raise the minimum wage to $22/hr. Thereby creating opportunities for people to live affordably and better themselves and their children through education and better health care, nutrition and less family stress

Improve standards for schools,

Evaluate existing community knowledge and skills. Determine what employers can employ those resources and work to attract them to the area.

Make a list of industries that will thrive in Buncombe County. What existing businesses could be enticed to relocate facilities and employees to the area?

Consolidate city and county schools. Ensure that excellent public school education is available to citizens. Where there is a need for remedial or talented programs or schools, ensure that they are created. Direct children to the right schools to match their needs and abilities. Expand school choice that allows public education funds to follow the student.

Advertisement campaign

Stop tourism and development and provide training for good paying industrial and tech jobs
More jobs with higher pay, reduce costs of housing and transportation and health care, continue to expand job training programs.

8 months ago

We need a new approach to economic development that transitions to closure of the BTDA while keeping the occupancy tax. The occupancy tax and other funding sources go to a new economic development authority.

8 months ago

Work hard to develop higher paying jobs. Consider tying minimum wage to housing cost.

8 months ago

Make a community college education free to all high school graduates in order to keep them in our community and educated citizens.

8 months ago

affordable housing

8 months ago

Support and fund trade education in high school.
Develop a curriculum that includes life skills at all levels of public
Higher pay and benefits all across the education sector for more educators

8 months ago

Pay teachers more and minimize the segregating impact of charter schools.

8 months ago

partner with AB Tech to create more opportunities for certifications and programs that will help people advance their careers.

8 months ago

Increase teacher pay.

8 months ago

Develop affordable childcare options and Pre-K programs.

8 months ago

Need to focus more on post secondary school technical training to support local industries and businesses.

8 months ago

Bring higher paying jobs to area, support businesses providing careers and hiring local people within community. Talk to Kitsbow.

8 months ago

Pay teachers and all school staff living wages. Make all hotels pay living wages. Make it easier for teens to get their driver licenses. Mtn pro has a monopoly. Create a program to deter teens from dropping out of high school. Mine dropped out of ACS and NO ONE even cared or spoke with them

8 months ago

maintenance in public housing i can't even get them to fix broken windows or kill roaches. Comprehensive plan to help families afford to move out of public housing. Been stuck here 10 years slimmer and slimmer chance of leaving. I work your tourist industry in food and bev wages so bad everyone will leave eventually. If I could I would move where there are mandated living wages, affordable workforce housing and with effective safe and usable public transportation.

8 months ago
Honestly, I want more Charter School options. I am terrified of my child going into intermediate school and beyond for crime and drug issues. Make the schools safer??? Support the bus drivers more? Kids are distracting and rude. Afterschool care needs to be more flexible and affordable for last minute care. I can't work as a nurse on weekdays because I don't have childcare wraparound. Pandemic has made my options slim. I think I am running out of energy to say more about economics…

8 months ago

Less focus on incentives for mega corporations, more on using our resources to build QUALITY OF LIFE features that will benefit all citizens and, in the process, help attract the kind of economic development that's optimum (i.e not so incentive-dependent).

8 months ago

build the greenways, parks, and schools, and economic development will follow. massive overhaul in affordable housing and slow/halt the conversion to short term rentals so that upward mobility is possible. participate in equitable loan programs for housing, etc.

8 months ago

It's going to be hard to make serious progress on this. Nationally we need to ask the question, "What makes a good school"? Then we need about 50-100 years to implement the findings. Parents know what's best for their kids. Enable parents to make as many choices as possible. Be objective and help inform and promote them all openly. Accept criticism and welcome peaceful debate. Give people their agency back and they will take it and run with it. Facilitate workshops on how to become a valuable part of society.

8 months ago

We have a few non-profits that mentor small businesses. One thought is to incorporate mentoring in our schools. I know there is a "class" at Asheville High that encourages disadvantaged youth. Am not sure if something similar exists at lower schools. Teachers are already stretched thin...maybe consider volunteers who have been trained.

8 months ago

Focus on improved public education through new and innovative education initiatives.

8 months ago

Create and support programs that invest in our young people. Encourage and incentivize businesses to participate in programs that offer internship opportunities to youth and engage them in middle and high school. Create more one on one support for those with substance abuse and mental illness.

8 months ago

Stop thinking about jobs in post WW-II industrial terms. Focus on broadband, quality of life, education, & small business development. Small businesses create more jobs than manufacturing ever will. Invest in community colleges and local schools instead of incentivizing manufacturing.

8 months ago

Attract and retain the creative class (beyond fine artists/craftspeople) - such design firms, marketing agencies, etc.; allow these types of visionary/ideas people to shape the look and feel and evolution of the county.

8 months ago

If we recruit technology businesses and make housing available and transportation easier we could improve economics of the area with new jobs for upward mobility

8 months ago

Our public schools must be improved.

8 months ago
Add more work-force training programs at AB Tech and elsewhere that are linked to local companies and management trainee programs to grow with the company and earn a living wage. Work with companies to provide incentives for workers where they provide daycare options and low cost housing options for their employees.

Tourism is the heartbeat of our community and stop attacking it! The tourism industry thrives in a beautiful, safe, and thriving community - don't we all want that!

Provide better education to all residents by improving teacher pay and benefits, spending money on technology in schools, and increasing the innovation surrounding education in the county. Slash the city/county education gap by improving the schools outside Asheville.

Create good careers not just good jobs. People must be able to get into a career, move up the ladder and ultimately match their work ethic and skill to a high paying role. (more innovation)

More tourist dollars toward education

Address the homeless issue and crime issues within this city

Offer opportunities similar to Mountain Bizworks to help underrepresented community build businesses. Develop programs to help underrepresented communities purchase homes

Combine City and County education systems.

Funding to promote new small business owners get off the ground. Bring in mobile educational events for students to participate in.

Care for the locals

Take care of what is already here

The education system here. Jesus people. This is a travesty. We found needles on the bus at Oakley which btw has basically been left behind when it comes to crime, support, funding or any number of helpful tools for a schools success.

Then claxton has kids bringing guns to school.

Reynolds middle for sure has so many fights it's insane.

And nobody ever informs the parents or handles basically anything as far as the board of education.

Get some control over your “leadership” and kindly ask them to do their jobs.

Increase investment in public education, preschool programs, special needs programs, and vocational training. Give local businesses incentives to partner with educational institutions and hire program participants.
Schools that prepare (EDUCATE) children to compete in the economy including American History, law and government. NOT “theory”
8 months ago

the Arts should be included in this area
8 months ago

Take a trip to Greenville SC to see how well that county has incorporated parks, greenways, quality development (while preserving structures that are truly historic), art and good schools while attracting high quality jobs. We could learn from them.
8 months ago

Improve public libraries
8 months ago

Coordinate efforts with the City of Asheville and established agencies.
8 months ago

Ensure that all members of the community have access to a quality pre-K - 12th grade education with trained instructors in up to date facilities with full support of materials and supplies. Provide job training and employment information to all citizens and create opportunities for people to learn on the job and build skills for the future
8 months ago

Attract more businesses that don't require huge amounts of land.
8 months ago

Investments to attract high-paying jobs, expand job training programs, and ensure equitable access.
8 months ago

Higher city minimum wage (although I think the NC Senate has made it so cities can't do that). Better paying jobs (much more support for entrepreneurial community), and better support for a code bootcamp/startup community.
8 months ago

Higher wages
8 months ago

More people, more cars, more hotels, more second properties are not economic development. Its just urban sprawl that puts up the costs of living and lowers the quality of life. This creates a struggling class that are pushed out into communityless, poor quality, poor environment and creates more communter traffic. Which stresses our emergency services and makes our roads more dangerous.
Stop urban sprawl and suburbanization. No more new second homes, no more new vacation properties, no more new investment properties. Put tourism tax dollars to use by creating better bus stops, more sidewalks, more greenways and parks, supporting the renovation and restoration of historic homes. Save the River side of the French broad. Help farmers keep their land. Dis-incentivize and discourage sprawl. Incentivize and encourage preservation and conservation in all communities of race and class. Limit vacation rentals and second properties. Or you will turn us in to Orlando, Pigeon Forge. There is economic development in the sacred and the rare and valuing the folks who live here.
8 months ago

Ensure that all residents have access to high quality learning K-20 regardless of income.
9 months ago
Pay teachers well and recruit good teachers and appreciate them!
Invest in public education staff and facilities
Work to diversify the industry mix and job/work opportunities
Provide training opportunities to match work opportunities (adapt to changes over time) and make the training opportunities easily available to people with lower incomes, less mobility, etc.

Focus on BIPOC communities. Minimize useless Policing and focus energy on violent crimes.

Invest in social services and increase access to these services.

Upward mobility is the most important for me.

The river corridor along Amboy Road is shaping up to be a real asset for the county and city with its outdoor-centered recreation (Carrier Park, Karen Cragnolin Park, Greenway paths, and French Broad River Park) and small businesses (ClimbMax, Wrong Way Campground, Wilson's RV Park, French Broad Outfitters, and Asheville Outdoor Center). These outdoor activities and businesses are bringing more community members and tourists to this area and driving the outdoor brand identity of the region. However, Amboy Rd is heavily trafficked with many vehicles not observing speed limits or pedestrian crosswalks. I fear it is only a matter of time before someone is killed or injured.

Another benefit of this outdoor-centered corridor is its proximity to communities with predominantly minority populations. This would be an excellent opportunity to drive equitable access to outdoor recreation. However, this would require better pedestrian access and safety between these areas and all along Amboy Rd.

Please continue to support the improvement of the Amboy Rd corridor and its evolution into an outdoor-centered asset for all to safely enjoy.

I'm not sure how this works exactly, but I think Buncombe county schools combining with Asheville City Schools is a good idea. The model seems duplicative for a community this small.

I think more support for high school apprenticeships is valuable, as well as more support for early intervention education like Head Start.

Not sure if additional support for child care goes here or not, but I think that's huge for upward mobility. Maybe looking at what's required in order to start a childcare facility and measuring that against the need could be useful. I also wonder if churches might be interested in being part of the solution too. For instance, the church could host a childcare facility during the week so someone interested in starting a business wouldn't have to come up with all the start up expenses. Seems like a win to me.

We favor economic development for start up businesses and entrepreneurs over plug and play big box corporations. The NC Triangle needs to share the wealth. Accordingly, Buncombe needs a new biz development center, with incubator infrastructure and and supportive education services nearby. Our schools MUST influence kids into science, technology, economics, and math disciplines so that we populate these kinds of new businesses locally with new talent. We have to start forcefully shaming the mindless who worry about touchy but stupid issues like CRT. What a waste of resources, while China laughs all the way to economic dominance!
Assess, identify and remove any regulatory barriers to entrepreneurship and the operation of small businesses. Continue to offer economic incentives that are constructed to deliver positive cost-benefit outcomes. Promote education designed to develop critical thinking skills. As much as possible, de-emphasize standardized testing. Develop "magnet programs" to provide diverse educational opportunities and multiple ways of learning. Recognizing the major impacts of forces and situations that are beyond the control of public education, address racial disparities in education outcomes through programs and methods that are culturally sensitive and responsive to individual needs. Provide unconscious bias training for teachers and school administrators. Develop alternatives to disciplinary action to address school behavior issues. See also under Equity.

9 months ago

1) Protect low-income residents from displacement.
2) Strengthen and enforce fair housing laws.
3) Remove barriers to transit-oriented and mixed-use development.
4) Build affordable housing in all communities across the region.
5) Promote partnerships between anchor institutions and local communities.
6) Provide unconscious bias training for teachers and school administrators.

9 months ago

Diversify beyond tourism. Change laws so that more tourism tax funds can be used for local education instead of more advertising.

9 months ago

Create zoning to allow/incentivize small-scale development and/or limit the maximum size of commercial at least in some areas to support small businesses. Encourage some business nodes close to residential to support walkability.

9 months ago

Less govt involvement...

9 months ago

Peer mentors, community members for advice, library assistance for jobs and moving up.

9 months ago

Start recruiting clean industry. We need an economic development program equal to the tourism program. It's definitely lopsided.

9 months ago

We need higher paying jobs available in the area such that people can grow their careers here without having to move to support their continued career growth. And, I would commend the Asheville/Buncombe EDC for their high quality and successful efforts in economic development.

9 months ago

Make it easy for small businesses. Promote charter schools. Promote traditional families with a married mother and father, which is the surest road to economic success for children.

9 months ago

Deal with homeless across food, housing, opportunities, etc.

9 months ago

Increase opportunities for our local entrepreneurs to scale up their businesses and employee more people.

9 months ago

Connect elderly professionals and retirees with students for knowledge transfer
Innovation incubator and create opportunities for remote worker connections to benefit the region
9 months ago

This area needs jobs that pay well. Tourism and retirees aren't going to keep Asheville growing. This bubble is not sustainable.
9 months ago

Economic Development - support small local business, support agricultural businesses and local food systems, support non-profit sector, support rural economies, support more healthcare options and better healthcare jobs, prioritize hiring residents of Buncombe County before importing people for the job. Create more early-childhood education opportunities

Education: Universal preschool in the county, job and workforce training for residents.

Upward Mobility: internal to Buncombe County - allow for promotions and raises based on performance.
9 months ago

Work to attract more businesses that are not focused on tourism - diversify! Increase affordable childcare options, and pay childcare providers a living wage. Increase options for childcare or respite care for children with special needs who have aged out of preschool/kindergarten programs. Help communities form support groups in their neighborhoods where they can offer services to each other - a ride, a meal, mobility help, childcare help, be the leader in setting up some type of program to inspire people to start their own care group.
9 months ago

Consolidate city and county schools
9 months ago

Availability of higher paying job opportunities
9 months ago

Keep the architectural individuality and discourage the banal cookie cutter crap currently being built. If you want tourists to consider Asheville and surrounds attractive then keep it that way. Otherwise you'll just have another Atlanta.
9 months ago

Continue the focus to attract employers with skilled higher paying jobs. Consolidate the City and County schools and support vouchers to allow underserved students to have portability for their education dollars.
9 months ago

Invest in public education by increasing teacher pay to attract teachers of the highest quality. Air for equity AND excellence.
9 months ago
Using the interactive map below, drag and drop pins onto places or areas that you feel should be protected, changed, replicated, or have more housing or employment opportunities. For each pin that you put on the map, include a comment describing what the PLACE or AREA is that you are identifying.

The comprehensive plan will include strategies and actions to implement in the future. Please click on any of the issue topics in the graphic below and type in ideas you have for specific action items you would like to achieve through the plan. Click on the blue box in the bottom right corner if you want to add an implementation idea under a new priority issue topic.

No data to display...