SHARE *the* ISLE

ADOPTED DECEMBER 8, 2022











ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY'S PLAN FOR AN AGING & MIXED ABILITY INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction



On January 16, 2020, the Isle of Wight County Board of Supervisors directed staff to conduct a study on the future impacts of aging on the County's quality of life and levels of service as part of the new County's new Comprehensive Plan. The initial step of the Plan included a community survey of residents on their top concerns with aging in the County as well as their future lifestyle priorities. The next step of the Plan engaged a small working group recruited from the County's Commission on Aging and supported by County staff as well as staff from the Southeastern Senior Services of Virginia (SSEVA) to develop policy recommendations to better direct County actions and decisions as well as guide capital investments to maximize the accessibility in the County to persons of all ages, ability levels and socioeconomic groups.

Through the development of the Plan, the initial stakeholder workgroup identified several common issues that were critical to the successful implementation of each of the Plan's focus areas. Specifically, transportation access and a housing supply which can accommodate different ability and socioeconomic needs were found to be critical to successful aging in the community. These two components permit older people and those with special needs to partake in all the recreational, educational, employment and social opportunities the County may have to offer that creates a high quality of life. The third common issue the workgroup identified was the need for a central clearinghouse of information on all these opportunities and services within the County. Information on transportation services, housing assistance, health care, educational, employment and social opportunities is often dispersed among different groups, websites and agencies which can make locating information difficult, especially among those without access to the internet. The group agreed that a critical element in the Plan's successful implementation is the creation of a coordinator position that could not only serve as a central contact for aging-related services and information specific to the County, but also assist residents in obtaining these services. Below is an outline of the policies and implementation steps for the *Share the Isle* Plan.

The Isle of Wight County Board of Supervisors formally adopted *Share the Isle* as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan on December 8, 2022. The full Plan documents includes additional background information and analysis used to develop the Plan.

SHARE THE ISLE
Isle of Wight County's Plan for an Aging & Mixed Ability Inclusive Community

The goal of this Plan is to provide the highest possible quality of life for all socioeconomic levels of its senior and special needs populations by ensuring ready access to supportive community resources necessary to maintain a safe, financially and physically independent lifestyle.

FOCUS AREA 1: HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLE

OBJECTIVE: The County should provide access to healthy food options, opportunities for walking, biking and exercise, and education on nutrition and wellness.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

1. The County should continue to expand its public system of bike and pedestrian trails, especially to destinations including parks, libraries, or community facilities.
2. The County should expand its transit service to provide connections between residential areas and shopping centers which offer groceries in all development service districts within the County.
3. The County should expand its Parks and Recreation programs and facilities to include exercise programs for all ability levels and include educational programs on such topics as nutrition and treatment of chronic conditions, such as diabetes and obesity which are linked to poor nutrition.

FOCUS AREA 2: QUALITY HEALTH CARE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

OBJECTIVE: The County should provide connections to health facilities and related services and support, including home- and community-based supportive features and programs.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

1. Improve the accessibility of health services.
2. Establish a full-time livable community coordinator position to increase availability of information, educational programs, and coordinate volunteer efforts.
3. Establish a regular working group of community service providers, health care professional representatives, community stakeholders and staff to identify specific gaps in the County's available senior and special need health care services.
4. Centralize and expand programs and services to citizens to enable them to remain in their homes.

FOCUS AREA 3: TRANSPORTATION ACCESS

OBJECTIVE: The County should expand its range of safe, dependable, and affordable transportation options that are alternatives to driving, which promote independence, facilitate employment and educational opportunities, and foster social engagement.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

1. Increase local funding to expand the existing I-Ride service to provide additional routes to serve areas with the highest senior population and nearby activity centers to better meet daily needs;
2. Identify and expand existing volunteer networks that provide free transportation to seniors for medical and senior center visits utilizing surplus County-owned vehicles for immediate needs;

3. Incorporate smart mobility concepts into future road improvements to capitalize on technological improvements such as driverless vehicles, on demand services, and to accommodate future public transit needs, such as including broadband capabilities in public right of ways as improvements are made; and
4. Continue to support the expansion of the County's multipurpose trail system that connects residential areas to activity centers with shopping, medical, employment, educational, and recreational opportunities.

FOCUS AREA 4: HOUSING CHOICE

OBJECTIVE: The County should provide a range of safe housing options that promotes independence and aging in place through market rate units, subsidies, and appropriate design features such as universal design, visitability, energy efficiency, and use of innovative home features.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

1. Create more lifelong livable housing options.
2. Allow for multigenerational housing and increase affordable housing supply by allowing accessory dwelling units in more residential zoning districts.
3. Increase the ability for people to stay in the homes and neighborhoods by creating a grant fund dedicated to retrofitting and rehabilitating existing housing.
4. Zoning regulations should be written to allow homes to be built in close proximity to the services that enable people to remain independent as they age.
5. Implement an affordable dwelling unit ordinance.

FOCUS AREA 5: EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE: The County should ensure employment opportunities for all ages, promote a life-long learning environment, and provide multiple opportunities for economic, social and civic engagement.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

1. Encourage the intergenerational use of public facilities for community education programs of rotating topics such as health, personal finance, job search, keyboarding, interviewing, coding, or home maintenance. These programs should be held at public facilities around the County at different times that are also accessible by public transit.
2. Continue the County's broadband network expansion program to underserved areas of the County.
3. Consider multiple outreach methods to increase community engagement in public policy decision making.

INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

Overview

In a February 2020 report, the US Census Bureau marks the year 2030 as a demographic turning point for the United States. Beginning that year, all baby boomers in the US will be older than 65 years of age. This will expand the size of the older population, so that one in every five Americans is projected to be of retirement age. Later that decade by 2034, older adults will outnumber children for the first time in U.S. history.

For Isle of Wight County, this turning point is projected to happen much sooner. The US Census Bureau projects 19.8% of the County's population was 65 years or older in 2019. The Weldon Cooper projects 21.6% of the population will be within this age bracket by 2020, which increases again to 26.9% of the County's population by 2030. By the end of the planning horizon of *Envisioning the Isle*, in 2040, the 65 year and older population group reduces in size slightly to 26.1% of the total population.

It is now Isle of Wight's turn to grapple with the implications of this demographic shift in the character of our community. How should we adapt neighborhood design, transportation options, recreational opportunities and even employment to ensure that people can successfully age here? Although there are significant challenges associated with creating a successful age-friendly community, the good news is that most Americans want to remain healthy, active, and engaged in their communities as they age. In addition, technological innovation continues to follow the market opportunities presented by the increasing longevity market.

Successful age-friendly communities can address some of the following concerns:

- **Financial Security —** provide a reasonable cost of living through such items as safe and affordable housing and employment opportunities for seniors;
- **Health —** offer access to a wide range of healthcare options and recreational opportunities;
- **Housing —** provide a diverse set of housing options to meet multiple needs, whether it's single family homeownership, a rental apartment or assisted living facility;
- **Transportation —** provide mobility and access to convenient transportation systems for seniors for travel, running errands, or making a medical visit; and
- **Social Integration —** provide ready connections to family and friends as well as cultural and educational opportunities.

The Plan will identify steps the County can take to ensure its residents can age successfully in the community. The initial step of the Plan included a community survey of residents on their top concerns with aging in the County as well as their future lifestyle priorities. The next step of the Plan engaged a small working group recruited from the County's Commission on Aging and supported by County and SSEVA staff to develop policy recommendations to better direct County actions and decisions as well as guide capital investments to maximize the accessibility in the County to persons of all ages, ability levels and socioeconomic groups. Once the draft Plan was developed, the Plan was

presented to the Commission Aging, Planning Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and the community at large for their review and comment.

BACKGROUND

On January 16, 2020, the Isle of Wight County Board of Supervisors directed staff to conduct a study on the future impacts of aging on the County's quality of life and levels of service as part of the new County's new Comprehensive Plan, *Envisioning the Isle*.

This special Plan serves an implementation tool for several policies of the County's Comprehensive Plan including:

- Studying the locations and demands of the elderly and low income populations of the County to inform transit decisions.
- Examining the impact of changing demographics and recreational needs on parks, facilities and programming;
- Continuing to improve access to parks, trails, and other facilities in order to serve all citizens, regardless of ability;
- Supporting life-long learning through schools, libraries, continuing and higher education programs, community-based education programs, and recreation programs for all age groups;
- Identifying regulatory changes that provide opportunities for housing for persons with special needs in proximity to supporting community services and activities;
- Reviewing and revising regulations to support housing types that allow the elderly to remain in their community as their needs change;
- Increasing opportunities within the development service districts (DSDs) for residences to be in close proximity to retail, employment, and public facilities; and
- Identifying possible incentives to encourage the development of a range of housing choices near major activity centers such as employment, commercial areas, schools, and recreation areas.

This Plan will further support and implement these policies.

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

The initial step of the Plan included a survey of residents on their top concerns with aging in the County as well as their future lifestyle priorities. The public input survey was conducted from Monday, February 1 through Monday, March 1, 2021. The public input survey was not designed as a scientific poll using a random sample of pre-selected households, but rather as a broad public engagement effort. The survey was widely publicized, and all residents, business owners, and property owners were welcome to respond. All responses were provided on a strictly voluntary basis and may or may not represent the perspectives of the average Isle of Wight County citizen.

The survey was available both online using the Survey Monkey web-based platform and in hard copy format located at six key locations across the County. Paper copies of the survey were available at the Carrollton, Smithfield and Windsor Libraries as well as the Windsor and Smithfield Town Halls. Copies were also available at the Isle of Wight County Community Development Department.

Staff mailed out notices to 45 different community stakeholder groups requesting participation in the survey. The notices included the website address of the survey as well as a QR code that provided a direct link to the survey instrument. The community groups

included churches, veterans groups, services organizations, the Commission on Aging, and other agencies that serve the elderly population, including Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia (SSSEV).

SSSEV and Isle of Wight County Social Services also provided valuable additional outreach to the County's senior population by distributing surveys through the administration of their programs, such as Meals on Wheels. Assistance with public outreach was also generously provided by County Departments such as Tourism, Parks and Recreation, Isle Cares, and Economic Development which posted notices about the survey on their social media sites.

A notice with the survey website and QR code was advertised in the *Smithfield Times* and *Tidewater News* for four consecutive weeks in March 2021. In addition, the survey could be accessed from links posted on the homepage of the County's website.

A total of 195 individuals participated in the survey. They came from all over Isle of Wight County and used a variety of methods to participate. The majority of participants, or 176 people, chose the online survey tool to complete the survey. This was expected, given that this method allowed participants to take the survey at their convenience. However, about 11%, or 19 people, chose to participate by completing paper surveys.

The survey included several questions for basic demographic information, such as age, gender, household income and which race with which they identify. Below is a summary of the profile of the average survey participant:

- Average age of participant was 63 years;
- About 77% non-military, 23% active or retired military;
- About 48% retired, 49% working part or full-time;
- Majority of respondents were female (63%);
- About 80% white, 12% African American, 4% Multiracial, 2.5% Other, 1% Asian, 0.5% Native American; and
- About 61% had household incomes of greater than $50,000.

Most survey respondents were either somewhat or very concerned about their ability to live independently and remain financially secure as they aged. Most expected their quality of life to remain the same, and most participants planned to stay in the County for the next five years or longer. Most participants owned their own home and felt their neighborhoods were either good or excellent.

When thinking about housing in their senior years, most survey participants chose being able to live independently as their top priority. Being close to family and friends and the ability to stay in their current neighborhood ranked second and third in order of priority.

When it came to ranking priorities for future transportation access, most respondents felt that expanding services for people who need assistance should be the top priority. The second highest priority chosen is repairing existing roads and bridges. Adding sidewalks and expanding mass transit services tied as the third priority.

When asked to identify the things necessary to maintain their quality of life in the future, they ranked the following items as the five most important:

1. Having financial means;
2. Staying physically active;
3. Having access to quality healthcare;
4. Staying connected to friends and family;
5. Having quality health care coverage.

The goal of the survey was to ask the community to share its priorities for Isle of Wight County to better serve its growing senior population. The top five priorities for future investment to better serve seniors as indicated by the survey feedback are as follows:

1. Affordable health care services;
2. Senior Centers/Better Transportation Options (tied for second priority);
3. Internet access;
4. Affordable housing; and
5. Home delivered meals such as Meals on Wheels.

Most people participating in the survey felt that the County was not doing a good job supporting the needs of seniors in the community. When asked about different services provided in the County, public safety and volunteer opportunities received the highest marks while job opportunities and community support services were rated poorly.

The survey results provide critical information on which to begin to explore policy recommendations on how to better serve the County's growing senior population in the future. The feedback helps to narrow the focus of future investment in order to make the biggest impact to serve the most pressing needs in the community as well as to improve existing services. A full report on the results of the survey is included as an appendix to this plan.

SHARE THE ISLE PLAN

Based on the feedback received from the community survey and the Commission on Aging, the Plan seeks to improve the overall quality of life for all citizens, including the community's growing senior and special needs populations by achieving progress in the following five areas of focus:

1. Healthy and Active Lifestyle;
2. Quality Healthcare and Community Support Services;
3. Transportation Access;
4. Housing Choices; and
5. Education, Employment and Engagement.

Within each area, there is a background section and a findings section that collectively set the stage for the recommendations. Whenever possible, they include County-specific data and information. The Plan outlines actions that will support achievement of the overall vision in each focus area. Each set of actions was developed based on community input, research, and data. The overall indicators within each focus area will assist in ensuring the community can evaluate progress towards the vision.

The following executive summary of the *Share the Isle* Plan includes a list of goals that are the Plan's focus areas, objectives and recommended implementation steps to achieve the County's vision of evolving as an inclusive, accessible community for all ages, abilities, and socioeconomic groups.

FOCUS AREA 1

Healthy And Active Lifestyle



The County's own community survey demonstrated that many people place the ability to live independently and remain both physically and mentally active as important to their quality of life as they age.

OBJECTIVE: The County should provide access to healthy food options, opportunities for walking, biking and exercise, and education on nutrition and wellness.

According to AARP, one aspect of age-friendly communities is that they allow older adults to stay active, stay connected, and stay engaged with their community as they age. The County's own community survey demonstrated that many people place the ability to live independently and remain both physically and mentally active as important to their quality of life as they age. In July 2017, the Milken Institute of Public Health released a ranking of 381 US metropolitan areas on how they performed in promoting and enabling successful aging. Among other criteria such as financial security, transportation, health care, and education, the study also ranked metro areas for overall "wellness" based on how they did on criteria such as their obesity rate, smoking rate, diabetes rate, longevity, prevalence of recreational opportunities, grocery stores and fast food restaurants in the area, among others. The Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), of which Isle of Wight County is a part, ranked 69th out of 100 large metropolitan areas overall based on its ability to meet the nine critical elements of successful aging, including wellness.

BACKGROUND

Although Isle of Wight County is too small to qualify for an individual assessment in the Milkin Institute Study, the criteria used in the report are publicly available. The *US News and World Report*, for example, provides an online tool that ranks individual localities on a scale of 1 to 100 and compares them to municipalities of similar size as well as to state and national averages.

The website gives Isle of Wight County an overall score of 63 out of 100 in its healthy community categories. To arrive at its overall ranking, the magazine used factors identified by the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics — a policy advisory board to the head of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services — as part of its Measurement Framework for Community Health and Well-Being. The online assessment tool may be found at https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/virginia/isle-of-wight-county#population-health.

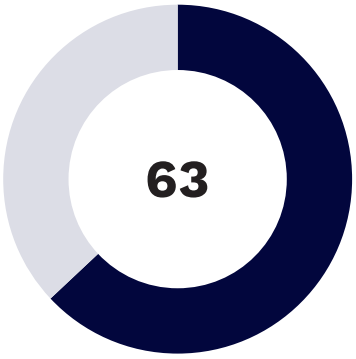
Although the County's score is the equivalent to a letter grade of "D," the County fared better than the state's average score of 53 and better still than the national average score of 48. The County performed higher than average scores in areas such as overall population health, public safety, education, community vitality and the economy. The County received failing grades (less than 60) for equity, housing, food and nutrition, the environment, and infrastructure.

TABLE FROM

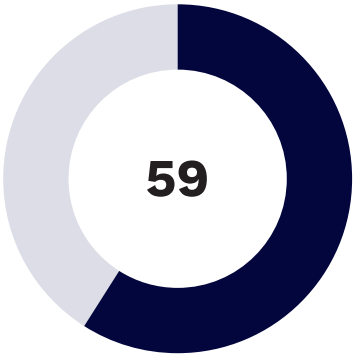
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NOVEMBER 29, 2021

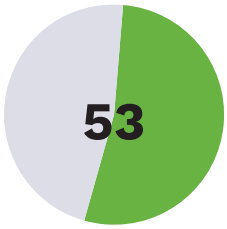
63/100 **OVERALL SCORE**



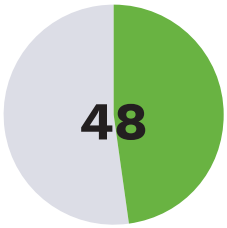
OVERALL SCORE



PEER GROUP AVERAGE
Urban, High-Performing



STATE AVERAGE



U.S. AVERAGE

Read our methodology to see how the scores and rankings were calculated.

CATEGORY	SCORE
Population Health	66
Equity	59
Education	68
Economy	66
Housing	48
Food & Nutrition	45
Environment	50
Public Safety	79
Community Vitality	62
Infrastructure	58

See the top communities overall.

Opportunities for improvement in the overall health and wellness of the community are noted below:

- **Access to care —** lower than average rates of hospital beds per 1,000 population (0 in Isle of Wight) and primary care doctor availability.
- **Mental Health —** higher than average number of adults with frequent mental distress.
- **Equity —** higher than average racial disparity in educational attainment and poverty rates.
- **Food and Nutrition —** less than average availability of healthy food and higher than average percentage of population without access to a large grocery store. Higher than average prevalence of diabetes and obesity.
- **Environment —** higher than average population served by unsafe drinking water. Only 2% of the County's population lives within a half mile of a public park compared to the national median of 18%.
- **Infrastructure —** only 3% of the County's population lives within walking distance of a library, museum or playground compared to 12.4% of the US population on average. The County receives a walkability score of 5.7 as compared to the US average of 6.1 and the state average of 8.4.

Overall, the County's general quality of life as indicated by its public safety record, higher than average life expectancy, economic well-being and educational standards is better than average. However, there is room for improvement to make it even healthier by providing increased walkability, increased nutrition availability, and expanding health care options across all socioeconomic groups and age levels.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

1. The County should continue to expand its public system of bike and pedestrian trails, especially to destinations including parks, libraries, or community facilities.
2. The County should expand its transit service to provide connections between residential areas and shopping centers which offer groceries in all development service districts within the County.
3. The County should expand its Parks and Recreation programs and facilities to include exercise programs for all ability levels and include educational programs on such topics as nutrition and treatment of chronic conditions, such as diabetes and obesity which are linked to poor nutrition.

FOCUS AREA 2

Quality Health Care and Community Support Services



Participants in the community survey on aging chose having access to quality healthcare and having quality health care coverage as the third and fifth most important criteria in ensuring their future quality of life in Isle of Wight.

OBJECTIVE: The County should provide connections to health facilities and related services and support, including home- and community-based supportive features and programs.

In 2013, the AARP Policy Institute published a report, *Is this a Good Place to Live? Measuring Quality of Life for All Ages*, which includes benchmarks to measure a community's livability for all ages such as access to healthy food options, exercise opportunities for all abilities, and connections to health care facilities and related services.

Increasing access to health care and community support services to those areas of the County with the highest senior and special needs populations can help implement several policies of the County's Comprehensive Plan, including:

- Identifying regulatory changes that provide opportunities for housing for persons with special needs in proximity to supporting community services and activities; and
- Increasing opportunities within the development service districts (DSDs) for residences to be in close proximity to retail, employment, and public facilities.

Participants in the community survey on aging chose having access to quality healthcare and having quality health care coverage as the third and fifth most important criteria in ensuring their future quality of life in Isle of Wight. Survey respondents also chose affordable health care as the County's first future investment priority and providing home delivered meals, such as Meals on Wheels, as the fifth most important priority for the County to better serve its aging population.

Most people participating in the survey felt that the County was not doing a good job supporting the needs of seniors in the community. When asked about the quality of different services provided in the County, community support services were rated poorly.

BACKGROUND

Using the most recently available census demographic information, the location of existing health care providers was combined with the location of the census tracts in the County with the highest senior and special needs populations. Consistent with other activity center data, most of the County's health care providers and services are found in the Carrollton and Smithfield areas followed by Windsor, and then the Camptown area. Although the Camptown area within the County limits may have little to no services, it does share a border with the City of Franklin which has additional services to offer, including the Southampton Memorial Hospital.

The US Health Resources and Services Administration has designated Isle of Wight County as a Medically Underserved Area (MUA). MUAs identify geographic areas and populations

EXAMPLES OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AND SERVICES IN ISLE OF WIGHT, VA

PRIMARY CARE FACILITY	LOCATION
Family Medical Care of Smithfield	Smithfield
Nansemond Family Practice	Smithfield
Isle of Wight Family Practice	Smithfield
Infinity Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine	Smithfield
Eagle Harbor Medical Associates	Carrollton
Riverside Eagle Harbor Primary Care	Carrollton
Sentara Family Medicine Physicians	Carrollton
Nakorn Primary Care	Windsor
URGENT CARE/EMERGENCY ROOM	
Velocity Health Care	Carrollton
PHYSICAL THERAPY	
Hull Physical Therapy	Smithfield
Phoenix Physical Therapy	Smithfield
Tidewater Physical Therapy	Smithfield
Pivot Physical Therapy	Smithfield
Sentara Therapy Center	Carrollton
Toland Chiropractic	Carrollton
Bayview Physical Therapy	Carrollton
Rise Physical Therapy	Carrollton
Southside Physical Therapy	Windsor
HOME HEALTH CARE SERVICES	
Growth Home Health Care	Carrollton
Cuadro Home Health Care	Carrollton
Americare Plus	Carrollton
Grace N Home Care 4 You	Carrollton
Home Sweet Home	Smithfield
Seniors 1st Home Health Care	Smithfield
HCC Personal Care Inc.	Windsor
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	
Western Tidewater Mental Health	Smithfield
Smithfield Christian Counseling	Smithfield
Focused Psychiatric and Mental Health Care	Smithfield
Alliance Family Services, LLC	Carrollton
Wholehearted Counseling	Carrollton
Behavorial Health Group	Carrollton

having too few primary care providers, high infant mortality, high poverty or a high elderly population. These designations can help establish health maintenance organizations or community health centers.

A quick internet search reveals the majority of health care providers are in the Carrollton and Smithfield areas of the County. Only one urgent care facility is located in the County in Carrollton. In order to access a hospital for most of the population of the County located in Smithfield and Carrollton, one must drive to Sentara Obici in Suffolk or Riverside Hospital in Newport News. Both of these hospitals are over a twenty minute drive away.

There are several community-wide service providers in the County, including the following programs:

- The Adult Services Program based in the Isle of Wight County Social Services Department provides assistance programs to adults age 60 years of age or older. Services are designed to assist the adult in remaining in the least restrictive setting and functioning as independently as possible, to establish or strengthen appropriate family and social support systems, to support the adult in self-determination, and provision of assistance through approved providers for disabled or elderly when they are unable to care for themselves. Services to seniors can include:
  - SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) — is a program designed to address food needs by permitting low-income households to obtain a more nutritious diet through the utilization of a plastic debit card to purchase food items.
  - MEDICARE — is a program designed to provide a payment resource, either totally or in part, for the medical needs of low-income individuals who are elderly, blind, or disabled, as well as families or pregnant women.
  - AUXILIARY GRANTS PROGRAMS — a monetary payment program designed to assist aged, blind, or disabled persons residing in homes for adults who have insufficient funds to meet their needs as established-by the state board of social services.
  - GENERAL RELIEF — is a program designed to provide monetary assistance, either ongoing or short term, for items that cannot be provided through other means.
  - ENERGY ASSISTANCE — programs designed to assist low-income households offset the cost of energy as well as purchase or repair heating equipment that poses a threat to the households.
- Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia (SSEVA) is a nonprofit organization that provides services targeted to older residents in Chesapeake, Franklin, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Isle of Wight and Southampton counties. Senior Services receives funding from federal, state, municipal, and private sources. SSEVA provides the following services within Isle of Wight County:
  - I-Ride transit services; and
  - Meals on Wheels.
- Christian Outreach in Smithfield, Virginia is a nonprofit community food pantry.

INCREASING THE RANGE OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Being able to provide a wide range of health services for older people is an important component of an age-friendly community. Specific forms of health care for older people could include geriatric clinic services, adult day centers, memory care services, mental health services, respite care and training for caregivers, rehabilitation and palliative care. Other health services could include disease prevention and health promotion, home care, and assisted living facilities.

In the list of important services to support aging successfully in the community are preventive screening, physical activity, education on injury prevention, nutritional guidance, mental health counseling. self-help groups or organizations offering sports activities for fitness and rehabilitation, and regular health checks at home.

STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY SERVICES NETWORK

One very consistent theme expressed by both community members, service providers, and the Commission on Aging is the need for a wide range of home support and care services to fulfill a variety of needs from helping with shopping and/or providing meals to home visits from doctors and other service providers. Barriers experienced in getting home care services include a general lack of such services, lack of funding, poor organization of services, restrictive eligibility criteria, and high turnover of home care staff.

A service gap also often cited is the need for increased services to protect and care for older people with low incomes. In addition to enhancing basic income support, there is a need to establish or strengthen shelter options for homeless and destitute older people and people who have been abused; meals services and programs; discounts on utilities for people with low incomes; registers of older people living alone; assistance in obtaining benefits and with health care costs.

Another theme expressed in the survey was a suggestion to use volunteers to help fill gaps in providing community services. More volunteers could assist older people to deliver social services and home care, to provide transportation for shopping and appointments, or simply to walk the pets of older people who are no longer able to do so themselves. Suggested sources of voluntary help are the “50+” associations of young retirees, students in social and health services, and school age children. Strong voluntary networks are easier to mobilize in established communities where people feel socially connected.



IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

The following is list of policy recommendations and implementation actions to begin to improve the health care and community service needs for all ages and ability levels.

1. **Improve the accessibility of health services.**

If services are not known about, they are not used. Better advertising of local health services, educating older people on available services, coordination of information, and health service telephone hotlines and website information are suggested as possible solutions.

Services that are far away or difficult to reach can be barriers to obtaining health care. Following the recommended actions in the transportation focus area of this Plan would increase mobility options in the County and access to healthcare services.

2. **Establish a full-time livable community coordinator position to increase availability of information, educational programs, and coordinate volunteer efforts.**

This position could serve as a central point of contact for information on available senior health care and community support services as well as provide assistance to those in need of locating these services. In addition, the coordinator could assist in developing educational programs on preventative health care topics, home maintenance, and coordinate the efforts of volunteer groups. An important task for this position would be the distribution of information easily accessible through a variety of formats, such as a regular newspaper column, website, or hard copy brochures.

3. **Establish a regular working group of community service providers, health care professional representatives, community stakeholders and staff to identify specific gaps in the County's available senior and special need health care services.**

An ongoing working group of people who regularly serve or use senior health care and community services in the County can share information and help identify ongoing service gaps and potential funding sources to improve these services, especially for low or moderate income individuals. Their findings could inform the budget discussions of organizations who provide grants or regular funding in support of these services.

4. **Centralize and expand programs and services to citizens to enable them to remain in their homes.**

The County should explore the appropriate agency to coordinate an expanded community outreach program, such as the existing companion provider program managed by the County's Department of Social Services. This program helps senior and special needs persons perform daily activities such as remembering to take medications, cooking, doing laundry and performing other household chores associated with independent living. Expansion of this program would entail providing additional funding and adequate staffing. Other services could include an adult daycare program.

FOCUS AREA 3

Transportation Access



When thinking about their senior years, most of the 2021 survey participants chose being able to live independently as their top priority. Being close to family and friends and the ability to stay in their current neighborhood ranked second and third in order of priority

OBJECTIVE: The County should expand its range of safe, dependable, and affordable transportation options that are alternatives to driving, which promote independence, facilitate employment and educational opportunities, and foster social engagement.

This component of the Plan serves as an implementation tool for the following policies of the County's Comprehensive Plan, *Envisioning the Isle*:

- Identifies the locations and demands of the elderly and low income populations of the County to inform transit decisions;
- Encourages the development of a range of housing choices near major activity centers that provide employment, shopping, medical offices, schools, and recreation areas creating increased accessibility in meeting daily needs; and
- Supports life-long learning by increased access to schools, libraries, continuing and higher education programs, community-based education programs, and recreation programs for all age groups.

When thinking about their senior years, most of the 2021 survey participants chose being able to live independently as their top priority. Being close to family and friends and the ability to stay in their current neighborhood ranked second and third in order of priority. Access to different mobility options is a key component to the ability to stay in someone's current home and community as they age, when driving no longer remains an option to meet daily needs.

As noted earlier, the US Census projects that nearly 20% of the County's population in 2019 would be 65 years old or older. This represents 7,348 people out of the County's total 2019 projected population of 37,109 people (US Census Bureau). When looking at a map of the County's 2010 census tracts, the majority of the County's senior population resides in the Carrollton and Smithfield areas, followed by the Windsor and Camptown areas. Due to the County's historic rural development pattern, many members of the County's senior population live in remote areas that require vehicular transportation to meet daily needs, such as shopping for groceries or going to a medical appointment. If a senior or disabled person is no longer able to drive, this person must rely on a caregiver, public transit, or a private service to meet their transportation needs.

The following alternative transportation options are currently available in Isle of Wight County for people who cannot drive:

1. Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia I-Ride fixed route public transit;
2. SSSEVA on demand service for medical visits available with advanced reservation;



Toronto's Self-Driving Shuttle Bus

3. Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services for medicaid members available with advanced reservation; and
4. Private Medical Transport Services.

The map below ranks the County's census tracts by number of people aged 65 years or older as well as illustrates the location of existing public transit routes and public sidewalk and trail connections not internal to residential neighborhoods. The map also identifies activity centers in the County to include medical offices, shopping centers, government offices, schools and libraries. As the map illustrates, existing public transit routes and pedestrian connections do not serve areas with the highest number of seniors or provide connections to all activity centers that provide services needed by seniors.

When it came to ranking priorities for future transportation access, most survey respondents felt that expanding services for people who need assistance should be the top priority. The second highest priority chosen is repairing existing roads and bridges. Adding sidewalks and expanding mass transit services tied as the third priority.

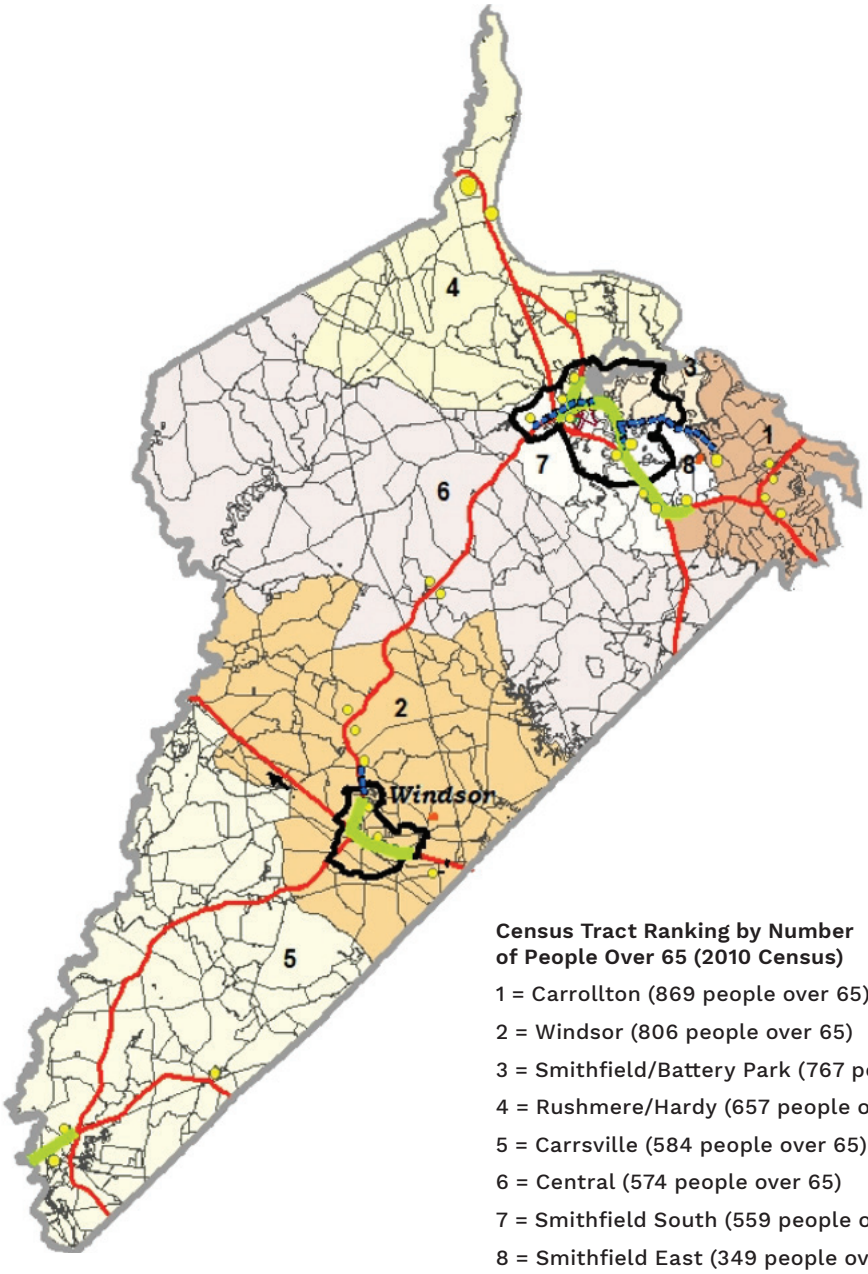
CREATING GOOD MOBILITY

Good mobility can be defined as one's ability to move at will. To ensure good mobility and access to all of the opportunities that the County has to offer, a person needs to be able to get to them. Seniors, as well as others who may have some form of mobility impairment, sometimes find it difficult to access to County services, recreational opportunities and social engagements due to the inability to drive, bicycle or walk, or due to the lack of public transit options.

Developing a good system of mobility options is an essential component for ensuring a high quality of life for seniors and others with mobility challenges. Increasing fixed routes for existing transit, enabling smart mobility options, and expanding the County's fledgling multipurpose trail system are all ways to implement this system, but all face both financial and resource challenges for both County administration and the community itself.

IRIDE: EXPAND THE COUNTY'S EXISTING TRANSIT SYSTEM

IRide recently began a fixed route service in the Town of Windsor and includes a portion of the Camptown area in its Franklin fixed route . The County should include funding for an expanded route to serve more of the Carrollton area where the majority of both the County's general and senior population reside. In order to continue to expand IRide's fixed route system, the Isle of Wight community must establish the provision of public transit as a priority in both its long range and capital improvement plans with a dedicated funding source.



Census Tract Ranking by Number of People Over 65 (2010 Census)

1 = Carrollton (869 people over 65)

2 = Windsor (806 people over 65)

3 = Smithfield/Battery Park (767 people over 65)

4 = Rushmere/Hardy (657 people over 65)

5 = Carrsville (584 people over 65)

6 = Central (574 people over 65)

7 = Smithfield South (559 people over 65)

8 = Smithfield East (349 people over 65)

Activity Center
(includes medical, shopping, school, employment center, recreation, or government offices)

I Ride Fixed Route

Sidewalk/Trail Connection



An Image of an autonomous vehicle.

RIDE SHARE: VOLUNTEER BASED

This innovative program is currently found in larger municipalities which can serve as models in creating one in Isle of Wight County. Although the initial costs of establishing such a program would be minimal for donated vehicles, the larger challenge includes the ongoing maintenance of such a program to ensure its success and continued reliability, including volunteer recruitment, background checks, training, fuel, vehicle maintenance, insurance costs, and establishing an easily accessible scheduling platform.

SMART MOBILITY

The advent of widespread smart phone usage has opened the door to new possibilities of accessing on demand mobility services. The lower usage rate of smart phone technology and its expense continues to be a barrier to access for both seniors and lower income socioeconomic groups. In order to take advantage of smart mobility options, broadband networks must be readily available and included in the County's future infrastructure plans.

MULTIPURPOSE TRAIL

The County recently inaugurated its first four mile multipurpose trail that links downtown Smithfield with Nike Park, a regional community park in Carrollton. This trail provides a link for both bike and pedestrian users to existing neighborhoods via existing sidewalks to the recreational opportunities located at the park. It is the County's hope to expand this trail along the new, future Nike Park Extended Parkway that will link Nike Park to Route 17.

The construction of this trail continues the implementation of the County's Master Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan first adopted in 2008. Now that this segment is complete, the County should establish a priority list for the construction of the remaining segment of the trail system. Challenges for future implementation include financing, permitting, and continued maintenance of the trail system. Each new segment of the trail brings with it new maintenance responsibility and associated new operational costs for the County's

Parks and Recreation department. The County should include estimates for operational costs to be included in the department's operating budget when new segments of the trail are constructed.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

The following recommended actions would increase mobility options in the County:

1. Increase local funding to expand the existing I-Ride service to provide additional routes to serve areas with the highest senior population and nearby activity centers to better meet daily needs;
2. Identify and expand existing volunteer networks that provide free transportation to seniors for medical and senior center visits utilizing surplus County-owned vehicles for immediate needs;
3. Incorporate smart mobility concepts into future road improvements to capitalize on technological improvements such as driverless vehicles, on demand services, and to accommodate future public transit needs, such as including broadband capabilities in public right of ways as improvements are made; and
4. Continue to support the expansion of the County's multipurpose trail system that connects residential areas to activity centers with shopping, medical, employment, educational, and recreational opportunities.



FOCUS AREA 4

Housing Choice



Most participants in the March 2021 community survey expected their quality of life to remain the same as they aged, and most participants planned to stay in the County for the next five years or longer.

OBJECTIVE: The County should provide a range of safe housing options that promotes independence and aging in place through market rate units, subsidies, and appropriate design features such as universal design, visitability, energy efficiency, and use of innovative home features.

By including recommendations to improve housing affordability and choice, this study can help to implement several policies of the County's Comprehensive Plan, including:

- Identifying regulatory changes that provide opportunities for housing for persons with special needs in proximity to supporting community services and activities;
- Reviewing and revising regulations to support housing types that allow the elderly to remain in their community as their needs change;
- Increasing opportunities within the development service districts (DSDs) for residences to be in close proximity to retail, employment, and public facilities; and
- Identifying possible incentives to encourage the development of a range of housing choices near major activity centers such as employment, commercial areas, schools, and recreation areas.

The County's overall population is a stable one, and many choose to live here long-term for its superior quality of life. Most participants in the March 2021 community survey expected their quality of life to remain the same as they aged, and most participants planned to stay in the County for the next five years or longer. Those who chose to participate in the survey owned their own home and feel their neighborhoods are either good or excellent. At the same time, most survey participants were either somewhat or very concerned about their ability to live independently and remain financially secure as they aged. What these survey results reveal is the importance for the community to provide secure housing, including for the senior and disabled homeless population.

When thinking about housing in their senior years, most survey participants chose being able to live independently as their top priority. Being close to family and friends and the ability to stay in their current neighborhood ranked second and third in order of priority. Affordable housing ranked fourth in the top five priorities that respondents chose for Isle of Wight County to better serve its growing senior population.

BACKGROUND

Homeownership in the County remains high relative to the rest of the nation since the 2010 Census. According to the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS), the majority, or approximately 75.8%, of all household units in the County were owner-occupied. This represents a decline from 81.1% of units reported as owner-occupied in the 2010 decennial

census. This number reflects the downturn in homeownership as a result of the 2008 financial crisis as well as the growing number of rental units as a proportion of total housing units in the County. Although the recession negatively impacted employment and the ability of many people to afford home ownership, the overall percentage of the County's population living below poverty matched the US average of 10.5% in 2019. Approximately 5.3% of the County's 6,813 people who are 65 years and older fall below this Census- defined poverty threshold as of the 2019 ACS survey.

Faced with high housing costs, less affluent seniors often struggle to pay for expenses such as food and health care. As a person ages and their income stream decreases, single family home ownership can become a burden due to the costs and physical requirements of home maintenance responsibilities. In addition, many existing homes in the County lack one or more universal design features that enable people to remain in their home, if they experience a physical disability. A "universal design feature" can be defined as an adaptation, such as a ramp or wider doorway, that enables adults to live safely and independently at home. For new homes, universal design features can include zero step entries, single story layouts, wheelchair accessible shelves, counters, and cabinets, and lever door handles, to name a few examples.

Increasing housing options available to older adults in the County at a variety of price points requires action from local officials as well as the housing industry. Relying on private market forces alone cannot adequately address the County's need for more affordable and livable housing.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

The average median value of a home in the County is $266,800 for both new and existing homes. The average sales price of a new single family home in the County in 2019, however, is $328,484. In order to afford a mortgage for the average new single family home in the County, the minimum household income should be approximately $59,486 based on today's mortgage rate of 3.02%. Popular websites such as bankrate.com advise that no more than 28% of gross income should be devoted to housing costs, and no more than 36% of gross income should be devoted to total debt service, including housing. The 2019 average rental rate in the County was $1,045 which would be deemed affordable for a household with a minimum annual income of $44,786. For newer rental units in the County, the rent for an average three bedroom apartment can be as high as $1,350 per month.

Although the 2019 ACS estimates that the average household income in Isle of Wight was $73,991, the data also shows that 32% of total households in the County received retirement income with an average value of $34,131. Approximately 37% of the total number of households received social security income in 2019 with an average value of $20,950. For households that are fortunate enough to receive both retirement and social security income, the average income for a retired household is $55,081. Using the common rule of thumb that affordable housing costs should not consume more than 28% of a household's gross annual income, the average monthly household housing allowance should equal no more than $1,285 per month. The average senior household income could almost qualify as "low income" according to standards set by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD).

HUD has oversight over federal housing assistance programs and defines low, very low and extremely low income limits for different areas across the country based on the median family income for the metropolitan statistical area (MSA). Isle of Wight County is in the Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News MSA. The table below shows the 2019 income limits used by HUD to determine eligibility for housing assistance programs.

FY 2019 INCOME LIMIT AREA	MODERN FAMILY INCOME EXPLANATION	FY 2019 INCOME LIMIT CATEGORY	PERSONS IN FAMILY 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
VIRGINIA BEACH, NORFOLK, NEWPORT NEWS, VA-NC HUD METRO FMR AREA	$79,300	Very Low (50%) Income Limits ($) Explanation	27,800	31,750	35,700	**39,650**	42,850	46,000	49,200	52,350
		Extremely Low Income Limits ($)* Explanation	16,700	19,050	21,450	**25,750**	30,170	34,590	39,010	43,430
		Low (80%) Income Limits ($) Explanation	44,450	50,800	57,150	**63,450**	68,550	73,650	78,700	83,800

Although the average senior household may not be considered low income, it is sometimes ideal for these households to downsize and live closer to services, such as grocery stores and medical facilities, which may mean more expensive housing depending on the area. Sometimes existing homes need to be retrofitted to make them safer and enable their inhabitants to continue to live independently for as long as possible. These home repairs and basic maintenance can be cost prohibitive to households with limited income. Assistance with housing costs, whether for rent, a mortgage, or to make modifications to existing homes, can be obtained through local, state, and federal housing programs to make them more affordable.

The County currently offers housing assistance through the Suffolk and Franklin Redevelopment and Housing Authorities which administer these programs on behalf of the County. Although there are Community Development Block Grants available for emergency housing repair and accessibility grants, the County does not currently manage or have access to these funds.

The County also receives housing rehabilitation and first-time homebuyers down payment assistance through HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). The HOME program provides grants to states and localities that communities use to fund a wide range of activities including building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership. The County participates in the Tidewater Home Consortium coordinated by the City of Suffolk. Each year, the state distributes HOME funds to the Consortium that allocates the funds evenly between its member localities. Although HOME funds may be used for home repairs, this program does require that the entire dwelling meet building code requirements at the time of application, frequently resulting in total home replacement which can exhaust funding reserves, thereby limiting the number of people that benefit from this program.

Isle of Wight also operates an exemption program that provides relief for real estate property taxes. Senior citizens and permanently and totally disabled persons who meet the eligibility criteria are granted relief from all or part of their real estate taxes.

HOUSING LIVABILITY

Housing affordability is only one aspect of providing age-friendly communities. Incorporating design features in housing units and throughout the community will help residents remain lifelong community members as they age. Another way to describe an age-friendly house refers to a term known as “visibility.” The website visibility.org uses the term to describe a single-family or owner-occupied home designed in such a way that it can be lived in or visited by people who have trouble with steps or who use wheelchairs or walkers.

A house is visitable when it meets three basic requirements:

- one zero-step entrance;
- doors with 32 inches of clear passage space; and
- one bathroom on the main floor you can get into in a wheelchair.

The County’s current zoning ordinance does not include requirements for a minimum number of universal design or visibility features for new housing developments, including age-restricted communities. County policies also do not presently include incentives for providing affordable units or universal design features in new housing developments.

HOUSING DIVERSITY

The County currently allows a mix of residential use types in several designated mixed use and planned residential zoning districts as a matter of right. These existing ordinances, however, should be examined for their effectiveness over the years in providing a mix of housing types at various price points. The County should consider other tools such as form-based codes that incorporate a mix of housing and building types to support people of all ages and incomes.

In 2007, the County completed a “Workforce Housing Report,” which included recommendations for a workforce housing unit ordinance which included incentives for residential developers to include a certain number of workforce units in exchange for a density bonus to protect and enhance the developers profit margin. Other possible incentives include waiving review fees and expedited review times. Although the County did undertake several recommendations of the report such as permitting accessory apartments and the renting of up to two rooms in an owner-occupied home, the County ultimately did not adopt a workforce housing unit ordinance.

Accessory dwelling units can also increase the supply of affordable homes, since they are generally located on the same property as a larger principal dwelling and are typically used as rental units. They can also provide a helpful supply of senior housing for people who wish to place their elderly family members in a location that is close to them and affordable. The County already permits accessory apartments by right in some residential districts, but this program could be expanded to all residential zoning districts.



IMPLEMENTATION STEPS:

The following is list of policy recommendations and implementation actions to begin to meet the population's housing needs for all ages and ability levels.

1. **Create more lifelong livable housing options.**

Encourage developers to incorporate universal design elements, energy efficient features, and range of unit sizes in future residential development by including requirements in the County's zoning ordinance. These features will help to enable people to live in their homes longer as they age as well as make them more affordable by reducing utility costs.

2. **Allow for multigenerational housing and increase affordable housing supply by allowing accessory dwelling units in more residential zoning districts.**

Revise the zoning ordinance to permit accessory dwelling units in all residential zoning districts.

3. **Increase the ability for people to stay in their homes and neighborhoods through retrofitting and rehabilitating existing housing.**

The County does have limited funds for the HOME housing rehabilitation for situations that meet narrow program qualification criteria. The County should create its own separate program that is dedicated to home repair or modification to allow seniors to live in their existing homes longer, by pursuing CDBG grant funds that can be used for emergency home repair and accessibility modifications.

4. **Zoning regulations should be written to allow homes to be built in close proximity to the services that enable people to remain independent as they age.**

The County's existing zoning ordinance currently permits mixed use development in certain districts at higher densities. An analysis should be performed to refine these regulations to further encourage mixed use development in the County's designated mixed use activity centers as shown on the County's future recommended land use map in the Comprehensive Plan, such as through a form based code or requiring a maximum separation between affordable or senior targeted housing units and nearby services.

5. **Implement an affordable dwelling unit ordinance.**

Adopting a workforce dwelling unit ordinance could help to increase the supply of more affordable housing for persons of all ages by offering incentives to private developers to provide these types of units. Such an ordinance could help define workforce unit criteria, income qualifications, and possible incentives.

FOCUS AREA 5

Education, Employment and Engagement



This Plan has explored how a supply of safe, affordable housing types, transportation options, access to health care services, and recreational opportunities can improve the quality of life for all County residents.

OBJECTIVE: The County should ensure employment opportunities for all ages, promote a life-long learning environment, and provide multiple opportunities for economic, social and civic engagement.

This plan has explored how a supply of safe, affordable housing types, transportation options, access to health care services, and recreational opportunities can improve the quality of life for all County residents. These same community features can help residents better find and maintain employment, take advantage of educational opportunities and attend social and civic events. The whole community in turn benefits from increased levels of local wealth, more spending in the local economy, and a better-informed citizenry.

Increasing employment, education and social engagement opportunities for people of all ages and abilities in the County implements the following County Comprehensive Plan policies:

- Continue to facilitate nonresidential development to grow and diversify our economy;
- Improve public access to high-speed internet networks;
- Support early childhood education and life-long learning through schools, libraries, continuing and higher education programs, community-based education programs, and recreation programs for people of all ages;
- Enhance Isle of Wight's quality of life to retain and recruit a highly skilled workforce for the community; and
- Improve public access to high-speed networks.

BACKGROUND



Photo credit: BLS.gov

According to a 2019 report issue by the BBC, "How Elders Can Reinvigorate the Workforce," more than one in ten workers will be older than 75 by 2026, and roughly three in ten workers will be between the ages of 65 and 74. A November 2020 Brookings Institute report, "Policies to Improve Workforce Services for Older Americans," attributes the rising numbers of older workers in the American economy to several factors, including increased longevity, better health, the desire to remain active, an increase in the eligibility age for claiming full Social Security benefits, and stagnant wages in recent decades for those at the bottom and middle of the earnings distribution, leaving a larger share of Americans without adequate retirement savings.

Despite the reasons for remaining in the job market, there are many advantages to tapping into this large, experienced segment of the local workforce. The same BBC article suggests that age diverse teams are more productive than those of similar ages, suggesting that both older and younger workers learn from each other – benefiting everyone. Older workers also tend to earn more, thus increasing spending levels and invigorating the economy and raising business activity, such as job creation, even further.



Barriers to increasing employment opportunities for older workers, according to the Brookings Institute study, is that these workers' skills may be outdated, making them less attractive to employers, as well as lack of current job search knowledge and skills. Workforce training and educational opportunities can help to overcome these challenges as well as raise the local overall quality of life. Once in place, these resources can enable people to continue to live independently and foster residents' engagement in the community's civic and social life.

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

1. Encourage the intergenerational use of public facilities for a community education program

The County should establish a program of rotating educational topics such as health, personal finance, job search, keyboarding, interviewing, coding, or home maintenance. These programs should be held at public facilities around the County at different times that are also accessible by public transit.

2. Continue to expand the County's broadband network

The County established the Broadband Task Force in 2020 to explore ways to expand its current network to underserved areas of the County. The County could establish a partnership with another service agency such as SSEVA or the Blackwater Public Libraries, to provide access to computers and the internet that is also accessible by public transit. Similarly, these services could be hosted by public facilities around the County that are also accessible by public transit. Investment in technology can translate into increased revenues for the locality, and higher productivity can result in higher wages for workers which are then spent in the local economy.

3. Consider multiple outreach methods to increase community engagement in public policy decision making

Although modern communication and commerce are becoming increasingly digital, County leaders and staff should be aware that not all communication platforms are available to everyone in the community. Public surveys and opportunities for input should be provided in several different formats to ensure equitable access to all ages and abilities.



No: 2022-95

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO INCORPORATE BY REFERENCE THE PLAN KNOWN AS, "SHARE THE ISLE: ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY'S PLAN FOR AN AGING AND MIXED ABILITY INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY," AS APPENDIX XII IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, Section 15.2-2229 of the Code of Virginia stipulates that any amendments to a community's Comprehensive Plan be recommended by resolution to the governing body by the local planning commission; and,

WHEREAS, the Isle of Wight County Board of Supervisors on January 16, 2020, directed that the "Share the Isle" Plan be developed and referred to the Planning Commission for its consideration and that staff be directed to do all things necessary to proceed with the Plan in a timely manner; and,

WHEREAS, the Isle of Wight County Planning Commission has given notice and held a public hearing on said amendment to the Comprehensive Plan on November 22, 2022, as required by Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia; and,

WHEREAS, the Isle of Wight County Planning Commission finds it advisable to amend the Comprehensive Plan, Envisioning the Isle, to include the new amendment as Appendix XII of the Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Isle of Wight County Board of Supervisors has given notice and held a public hearing on the new Comprehensive Plan on December 8, 2022, after notice as required by Title 15.2, Chapter 22, Article 4 and Article 26 of the Code of Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Isle of Wight, Virginia that the amendment to the Isle of Wight County Comprehensive Plan known as "Share the Isle: Isle of Wight County's Plan for an Aging and Mixed Ability Inclusive Community,"

attached hereto as Exhibit A be incorporated by reference into the Comprehensive Plan.

Adopted this 8th day of December, 2022.

Rudolph Jefferson, Chairman

Carey Mills Storm, Clerk

Approved as to form:

Robert W. Jones, Jr., County Attorney