

**APPOMATTOX  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
PLAN**

*A GUIDEBOOK FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS,  
GOVERNMENT STAFF, CIVIC GROUPS,  
AND CONCERNED CITIZENS OF  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY AND THE  
TOWNS OF APPOMATTOX AND PAMPLIN*

**ADOPTED:**

<i>APPOMATTOX COUNTY</i>	<i>APRIL 7, 2003</i>
<i>TOWN OF APPOMATTOX</i>	<i>APRIL 14, 2003</i>
<i>TOWN OF PAMPLIN</i>	<i>MAY 1, 2003</i>
<i>AMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS</i>	
<i>MARCH 5, 2007</i>	
<i>JUNE 4, 2007</i>	

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

Acknowledgments.....	Page i
Table of Contents.....	Page ii
<b>I. INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>Page I-1</b>
<b>II. POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS.....</b>	<b>Page II-1</b>
A. General Population.....	Page II-1
1. <i>Population Growth</i> .....	Page II-1
2. <i>Age and Gender Distribution</i> .....	Page II-2
3. <i>Racial Composition</i> .....	Page II-3
4. <i>Households, Families and Marital Status</i> .....	Page II-3
5. <i>Educational Attainment</i> .....	Page II-4
B. Income and Poverty.....	Page II-4
C. Population Projections.....	Page II-6
<b>III. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page III-1</b>
A. Existing Conditions.....	Page III-1
1. <i>Air Resources</i> .....	Page III-1
2. <i>Land Resources</i> .....	Page III-2
3. <i>Water Resources</i> .....	Page III-4
4. <i>Wildlife Resources</i> .....	Page III-6
5. <i>Vegetation Resources</i> .....	Page III-7
6. <i>Unique Features</i> .....	Page III-7
B. Planning for the Future.....	Page III-8
<b>IV. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page IV-1</b>
A. Intent.....	Page IV-1
B. Economic History.....	Page IV-1
C. Labor Pool.....	Page IV-1
D. Business Health by Sector.....	Page IV-3
1. <i>Farming and Forestry</i> .....	Page IV-3
2. <i>Manufacturing</i> .....	Page IV-4
3. <i>Service</i> .....	Page IV-4
4. <i>Retail/Wholesale Trade</i> .....	Page IV-5
5. <i>Other Sectors</i> .....	Page IV-6
6. <i>Tourism</i> .....	Page IV-6

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

E.	Occupational Mix.....	Page IV-9
F.	Trends, Forces and Assumptions – External and Internal.....	Page IV-9
G.	Partners for Economic Development.....	Page IV-14
H.	Resources for Economic Development.....	Page IV-17
I.	Planning for the Future.....	Page IV-21
<b>V.</b>	<b>AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page V-1</b>
A.	Existing Conditions.....	Page V-1
1.	Housing Market.....	Page V-1
a.	<i>Number of Housing Units</i> .....	Page V-1
b.	<i>Housing Units by Structural Type</i> .....	Page V-2
b.	<i>Housing Tenure</i> .....	Page V-2
c.	<i>Elderly Housing Data</i> .....	Page V-3
d.	<i>Minority Housing Data</i> .....	Page V-3
2.	Housing Quality.....	Page V-3
a.	<i>Indoor Plumbing Facilities</i> .....	Page V-5
b.	<i>Overcrowding</i> .....	Page V-5
c.	<i>Value of Housing Units</i> .....	Page V-5
d.	<i>Age of Housing Units</i> .....	Page V-6
B.	Affordable Housing.....	Page V-6
C.	Household Structure.....	Page V-7
D.	Planning for the Future.....	Page V-8
<b>VI.</b>	<b>TRANSPORTATION PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page VI-1</b>
A.	Transportation Facilities and Services.....	Page VI-1
B.	Existing Transportation Systems.....	Page VI-1
1.	Highways.....	Page VI-1
2.	Air Service.....	Page VI-4
3.	Rail Service.....	Page VI-5
4.	Trucking Service.....	Page VI-5
5.	Bus and Taxi Service.....	Page VI-5
6.	Elderly and Handicapped Transportation Services.....	Page VI-5
C.	Planning for the Future.....	Page VI-6

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

<b>VII. HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page VII-1</b>
A. Brief History.....	Page VII-1
B. Appomattox County Historical Society.....	Page VII-3
C. Historic Structures.....	Page VII-4
1. Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.....	Page VII-4
2. Town of Appomattox.....	Page VII-4
3. Town of Pamplin.....	Page VII-5
4. Appomattox County.....	Page VII-5
D. Planning for the Future.....	Page VII-6

<b>VII. COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page VIII-1</b>
A. Existing Conditions.....	Page VIII-1
1. Public Utilities-Water.....	Page VIII-1
2. Public Utilities-Wastewater.....	Page VIII-2
3. Public Utilities-Solid Waste.....	Page VIII-2
4. Public Utilities-Other Utilities.....	Page VIII-4
5. Recreational Opportunities.....	Page VIII-5
a. <i>Public School Facilities</i> .....	Page VIII-5
b. <i>County and Town Facilities</i> .....	Page VIII-5
c. <i>Private Facilities</i> .....	Page VIII-6
d. <i>Parks within the County</i> .....	Page VIII-7
e. <i>Recreational Programs within the County</i> .....	Page VIII-7
6. Public Safety-Law Enforcement.....	Page VIII-7
7. Public Safety-Fire and Rescue Service.....	Page VIII-9
8. Public Safety-Animal Control.....	Page VIII-10
9. Public Safety-Enhanced 9-1-1.....	Page VIII-10
10. Public Safety-Communications.....	Page VIII-11
11. Victim-Witness Assistance Program.....	Page VIII-12
12. Library Facilities.....	Page VIII-12
13. Education.....	Page VIII-13
14. Social Services.....	Page VIII-17
15. Senior Citizen Programs.....	Page VIII-17
16. Child Care Services.....	Page VIII-18
17. Health Care.....	Page VIII-18
B. Planning for the Future.....	Page VIII-19

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

<b>IX.</b>	<b>GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page IX-1</b>
A.	Existing Conditions.....	Page IX-1
1.	Appomattox County.....	Page IX-1
a.	Agricultural Areas.....	Page IX-1
b.	Residential Areas.....	Page IX-1
c.	Mixed Use/Historical.....	Page IX-2
d.	Commercial/Industrial Uses.....	Page IX-2
2.	Town of Appomattox.....	Page IX-3
a.	Residential.....	Page IX-3
b.	Commercial.....	Page IX-4
c.	Industrial.....	Page IX-4
d.	Public/Semi Public.....	Page IX-5
e.	Vacant.....	Page IX-5
f.	Land Use Trends.....	Page IX-5
3.	Town of Pamplin.....	Page IX-6
a.	Residential.....	Page IX-6
b.	Commercial/Industrial.....	Page IX-6
c.	Public/Semi Public.....	Page IX-6
d.	Vacant.....	Page IX-6
e.	Land Use Trends.....	Page IX-6
B.	Planning for the Future.....	Page IX-7
<b>X.</b>	<b>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page X-1</b>
A.	Intent.....	Page X-1
B.	Existing Conditions.....	Page X-1
1.	Internet Access.....	Page X-1
2.	Wireless Telecommunications.....	Page X-2
3.	Government Services.....	Page X-2
4.	Workforce.....	Page X-2
C.	Planning for the Future.....	Page X-3
<b>XI.</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT PLAN.....</b>	<b>Page XI-1</b>
A.	Commonwealth of Virginia.....	Page XI-1
B.	Local Government-Appomattox County.....	Page XI-1
1.	Appomattox County Board of Supervisors.....	Page XI-2
a.	County Administrator.....	Page XI-2

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

2.	Constitutional Officers.....	Page XI-3
a.	<i>Treasurer</i> .....	Page XI-3
b.	<i>Sheriff</i> .....	Page XI-3
c.	<i>Commonwealth's Attorney</i> .....	Page XI-3
d.	<i>Clerk of the Circuit Court</i> .....	Page XI-4
e.	<i>Commissioner of the Revenue</i> .....	Page XI-4
3.	Alternative Forms of County Government.....	Page XI-4
a.	<i>County Executive Form</i> .....	Page XI-4
b.	<i>County Manager Form</i> .....	Page XI-5
c.	<i>County Board Form</i> .....	Page XI-5
d.	<i>Urban County Executive Form</i> .....	Page XI-5
e.	<i>County Manager Form</i> .....	Page XI-5
f.	<i>County Charters</i> .....	Page XI-6
C.	Local Government-Town of Appomattox.....	Page XI-6
a.	<i>Town Manager</i> .....	Page XI-6
D.	Local Government-Town of Pamplin.....	Page XI-7
E.	Appomattox County School Board.....	Page XI-7
F.	Appointed Boards and Commissions.....	Page XI-8
1.	Appomattox Court System.....	Page XI-8
a.	<i>Circuit Court</i> .....	Page XI-8
b.	<i>General District Court</i> .....	Page XI-8
c.	<i>Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court</i> .....	Page XI-8
d.	<i>Magistrates</i> .....	Page XI-9
2.	Board of Assessors and Board of Equalization.....	Page XI-9
3.	Board of Building Code Appeals.....	Page XI-9
4.	Board of Social Services.....	Page XI-9
5.	Board of Zoning Appeals.....	Page XI-10
6.	Commissioner of Accounts.....	Page XI-10
7.	Electoral Board.....	Page XI-10
a.	<i>General Registrar</i> .....	Page XI-10
8.	Industrial Development Authority.....	Page XI-10
9.	J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library Board.....	Page XI-11
10.	Joint Planning Commission.....	Page XI-11
G.	Additional Government Partners.....	Page XI-11
1.	Appomattox County Health Department.....	Page XI-11
2.	Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.....	Page XI-12
3.	Region 2000 Regional Commission.....	Page XI-12
4.	Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District.....	Page XI-12
5.	Virginia Cooperative Extension Office.....	Page XI-13

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

6.	Virginia's Region 2000.....	Page XI-13
H.	Conduct of Elections.....	Page XI-13
1.	Determination of Eligibility to Vote.....	Page XI-14
2.	Voting Locations.....	Page XI-14
 <b>APPENDIX A – TABLES.....</b>		<b>Page A-1</b>
 <b>APPENDIX B – ROUTE 460 CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN.....</b>		<b>Page B-1</b>
 <b>APPENDIX C-RESOURCE CONSERVATION PLAN.....</b>		<b>Page C-1</b>
 <b>APPENDIX D-MAPS .....</b>		<b>Page D-1</b>

# INTRODUCTION

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## COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

The Appomattox Community Development Plan, formerly the Joint Appomattox Comprehensive Plan, is Appomattox County's most important document regarding growth, development and visioning. First, it establishes government policy used to help guide public and private activities as they relate to land use and resource utilization. Second, it is the basis for land development regulations and decisions (i.e. rezonings and conditional use permits), capital improvement programming (i.e. public projects such as schools, parks and libraries), transportation, environmental and historical resource protection initiatives, new County programs and decisions concerning the distribution of County budget dollars to a multitude of programs and agencies. Most importantly, it serves as the community's guide for future development and as the vision for what the County should look like in twenty years.

State law (Code of Virginia, Title 15.2, Article 3) requires every municipality in the Commonwealth to adopt a comprehensive plan for the physical development of its territory. The Code of Virginia also requires that the comprehensive plan be reviewed every five years in order to ensure consistency between the plan and the prevailing views of the community, as well as to ensure that the plan addresses current issues impacting the community. Although the State requirements for a comprehensive plan are few in number and relatively unspecific in order to grant localities the necessary flexibility to respond to local concerns and trends, they do require attention to be focused on several key areas of importance. The following points, loosely paraphrased from Section 15.2 -Article 3 of the Code of Virginia, summarize the key focus areas of Virginia State law governing comprehensive planning:

1. The Planning Commission of a given locality shall prepare and recommend a comprehensive plan for the physical development of that locality;
2. The governing body of the locality shall adopt a comprehensive plan for all of the geographical areas within that locality;
3. The comprehensive plan shall be drawn so as to promote the health, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of all citizens of the locality;
4. The comprehensive plan shall be made with the purpose of guiding and accomplishing the coordinated, adjusted, and harmonious development of the locality;
5. The Planning Commission shall first make careful and comprehensive surveys of existing conditions, natural resources, population and economic growth trends,

## INTRODUCTION

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- and probable future requirements of the locality;
6. The comprehensive plan shall be made in accord with both the present and future needs of its resources, trends and requirements;
  7. The comprehensive plan shall be general in nature and shall designate the location, character, type and density for the long-range land uses and public improvements within the locality;
  8. The comprehensive plan shall designate areas to promote affordable housing as well as housing for those of all income levels;
  9. The comprehensive plan shall designate a long-range plan for transportation, including streets, roads, parkways, sidewalks, bridges, airports, drainage systems and the like;
  10. The comprehensive plan shall designate geographical areas for various types of public and private development and land uses (including historic areas, preservation areas, parks, schools and open spaces.)
  11. The key point required by the Code of Virginia is that upon adoption of the comprehensive plan, the Planning Commission shall act on matters related to the location, character and extent of each feature contained therein in a manner that is in substantial conformity and consistent with the comprehensive plan.

### HISTORY OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING IN APPOMATTOX COUNTY

The preparation of the Appomattox Community Development Plan represents an evolution in thinking based on current planning trends as well as local socio-economic trends. As a place of national historical significance, Appomattox County must preserve its heritage while encouraging new development of an appropriate scale and character. As with the 1985 and 1996 Comprehensive Plans, the challenge will not end with the adoption of this plan, but will continue as the County and Towns undertake revisions of their respective zoning, subdivision, and other ordinances to implement the recommendations of this document.

As with many rural counties in Virginia, planning was not a major focus in Appomattox County until the mid-1980s. During that time, many diverse factors brought attention to the need to develop and implement plans to successfully guide the County and Towns through the coming years. The first comprehensive plan, entitled *Appomattox Community Improvement Plan*, was

## INTRODUCTION

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adopted in 1985, followed by the first Zoning Ordinance in 1988 and the first Subdivision Ordinance in 1989. These latter two documents implemented the land control policies stated in the comprehensive plan to manage growth and insure that the need for public services such as water and sanitary sewer would not outdistance the localities' ability to supply these services. With these plans and controls in place, Appomattox entered the modern era of growth management.

A new Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 1996. This plan included a thorough updating of Census figures presented in the 1985 Comprehensive Plan. Comparisons were made between 1980 and 1990 Census data to establish trends that have impacted, or may still impact, the County and Towns. However, no changes of any significance were made to the Future Land Use component of the plan. Likewise, only relatively minor amendments were made to the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance during the decade of the 1990s.

Due to changes in both common planning practice and in the growth patterns of the County, the dawn of the new millennium brought recognition of the need to reexamine the Joint Comprehensive Plan and the County and Town Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances. Work commenced on a new plan with a April 2001 visioning session moderated by Virginia Tech professor Dr. Michael Chandler. Members of the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors, Appomattox Town Council, Pamplin Town Council, Joint Planning Commission, Industrial Development Authority, and Board of Zoning Appeals, as well as staff from all three local governments, were in attendance.

During the spring and summer of 2001, staff gathered information from the various departments, agencies and offices of the County and Towns. Information was also gathered from regional and state partners that will play a role in implementing the ideas found in the new plan, including Virginia's Region 2000 and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP).

From summer 2001 through spring 2002, staff worked closely with the Joint Planning Commission to develop and review each individual component of the new plan. In July, 2002, the Joint Planning Commission reviewed the entire draft and presented the document to the Board of Supervisors and both Town Councils at a joint meeting of the four bodies.

Concurrent with this process, the Industrial Development Authority began work on a plan to better position Appomattox County as a player in the field of economic development. Central to this was a June 2002 Economic Summit hosted by the IDA and attended by about 35 invited community leaders. Led by Community Assistance staff from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), those in attendance were given an overview of today's economic development climate as well as recommended steps that Appomattox County should

## INTRODUCTION

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take to increase the marketability of the county to industrial establishments.

During August 2002, staff solicited additional comments from the various departments, agencies and offices of the County and Towns, as well as from regional and state partners that will play a role in implementing the ideas found in the new plan.

From Labor Day through mid-October 2002, an open public review period was held to solicit comments from the general population. Draft copies, both paper and CD-ROM versions, of the new Comprehensive Plan were placed in several locations around the County, including the Jamerson Library, the County Administrator's Office, Appomattox Town Offices, Pamplin Town Hall, Appomattox Chamber of Commerce, and the Appomattox Community Center. A draft plan in PDF format was also placed on the Internet and was available through [www.appomattox.com](http://www.appomattox.com). An email address ([theplan@mindspring.com](mailto:theplan@mindspring.com)) was set up as an additional avenue for receiving public comments. Three public informational meetings were held (September 19-Appomattox Community Center; September 26-Carver Price Cultural Center; October 3-Pamplin Community Center). Finally, staff and Planning Commissioners were available to speak at community and civic meetings upon invitation.

Over the next two months, the Planning Commission and staff edited the draft plan based on the comments received from the public as well as on updated information received from sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau. A Final Draft Plan was prepared and presented to the governing bodies by the Planning Commission in January of 2003. The governing bodies and Planning Commission then held a joint public hearing on March 17, 2003, to solicit public input on the Final Draft Plan.

Having held the public hearing as required by §15.2-2226 of the *Code of Virginia, 1950 (as amended)*, the governing bodies were now able to vote on adoption of the Final Draft as the new Appomattox Community Development Plan. The official dates of adoption for the three localities were as follows:

Appomattox County	April 7, 2003
Town of Appomattox	April 14, 2003
Town of Pamplin	May 1, 2003

# INTRODUCTION

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## PLANNING INTO THE FUTURE

On May 19, 2003, the Joint Appomattox Planning Commission formed a Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee to direct annual updates of the Appomattox Community Development Plan. This subcommittee, comprised of the Planning Commission chair, vice-chair, and one other member, will also review mini-plans as they are developed and will coordinate the work of other Planning Commission committees to keep the Comprehensive Plan developing in a realistic and reasonable manner.

# POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

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## INTRODUCTION

A key element in any comprehensive plan is the analysis of the size, structure and characteristics of the resident population and a projection of future population growth. Examining current trends and future developments in population change is necessary to determine community needs for land, housing, public services, schools, and other services and facilities. Thus, population analysis serves as the basis for most planning decisions.

## GENERAL POPULATION

### POPULATION GROWTH

Appomattox County was created by the Virginia General Assembly in 1845, and in 1850 underwent the first decennial census as a separate county. Population counts for the County from 1850 through 2000 are presented below:

1850 - 9,193	1890 - 9,589	1930 - 8,402	1970 - 9,784
1860 - 8,889	1900 - 9,662	1940 - 9,020	1980 - 11,971
1870 - 8,950	1910 - 8,904	1950 - 8,764	1990 - 12,298
1880 - 10,080	1920 - 9,255	1960 - 9,148	2000 - 13,705

For a comparison of the County's population in relation to that of its immediate neighbors since 1930, please refer to Table II-1 in Appendix A.

The County's population fluctuated moderately from 1900 through the 1970s, remaining between 8,400 and 10,100 people. However, with the coming of the Thomasville Furniture plant in 1974 came new residents seeking employment opportunities both at the plant and at other local businesses which thrived due to the plant's existence. By 1980, the population had soared to 11,971, but tapered off at 12,298 by 1990.

During the 1990s, urban and suburban flight was a common occurrence nationwide. Here in Appomattox, newcomers raised the County's population to 13,705 by the 2000 Census. Much of the growth was in the western part of the County, a sign that Appomattox County is increasingly becoming a bedroom community for the City of Lynchburg. However, based on information from the 2001 redistricting process, which itself was based on 2000 Census information, all areas of the County experienced growth during the 1990s. The portion of the County south of US Route 460, however, grew at a much higher rate than did the portion of the County north of US Route 460. More detailed information is not available at this time since 2000 Census information has yet to be released at the Magisterial district level.

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

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In spite of the recent population increases, the rural nature of the county has prevailed. However, density did increase from 37.8 persons per square mile in 1990 to 41.0 persons per square mile in 2000.

Even with the population increases experienced over the past few decades, Appomattox County is by far the smallest of the four counties of Region 2000. With a 2000 population of 31,894, Amherst, the next smallest of the four counties, has over twice the population of Appomattox. In terms of population, Appomattox County compares more favorably with its neighbors to the north, south and east than it does to the Region 2000 counties to the west. As reported in Table II-2 in Appendix A, to the north is Buckingham (15,623) and Nelson (14,445), while Prince Edward (19,720) lies to the east and Charlotte (12,472) to the south. In terms of population per square mile, Appomattox is more densely populated than Buckingham (26.9), Charlotte (26.3), and Nelson (30.6) Counties, but less densely populated than Prince Edward County (55.9).

During the 1990s, the Town of Appomattox saw a slight decrease in population from 1,707 to 1,693 while Pamplin's population fell from 220 to 210. Two other comparable towns in the area, Altavista and Brookneal also experienced declining populations during the last decade. Two other area towns, Farmville (6,845) and Amherst (2,251), saw their populations increase during the same time period, though the increase experienced by the Town of Amherst can be partly explained by a mid-decade boundary adjustment that expanded the Town's borders.

A portion of any population increase or decrease is due to what is termed as "natural increase", or simply the number of births minus the number of deaths. The remainder of any given population change is due to "net migration", defined as the number of people who move into a given area minus the number who move out of the same area. Statistics for natural increase and net migration are compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau, which has yet to release this information as gathered during the 2000 Census.

### ***AGE AND GENDER DISTRIBUTION***

Age statistics from the 2000 Census show that not only is the population of Appomattox County continuing to age, but also that the median age of both the County and the Town of Appomattox are significantly higher than the median age of Virginians as a whole. Interestingly, Pamplin's median age is below that of the State. In short, though the "graying of the population" has slowed down in recent years, possibly due to an influx of 35-54 year olds, the median age of the County's population will continue to rise as medical advances and healthier lifestyles contribute to longer lifespans. Furthermore, as additional employment opportunities are provided to the County's young adult population, in conjunction with increased awareness of "quality of life"

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

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issues, the number of 18 to 34 year olds should increase beyond today's levels.

Table II-3 in Appendix A contains age group information for Appomattox County. Table II-4, also in Appendix A, contains gender information.

### *RACIAL COMPOSITION*

The non-White population in Appomattox County increased from 23.1 percent of the total population in 1990 to 24.1 percent of the total in 2000. The vast majority of these persons are African-Americans, a group that has remained at a constant 22.9 percent of the County's population for the last two Census counts. From this, it can be deduced that the non-White population increase can be attributed to the growth of Native Americans, Asians, and other such groups within the County. Appomattox's non-White population is higher than those of neighboring Nelson (17.3 percent) and Amherst (22.3 percent), but much lower than the non-White totals in Buckingham, Charlotte and Prince Edward Counties. For more information on racial distribution, please refer to Table II-5 in Appendix A.

### *HOUSEHOLDS, FAMILIES AND MARITAL STATUS*

Changes in households, families and marital status provide an indication of the social structure in the county. The difference between a household and a family is that a household is any housing unit occupied jointly by non-related persons, while a family requires that members in the household be related to the head of that household by birth, marriage or adoption. The total number of households in the County increased 18.8 percent between 1990 and 2000, from 4,478 to 5,322. The number of family households in the County increased from 3,561 in 1990 to 4,013 in 2000. The number of family households within the Town of Appomattox decreased from 476 to 470. Pamplin likewise saw a decrease in the number of family households, from 60 in 1990 to 51 in 2000. For more information on household characteristics, please refer to Table II-6 in Appendix A.

Part of the reason that the number of households has grown at a faster pace over the past few decades than has the number of families is that the number of divorced and separated people has increased significantly since 1970. This trend is borne out by the fact that the average household size in Appomattox County has steadily decreased from 2.94 persons in 1980 to 2.71 persons in 1990 to 2.55 persons in 2000, a figure that is still higher than the state mark of 2.54 persons per household.

The number of female-headed households also continues to rise in Appomattox County, partially indicative of the increase in the divorce rate. In 1980, there were 351 households in the County

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

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headed by females and 492 in 1990. By 2000, this figure had risen to 613. Both Towns have also seen increases in the number of female-headed households, particularly the Town of Appomattox which reported 143 in 2000, up from 117 in 1990.

Also playing a part in the decline in median household size is the decrease in the number of children per family. This drop in overall household size has had, and is expected to continue to have, a major impact on the demand for additional housing units. Simply put, a greater number of housing units will be required to accommodate the same number of people.

### ***EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT***

During the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the educational achievement of Appomattox County residents closely followed national trends. Both here in Appomattox and across the nation, more people completed high school with each successive decade. Between 1980 and 1990 alone, high school graduates as a percentage of all persons 25 years and older living in Appomattox County increased from 43 percent to 61 percent. By the 2000 Census, a full 70 percent of those County residents 25 years and older had earned either a high school or an equivalent diploma. (Information on school enrollment is presented in Table II-7 located in Appendix A. Information on educational attainment is presented in Table II-8, also in Appendix A.) Furthermore, statistics provided by the Appomattox County School Division report that 154 students graduated in 2002. Of these graduates, 95 received an Advanced Studies Diploma. Likewise, as the high school graduation percentage has increased, so, too, has the number of graduates who continue their education elsewhere. Fifty six of the 2002 Appomattox High School graduates planned to enter a four-year college, while thirty two planned to enter a two year college. A total of 2,330 students in grades K-12 were enrolled in Appomattox County schools in September 2002

### **INCOME AND POVERTY**

According to the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis's *Regional Accounts Data (BEARFACTS)*, 1999 per capita personal income (PCPI) in Appomattox County was \$19,587, which ranked 79<sup>th</sup> in the state. This figure represented 66 percent of the State PCPI, \$29,794, and 69 percent of the national PCPI, \$28,546. The County's 1999 PCPI was an increase of 2.2 percent from the 1998 PCPI, well behind the State's 5.0 percent increase and the Nation's 4.5 percent increase over the same time period.

Total personal income (TPI) in Appomattox in 1999, again according to *BEARFACTS*, was \$260,841,000, which ranked 85<sup>th</sup> in the State and accounted for 0.1 percent of the State total. The County's 1999 TPI was an increase of 3.5 percent from the previous year's figure, but was still much lower than the 6.3 percent and 5.4 percent increases seen by the State and nation,

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

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respectively, during the same time period.

TPI includes the earnings from wages and salaries, other labor income, and proprietor's income of all County residents. TPI also includes dividends, interest, and rent, as well as transfer payments received by all County residents. *BEARFACTS* reports that in 1999, 65.9 percent of the County's TPI was from earnings, 16.8 percent was from dividends, interest and rent, and 17.3 percent was from transfer payments. Earnings increased 3.0 percent from 1998 to 1999, while dividends, interest, and rent increased 4.1 percent and transfer payments increased 5.0 percent.

Median family income in Appomattox County increased from \$18,353 to \$30,058 during the 1980s. When adjusted for inflation based on the consumer price index (CPI), this represented a 63.8 percent escalation in the amount of money that the average County family earned, an extremely healthy increase for any given 10-year period. However substantial this increase was, though, family income in Appomattox grew at a much slower pace during the 1980s than did family income at the state level which grew 90.9 percent to a mark of \$38,213. By the 2000 Census, the County's median family income had risen to \$41,563, still far below the state's median income of \$54,169.

According to the 2000 Census, the median household income for Appomattox County stood at \$36,507, up from a 1997 model-based estimate from the U. S. Census Bureau that reported the median household income to be \$32,582. Virginia's median household income of \$46,677 in 2000 was also considerably more than the \$40,209 estimated in 1997. Though far below the state average for household income, Appomattox residents more than hold their own when comparing their median household income to those of the surrounding counties. Amherst (\$37,393), Campbell (\$37,280) and Nelson (\$36,769) Counties reported higher median household incomes than Appomattox in 2000, but Buckingham (\$29,882), Charlotte (\$28,929), and Prince Edward (\$31,301) all reported median incomes below that of Appomattox. This information is reported in Table II-9 in Appendix A.

As reported in Table II-10 in Appendix A, the Town of Appomattox has a lower median household income (\$24,167) than Pamplin (\$28,000), Altavista (\$31,818), Amherst (\$33,000), Brookneal (\$25,938), Charlotte Court House (\$33,000) or Farmville (\$26,343), according to the 2000 Census.

Another measure of the overall economic well-being of a community is the extent of poverty found within that community. Poverty threshold is determined by crossing income with family size, thus the poverty level for a family of four would be different than the level for a family of seven. According to the 2000 Census, 11.3 percent of the individual residents of Appomattox County were considered to be living below the poverty threshold, slightly higher than the State's

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

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number of 9.3 percent. The same 2000 data for the Counties of Amherst (10.2 percent), Buckingham (17.1 percent), Campbell (10.4 percent), Charlotte (17.9 percent), Nelson (12.1 percent) and Prince Edward (15.3 percent) show that the while poverty in Appomattox may be higher than for the state as a whole, several of the surrounding counties have much greater poverty rates than does Appomattox. However, each of the aforementioned localities has seen their individual poverty levels decrease of the past ten years. For more information on poverty, please refer to Table II-11 in Appendix A.

An analysis of Table II-12, located in Appendix A, indicates that the Town of Appomattox was experiencing an individual poverty rate of 17.5 percent in the year 2000. Pamplin's rate at the time was 19.0 percent, the highest among the sample towns in the region. Others reported anywhere from 13.2 percent (Altavista) to 18.9 percent (Charlotte Court House) for individual poverty rate.

In terms of the percentage of households receiving public assistance, Appomattox County is average for the area with a percentage rate of 3.0 percent. Both Appomattox and Pamplin report just over 5 percent of their households receive public assistance. This information is summarized in Table II-11 in Appendix A along with statistics for retirement income.

When analyzing the various income data components, a certain economic pattern is fairly evident. Appomattox County has long associated with the counties immediately adjacent to the City of Lynchburg for most nearly every service, including membership in economic development (Region 2000), planning (Region 2000 Regional Commission), elderly care (Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging), and other regional organizations. Though Appomattox has been regarded as the least wealthy of the Region 2000 counties, the County appears to be wealthier than its nearest non-Region 2000 neighbors. This may be attributable to the fact that many Appomattox County residents commute to jobs in the Greater Lynchburg area. Though the County itself may have a limited number of mid- to high-paying positions, many such opportunities can be found just a short drive to the west. Counties such as Buckingham, Charlotte and Prince Edward, on the other hand, also have a limited number of mid- to high-paying positions, but driving from these counties to employment centers such as Lynchburg and Richmond is a more burdensome task.

## POPULATION PROJECTIONS

During the 1990s, Appomattox County grew at a faster rate than predicted. Projections developed by the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) based on past and then-current socioeconomic trends predicted a year 2000 population of 13,007 and a year 2010 population of 13,542. As reported earlier, the 2000 Census counted 13,705 people in Appomattox County,

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

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thereby surpassing the VEC projection for 2010.

Currently, the VEC projects that 14,600 people will reside in Appomattox County by the year 2010. If this holds to be true, the County would see an annual growth rate of 0.65 percent during the decade, about half the annual growth rate during the 1990s. Using the same 0.65 percent annual growth rate through the following decade, the year 2020 population would be approximately 15,500.

However, these estimates appear to be extremely conservative, especially when compared to the growth experienced during the 1990s. Many feel that Appomattox is on the verge of a sizable population increase due to any combination of the following factors:

- Many areas of the County are a short twenty minute drive from the regional employment, shopping, dining and entertainment opportunities found in the City of Lynchburg.
- Many people, particularly young families, would rather make their lives in a safer and slower paced community such as Appomattox as opposed to alternatives such as Northern Virginia, Richmond, or other more urban areas.
- The Internet and other telecommunications advances will continue to make telecommuting an attractive alternative for people who work in an urban or suburban area, but who prefer to live in a more rural location.
- As Appomattox increases its appeal to potential employers, companies will locate in the County, bringing outside workers as well as job opportunities for those in Appomattox County and the surrounding areas.
- Appomattox has land available for industrial, commercial, and residential growth. Available land is often a commodity in short supply in many urban and suburban areas, therefore localities with surpluses of land harbor additional economic development potential.
- Rising land and housing costs in other parts of Region 2000 will continue to make Appomattox County an attractive place to locate.
- The trend of Appomattox as a haven for retirees will continue into the foreseeable future.

No population projections are available for towns. However, the population of neither town in the County is expected to fluctuate much over the next twenty years barring the construction of

## POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

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multi-family or other rental housing units. If additional rental housing opportunities are provided, more people will likely move into the towns in order to be closer to shopping, dining, employment, and schools.

# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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## EXISTING CONDITIONS

### *AIR RESOURCES*

Air resources include the prevailing climate of the area and the "quality" of the air. Climate is generally described by meteorological trends and by measurable factors such as rainfall rates and temperature. Air "quality" is more difficult to describe but is usually indicated by measurements of air-borne pollutants, which are produced by certain human activities and are considered potentially harmful to the public health at relatively low concentrations. Normally, the lower the pollutant concentration, the better the air quality is considered to be.

Climate - Appomattox County has a modified continental climate, with mild winters and warm, humid summers. Mountains to the west mitigate the effects of winter storms moving easterly, while the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean to the east contribute to the humid summers. These large bodies of water also help make winters milder than they otherwise would be.

Occasionally, severe weather in the form of hurricanes and other tropical storms affect the area. Though such storms are usually downgraded by the time they reach Appomattox County, heavy rains and strong winds may still affect the county. Tornadoes are extremely rare in the area. Thunderstorms, however, are relatively frequent and may produce severe lightning, high wind, and damaging hail.

The average annual precipitation for the county exceeds 40 inches. Table III-1 in Appendix A shows the distribution of precipitation over the year. July is typically the wettest month with 4.30 inches of precipitation, while January is the driest with 2.80 inches. Snowfall averages 17.7 inches per year.

Air Quality - As with most areas of the Commonwealth outside of the Northern Virginia, Richmond, and Tidewater metropolitan areas, Appomattox County has been designated as an attainment area, meaning that air quality monitoring in the County has consistently yielded data well within the range mandated by law.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality is responsible for monitoring air quality within the Commonwealth. This agency also serves as the air permitting agency for new construction and expansions. Emissions proposed for the new facility, emissions from existing facilities in the area, topography, forest cover, wind patterns, and population concentrations play important roles in permitting decisions.

# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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## *LAND RESOURCES*

Of primary concern here is information on physiography, geology, and soils. Such knowledge is especially useful in determining opportunities and constraints for developmental activities, locating economic resources, and identifying scenic areas.

Physiography - Appomattox County lies wholly within the Piedmont physiographic province -- a broad, elevated belt situated between the Coastal Plain and Blue Ridge provinces, and extending from Alabama to New Jersey. The Piedmont is essentially a plateau with mature stream development and erosion-resistant hills or mountains which occasionally appear in level terrain, promoting a rolling landscape. Elevations in the county vary from approximately 460 feet above sea level at the point where the Appomattox River flows into Prince Edward County to 1,151 feet on the top of Piney Mountain. Most of the county, however, lies between 500 and 800 feet.

Slope is defined to be the positive ratio of vertical change to horizontal distance, expressed as a percentage. For example, if over a horizontal distance of 100 feet, the elevation changes 30 feet, either up or down, then the slope is 30 percent. The areas shown on the map delineate classes of slope generally encountered in these areas.

In general, slope is a major constraint (or conversely, an opportunity) to developmental activities. The class of "zero to eight percent" is usually good for development, other conditions permitting. The class "eight to fifteen" percent presents some limitations normally due to higher site preparation costs and service extensions. For instance, in such areas, gravity sewers must often be accompanied with forced mains thereby increasing costs. It can be expected that development costs in the "Fifteen+ percent" class will be much higher than those of the other classes. Also, development in areas with this much slope often runs the risk of encountering problems such as localized landsliding. However, only on-site investigation can determine the development suitability of a particular location because sites with little slope may have other factors that would make development undesirable while others with a slope of greater than 15 percent may actually prove to be good areas for development.

The county straddles two main river basins, divided roughly by US Route 460. The area north of the divide is drained by the James River, while the south is drained by the Roanoke (Staunton) River (see River Basins and Watersheds Map). There are also several major watersheds within the basins. The James basin includes Stonewall Creek, Wreck Island Creek, Bent Creek, and Appomattox River watersheds. The Roanoke basin includes the Falling River and Cub Creek watersheds. The watersheds are useful units, especially for water quality and water supply planning. Note that some of the watersheds actually combine separate but adjacent smaller watersheds.

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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Geology - The geology of the county is not well known, due primarily to a thick mantle of soil and highly weathered rock that covers most of the surface, obscuring the underlying lithology, and structure. However, based on scattered outcroppings, knowledge of relationships elsewhere, and knowledge of the nature and derivation of soils, a limited picture is available.

As far as is known, igneous and metamorphic rocks underlie essentially the entire county except for occurrences of slightly altered limestone in the northwest. The igneous rock consists of granite found in the extreme southeastern section and diabase dikes in the northwest.

Metamorphic rocks form the bedrock for most of the county. In the east are found hornblende gneiss, granite gneiss, and mica schist which were probably formed by the intrusion or formation of the granite in the area. These are all products of relatively intense metamorphism caused by heat and pressure. Toward the west, the metamorphism was not as severe, so the rocks are "low grade" metamorphics. These are mostly sericite phyllite and greenstone with some quartzite, metaarkose, and marble in the northwest.

Most of the rocks are of uncertain age--probably Pre-Cambrian to Paleozoic. In the northwest, the rocks belong to what is called the Evington Group and are classified as Ordovician in age. Although the geologic structure is obscure, intense folding and faulting is visible in the northwestern portion of Appomattox County. These structures trend in a northeast direction. It is along this fracture zone that the James River has cut its channel on the county border.

For the most part, the rocks in the county do not directly place constraints on activities. Bedrock is usually too deep to affect construction and where it is near the surface, bedrock normally offers a good foundation. Hazards from earthquakes or large scale land-sliding are not apparent.

Many mineral resources have been commercially mined at some time in the county's history. Copper and iron ores, manganese minerals, marble, quartzite, clay, sand, and gravel have all been mined at one time or another. Presently, only agricultural lime is mined and processed at a site near Beckham.

Soils - The soils in the area are almost all residual--having formed from the rock material below them. Alluvial soils, or those deposited by water such as the soil found in floodplains, account for the remainder. Seven soil associations have been mapped. A soil association is designated by the names of two or more soil types that constitute significant portions of the association. The association itself relates soils of similar characteristics. Table III-3 in Appendix A presents the soil associations in the county along with some of their characteristics.

Soil associations are very large units and, therefore, characteristics can vary widely within an association. A detailed soil survey of the county is underway and will supply more definitive

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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information. However, for the time being, soil associations are adequate for general planning purposes.

Soils vary widely in their suitability for various uses. Depending on factors such as depth, permeability, plasticity, drainage, and size composition, a particular soil may be a constraint or an opportunity for uses contemplated. The Soil Conservation Service has rated soils found within the soil associations in Appomattox County in terms of their suitability for a number of activities.

Table III-4 in Appendix A presents a suitability rating for each soil found in the County for a number of differing development activities. For all excepting Manteo and Poindexter, the ratings were developed based on a slope in the range of two to seven percent. Manteo and Poindexter soils are rated based on slopes of fifteen to twenty five percent. In other words, the above slope ranges are assumed, and where slopes may be greater under actual condition, the respective ratings would be correspondingly less favorable. It should be noted here that though the majority of soils in an association may be rated poorly for many uses, there may be areas of desirable soils. A site investigation is indicated for specific determinations.

### ***WATER RESOURCES***

The water resources of an area are extremely important for planning consideration. The amount and distribution of water determines supplies for industrial and residential consumption, and offers recreation and habitat among many other benefits. On the negative side, flooding, pollution, and droughts can be devastating to an area.

Surface Waters - As discussed in the section dealing with physiography, Appomattox County is divided between two large river basins--the James River and Roanoke River basins. Tributaries to the James River drain northerly and those to the Roanoke River drain southerly, from a divide which roughly corresponds to US Route 460. Both the James and Roanoke Rivers receive waters from Appomattox County, but only the James River is physically located within Appomattox County-- forming the northwest border.

There are numerous surface impoundments in the county, only four of which are greater than 10 acres. The major impoundment is Holliday Lake, which straddles the Appomattox-Buckingham County Line. The majority of impoundments in the county are farm ponds that range in size from less than one to several acres. These impoundments offer recreational opportunities as well as flood control and sedimentation and erosion control benefits.

Surface Water Quality - There have been no identified problems for surface waters in the county. The Appomattox River and its tributaries are Class III streams meaning they are "generally

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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satisfactory for secondary contact recreation, propagation of fish and aquatic life, and other beneficial uses." This classification means the applicable standard for minimum dissolved oxygen is 4.0 mg/L, pH is 6.0 - 9.0 and maximum temperature is 32 degrees Celsius. Falling River and Cub Creek, as well as their tributaries, have the same classification with the special standard that the pH of the waters shall fall within the 6.5 to 9.0 range. There are very few direct discharges to surface water in Appomattox County.

Ground Water - Accessible ground water can be found throughout the county. Most supplies have been found in fracture zones or joints in bedrock, or just above bedrock in the weathered rock zones at depths usually within 150 feet of the surface.

Shallow large-diameter wells dug in soil have also found useable supplies. Eighty percent of the wells yield less than 20 gallons per minute. In general, the more dependable supplies come from deeper wells. Shallow wells are more susceptible to fluctuations in level and yield due to short droughts.

Groundwater Quality - Shallow wells usually have good quality water for most uses, though they are susceptible to contamination, especially from nearby septic fields. The quality in deeper wells is variable, depending on the lithology of the rock in which the water is in contact, but is generally soft to moderate hard and low in total dissolved solids. Water derived from sericite phyllite in the central area may be hard in the vicinity of the altered limestone area.

Flood Hazard Areas - Floodplains are flat areas contiguous to water courses and serve a vital function in the hydrologic system. As the channel capacity of a stream is exceeded due to, for example, intensive precipitation, the floodplain acts as a temporary water storage area for the excess. It also provides habitat for wildlife and fertile land for agriculture. Because rivers and streams often coincide with transportation routes, and the flat land is usually easily developable, man has often built structures in the floodplain. But because flooding is a recurrent phenomenon, structures in such areas must eventually be affected by flood waters or be protected by very expensive means to prevent damages.

Included in Appendix B is a map based on Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Flood Hazard Maps for Appomattox County. This map roughly delineates the chief flood hazard areas within the County. For a more detailed view of these flood hazard areas, please consult the actual FEMA maps located in the Appomattox County Office of Building and Housing. However, even these maps may not accurately pinpoint the limits of a flood hazard area on a given parcel without the aid of a land survey.

# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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## *WILDLIFE RESOURCES*

Many species of animals and fish can be found in Appomattox County, including several game species. Game species are particularly important to an area for two reasons, the first of which is that a variety and large numbers of game animals and fish indicates a healthful environment, barring overabundance. Second, game species can be important to the rural economy since hunters attracted from outside the area provide revenue for local merchants and service providers.

Big Game - Big game in Appomattox County consists of deer and turkey. Occasionally, bear are sighted, but these are usually "visitors" from higher elevations to the west in search of food during times of short supply. White-tailed deer are plentiful and can be found in all but the most populated areas. As recently as the early 1940's there were virtually no deer in the area, but the abandonment of small farms and the clearing of densely forested areas has vastly improved conditions. The planting of pine has also helped, since this has increased the supply of browse. The present deer population is near capacity for the available food supply, and thus may need to be thinned out in the coming years.

Small Game - Several small game species inhabit Appomattox County including grouse, quail, rabbits, and squirrels. Populations of these species tend to fluctuate widely and records are not kept of kills, so it is difficult to numerically estimate such resources. Appomattox County is located out of the main range of grouse, which prefer more mountainous terrain. However, it is well suited for quail, which can be found in open areas. Rabbits are located practically everywhere; squirrels can be found throughout wooded sections, especially hardwood areas. Other small hunted animals can be found in the county including some bobcat and good populations of beaver and muskrat.

Fishing - Fishing is considered good in Appomattox County. Important warm water streams and associated fisheries are as follows:

James River - smallmouth bass, muskellunge, rock bass, redbreast sunfish, bluegill, channel catfish, and carp

Appomattox River - largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, spotted bass, chain pickerel, redbreast sunfish, bluegill, black crappie, and suckers

The James River is widely known for its smallmouth bass and muskellunge fisheries; in fact, it is generally considered to be the premier trophy fishery in the state for these two species. The Appomattox River is generally narrow and relatively shallow in Appomattox County; however the river does support a viable and diverse sport fishery which is often accessed by float fishing. In an effort to establish a spotted bass population in the James, approximately 11,000 fish were

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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introduced to the river from 1976 to 1978. The stockings were very successful and a significant fishery exists today. Several other small streams which feed the James River such as Wreck Island Creek support spring sucker fisheries; however the fisheries are limited at other times of the year.

As mentioned previously there are four private lakes over 10 acres in Appomattox County. Holliday Lake, a state park, is the only public lake in the county. Fishing pressure is light on Holliday Lake, and success is generally good. The lake is predominantly utilized for swimming, picnicking, and boating. The primary sport fishery in Holliday Lake consists of largemouth bass, chain pickerel, channel catfish, bluegill, and redear sunfish. Small private ponds and lakes (less than 10 acres) are plentiful in the county and, in general support, typical warm water fisheries consisting of largemouth bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed, red breasted sunfish, black crappie, and channel catfish.

### ***VEGETATION RESOURCES***

The outlying areas of the county include much cultivated open land, some forestation, and streams and rivers with immediately adjacent wetlands. Vegetation includes smartweed, fall penicum, sedge, and various grasses. The inland shallow marshes, following streams and drainage-ways, are sparse and more suited for wildlife than cultivation. Biota consists of spikerushes, bulrushes, cattails, and common weeds and grasses.

The upland eco-systems are comprised of cropland, shrubs, trees, bird life, and animal life common in Central Virginia. Upland vegetation consists mainly of grain crops, grasses, and legumes for hay and pasture. Moccasin flower, flame azalea, blue violet, daisies, buttercup, and similar low-growing plants are found in various proportions in the uplands. Because of the high degree of cultivation, these species are generally confined to the edges and floors of the forests.

The relatively small percentage of forestation is composed of hardwoods and soft-woods. Among the principal hardwoods are hickory, black gum, red maple, white oak, and chestnut oak. Softwood forests consist of natural stands of shortleaf and Virginia pine and planted stands of loblolly pine. Understory species include dogwood, sourwood, and various woody and herbaceous shrubs

### ***UNIQUE FEATURES***

There are several natural and manmade features in Appomattox County that are of environmental and/or historic value. The Division of State Planning and Community Affairs conducted a study of critical environmental areas in 1972; this study found two sites in Appomattox County which met their criteria:

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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- \* the James River -- A critical watershed, fish habitat and recreational area;  
and
- \* the Appomattox Court House Environs -- A nationally important historic site.

A portion of Cub Creek in Appomattox County, as well as the Falling River, are included in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory. This is the list of rivers in the United States meeting the criteria of Public Law 90-542 for designation under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. By presidential decree all federal agencies must avoid or mitigate adverse effects on rivers included in this inventory. These streams were included because of their scenic, recreational, geologic and habitat values.

Holliday Lake State Park is located in Appomattox County. The park includes 250 acres, of which 150 acres is Holliday Lake. The entire park is situated within the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest, a 19,710 acre reserve. The Holliday Lake facility offers a variety of recreational opportunities, including boating, fishing, hiking, and camping. The Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest is a working forest with roughly equal acreage in Appomattox and Buckingham counties. Of the acreage in Appomattox County, 8,416 acres are commercial forest and 1,056 acres are non-commercial. The forest also offers a large number of research opportunities. Both the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and the Virginia Department of Forestry conduct research throughout the forest.

### PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The following Goals, Strategies, and Tasks have been developed by Appomattox County as a means of protecting and enhancing the valuable resources, including the natural beauty, of Appomattox County.

**GOAL: MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE A HEALTHFUL NATURAL ENVIRONMENT THAT BOTH PRESERVES THE NATURAL BEAUTY AND PROTECTS THE ECOLOGY OF APPOMATTOX COUNTY.**

**Objective A.** Maintain and enhance water and air resources.

Strategy 1) Protect current and potential future multi-purpose water resource sites.

Task a) Develop land use controls that discourage concentrated development in areas in or adjacent to existing or potential groundwater impoundments without substantial provision for water and sewer alternatives.

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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- Task b) Continue the development of the County's Erosion and Sediment Control Program to limit runoff from land-disturbing activities, thereby minimizing sedimentation in streams.
- Task c) Work with appropriate agencies and the public to insure that agricultural, forestry (including timbering), and mining activities are conducted according to Best Management Practices to minimize sedimentation in streams.
- Task d) Explore the potential options for increasing the amount of potable water available for consumption by current and future residents of Appomattox County, as well as the amount of potable and raw water available for industrial and commercial growth. Options include, but are not limited to, development of reservoirs or other above-ground impoundments within the County, or accessing water resources from outside the County. Once the best option package is determined, work towards immediate implementation of that option package to insure a supply of potable water that is adequate for the planned growth of the County.
- Task e) Work with the appropriate agencies and the public to encourage resource conservation along major rivers and streams.
- Task f) Encourage the use of water-conserving devices in homes, businesses and industry.
- Task g) Require water/sewer impact studies for high-density residential development and certain water-intensive commercial and industrial developments.
- Strategy 2) Protect groundwater supplies from the hazards of failing septic systems.
- Task a) Work with the Appomattox County Health Department to identify properties with failing septic systems.
- Task b) Seek funding through the Community Development Block Grant Program, Indoor Plumbing/Rehabilitation Program, or other grant and/or loan sources, to correct septic deficiencies suffered by low- to moderate-income households and expand the availability of public sewerage.
- Task c) Develop land use controls that, absent public water and sewer, discourage

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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concentrated development in areas experiencing or likely to experience high levels of septic failures.

**Objective B.** Minimize risks to personal safety and property from natural hazards as well as protect environmentally sensitive and/or scenic areas of the County.

Strategy 1) Protect environmentally sensitive areas from development

- Task a) Develop land use controls that discourage development in floodplains, wetlands, areas of excessive slopes, and other such areas. Only allow development in these areas if Best Management Practices are employed.
- Task b) Encourage, where appropriate, the return of floodplains to the natural state or to uses which will not increase flood levels or pose other danger to life or property.
- Task c) Prohibit land uses that have significant adverse environmental impacts.
- Task d) Consider developing a wetlands and/or conservation bank program where developers may reserve properties for conservation purposes in exchange for credit to develop in other environmentally sensitive areas.

Strategy 2) Enhance and ensure the continuation of viable wildlife and vegetative resources.

- Task a) Contact the appropriate agencies to expand fish stocking in the county.
- Task b) Develop land use controls that discourage development in areas of good habitat for game animals.
- Task c) Develop a land use ordinance that discourages destruction of desirable indigenous trees, groundcover, or other vegetation and instead encourages the proliferation of desirable trees.

Strategy 3) Preserve and protect outstanding scenic areas of the County.

- Task a) Identify and prioritize scenic areas of the county and consider developing regulations to protect viewsheds of natural and historical features.
- Task b) Develop relationships with garden clubs and other civic organizations and

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

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encourage them to undertake landscaping, cleanup, and other beautification projects.

- Task c) Continue to educate the public about the benefits of recycling.
- Task d) Continue to educate the public on the negative impacts of littering, particularly around dumpster sites.
- Task e) Refine and improve enforcement of abandoned vehicles ordinance.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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## INTENT

The Economic Development Plan establishes the Comprehensive Plan foundation for the enhancement and diversification of Appomattox County's revenue base and growth in the number of skilled jobs found within the County. While recognizing that various public and private sector organizations must actively pursue and promote environmentally sound economic development, County government has a major role in facilitating economic growth through its land use, development, and fiscal policies.

## ECONOMIC HISTORY

Appomattox was formed from Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte and Prince Edward Counties in 1845. At the time of its formation, the county was little more than a series of farming villages. Tobacco was and would be a major crop for many years. One outstanding feature of the county was the Clover Hill Tavern, built in 1819 as a way station on the Lynchburg-Richmond Stagecoach line.

Appomattox was generally spared the devastation of the Civil War, but made history by becoming the site of Robert E. Lee's surrender to Ulysses S. Grant. The railroad, built through the county in 1852, began shifting the focus of the county away from the old courthouse to the railroad depot in the present town of Appomattox where business prospered. A single hotel and a line of stores characterized Main Street.

The first major industry in Appomattox was the Pamplin Smoking Pipe Manufacturing Company. Established in 1878, this factory manufactured clay pipes for over 70 years before closing in 1951. The twentieth century brought many other manufacturing businesses to Appomattox with a concentration in the apparel and furniture industries. Of particular interest is the Thomasville furniture plant constructed in 1974. At that time, this was the world's largest furniture operation under one roof. However, both the furniture and textile industries have been hurt extensively by foreign labor competition, magnifying the need to diversify the County's economy to insure both a strong tax base and continued employment for County residents.

## LABOR POOL

There are two indicators commonly used to track a locality's source of workers. The first and most widely known indicator is the unemployment rate. Historically the County has had an unemployment rate below that of the United States, but above that of the state. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, the County unemployment rate in 1983 stood at 10.9 percent, but had dropped to 7.4 percent by 1992 and to 5.3 percent by June of 1995.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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The most recent data available from the Virginia Employment Commission lists the County's unemployment rate at 6.3 percent for September of 2002, higher than any of the surrounding counties, but lower than the 9.7 percent reported in February, 2002. The state unemployment rate for September 2002 was 4.1 percent.

However, because the unemployment rate measures only those actively seeking employment, the figure is occasionally misleading. People often abandon their job search for a variety of reasons, only to reappear in the job market at a later date. To get a more accurate picture of the available workforce, employment analysts often utilize participation rates, the statistical comparison of the labor force to the population 16 years of age and older. In 1990, there were 9,568 persons 16 years of age or older living in Appomattox County. This, along with a civilian labor force of 6,123, indicated a participation rate of 64.0 percent, including a female participation rate of 56.6 percent. These rates were close to the state rates of 68.9 percent overall and 60.7 percent for females. Though the Census Bureau has yet to release participation data from the 2000 Census, it is estimated that the trend of the past two decades towards an increase in both the overall population participation rate and the female participation rate will continue.

Nearly as important as the labor force numbers is the residence of origin of the workforce. Known as commuting patterns, this information provides an indication of where both the current and the potential workforces reside. During the 1980's, the number of people who commuted from Appomattox County to other localities for employment opportunities increased from 39.3 percent in 1980 to 45.1 percent in 1990. Though information on commuting patterns taken from the 2000 Census has yet to be released, there is evidence that this outward commute of workers continued to increase during the 1990's as Campbell, Lynchburg, Amherst, Prince Edward, and other surrounding localities added jobs through industrial and business growth. Many of these commuters would prefer to work in Appomattox County to be closer to home, schools and community, and thus stand as a ready reserve waiting to be tapped into by new and existing County employers.

Once released, the 2000 Census data on commuting patterns will also show that a sizable number of people from outside of Appomattox County travel to the County each day for employment purposes. The 1990 Census reported that 1,374 people commuted into Appomattox County each day, 30.1 percent of whom resided in Campbell County. Charlotte, Prince Edward, and Lynchburg each supplied at least 10 percent of the Appomattox workforce, with the rest coming from the other neighboring counties and as far away as Southwest Virginia and North Carolina. Since inbound commuters often patronize local stores and services out of convenience, the revenue generated by these people is very important to the overall economic health of Appomattox County.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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## BUSINESS HEALTH BY SECTOR

Employment data by industry sector is a proven way to gauge the health and make-up of the local economy. The following discussion of employment by industry is based on data for the quarter ending December 31, 2000. Table IV-1 in Appendix A summarizes this data, which is compiled by the Virginia Employment Commission from quarterly reports required of every business in the Commonwealth,

### *FARMING AND FORESTRY*

In the decade from 1982 to 1992, the amount of land dedicated to agricultural activities decreased drastically from 87,580 acres to 78,691 acres, or approximately 10 percent of the agricultural lands available in 1982. Though the total acres dedicated to farming continued to decrease, the 1997 Census of Agriculture indicates that this trend has slowed down considerably. In fact, two new farms appeared on the scene between 1992 and 1997, though average farm size did decrease from 224 acres to 217 acres, still 17 acres larger than the average Virginia farm. Much of the success or failure of any given farm will be dependent on the market value of farmland. As with other rural areas, Appomattox County is facing increasing development pressure which will escalate both land values and taxes, possibly resulting in additional lost farmland. Proof of this is that between 1987 and 1997, the average market value of agricultural land increased nearly thirty percent.

Livestock, poultry, and produce were the leading sources of farm income for Appomattox County farmers in 1997. Seventy-one percent of the total farm income in the County came from these three areas. The sale of cattle and calves represents 40 percent of farm income while crops sold represents 28 percent of farm income. There are five grade "A" dairy farms in operation. A 2000 VDACS county report shows 17,700 cattle and calves, including 9000 beef cows, 600 dairy cows and 8100 calves. Over 200 farms are involved in beef and dairy cattle production. Due mainly to the effects of nationwide anti-smoking campaigns, tobacco production in the County has curtailed more than 50 percent over the past twenty years, a trend that is very likely to continue.

In addition to agriculture, forest products also provide an important source of economic vitality for Appomattox County. There are 153,357 acres of woodland within the County, including more than 9,100 acres within the County's portion of the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest. According to Virginia Department of Forestry data, the stumpage value harvested in Appomattox County during the 1998-1999 season was approximately \$3,375,617. This data is based upon forest products tax records. Appomattox has been one of the leading pulpwood counties for the past several years, plus excellent markets exist within the County to absorb low quality hardwoods.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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Although 72 percent of Appomattox's land is in forest, not all forest land is available for forest management and harvests. Small residential lots developed in forested areas reduce the sustainability of forest land for forestall practices such as tree farms and wildlife habitats. Sustainable rural forestland is defined as forestland that has a population density of 45 or less people per square mile, is more than 5 acres in size and has less than 40 percent slope. This rural forestland is likely to remain available for long term timber production. Non-sustainable or non-rural forestland is likely to become unavailable for timber production through residential fragmentation or other development, at least by the time the existing forest reaches economic maturity.

### *MANUFACTURING*

Based purely on the number of people employed, manufacturing is the predominant industry in Appomattox County. However, due to layoffs in the sector coupled with the rise of other industrial sectors, the dominance of manufacturing in the County has been decreasing over the past twenty years. Of the more than 3,690 people employed in Appomattox at the end of the fourth quarter of 2000, nearly 28 percent were employed in manufacturing, a substantial drop from the nearly 43 percent reported in 1993. In comparison with our neighboring counties, Appomattox ranks squarely in the middle of Charlotte (40 percent) and Campbell (38 percent) Counties on the high end and Prince Edward (8 percent), Nelson (9 percent) and Buckingham (11 percent) in terms of the ratio of manufacturing employment to overall employment. Manufacturing has both flourished and floundered in both Appomattox County and the region as a whole over the past decade, a trend that is likely continue as fewer Americans become dependent on industrial sector paychecks.

### *SERVICE*

Between 1985 and 1993, the service sector grew by 130 percent, making it by far the fastest growing of the County's industry sectors. According to the Virginia Employment Commission, there were 371 service jobs in Appomattox County, only two more than in 1993. Overall, service jobs represent approximately 10 percent of the County's employment, a slight increase from the 9.2 percent reported in 1993. At 10 percent, the County's service sector is the smallest of the surrounding counties. Nelson County, with 52 percent service jobs, has the highest percentage in the area. Though the potential for growth in this industry appears to be very good because of tourism and other economic development activities, it must be remembered that service jobs are usually low paying positions, many of which are only part time with no benefits. Therefore, too large a concentration of service jobs will keep the income producing capability of an area to a minimum.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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For the past two decades, the service industry has been the principal sector of growth in the U.S. economy. The number of service occupations has increased tremendously, providing employment opportunities to many people once employed by declining sectors such as manufacturing and agriculture.

### ***RETAIL/WHOLESALE TRADE***

Retail and wholesale trade are two sectors within Appomattox County that saw increases during the 1990's. Retail sales now employs approximately 18.5 percent of the workforce in the County, up from 13.7 percent in 1993 and statistically identical to the 18.7 percent of Amherst County's workforce employed in the retail sales. Prince Edward County, bolstered by the regional commercial center of Farmville, reports that 31 percent of its employment opportunities are in the retail sector, while Nelson County reports the lowest figure in the region at approximately 12 percent. The remaining surrounding counties fall somewhere between Nelson and Appomattox/Amherst Counties on the retail sales employment chart.

Though the number of retail sales establishments dropped from 63 to 60 between 1987 and 1997, the dollar amount of retail sales nearly doubled from \$40,709,000 to \$75,471,000 during this time. The combination of better wages and an increase from 478 to 536 in the number of paid employees in the retail sector resulted in a 1997 retail payroll that was double that experienced in 1987.

Wholesale trade in Appomattox County had been on the decline for several years, but according to both the 1997 Economic Census and the latest (Fourth Quarter 2000) figures from the Virginia Employment Commission, wholesale trade has gained momentum within the County. In 1987, thirty four employees worked at 7 different wholesale centers in the County, but by 1997, 50 employees worked at 9 wholesale establishments. Though sales by wholesale vendors rose somewhat modestly between 1987 and 1997, payroll costs nearly doubled to \$868,000. By the fourth quarter of 2000, approximately 2.2 percent of the County's workforce was employed in the wholesale sector, about average for the region. Of the surrounding counties, Campbell had the highest percentage of wholesale jobs at 4.2 percent, while Nelson had the lowest percentage at 1.5 percent.

Wholesale offers some limited opportunities for future growth due primarily to the consumer's desire to pay reduced prices and willingness to buy in quantity to do so. Also, buying in quantity will reduce the number of trips to Lynchburg, Farmville, Richmond, and elsewhere to shop at wholesalers in those localities.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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## *OTHER SECTORS*

Employment in the finance, insurance and real estate (FIRE) sector in Appomattox County grew from 86 people in 1993 to 103 people employed at 16 locations by the end of 2000. At that time, approximately 2.8 percent of the County's workforce was employed in the FIRE sector, a mark marginally higher than any of the surrounding counties.

Another area of substantial employment growth in the County is the construction sector. Employment in this sector rose from 364 persons to 416 persons between 1993 and the end of 2000, at which time there were 46 construction employers listed in the County. With 11.3 percent of its employment in the construction sector, Appomattox is statistically tied with Campbell County for the region's lead for construction employment as a percentage of total employment. Slightly over 10 percent of the jobs in Nelson County are in the construction sector, while construction jobs in Amherst (8 percent), Buckingham (6 percent), Charlotte (4 percent), and Prince Edward (4 percent) total smaller percentages within the overall workforce than is the case in Appomattox.

One sector that experienced an employment decline between 1993 and 2000 was the transportation/communication/public utilities sector. Previously, this sector accounted for 191 jobs, or 4.8 percent of total employed persons in the County. However, according to the latest available figures, only 118 remain, a 3.2 percent share of total employed persons in the County. Amherst County reported a similar figure, while Charlotte County reported a high of 7.7 percent and Prince Edward a low of 1.9 percent. Nelson (6.8 percent), Campbell (4.8 percent) and Buckingham (4 percent) fell in between.

The public administration sector, including schools, employs 856 persons in the County, up from 713 in 1993. As a percentage of total employed persons, the public administration sector increased from 17.8 percent to 23.2 percent during the 1993 to 2000 time period. Due in large part to the presence of the state prison, Buckingham County leads the region with 37.4 percent of their total workforce employed in the public administration sector. Nearly 15 percent of Campbell County employment is in the public administration sector, the lowest in the region. Charlotte County's public administration sector comprises approximately the same percentage of that county's total employment as is the case in Appomattox, while Nelson and Prince Edward report public administration sectors that each account for approximately 20 percent of their total respective employment bases.

## *TOURISM*

Due primarily to the presence of the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park within

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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the County's borders, tourism has long been an extremely important economic component of Appomattox. However, even the National Historical Park has not been an attraction sufficient to be labeled as a "destination" on par with Washington, DC, Colonial Williamsburg, and Virginia Beach. Though as many as 120,000 people visited the National Historical Park in the year 2000, with at least that many more visiting the waysides without entering the park itself, the number of visitors reliving that historic Palm Sunday in 1865 pales in comparison to the aforementioned destinations, not to mention sites such as Monticello, Mt. Vernon, Kings Dominion, and Potomac Mills. For years, travelers have been stopping by the surrender grounds for a few hours on the way to or from major attractions throughout the mid-Atlantic region, taking with them their disposable income which is then spent elsewhere.

Appomattox County boasts other attractions of interest to tourists in addition to the National Historical Park. Holliday Lake State Park and the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest together provide a wealth of outdoor activities including swimming, boating, fishing, and hiking. Stonewall Vineyards provides a breath of the Mediterranean in western Appomattox County, while the former Pamplin Pipe Factory along the County's eastern border contains a museum full of various clay smoking pipes once produced on-site. Clover Hill Village, a project of the Appomattox County Historical Society, located near the National Historic Park, is a collection of buildings, all at least 100 years old, from throughout Appomattox County. Historic Downtown Appomattox has undergone much renovation over the last decade and now offers a variety of specialty shops, many of which line a "period" Main Street. Downtown also offers the visitor a beautifully restored brick train depot, home of the local Visitor's Center, and equally beautiful Victorian houses, many of which can be seen via a turn-of-the-last-century house tour. For a special treat, visitors may *Take An Evening Stroll Through Old Appomattox Court House*, a living history walking tour led by one of the County's leading citizens of the post Civil-War period, Mr. George Peers. Finally, annual events such as the Railroad Festival, Banjo Festival, Lions Food Festival and others are major attractions for those looking for good food and good times.

Over the past several years, Appomattox has joined with several other localities to promote common tourism interests in hopes of attracting, then keeping, more tourists. Some of these efforts have been built around simple geography, such as the inclusion of Appomattox sites in the promotion of Lynchburg/Central Virginia attractions. By bookending the many attractions in Lynchburg with the Blue Ridge Parkway and the recently dedicated National D-Day Memorial in Bedford to the west and the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park to the east, Central Virginia is positioning itself as a major tourist region that caters to a variety of personal interests from historical (Appomattox Court House NHP and Jefferson's Poplar Forest) to recreational (Smith Mountain Lake and Holliday Lake) to cultural (National D-Day Memorial and Stonewall Vineyards).

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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In the mid 1990's, several jurisdictions along U.S. Route 29 from Manassas in the North to Danville in the South committed to promoting attractions and activities found within 50 miles of the Seminole Trail (US Route 29). CenterState 29, as the initiative is known, promotes the Appomattox Court House National Historic Park, the Pamplin Pipe Factory and the Appomattox Railroad Festival along with such notable attractions as Monticello, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Smith Mountain Lake, and Wintergreen. The professional quality brochure map developed by the CenterState 29 committee has been successfully used to lure to scenic rural Central and Southside Virginia many of the vacationers who visit the Washington, D.C., Metro area each year. Many Washington Metro residents have also used the brochure to plan their escape from the city when in need of the serenity offered by places like Appomattox County.

Arguably the most successful of these joint marketing ventures has been Lee's Retreat, an auto-oriented driving tour that follows the route taken by the army of General Robert E. Lee as his weary soldiers retreated from the occupied City of Petersburg towards eventual surrender at what is today's Appomattox Court House NHP. The tour takes the traveler from Petersburg to Appomattox by way of Dinwiddie, Amelia, Nottoway, Prince Edward, and Buckingham Counties, guided along the way by informative signage placed at safe waysides. This concept has been so successful that other such routes have been developed in Virginia, including the 1864 Overland Campaign Tour, the Peninsula Campaign Tour, and the Valley Pike Tour, all of which are now under the umbrella of Virginia Civil War Trails, Inc. Currently, Virginia Civil War Trails, Inc. is expanding north into Maryland where four tour trails are being developed under the Virginia Civil War Trails banner. Therefore, the now-familiar bugle emblem of the original Lee's Retreat tour will shortly be seen throughout Virginia, Maryland, and into Pennsylvania as Virginia Civil War Trails, Inc., interprets events of the Civil War that have a strong Virginia connection. The hope is that visitors to Gettysburg, Antietam, Manassas, and other major Civil War battlefields will end up in places such as Appomattox, bringing with them their economic influence.

Currently, a second driving tour is being developed by the same localities that developed Lee's Retreat. In addition, Charlotte, Halifax, Mecklenburg, Brunswick, and Lunenburg Counties have joined this effort, titled the Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail. This trail/tour will focus on the sacrifices and grass roots efforts by African Americans, Native Americans, women, the economically disadvantaged, the developmentally delayed, and others to receive an adequate and purposeful education. The Robert R. Moton Museum and Longwood University in Farmville, Thyne Institute in Mecklenburg County, St. Paul's College in Brunswick County, and the McKinney Library in the City of Petersburg are just a few of the planned stops along this trail. In Appomattox, travelers along the Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail will find signage at the old Carver-Price High School, the African-American high school in the days of segregation, as

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

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well as at the Mozella Price Home, also known as Camp Winonah, located just east of the Town of Appomattox along US Route 460. A third sign will be erected at the Appomattox Court House NHP, an especially important site because it serves as the link between this trail and the Civil War-theme trails that draw history lovers to the NHP. As with the Lee's Retreat trail, it is expected that the story of the Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail will be of such national significance that travelers from around the country will visit the region, dine in our restaurants, browse our shops, and rest in our accommodations. Also, as with the Lee's Retreat trail, it is expected that the theme of this trail will be expanded into neighboring areas to incorporate such historical aspects as the Booker T. Washington Birthplace National Historic Park in Franklin County, the Jim Crow stories of Pittsylvania County, and even into North Carolina to further tell the story of Civil Rights in education.

### **OCCUPATIONAL MIX**

Occupational mix is a study of the occupations reported by the residents of a given locality, regardless of where these occupations are located. Information on occupational mix comes via the decennial Census and has yet to be released by the Census Bureau for the 2000 Census. Therefore, this section has not been updated, but will be as new information becomes available.

Based on the 1990 Census, the largest group of workers in the County is the operators, fabricators and laborers classification. This group employs 29.74 percent of the County residents, the highest percentage in the area, with the exception of Charlotte County's 37.13 percent. The next largest group in the County is employed in the technical, sales and administrative support area. This grouping employs 22.22 percent of the population, mid-range among the surrounding counties.

The third largest group, precision production, craft and repair, leads the entire region with 16.18 percent of the County's workers. Appomattox's percentage of managerial and professional specialty employees, 15.28 percent of the total, is surpassed by every county in the region, again with the exception of Charlotte. Service occupations employ 11.53 percent of Appomattox County residents, a percentage topped by all in the region except Campbell County. Forestry occupations employ 5.04 percent of the County, bettered by most of the surrounding counties.

### **TRENDS, FORCES AND ASSUMPTIONS – EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL**

The events of September 11, 2001, proved in vivid fashion that many factors around the world impact life in Appomattox County. Though the United States had been teetering on the rim of a recession, the terrorist activities of that fateful day pushed the nation over the economic edge and

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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into the first serious economic downturn in ten years. Though signs of recovery abound, there is still a way to go, with efforts compounded by fears that other terror attacks lurk around each corner.

Appomattox County is home to three industries that have suffered great losses over the last several years – furniture, textiles, and tobacco. Forces as varied as anti-smoking campaigns and changing consumer preferences, as well as the North American Fair Trade Act (NAFTA), have taken their toll on these three industries throughout Southside Virginia, including Appomattox County.

The Virginia Employment Commission, in their publication *Economic Assumptions for the United States and Virginia: Calendar Years 2002, 2003, and 2004*, has developed several assumptions and predictions for both the national and Virginia economies. Chief among these opinions are the following:

- Fiscal policy is expected to play a major role in the anticipated Calendar year (CY) 2002 recovery. The monetary policies of the Federal Reserve combined with Presidential and Congressional ideas on how to finance the war on terrorism will either shorten or lengthen the road to economic recovery.
- Productivity will remain high due to automation as well as the fact that the recession has removed the least productive workers and facilities from the production stream.
- The United States can expect little recovery assistance from foreign trade because the various major world economies are more synchronized than ever before and because many of these major economies are worse off than is the American economy.
- In the fourth quarter of 2002, housing and motor vehicle sales are still high due to low interest rates, particularly the zero percent financing rates offered by many automobile manufacturers since the fourth quarter of 2001. However, both industries, again particularly the auto industry, may have borrowed against future sales and numbers will eventually drop dramatically.
- The service industry is Virginia's largest and fastest-growing employment sector. A great deal of the growth is centered on Northern Virginia's high-tech/high-wage business and computer specialty firms. Virginia's high-tech firms have experienced little slack when compared with the losses felt in Silicon Valley and the Boston area because Virginia firms have traditionally concentrated on software, not hardware, production. Because of this, growth in this sector is expected to continue, though probably at a bit slower pace

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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than in CY 2002.

- The construction industry in Virginia will continue to add workers as long as the interest rates stay low.
- The finance industry will grow primarily as a result of the expansion plans of Capital One, the Virginia-based nondepository credit card provider.
- Manufacturing in Virginia has been declining and is expected to do so in the short term. Electronics, textiles and apparel manufacturing led the downturn in CY 2001. Food production, however, is on the rise and has become Virginia's largest factory employing sector.
- Northern Virginia is home to approximately one-third of Virginia's Nonfarm employment, and the region is expected to continue leading the state in job growth.
- Charlottesville is the fastest-growing of Virginia's smaller and medium-sized metropolitan areas, and is second only to Northern Virginia in job growth. This growth is expected to continue due to the presence of the University of Virginia and the University's Blue Ridge Hospital, as well as the city's proximity to Northern Virginia via US Route 29.
- Lynchburg's employment growth has been static, with manufacturing layoffs offset by growth in the area's large private college sector. However, it is believed that manufacturing in the region has already seen its worst losses, so continued growth in the private college sector should keep unemployment rates in the 3 to 4 percent range over the next few years.
- The Upper Shenandoah Valley and the Northeastern slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains enjoyed the highest nonmetro job growth in CY 2001, again due in part to this region's proximity to Northern Virginia.
- Unemployment in Virginia will not reach its peak until the second half of CY 2002. However, jobless rates should remain below the national level due in part to federal and military spending and the presence of profitable high-tech firms of Northern Virginia.
- A more pessimistic scenario with a deeper and longer recession than forecasted could occur if excessive factory capacity proves worse than originally thought, prompting decreases in the stock market. Other components of this scenario would be a slowdown

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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in federal monies for defense, security, and economic recovery brought about by bureaucracy and problematic delivery systems; a worsening world economy; and any significant new terrorist action.

- A more optimistic scenario would include a very accommodating monetary policy by the Federal Reserve that would encourage investment; speedy approval and implementation of fiscal measures designed to boost the economy; and capture of leading terrorist figures resulting in renewed public confidence in the travel industry.

Each of these trends and assumptions will in some way impact Appomattox County. For instance, a downturn in the automotive industry may cause an automotive parts supplier to rethink a decision to establish a new production facility, a facility that could have possibly located in Appomattox County or the surrounding area. Likewise, an automotive supply company already in operation in the area may have to reduce its workforce in the event of an automotive industry slowdown, with Appomattox County residents possibly being among those who lose their jobs.

Over the last five years, the Appomattox Community has become more proactive in terms of economic development activities. First, the Board of Supervisors created the Industrial Development Authority of Appomattox County (IDA) to oversee industrial development activities within the County, and then both bodies worked together to create a thoroughly modern industrial park, the Appomattox Center for Business and Commerce. However, success in the economic development arena is very difficult to achieve due to the stiff competition from other localities in Virginia and around the world. Marketing the Appomattox Center, and the County in general, as an attractive business location will increase the attention paid to the County by both the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) and prospective employers. But whether or not new businesses locate in the County will ultimately depend on a combination of:

- Present and future economic and political outlooks for the nation, state and region, as well as specific industries such as the automotive or telecommunications industries;
- The wants and needs of each individual industrial prospect, including such items as geographic location, transportation, water and sewer usage rates; and building and parcel size;
- The continued viability of the VEDP and Virginia's Region 2000 as economic development agencies and their continued willingness to provide excellent service to the citizens of Appomattox County by bringing prospects into the County and then continuing to assist both the prospects and the local economic development staff

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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throughout the development process;

- The level of service provided to industrial prospects by County and regional economic development staff, the IDA, the Planning Commission, and the three governing bodies operating within the County's borders;
- Community support and solidarity, especially as reflected through the media;
- An economic incentive package that will perk the interest of prospective employers but that stays within the fiscal capabilities of the County and Towns; and finally,
- The quality of our competition.

Regardless of what new industries may locate within the County, some local assumptions will prove to hold true. First is the importance of our existing business and industrial community to the overall well-being of Appomattox County and the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin. Communications must be open and frequent between the business and industrial community and the local governments to insure that our existing employers feel appreciated and that they are not suffering through fiscal, training, transportation, or other problems with which the governments may provide assistance.

Second, with or without increased manufacturing activity within the County, the service sector will continue to grow. This will be due primarily to a combination of increased levels of tourist activity and the increasing disdain of Appomattox residents to continually travel to Lynchburg and Farmville for services. Regional efforts to promote tourism in Central and Southside Virginia will hopefully lead to an even greater number of visitors to the County, bringing along with them the need for additional motels, restaurants, gas stations and other service facilities. With assistance from various public and private entities, local entrepreneurs could be found to fill many of these service needs.

Third, growth in several of the other industrial sectors depends heavily on the status of the manufacturing and service sectors. If more people are living, working, or visiting in Appomattox County, the other sectors will grow to accommodate the surplus. This is especially true in the case of the construction and retail. If manufacturing and tourism fail to grow much beyond today's levels, then the other sectors will also fail to grow at the desired rate.

Fourth, agriculture and government employment are both expected to remain fairly constant or even decrease in the coming years. Farming employment will remain relatively stable in the future, but the industry will never be the primary industry it once was.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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## PARTNERS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Appomattox County and the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin have worked closely with a variety of different agencies and organizations in their efforts to improve the economic future facing County and Town residents. Following is a list of these cooperative agencies and organizations along with a brief description of the technical, fiscal, and other assistance available from each partner.

- ***Appomattox County Chamber of Commerce*** – This organization is committed to the economic growth of Appomattox County, through both industrial and economic development and tourism. For more information, please visit <http://www.appomattox.va-web.com/> and/or <http://appomattox.com/>.
- ***Central Virginia Community College*** – Located in Lynchburg, this 2-year institution of higher learning has been an important partner in the region’s economic development efforts, particularly through apprenticeship and workforce development programs. Current plans call for CVCC to be an integral component of the proposed Appomattox Workforce Training Center. For more information, please visit <http://www.cvcc.vccs.edu/>.
- ***Lynchburg Regional Chamber of Commerce*** – The Chamber is a regional association of business and civic organizations that work collectively to promote responsible economic growth, a positive business climate and an enhanced quality of life throughout the Lynchburg community. For more information, please visit <http://www.lyynchburgchamber.org/>.
- ***Region 2000 Regional Commission*** -- Comprised of the Counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell; the Cities of Bedford and Lynchburg; and the Towns of Altavista, Amherst, Appomattox and Brookneal, this organization was recreated from the former Central Virginia Planning District Commission in January 2001. The Regional Commission is focused on providing economic competitiveness on a regional basis, reducing redundancy in government, improving efficiency, enhancing services, and improving implementation time for regional projects. This organization provides a forum for innovative and creative interaction in the effort to address quality of life issues on a regional basis and offers a variety of technical and program services to its member localities, particularly in the areas of grant applications and administration and geographic information systems (GIS). For more information on the Region 2000 Regional Commission, please visit <http://www.regcomm.org/>.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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- ***United States Dept. of Agriculture, Rural Development*** – This agency, formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, offers financial and technical assistance programs to improve the economy and quality of life in all of rural America. For more information, please visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/>.
- ***United States Dept. of Commerce, Economic Development Administration*** – This federal agency was established to generate jobs, help retain existing jobs, and stimulate industrial and commercial growth in economically-distressed areas of the United States. Grant money from this agency funded \$800,000 of the \$1.6 million cost to develop Phase I of the Appomattox Center. For more information, please visit <http://www.doc.gov/eda/>.
- ***United States Dept. of Housing and Urban Development*** – This federal department is the originator of Community Development Block Grant and other similar funds that are passed through the Virginia Dept. of Housing and Community Development to assist localities and non-profits with a variety of economic and community development projects. For more information, please visit <http://www.hud.gov/>.
- ***Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality*** – This agency is responsible for protecting Virginia's environment and promoting the health and well-being of the citizens of the Commonwealth. These goals are accomplished through the planning and implementation of environmental programs, which necessitates this agency becoming a vital part of any industrial expansion or location. For more information, please visit <http://www.deq.state.va.us/>.
- ***Virginia Dept. of Health*** – This state agency is responsible for maintaining optimum personal and community health by emphasizing health promotion, disease prevention, and environmental protection. For more information, please visit <http://www.vdh.state.va.us/>.
- ***Virginia Dept. of Housing and Community Development*** – This state agency administers a variety of programs designed to provide funding for community and economic development. Included are funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Community Development Block Grant Program, the Center of Rural Development, and the Regional Competitiveness Program. DHCD also administers the Virginia Enterprise Zone Program and provides industrial development money through the Governor's Opportunity Fund and the Industrial Site Development Fund. DHCD also provides oversight of the state's Planning District Commissions. For more information, please visit <http://www.dhcd.state.va.us/>.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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- **Virginia Dept. of Transportation** -- This agency is responsible for the third largest state highway network in the nation. In addition to building and maintaining the Commonwealth's primary and secondary roads, VDOT provides economic development assistance through the Industrial Access Road and the Transportation Enhancement Program. For more information, please visit <http://virginiadot.org/default.asp>.
- **Virginia Economic Development Partnership** – The public/private economic development organization that markets the Commonwealth of Virginia to the business and industrial community. The VEDP has an extensive database of available sites and buildings from throughout the Commonwealth, as well as technical expertise in a variety of areas including GIS and economic development financing. For more information, please visit <http://www.yesvirginia.org/>.
- **Virginia Economic Developers Association** – This professional development organization promotes standards of professionalism and ethics within the economic development community; encourages continued education through state and national economic development organizations; provides input that helps maintain Virginia's leadership position in economic development; and facilitates the exchange of information among its members. For more information, please visit <http://www.vedanet.org/>.
- **Virginia Employment Commission** – This state agency is responsible for a variety of programs that work to insure maximum employment opportunities for Virginia residents. Traditionally the supplier of unemployment insurance for those who have lost jobs, the VEC also promotes other job services such as basic and job skills training. For more information, please visit <http://www.vec.state.va.us/>.
- **Virginia's Region 2000** – The regional public/private economic development organization serving the Counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Campbell and Bedford, and the Cities of Bedford and Lynchburg. Region 2000 acts as a liaison between VEDP and the local governments of the region. For more information, please visit <http://www.region2000.org/>.
- **Virginia's Retreat, Inc.** – This organization is a multi-jurisdictional tourism effort comprised of the Counties of Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward and the City of Petersburg. This organization founded the popular Route of Lee's Retreat Driving Tour. Lee's Retreat in turn spawned similar Civil War driving

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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trails throughout the Commonwealth, all of which are now linked through membership in Virginia's Civil War Trails, a nationally-renowned organization that focuses on maximizing the economic impact of Virginia's treasury of Civil War history. For more information on Lee's Retreat and Virginia's Civil War Trails, please visit <http://www.civilwar-va.com/virginia/va-retreat/retreat.html>.

- **Workforce Investment Board** – Workforce Investment Boards have been created across the Commonwealth to promote a well trained, well educated and highly skilled workforce qualified to meet the needs of local employers. Appomattox County is a member of the South Central Workforce Investment Board headquartered in Kenbridge, but associates with the Region 2000 Workforce Investment Board headquartered in Lynchburg. For more information, please visit <http://www.careerconnect.state.va.us/8socentral/wib8/>.

### RESOURCES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Industrial and commercial marketing by states and localities across the nation has become extremely competitive over the past decade. Larger localities such as those in Northern Virginia have been spending millions of dollars annually to promote economic growth within their communities. Now even smaller communities have upped the ante by appropriating considerable funds for incentives, marketing, and personnel. Though Appomattox County may not be in the position to develop an economic development budget comparable to those of larger cities and counties, the County must continue to do everything possible to position itself competitively in the industrial marketplace, including aggressively marketing the County's strengths and addressing its obstacles to development.

The Appomattox County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) is the public body that holds primary responsibility for marketing Appomattox County to prospective employers. The IDA holds ownership of the Appomattox Center for Business and Commerce, a 485 acre facility developed through the joint efforts of the IDA, the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors, and the Appomattox Town Council. Marketing of this facility and other available sites and buildings in Appomattox County will likewise be a joint responsibility of Appomattox County and Virginia's Region 2000, the public/private partnership developed to promote the economic interests of the Counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell, the Cities of Bedford and Lynchburg, and the Town of Altavista. Assisting the local and regional marketing efforts will be the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), the public/private partnership developed to promote the economic interests of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The goal of the IDA is to create awareness of Appomattox County as an attractive business and industrial technology center in order to reduce the residential tax burden; diversify the County's

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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economy; and increase job opportunities, particularly in regards to skilled employment

Promotion of Appomattox County will be targeted towards:

- Businesses that use technologically-advanced processes and/or produce technologically-advanced goods or services;
- Businesses that employ environmentally sensitive “Best Management Practices” and/or advanced pollution control equipment and, therefore, will pose little threat to the health of either the people of Appomattox County or the natural environment which they so cherish;
- Existing American and foreign businesses desiring to expand their operations; and
- Existing Canadian businesses desiring to relocate to an area offering lower tax rates and a warmer climate.

Appomattox County will be positioned as a business environment unique in Central Virginia due primarily to:

*Available Land Resources* - Appomattox County possesses some of the most marketable property in Central Virginia, if not in all of the Commonwealth. The reason for this marketability is that several large tracts are available, a rarity in today’s world. Included in the current inventory of properties are the

- The **Appomattox Center for Business and Commerce** - Contains 485 acres, all zoned M-2 Industrial Park, located between US Route 460 and VA Route 26.
- The **Concord Site** - Over 1,900 acres, all zoned A-1, located south of US Route 460 near the Campbell County line, property that is extremely marketable for heavy industrial prospects that have large acreage and/or rail requirements.
- The **Courtland Realty Site** - This site, zoned A-1, contains 98 acres and is located on US Route 460 west of the Town of Appomattox.
- The **Jamerson Site** - Located along VA Route 24 within the Town of Appomattox, this 38 acre site is currently zoned M-1 Industrial.
- The **Mays Site** - Located along US Route 460 east of the Town of Appomattox, this 75 acre property is currently zoned A-1 Agricultural.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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- The **Moses Tract** - Located along the south side of the Norfolk Southern rail mainline just west of the Town of Appomattox, this 558+ acre property is zoned A-1 Agricultural, but is being marketed to heavy industry due to the nearby rail line.
  - The **Nash Site** - Located within the Town of Appomattox near the intersection of US Route 460 and VA Route 24, this property contains 71 acres, all of which are zoned B-1 Business.
  - The **Central Virginia Electric Co-Op Site** - Located off VA Route 635, this property contains nearly 35 acres zoned A-1 Agricultural.
2. ***Customer-Oriented Development Process*** - One of the most valuable assets that Appomattox County has to offer is a customer-oriented development process capable of allowing an employer to commence operations in a new or expanded facility within a much shorter period of time than is usually possible elsewhere. In addition to efficient and courteous service, Appomattox County offers employers flexible financing packages, “as-built” drawings, and build-to-suit options.
3. ***Historical and Cultural Treasures*** - Historic Appomattox County offers employers a unique backdrop for the advancement of their business enterprise. From Appomattox Court House National Historical Park to Downtown Appomattox, history, shopping, and celebrations abound. It is often this link to our past that gives Appomattox the name recognition to succeed in the future.

Appomattox County will continue to partner with Virginia’s Region 2000 and the VEDP to market Appomattox’s ***Convenient Mid-State Location*** to prospective employers. The Town of Appomattox is approximately twenty (20) miles southwest of the geographic center of the Commonwealth of Virginia. U.S. Route 460, a four-lane primary highway with large portions of Interstate-standard construction, bisects the County and enables quick travel westward to Lynchburg (25 minutes to regional airport) and Roanoke (1.5 hours to I-81) as well as eastward to the state capital of Richmond (1.5 hours via U.S. Routes 460 & 360), Petersburg (2 hours to I-85 and I-95), Norfolk (3 hours to Port of Hampton Roads), and Virginia Beach (3.5 hours to Atlantic Ocean beaches). In addition, U. S. Route 460 has been designated as a part of the TransAmerica Highway Corridor stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans. Furthermore, a high-speed passenger train system, the Trans-Dominion Express, is being developed to include a scheduled stop at the existing Appomattox Depot. Realization of this project will allow high-speed travel to several areas of the Commonwealth, including Richmond,

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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Roanoke, Bristol, and north to Washington, D.C., a convenience that business travelers will surely appreciate.

The IDA, Virginia's Region 2000, and the VEDP will also continue to market Virginia's location in the heart of the Atlantic seaboard, making relatively quick ground travel possible from Appomattox to Raleigh-Durham (2 hours), Washington, D.C. (4 hours), Charlotte (4.5 hours), Atlanta (8 hours), Pittsburgh (8 hours), and other eastern population centers.

These attributes alone are quite attractive to businesses searching for a new location. However, when accentuated with other factors that define the Appomattox way of life, the result is an upscale corporate environment capable of attracting the technology-elite firms that will define the word innovation in this new century. These qualities include:

- A technologically-advanced county educational system
- Superior technology and vocational training through Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) and the Advanced Manufacturing Training and Education Center (AMTEC).
- Fiber optic and natural gas pipelines that bisect the County, including the Appomattox Center for Business and Commerce.
- An east-west Norfolk Southern railroad mainline that bisects the county and leads directly to the Port of Hampton Roads.
- The TransDominion Express (TDX), a proposed passenger rail service utilizing "European style" rail cars for maximum safety, comfort, and speed, is scheduled to make a stop in the Town of Appomattox along its route from Richmond to Lynchburg. Lynchburg will serve as a hub for the TDX and from there passengers will be able to take the TDX north to Washington, D.C., or south to Bristol. (For more information, please visit <http://www.tdxinfo.org/>.)
- The temperate climate of the area which results in four distinct seasons, but usually protects the area from the lost productivity of extreme winter weather.
- The industrious work ethic of County residents.
- A low crime rate.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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- A modern library offering computer-assisted services to the public, including Internet access.
- A Recreation Department that operates the Appomattox Community Center and various recreational and exercise programs for residents.
- The natural beauty of Appomattox County.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

As time progresses, both communities and the industries found within communities change, necessitating increased awareness of the fragility of our economic lifeblood. Recent plant closings in Altavista, Bedford, and Lynchburg have hammered home the notion that increased emphasis on economic development is vital to diversifying and strengthening the Appomattox economy for both tax and employment purposes. However, the economic strides made over the past few years are just the beginning, for Appomattox County must continue to position itself competitively against the likes of not only neighboring Central and Southside Virginia localities, but against communities across the nation and around the world as well. Development and promotion of a cohesive internal image and aggressive external marketing campaign to “sell” Appomattox County is a vital initiative, as is keeping open the lines of communication with existing businesses to insure their long-term stability as part of the Appomattox Community.

**GOAL:      ATTAIN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND, DIVERSIFIED, AND STABLE ECONOMY WHICH IMPROVES THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND LESSENS THE TAX BURDEN OF COUNTY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES.**

**Objective A.** Achieve a more diversified employment base that respects and maintains the rural heritage of Appomattox County.

Strategy 1)    Identify specific industry groups to target with marketing efforts.

- Task a)        Investigate product and industry life cycles and avoid marketing to fading industries.
- Task b)        Investigate industry and company wage rates and avoid marketing to industries and companies that pay at or just above minimum wage.
- Task c)        Continue to partner with Virginia’s Region 2000 and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) to market Appomattox

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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County to the world.

Strategy 2) Make the County more attractive to potential employers.

- Task a) Develop a county Public Service Authority that would be responsible for insuring adequate capacities of water and wastewater for industrial, as well as residential and commercial, use.
- Task b) Work with local service providers to enhance digital communications services throughout the County.
- Task c) Develop an Appomattox portal similar to the Blacksburg Electronic Village.
- Task d) Enhance the County's economic development presence on the Internet, either by working with Region 2000 to enhance their website on the County's behalf or with a consultant to develop a separate site for Appomattox County.
- Task e) Stress quality of life issues when developing marketing materials.
- Task f) Work with garden clubs and other community groups and interested individuals to perform beautification projects such as flower gardens and parklet areas to enhance the visual beauty of the area.
- Task g) Adopt stronger sign control measures to lessen the visual clutter now found in certain areas of the County.
- Task h) Work with Centra Health and/or Southside Community Hospital to obtain additional medical options for Appomattox.
- Task i) Reserve industrial and commercial land within the designated growth areas of the County.

Strategy 3) Increase the educational and job skill qualifications of Appomattox County residents in order to make the County more marketable to employers.

- Task a) Investigate the educational and job skill requirements of various industries and analyze the preparedness of the Appomattox labor pool.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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- Task b) Assess the current career training programs offered through Appomattox County High School, Central Virginia Community College, and Southside Community College.
  - Task c) Investigate training methods and opportunities currently used by business and industry in Appomattox.
  - Task d) Work with Central Virginia Community College, Southside Community College, and other pertinent parties to establish a workforce education center in Appomattox.
- Strategy 4) Promote economic development activities that are compatible to the rural environment.
- Task a) Avoid marketing the County to industries that are not considered to be environmentally friendly.
  - Task b) Develop land use measures that protect such vital areas as the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest, wetlands, floodplains and other historical, cultural, or natural features.
  - Task c) Develop land control measures that will permit industrial growth within the County while maintaining adequate separation and buffering of incompatible uses.
  - Task d) Continue to refine the Development Review Process to insure that development is adequately controlled, but not at the expense of creating undue beaucracy.
  - Task e) Advocate a “right to farm” policy and educate the public concerning the contributions of agriculture and forestry to the economy and quality of life in Appomattox.

**Objective B.** Become more aware of, and responsive to, the needs of existing businesses.

Strategy 1) Explore and promote activities that focus on the importance of business retention.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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- Task a) Continue to refine the new Business Visitation Program in order to keep abreast of needs of existing businesses.
- Task b) Celebrate Existing Business Week each May with activities that are appropriate for recognizing the valuable contributions made by the County's current employers.
- Task c) Provide existing businesses with information on funding sources, workforce training, manufacturing streamlining, recycling, government services, and other pertinent topics as necessary.

**Objective C.** Promote the rich history and natural beauty of Appomattox County as a means of enhancing quality of life in the region.

Strategy 1) Promote historical, cultural and natural features of the County to increase local tourism revenue.

- Task a) Enhance communications with Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and encourage joint marketing of the County's richest historical site.
- Task b) Work with the appropriate groups to promote the many festivals held in Appomattox each year.
- Task c) Promote the rural atmosphere, history, and convenience of Appomattox County to the motion picture industry.
- Task d) Assist the Appomattox County Historical Society with the relocation of their museum from the old jail building in Court Square. Following this move, restore the old jail.
- Task e) Explore the feasibility of a paid staff person for Clover Hill Village.

Strategy 2) Partner with other localities in the region to package attractions that will enhance what is found in each individual locality.

- Task a) Continue support of Lee's Retreat, Virginia's Retreat, and Virginia's Civil War Trails, Inc.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

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- Task b) Continue support of the proposed Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail.
- Task c) Continue to support the efforts of the Lynchburg Regional Chamber of Commerce to promote tourism in the four-county area around Lynchburg.

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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## EXISTING CONDITIONS

According to the *Code of Virginia*, affordable housing is generally defined as “housing that is affordable to households with incomes at or below the area median income, provided that the occupant pays no more than thirty percent of his gross income for gross housing costs, including utilities.”<sup>1</sup>

Appomattox County is a low-density, rural community that offers a wide variety of housing options for its citizens. However, with only 5,828 housing units to be found within the County’s 345 square miles, Appomattox has the lowest number of housing units per square mile in the Region 2000 area. To date, development has taken place mainly in the west-central section of the county, surrounding the Town of Appomattox and towards Campbell County and the City of Lynchburg. The Stonewall Magisterial District has the greatest mix of both incomes and housing values. The Southside District, to the south of Route 460, contains several new housing subdivisions, with units priced in the middle and upper ranges. The Clover Hill District contains Holiday Lake State Park and other state forest areas and is the most rural of the three magisterial districts. No particular socio-economic group predominates in this area. The incorporated towns of Appomattox and Pamplin are largely residential in nature and are more densely settled than is the rest of the county. Pamplin is made up of predominately low and moderate income households while the Town of Appomattox has a wider range of household incomes.

Many factors influence the location and structural type of housing that can be found within a given locality. These factors can be defined as: the physical features of the location; governmental policy decisions; housing costs; availability of land and building materials; energy costs; available services and utilities; family characteristics; tradition; economic development; and employment opportunities. All of these factors interact and affect each other. Appomattox County did not exhibit much population change until 1972. Since then, there has been a rise in residential building activity, with the need to plan for future development becoming increasingly necessary.

## HOUSING MARKET

The number, type, condition, and household occupancy characteristics of the existing housing stock of the County describe how the present housing needs of the population are being met.

Number of Housing Units -- In 1960 the total number of year-round housing units in Appomattox

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<sup>1</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950 (as amended)*, Section 15.2-2201.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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County was 2,595. This number reached 3,303 by 1970, 4,467 by 1980, and 4,913 by 1990. By the 2000 Census, there were 5,828 housing units located in Appomattox County, more than double the number found in the County in 1960. Census 2000 figures show there were 778 housing units located within the Town of Appomattox and 89 housing units located within the Town of Pamplin.

*Housing Units by Structural Type* - When tabulating housing units by structural type, all existing housing is included, whether occupied year round, used as a vacation home, or vacant or abandoned. In Appomattox, as in most rural areas, there are several structures such as old tenant houses that are no longer used as residences. These are still included in the inventory until a permit is taken out for demolition. Almost all housing in Appomattox is used as a primary residence.

By far the most prevalent type of housing throughout Appomattox is the “stick built” detached single-family unit, a housing type that accounts for 72.8 percent of the County’s housing units. The percentage of manufactured homes, however, has been on the increase for several years. According to 2000 Census data, manufactured homes represent 22.4 percent of the County’s housing units, up from 21 percent ten years earlier. Multi-family and attached single-family housing opportunities make up the remaining 5 percent of the housing units in the County; however, more multi-family opportunities are needed to address the needs of people such as young couples and “empty nesters” who would prefer apartment, townhouse, or condominium living as alternatives to single-family dwellings or manufactured homes.

The type of units that comprise the housing inventories of the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin differ in proportion from those found in Appomattox County, primarily due to the smaller percentages of manufactured homes located in the Towns. At the time of the 2000 Census, there were 778 housing units in the Town of Appomattox, 75 percent of which were detached single-family dwellings. The remainder was multi-family and attached single-family units. Pamplin reported a total of 89 housing units in 2000, 77.5 percent of which were single-family dwellings. Only 5.9 percent of Pamplin’s housing stock was reported to be manufactured housing, with the remaining percentage being multi-family units.

*Housing Tenure* -- As is the norm, rental units tend to be clustered in towns and cities due to the increased availability of medical providers, public transportation, and other services usually not available in the more rural areas. Therefore, the towns of Appomattox and Pamplin have a greater percentage of rental units than does the County as a whole. In 2000, 64.7 percent of the housing units in the Town of Appomattox were owner-occupied, down from 69.2 percent in 1990. Pamplin’s percentage of owner-occupied units remained at 73 percent, the same as in

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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1990. The percentage of owner-occupied units in Appomattox County increased from 81.1 percent to 84.4 percent between 1990 and 2000.

*Elderly Housing Data* – Historically, elderly householders have had better ownership patterns within the County than has the population as a whole. Of those householders over 65 years of age in 1990, 87 percent owned their homes while only 81 percent of the general population was listed as homeowners. However, the quality of housing for the elderly is below that of the general population as indicated by the fact that 6 percent of the elderly occupied housing units in 1990 did not have complete indoor plumbing as compared to 3 percent for the general population. Census 2000 data on elderly housing is not available at this time.

Appomattox County has seen a significant increase in the number of retirees who have chosen to settle within the County. Many are County natives who left years ago to find employment elsewhere, but many are newcomers to the County. A great number of these retirees are moving in from metropolitan areas such as Northern Virginia and the cities of the northeast, therefore are accustomed to services such as public water, public sewer and trash pickup, services that are provided within the Towns, but not in the unincorporated areas of the County. Furthermore, as the population of the County continues to age, additional options should be developed to provide safe, convenient, and affordable elderly housing opportunities through each progressive stage, including independent living, independent living with meal and social options, assisted living, and nursing home care. Currently, elder care facilities are at a premium within Appomattox County, prompting many long-time County residents to move to Lynchburg, Farmville, or elsewhere to find suitable care options. A specific objective in the revitalization planning for the Town of Pamplin is to enable such a facility to be developed within the Town.

*Minority Housing Data* – Historically, minorities are somewhat less likely to own their homes than is the general population. In 1990, 75 percent of African-American residents owned their homes while 81 percent of the County's population as a whole was owner-occupied. However, the average African-American household size in 1990 was 2.95 persons as compared to 2.64 persons in the average White household. Census 2000 data on minority housing is not available at this time.

### ***HOUSING QUALITY***

Setting the criteria for determining if a particular housing unit is substandard is difficult since this determination involves a subjective evaluation. For this particular exercise we will address four issues that seem to most indicate housing quality – the presence or lack of complete indoor plumbing facilities, overcrowding (here defined as 1.01 persons or more per room), low value or

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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rent for the property, and the age of the unit. This is not meant to imply that the existence of one or more of these conditions renders a home unsuitable for occupancy. Rather, the existence of one or more of these conditions in a home indicates the potential for more serious inadequacies such as structural obsolescence, deterioration, and health and safety problems.

For Appomattox County in 2000, the total number of occupied units that exhibited at least one of the above factors was 1,241, up from 1,080 in 1990 but much lower than the 1,650 units that exhibited one or more of these factors in 1980. Since many substandard units exhibited more than one of the factors, many were counted in several categories. The sum of all four categories was divided by four to give the conservative estimate of low quality housing in Appomattox as being 310 housing units, up from 270 in 1990 but down from the 413 mark of 1980. Low quality housing units as a percentage of total occupied units increased slightly from 5.50 percent in 1990 to 5.8 percent in 2000, both much lower than the 10.2 percent registered in 1980.

Using the same formula described above, the Town of Appomattox is estimated to have 72 low quality occupied housing units, or about 10.3 percent of its total occupied housing stock. Overall, the quality of the housing stock in the Town is very good, though there are a few streets with below average residences. These areas, home to predominately low-to-moderate income minorities, are also in need of street and other improvements. The Meadowlark Subdivision Sanitary Sewer Project of the late 1990's addressed one portion of the housing quality issue within the town by providing sanitary sewer to several low- to moderate-income families, a few of whom were living with failing septic systems.

The overall condition of the housing stock in Pamplin is less satisfactory than that found within the Town of Appomattox and the County as a whole. Again using the previously described formula, the Town of Pamplin has an estimated 17 low quality occupied housing units, or 20.7 percent of the Town's occupied housing stock. Pamplin has seen very little new residential construction over the past twenty years, with most of the housing activity having been in the form of rehabilitation and/or restoration of older units. Substandard housing units are scattered throughout Pamplin, but a concentration of such units exists in the northeast section of Town. This is a low- to moderate-income area of predominately minority households and is an area in need of many improvements including street repairs. Currently Pamplin is utilizing Community Development Block Grant planning funds to study conditions in that area, then will address these problems as funds permit. Pamplin has recently completed a Planning Grant study under the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and has been notified by Letter of Intent that a Community Improvement Grant (CIG) will follow. Twenty six (26) residences will be repaired or replaced under the projected CIG along with the construction of a sanitary drain sewage system to serve these residences.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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Indoor Plumbing Facilities --The criterion most frequently used to indicate housing quality has been the presence of complete indoor plumbing facilities. Beginning in 1970, the Census has included a question on the presence, or lack thereof, of indoor plumbing facilities. Since 1973, the County has been operating under the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code which requires that all new residential units have complete indoor plumbing in order to be granted a Certificate of Occupancy. Due to abandonment, demolition, and plumbing upgrades, some of which have been carried out through programs such as the Virginia Indoor Plumbing/Rehabilitation Program, the number of housing units lacking complete plumbing facilities has decreased sharply since 1970. According to the 1970 Census, 855 units lacked complete plumbing, compared to 323 in 1980, 157 in 1990 and 45 in 2000. No units within the Town of Appomattox lacked completed plumbing facilities, while only four within Pamplin lack complete plumbing facilities.

Overcrowding – Housing units are considered to be overcrowded if they have more than 1.01 persons per room of the unit. 1990 was the first year that there were fewer overcrowded housing units in the County than there were units without complete plumbing facilities, a trend that has continued through 2000 as more older units are retrofitted with complete plumbing facilities. The County reported 73 overcrowded units in 2000, while Appomattox and Pamplin reported 12 and 8, respectively.

Value Of Housing Units – In 1990, the median value of owner occupied housing units in Appomattox County was \$51,000, the lowest of any Region 2000 locality but comparable to Prince Edward (\$52,500), Nelson (\$50,400), Charlotte (\$44,500), and Buckingham (\$44,100). By 2000, the median value of the County's owner-occupied housing units had risen to \$81,600, higher than Charlotte (\$72,700) and Buckingham (\$74,900) Counties, but lower than the median values of Amherst (\$88,800), Campbell (\$96,900), Nelson (\$95,100) and Prince Edward Counties (\$93,000).

Of the towns of Central Virginia, Amherst had the highest median value (\$101,400) of owner-occupied housing units in 2000. Farmville (\$96,000), Altavista (\$78,000), Appomattox (\$76,900), Charlotte Court House (\$76,300), Pamplin (\$55,500), and Brookneal (\$53,900) rounded out the regional comparison.

Median contract rent in the Commonwealth was \$650 per month, up from \$410 per month in 1990. The median contract rent charged in Appomattox County also increased substantially during the 1990's, from \$208 to \$437 per month. Prince Edward (\$459) and Nelson (\$440) Counties boasted the highest contract rents of the surrounding counties; however, their rents are bolstered by the presence of Longwood University and Wintergreen, respectively. Buckingham

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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(\$370) and Charlotte (\$339) reported the lowest contract rents in the region.

A rental unit in the Town of Amherst averaged \$357 per month in 1990, the highest in the area. By 2000, Amherst was reporting the lowest median rental at \$358 per month. The Town of Appomattox saw its median contract rent increase from \$309 to \$449 between 1990 and 2000, and is now second only to Farmville (\$475) in that category. Pamplin experienced an increase from \$300 to \$379 during the same time period, but still reports the second lowest median contract rent of the regional towns.

Age of Housing Units – The age of the housing stock in Appomattox County and the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin is detailed in Table V-2 located in Appendix A.

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Though the census may undervalue housing, there can be no doubt that housing in Appomattox is relatively inexpensive in comparison to both the State and the Central Virginia region. Even so, ownership of a traditional single family home remains an unaffordable dream to a large segment of the population. Hence the ever increasing popularity of manufactured housing.

According to information provided by local realtors, residential resales in the County averaged \$104,621 in 2001, up from \$81,153 in 1994. Furthermore, the average cost of the single-family dwellings constructed in the County in 2001 was \$109,363, up from approximately \$94,000 in early 1995. Using the most common mortgage formula, those households with income levels at or below the countywide median of \$32,582 would not be able to afford a \$105,000 home, and many households with income levels just above the countywide median would have difficulty purchasing this home as well.

It should be noted that programs do exist that help low- to moderate-income individuals and families become homeowners. Qualified applicants may receive assistance through agencies such as the Virginia Housing and Development Authority (VHDA), Rural Development (formerly Farmer's Home Administration and a part of the U. S. Department of Agriculture), and Fannie Mae. In addition, the Veterans Administration offers loans to qualified service veterans. Each of these assistance programs may be accessed through the local financial institutions that serve Appomattox County.

Steps must be taken to insure that affordable housing will always be available to anyone desiring to live within the County border. The placement of manufactured homes on permanent

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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foundations, both in parks and on individual lots, should continue to be allowed in agricultural areas of the County as an affordable alternative to stick built structures. However, comparably-priced modular units built according to Building Officials & Code Administrators International (BOCA) standards should be encouraged as an alternative to units constructed to Housing and Urban Development standards for reasons of safety and efficiency. Also, affordable rental units, both single and multi-family, should remain available, with new construction of such units encouraged. These units will continue to provide an alternative to home ownership for those who cannot afford, or do not desire, to own their own home.

From a regulatory aspect, government at all levels should be wary of adding excessive or unnecessary layers of regulation to the permitting process, something that inevitably adds to the cost of housing. An example of this would be the expansion of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act to include Appomattox County.

### HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURE

The 2000 Census identified 5,322 households in Appomattox County, 75.4 percent of which were family households, down from 78.7 percent in 1990 and 82.6 percent in 1980. This decrease in the percentage of families as households reflects the changing lifestyle of our culture and is a nationwide phenomenon.

Of the family households, 59.7 percent were married couple households, the largest segment of household types. Female-headed households with children under 18, a segment that grew 31 percent from 1980 to 1990, decreased from 10.8 percent of the total family households in 1990 to 6.2 percent in 2000.

In the Town of Appomattox, the 2000 Census counted 716 total households, 65.6 percent of which were family households. Female-headed households with children under 18 accounted for 17.9 percent of family households in the Town.

In Pamplin, there were 78 households in 2000, 65.3 percent of which were family households. Of the family households, 11.8 percent were classified as being female-headed with children under the age of 18.

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The national housing goal, adopted by the Congress in 1949, is "the realization as soon as feasible of the goal of a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family". While the actual production and exchange of housing are both largely in private hands, almost every area of local government responsibility--for utilities, education, transportation, health, welfare, recreation, and so on--has implications for housing development and availability.

State and federal policies such as tax incentives for home mortgage payments; HUD and USDA housing subsidy programs and community facilities grants; environmental and civil rights laws; landlord/tenant regulations; location of highways; and manufactured home regulations all have a significant effect on the market place. At the local level, property taxes, zoning policies, subdivision ordinances, building and housing codes, and location of public water and sewer can have considerable impact on the quality, location, and cost of housing. Other factors influencing housing are population growth and size of family, employment opportunities, economic growth, agricultural needs for land, technological advances in housing construction, the cost of housing construction, the cost of housing maintenance, and utility costs. So it is evident that progress toward meeting the housing goal can only be made by close cooperation between the public and private sector.

**GOAL: PROVIDE SAFE, CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CITIZENS REGARDLESS OF RACE, RELIGION, SEX, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.**

**Objective A.** Preserve the existing housing stock to prevent further deterioration of the history and culture of Appomattox as well as to ensure the safety and availability of older units for affordable housing purposes.

Strategy 1) Promote the upkeep of existing residential properties to provide a safe and attractive environment for all County residents.

Task a) Develop and implement a Property Maintenance Code Program, including a Demolition Ordinance, to compel owners to adequately maintain their properties. Though all property owners would be affected by this program, landlords would be especially targeted in order to insure that their tenants are being adequately housed. The Town of Pamplin will develop a Property Maintenance Code specifically targeted to the Village Center application. The Code will be based on the Virginia state model and will be consistent with that of the Towns of Appomattox and Farmville.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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- Task b) Continue to contract with Lyn-CAG for operation of the County's Indoor Plumbing/Rehabilitation Program to assist with housing upgrades or replacements for those low- to moderate-income (LMI) residents who do not currently have full and complete indoor plumbing.
- Task c) Promote the Winterization Program, operated by the Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging, as a means of increasing the safety and heating efficiency of qualifying residences.
- Task d) Work with the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to identify and prioritize areas of the County that contain concentrated clusters of substandard housing, and then develop a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) submission schedule to seek funding to repair or replace these structures.
- Task e) Promote continued agency interaction to insure that all County residents living in substandard housing conditions are provided with assistance as funds permit. Assistance may include, but not be limited to, housing repairs, housing replacements, and educational courses on such topics as financial management and home repair.
- Task f) Promote the utilization of non-profit community service agencies and churches to assist eligible homeowners with cleanup and minor repair activities including, but not limited to leaf raking, grass mowing, and painting.
- Strategy 2) Promote the preservation of historic residences through various preservation and development measures.
- Task a) Consider contracting with graduate students, interns, or other individuals or organizations to conduct an assessment of the County's historical residences, particularly those located within the Towns.
- Task b) Assist, as possible, those property owners who desire to add their residences to the National Historic Registry and/or who desire to obtain grants or low-interest loans to finance renovation/restoration of their properties.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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- Task c) Keep abreast of and promote grant programs tailored to fund historic preservation efforts and make this information known to the public.
- Task d) Consider the development of an historic overlay district that would promote preservation through the use of local controls such as architectural design standards, signage guidelines, and site development standards, particularly within the towns.

**Objective B.** Create additional affordable housing opportunities for County residents through private, public and non-profit avenues while ensuring that any resulting residential growth and development is orderly and balanced with the County's abilities to provide services.

Strategy 1) Continue to support policies that recognize the need for diverse housing opportunities for all people, but especially for low-income and elderly citizens.

- Task a) Continue to provide adequate opportunities for the placement of manufactured housing on permanent foundations, where appropriate, on property throughout the County.
- Task b) Promote the use of Habitat for Humanity and other non-profit groups to repair and/or replace substandard housing units in the County.
- Task c) Promote the construction of additional elderly housing opportunities in the County. Of particular need is a retirement community with housing units that offer different levels of assisted care from totally independent living to nursing home care. Study the Town of Pamplin as a location for such a facility in light of the presence of the new branch library as well as the renovated community center facilities and associated activities currently being implemented in the restored Train Depot.
- Task d) Promote the adaptive reuse of old buildings, including public facilities, into housing units to provide additional housing options while maintaining the historic character of the community.
- Task e) Allow and promote the renovation of upper floors of downtown businesses to provide additional housing opportunities and to increase the tax base.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

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- Task f) Promote the use of cost-effective energy efficient designs and equipment for both new construction and renovations in order to keep residential energy costs low and to preserve natural resources. However, refrain from establishing “Green Building” regulations that could ultimately add considerable expense to construction projects.
- Strategy 2) Develop land use and other governmental controls and polices that promote an orderly pattern of residential growth and development.
- Task a) Develop new Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances that promote growth and development centered on town centers and commercial corridors to minimize both land use and the cost of providing services.
- Task b) Ensure, where feasible, that the location of new roadways and other major public facilities enhance rather than destroy existing neighborhoods.

# TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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## TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Transportation is the movement of people and goods by means of highways, railways, airports, and waterways. Each of these means of transportation provides a different type of service designed to meet specific transportation needs and desires. The availability, quantity, quality, and cost of transportation are influencing factors and important considerations in determining the mode of transportation. The general pattern of physical development, the location and character of housing, community facilities, commercial, business, and industrial areas are all directly affected by the availability of transportation. Low cost, readily available transportation, for example, tends to promote low density development, while limited transportation usually results in a denser development pattern. Transportation facilities in Appomattox County include primary and secondary highways and railways; however, several major highways, railways, and airports located outside of the County's boundaries tremendously affect access to and from the county.

## EXISTING TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

### *HIGHWAYS*

Appomattox County is traversed by roadways which fall into one of three (3) different classifications as follows:

1. *Federal Highways* – There are two federal highways in Appomattox County, both of which cross the county in an east-west manner. Of the two, U.S. Route 460 is the more highly developed route since it is a four-lane divided highway that cuts through the center of the County, connecting Concord, Spout Spring, the Town of Appomattox, Evergreen, and the Town of Pamplin. An Interstate-standard bypass was constructed around the Town of Appomattox in the mid-1990's to further ease travel through the area. U.S. Route 460 is Appomattox's link with Farmville, Richmond (via U.S. Route 360), Petersburg, and Tidewater Virginia to the east and Lynchburg, Roanoke, and all points west to St. Louis. Because of the importance of this route to national security and commerce, U.S. Route 460 was designated by Congress as a part of the National Highway System (NHS), of which Interstate highways are now a subgroup.

U.S. Route 60, the other Federal highway in Appomattox County, is a two lane highway that weaves in and out of the northern tip of the County. This roadway offers travelers a picturesque trip east through Buckingham, Cumberland, and Powhatan Court Houses before entering Richmond and the Tidewater region. West on U.S. Route 60 are Amherst, Buena Vista, Lexington, and West Virginia.

## TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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In addition to the two federal highways found in Appomattox County, three federal highways, including U.S. Route 460, converge in nearby Lynchburg and are easily accessible from Appomattox County. They are as follows:

- *U.S. Route 29*, a multi-lane highway passing from Washington, D.C., through Charlottesville (I-64 connection), Lynchburg, and southward to Danville and the cities of North Carolina's Piedmont Crescent where connections are made to Interstates 40 and 85 for further travel into the Southeast.
  - *U.S. Route 460*, a multi-lane highway passing from Norfolk to St. Louis via Appomattox, Lynchburg and Roanoke. Near Roanoke, a connection is made with Interstate 81 for access north and south through the Shenandoah Valley. Direct connections to Interstates 85 and 95 are made at Petersburg, about 90 miles east of Appomattox.
  - *U.S. Route 501*, a northwestern/southeastern highway, connects Lynchburg and the Shenandoah Valley (I-81) to the west. To the east, Route 501 offers direct access via South Boston to North Carolina's Research Triangle of Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill where connections to Interstates 40, 85, and 95 await to carry travelers further south.
2. *State Primary Highways* – State primary highways in Appomattox County include Routes 24, 26, 47, and 131. With the exception of approximately eight miles of roadway jointly designated as U.S. Route 460 and VA Route 24, all of these state primary highways are two-lane roadways. All, including the two federal highways, are maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).
3. *State Secondary Highways* – The remainder of the highways within Appomattox County are classified as state secondary highways. These roadways are those designated with numbers of 600 or greater and constitute the largest number of lane miles within the County. Secondary highways are also maintained by VDOT.

Appomattox County also has a fair number of privately maintained roads within its borders.

With the opening of the U.S. Route 460 by-pass around the Town of Appomattox, there are now over 21 miles of four-lane roads in Appomattox County. All other roads in the county are two-lane roads with a total width varying from 10 feet to 40 feet.

The best way of analyzing the number and type of vehicles using a given roadway is through the use of traffic counts. However, traffic counts do not give any indication of the number of people

## TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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and volume of goods or whether the vehicles are near empty or almost full. Also, bicycles are now included in traffic count data; however, the traffic counters are usually placed in areas not normally associated with bicycle riding. Pedestrian counts are not taken except at special locations where a problem between pedestrian movement and motorized vehicle movement may exist.

The traffic count information presented in Table VI-1 in Appendix A indicates that more vehicles travel through Appomattox than ever before. However, due to the construction of the U.S. Route 460 bypass around the Town of Appomattox, much of the traffic that previously used the Town streets is now using the bypass. Further analysis of the numbers reveals that traffic on U.S. Route 460 west of the Town of Appomattox has increased considerably over the last decade as the Concord and Stonewall areas of the County have grown. Factoring into this increase in traffic is the increase in truck traffic, especially on U.S. Route 460, a route used by many trucking firms to reach Lynchburg and other areas from the eastern part of the state. For a complete copy *2001 Virginia Department of Transportation Daily Traffic Volumes*, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Secondary roadway counts are available from VDOT for the entirety of the County. The secondary road with by far the highest traffic volume is Route 727. As many as 6,400 vehicles a day use certain sections of this roadway within the Town of Appomattox, down from 7,000 in 1992.

Though the number of vehicles using Appomattox's roadways has increased over the past twenty years, the current volume is still below capacity. According to VDOT, most roadways in the county have sufficient capacity available to accommodate reasonable increases in volume for several more years.

Just as traffic counts provide a glimpse into the amount of use a given stretch of roadway withstands each day, so, too, does accident data provide a glimpse into the level of safety for a given roadway. Table VI-2 in Appendix A lists accident data for selected primary and secondary roadways in Appomattox County for the years 1993 and 2000. Due primarily to the amount of traffic that utilizes these selected roadways, this list represents what are generally considered to be the County's most hazardous roads. U.S. Route 460 has the highest number of accidents, due to both the road's heavy use and total mileage within the County. Primary Routes 26 and 24 are both heavily traveled two lane roads, each with substantial amounts of local traffic and several sections of winding pavement. These factors contribute to driving conditions which are often hazardous, leading to a high accident rate for the amount of traffic volume.

# TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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## *AIR SERVICE*

There are no airports in Appomattox County. However, within reasonable driving distance there are two regional airports and two general utility airports. The development of a general utility airport in Appomattox County would be of great benefit to the local business climate.

Lynchburg Regional Airport is located along U.S. 29 just south of the Lynchburg City Limits in Campbell County. The airport has two runways suitable for instrument landings, the longest being 5,800 feet. USAir Express and United Express serve the airport, which averages 20 daily departures. Tower operation is from 6:30 A.M. to Midnight.

Roanoke Regional Airport is located off State Route 118 in Roanoke County. The airport has two runways (6,800 and 5,800 feet) both of which are instrument landing strips. Five major (ten total) airlines, either directly or through affiliates, serve the airport. The airport, which is attended 24 hours a day, averages 47 daily departures, eight of which are jets.

Falwell Aviation, Inc. is a general utility airport located on U.S. Route 460 in the City of Lynchburg. The hard surface runway is 2,950 feet in length and has lights for night landings. The airport is attended from 8:00 A.M. to dusk daily.

Farmville Municipal Airport is a general utility airport located off U.S. 460 between State Highways 15 and 45 in Cumberland County. The hard surface runway is 4,400 feet in length. The airport has lights and instrument approach facilities for night and all-weather landing. A new terminal, complete with sandwich shop, has recently been constructed. A new fueling system has also been put in place. Attendance is from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily.

All four airports are used by small aircraft for business and pleasure flying. Commercial passenger service is available at Lynchburg Regional and Roanoke Regional. Falwell Aviation and Farmville Municipal also have facilities for the landing of small private jet aircraft. Air freight service is available from all but Farmville Municipal.

In addition to these air facilities, Richmond International, Piedmont Triad International (Greensboro), and Raleigh-Durham International Airports are all located within two hours of Appomattox County.

# TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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## ***RAIL SERVICE***

The Norfolk Southern Railway, one of the giants in the rail transportation business, has a mainline running through Appomattox County. The line parallels U.S. Route 460, passing through the Towns of Pamplin and Appomattox before entering Concord in Campbell County to the west. The 20.88 miles of single track which passes through Appomattox connects with other rail lines of both Norfolk Southern and CSX Transportation. These lines, in turn, connect with the lines of yet other companies, linking the deepwater port of Hampton Roads with America's heartland and the West Coast. Norfolk Southern carries 30 millions gross ton-miles per mile of line per year.

At this time, no passenger service or regular freight service is available in Appomattox County. However, the Amtrak Crescent passes through Lynchburg on its route from Washington to Atlanta to New Orleans. The Crescent offers one trip each way daily. In addition, the Commonwealth of Virginia is exploring the possibility of establishing "bullet" passenger train service between Richmond and Bristol. This train would presumably pass through Appomattox.

## ***TRUCKING SERVICE***

Appomattox County is served by at least twelve interstate and intrastate motor freight companies. These freight companies provide extensive coverage throughout the eastern United States and many areas of the Midwest and Canada.

Since Appomattox County is on the border of the shipping lanes running both east/west and north/south, excessive shipping costs may be applied to goods being shipped from within the County.

Carrier service is provided by United Parcel Service, Purolator, Emery, Courier Express and Federal Express.

## ***BUS AND TAXI SERVICE***

The Farmville Area Bus System, through a pilot program called Prince Edward Rural Transit (PERT), began offering bus service to Pamplin on December 2, 2002. For longer journeys, the Greyhound Bus Company operates a terminal in nearby Lynchburg. Currently there is no taxi company in Appomattox, though several individuals provide taxi service within the County.

## ***ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES***

There is increasing recognition of the unmet transportation needs of the elderly and handicapped

# TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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citizens in the Central Virginia area. Planning and programming efforts are in progress at the present time. As is often the case, rural transportation services for the elderly and handicapped are more difficult to plan and implement than are transportation services in urbanized areas. This problem is due in large part to the lack of available funding and low population densities. Increasing awareness of the tremendous transportation needs in rural areas may well initiate new and more effective methods for meeting these needs.

The Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging (CVAAA) has been a forerunner in providing elderly and handicapped transportation services in both urban and non-urban areas. Transportation of the elderly to area nutrition program sites by the CVAAA and the volunteer "Dial-a-Ride" program for the elderly and handicapped (administered by the CVAAA and operated by the Information and Referral Service) are operating in the entirety of the Region 2000 area, including Appomattox County.

Transportation activities within Appomattox County are coordinated by the Appomattox County Department of Social Services. Social Services has transportation available for both Medicaid and non-Medicaid elderly participants. Medicaid recipients must receive approval from the Appomattox Health Department for this service. Once approved, recipients may be transported anywhere within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Social Services also provides elderly residents who do not receive Medicaid with transportation for medical appointments and essential shopping. There is no charge to the residents, but advance notice is required for this service. Often, the destination of these Social Service trips is the City of Lynchburg due to limited medical facilities in Appomattox County.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

In the past, transportation planning has been conducted in a piecemeal fashion focused on individual road upgrades and special projects unrelated to any master plan. Transportation and land use planning have also been traditionally viewed separately rather than complementing one another. This component seeks to remedy both of these past deficiencies.

Many of the strategies below are designed to identify and prioritize current and future projects into a cohesive plan that can be coordinated with the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) annual project planning efforts.

**GOAL: ENHANCE THE QUALITY, SAFETY, AND APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTY'S PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROADS.**

**Objective A.** Upgrade the quality of the county's roads.

# TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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- Strategy 1) Identify all unpaved roads in the county and prioritize them for pavement upgrades.
- Task a) With the assistance of VDOT, direct the Road Viewing Committee to create a prioritized list of unpaved roads to schedule for pavement upgrades. The Committee's recommendations do not have to be limited to present traffic counts, and can take into consideration factors such as service to growth areas and reducing traffic on other paved roads.
  - Task b) Develop a system in conjunction with VDOT to prioritize and fund private road pavement upgrades.
- Strategy 2) Develop design criteria for residential, commercial, and industrial development access to public roads.
- Task a) Establish traffic design standards to mitigate the number of crossovers and curb cuts along primary routes and heavily traveled secondary routes.
  - Task b) Amend the zoning ordinance to require developers to submit traffic impact studies for certain projects, and to submit cash and/or development proffers to mitigate any potentially adverse traffic concerns.
  - Task c) Encourage, and in some cases, mandate the use of frontage roads or reservation of road easements along commercial and industrial developments.
- Strategy 3) Identify areas where traffic accumulates at moderate to high volumes and prioritize them for improvements and upgrades.
- Task a) Study ways to improve traffic flow along the Confederate Blvd. (U.S. 460 Business) corridor between Richmond Highway (U.S. 460) and Church Street.
  - Task b) Study ways to improve ingress and egress at the Shoppes of Appomattox and History Junction shopping centers to Richmond Highway (U.S. 460), including, but not limited to, installation of signal lights or construction of new access roads.
- Strategy 4) Create more flexible design standards for private road subdivisions.

# TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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Task a) Work with VDOT to develop criteria for private road subdivisions containing lots less than 10 acres in size that enable the road to be readily upgraded to state standards in the future.

Task b) Amend the zoning and subdivision ordinances to allow for the use of the flexible design criteria established in Task a).

**Objective B.** Improve the safety of the county's roads for both vehicles and pedestrians.

Strategy 1) Identify unsafe and hazardous roads, intersections, and grade crossings and prioritize them for improvements.

Task a) With the assistance of VDOT, direct the Road Viewing Committee to research and identify a prioritized list of the most hazardous roads, intersections, and grade crossings in the county and their recommendations for improvements.

Task b) Study ways to improve the grade crossing near the intersection of Main Street and Church Street.

Task c) Study ways to improve ingress and egress at the Shoppes of Appomattox and History Junction shopping centers to Richmond Highway (U.S. 460).

Strategy 2) Identify areas, particularly in and around the towns and in areas designated as rural villages, where sidewalks are needed to enhance pedestrian safety.

Task a) Construct sidewalks that link the new Appomattox Elementary School to the existing sidewalk system in the Town of Appomattox.

**Objective C.** Enhance the appearance of the county's roads, particularly in historic preservation areas and primary routes.

Strategy 1) Improve the appearance of the Richmond Highway corridor as the county's main traffic artery.

Task a) In conjunction with the land use plan, develop design criteria for the corridor to include stricter signage requirements and mandatory buffers for some commercial and industrial uses.

# TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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Task b) Consider implementing a greenway along the corridor between Richmond Highway and the Norfolk Southern railway. Utilize the greenway as a bike or hiking route, or other aesthetically pleasing use.

Strategy 2) Improve the appearance of the Old Courthouse Road (Rt. 24) corridor.

Task a) In conjunction with the land use plan; develop design criteria for the corridor to include stricter signage requirements and mandatory buffers for some commercial and industrial uses.

Task b) Work with VDOT and the National Park Service to integrate walking trails and greenways into the areas surrounding the Appomattox Courthouse National Historical Park.

**GOAL: DEVELOP ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION METHODS TO BETTER SERVE COUNTY RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO THE COUNTY'S ATTRACTIONS.**

**Objective A.** Improve the availability and quality of public transit in Appomattox County.

Strategy 1) Plan for a rail stop for the Trans Dominion Express.

Strategy 2) Assist in the development, or in the case of the Prince Edward Rural Transit, the continuation, of transportation services for the elderly, handicapped, or other transportation-disadvantaged citizens.

**Objective B.** Plan for future primary road upgrades and construction

Strategy 1) Monitor Federal and state studies of the proposed TransAmerica corridor.

**GOAL: DEVELOP AND IMPROVE NON-PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION SERVICES IN THE COUNTY.**

**Objective A.** Study ways to integrate trucking freight services with available rail and air freight services in the county and surrounding jurisdictions.

Strategy 1) Market the county to business and industrial interests as a transportation hub.

## TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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Task a) Develop a business plan to promote Appomattox County as an integral part of the region's freight transportation system.

Task b) Attract a centralized freight terminal with an integrated rail stop.

Strategy 2) Study the feasibility of a regional airport to serve the county.

**THE APPOMATTOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDED THE TRANSPORTATION PLAN BY ADOPTING THE ROUTE 460 CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN ON JUNE 4, 2007. SEE ATTACHMENT B.**

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

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## BRIEF HISTORY

Though a relatively “new” county by Virginia standards, Appomattox County lays claim to one of the most important events in American history. However, long before Generals Lee and Grant met to bring closure to the Civil War, the area now known as Appomattox was home to several related tribes of Native Americans and eventually became part of Chief Powhatan's immense land holdings.

One of the tribes in the area, the "Appamatuck", lived further east along the James River near the present City of Hopewell. Encountered by Captain John Smith, the Appamatuck people were shown on Smith's map of 1612. Also, their name “Appamatuck” was applied to the major tributary entering the James near their settlements. Eventually, “Appamatuck” evolved into “Appomattox”, and the river flowing eastward from Flood's Mountain in present-day Appomattox County to the James at Hopewell is called the Appomattox River.

As more settlers moved into Virginia, the state was divided into political subdivisions. First, eight "shires" were formed, then more manageable "counties", each with a "seat of government" not more than a one day ride by horseback from any point in the county. On May 1, 1845, Buckingham, Prince Edward, Charlotte, and Campbell Counties each surrendered portions of their territory for a new county named Appomattox in honor of the river springing from the heart of the new county.

The village of Clover Hill, renamed Appomattox Court House, was chosen as the seat of government for the new County of Appomattox. Located in the center of Appomattox County along the Richmond-Lynchburg Stage Road, the site was originally settled around 1815 with the construction of the Clover Hill Tavern, across from which the brick courthouse building for the new county was built.

In April of 1865, Appomattox Court House found itself playing a pivotal role in the history of the United States. Four long years of war had torn the nation apart, killed thousands of men, wounded thousands of others, scorched the landscape, and forever changed life in the South, if not the entire country. Virginia was especially devastated since the Old Dominion had acted as the primary battleground of the war in each side's attempt to capture the capital city of the other. But on April 9, 1865, Palm Sunday, a large part of the hostilities ended when General Robert E. Lee, Commanding General of the Army of Northern Virginia, accepted the generous terms of surrender offered by Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, General-in-Chief of all United States forces, in the parlor of a home owned by Wilbur McLean. Though fighting raged on elsewhere for several more weeks, General Lee's surrender effectively ended the Southern States' attempt

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

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to create a separate nation, and made Appomattox a symbol of peace and unity.

In February, 1892, fire destroyed the courthouse building. Two months later, a special election was held at which time the residents voted to move the county seat two miles to the southwest to be nearer to the railroad at the Appomattox Depot. Old Appomattox Court House was left to deteriorate until being taken over by the National Park Service in the 1930's.

Appomattox Depot was settled with the coming of the railroad in 1852. According to one legend, in that same year, a family headed for the frontiers of Nebraska stopped on its way west. These people never left the little railroad village, but began calling the place "Nebraska" instead. Regardless of the origin of the name "Nebraska", the fact remains that a post office under this name was soon established, and Nebraska became the official name of the settlement until shortly after the county seat moved here in 1892, at which time the name Appomattox was chosen. The village was incorporated in 1925 and remains the seat of county government today.

The Southside Railroad reached what is now the Town of Pamplin in about 1854. By 1874, the settlement established around the railroad depot, named for a local landowner, had become so prosperous that the General Assembly granted the wish of the people to incorporate. Hopes for the future were extremely high, noted by the chosen name of Pamplin City. Pamplin's most famous attribute, the Pamplin Smoking Pipe Manufacturing Company, at one time was the world's largest factory of the sort, producing as many as 25,000 clay pipes per day. The plant closed in 1951. Other businesses in a thriving Pamplin included a tobacco warehouse, a flour mill, several stores, three hotels, and the largest bank in the county in 1919.

Hixburg, Evergreen, Spout Spring, Concord, Bent Creek and Beckham are just a few of the Appomattox County communities which have had storied pasts. Though most of these settlements are no longer the thriving communities they once were, many still have remnants of their past history for the curious to study.

With the arrival of the National Park Service in the 1930's came a rebirth of the historic court house village. Both the burned "original" courthouse and the McLean House were rebuilt. The scene of the historic surrender meeting, the McLean House, had been sold and then dismantled for an intended reconstruction elsewhere. The Clover Hill Tavern and Old County Jail were restored along with other original structures still standing in the village. Later, VA Route 24 was relocated to better protect and preserve the historic setting of the village. Today, visitors to the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park begin their experience at the Visitor's Center housed in the reconstructed courthouse, then travel back to 1865 through interaction with costumed interpreters focused on the events of that bygone era. As the crown jewel of

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

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Appomattox County's historic treasures, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park remains the keystone of tourism efforts within the County.

(Reference *Appomattox County: A Pictorial History*, 1984, and *Norfolk and Western Magazine*, 1953.)

### APPOMATTOX COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In the 1970's, a group of citizens recognized the importance of preserving the history, historical structures and artifacts of Appomattox County. In 1975, the Appomattox County Historical Society was incorporated as a private nonprofit organization for the purpose of collecting, preserving, and providing accessibility to historic materials, buildings, monuments, and markers. With the cooperation of the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors, the Society established a County Museum in the old jail (1897) located in the courthouse square in the Town of Appomattox. Current major displays in the museum include a general store and post office area, a doctor's office, a country kitchen, a school room, a seamstress area, and a jail cell. There is also a Civil War memorabilia room sponsored by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The Society has amassed a collection of genealogical records, documents, and artifacts too numerous to display in this facility; therefore, the Society has long term plans to relocate some artifacts and to develop additional displays of others.

Being aware of the increasing loss of historic buildings to decay and development, the Society undertook an additional project in 1990, Clover Hill Village. This village is dedicated to Appomattox County historical preservation and education through a living history format that takes visitors back to the time period of the 1840's to the 1920's. The Society is committed to developing a comprehensive program portraying daily life in an agrarian, rural village of the period. The village site, a six acre tract of donated land near the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, has been developed with a parking lot, roadway, split rail fencing, and electric and water service. In the ten years since its inception, Clover Hill Village has grown to ten structures either completed or under construction. These buildings include:

- Wesley Chapel (1828) and "privy" - a restored, furnished country church.
- Isabelle Grady (Martin/Grady) Log Cabin (C. 1830) and utility shed - reconstructed and furnished with original furnishings.
- Poor House Farm Log Cabin (Late 1800's) - reconstructed and furnished
- Hamilton's Blacksmith Shop (c. 1900) - reconstructed and equipped with tools.
- Two equipment pole barns (1995 and 1999) - reproduction of typical open sheds
- General Store/Post Office (2000) - reproduction of the Vermillion General Store now

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

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being furnished in the early 1900's period

The Hardy School (c. 1914) - a 3/4 scale reconstruction currently underway

In addition to the buildings, Clover Hill Village has a large collection of period hand tools and farm equipment. This collection was significantly expanded by the long term loan of equipment from the estate of the late Harry Dixon and includes both horse drawn and early steam engine farm implements. Displays of this equipment will be developed in the pole barns and the future farm area.

Currently, Clover Hill Village has no staff, only volunteers who give guided tours of the buildings during a limited schedule of public hours. Self-guided tours of the grounds via a brochure are available year round. Pre-arranged guided tours of the facility are also available.

### HISTORIC STRUCTURES

Appomattox County is fortunate to have many fine relics of the past scattered throughout the County. Most are privately owned, though some are in public or non-profit possession. With the assistance of the Appomattox County Historical Society, the following list of historic structures has been compiled to provide a glimpse of the historical value of the County.

#### *APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK*

The National Park Service preserves and maintains the buildings and grounds of the historic courthouse village as they appeared in 1865. Included within the confines of the National Historical Park are thirty-seven (37) buildings and structures, all of which, with the exception of the McLean House and the Courthouse, are original

#### *TOWN OF APPOMATTOX*

- Appomattox County Courthouse and Clerk's Office (1892) -- Court Street
- Appomattox County Middle School (1908) – N. Church Street
- Carver-Price School/Old Appomattox Elementary School (1929-30, with additions) – Confederate Boulevard
- The Appomattox Depot (rebuilt 1924) – Main Street
- Atwood/McDearmon/Wilson House (1854 w/1892 addition – now known as the Nebraska House) – N. Church Street
- Atwood/Crawley House (1908) ) – N. Church Street
- Fuqua/Hubbard House (1900) ) – N. Church Street

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

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- Burkey Home (1918) – N. Church Street
- Gregory/Moore/Vesely/Coflin House (1888) – N. Church Street
- Atwood/Wilson House (1911) – N. Church Street
- Durham/Wilson (1903) – N. Church Street, #106
- Atwood/Ferguson House (1912) – N. Church Street
- Harvey/Stanley House (1893) – N. Church Street
- Moses/Carson (1908) – S. Church Street
- Hancock/Carson (1896) – S. Church Street
- Walton, George Home (1893) – S. Church Street
- Walton, Thomas Home (1894) – S. Church Street
- Brown/Ferrell (1914) – S. Church Street
- Hancock, Thomas (1891) – S. Church Street
- Parson Home (1921-1924) – S. Church Street
- Wooldridge/Abbitt (1890) – S. Church Street
- Gill's Home (1892) – S. Church Street
- Hancock/Mays/Rush (1891) – S. Church Street
- Hancock/Haley (1890) – S. Church Street
- Hancock/Mann (1907) – S. Church Street
- Smith Home (1902) – E. Lee Grant Avenue
- Smith Home (1890) – Business 460 East

### *TOWN OF PAMPLIN*

- The Norfolk and Western Depot (1924 - currently undergoing restoration)
- The Pamplin Clay Smoking Pipe Factory
- Old Park Hotel (c. 1900)
- Wyatt-Franklin House (1835)
- Adie Foster House (post- Civil War)

### *APPOMATTOX COUNTY*

- Clover Hill Village (inventory of buildings listed previously)
- Mount Comfort Plantation
- Eldon
- Mozella Price Home, also known as Winonah Camp
- The communities of Hixburg, Vera, Evergreen, Stonewall, Spout Spring,

# HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

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Beckham, and Bent Creek, all of which have houses, churches, schools and other buildings significant to the historical and cultural heritage of both the local community and the county as a whole.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The residents of Appomattox County recognize the value of the County's unique place in American history and, therefore, seek to preserve and protect the County's heritage for the education and enjoyment of future generations.

**GOAL: MAINTAIN AND PROTECT APPOMATTOX COUNTY AS A RURAL COMMUNITY THAT FOCUSES ON ITS IMPORTANT POSITION IN AMERICAN HISTORY.**

**Objective A.** Identify, preserve, and protect existing areas of historical significance.

Strategy 1) Promote preservation of historic areas through land use and development controls.

- Task a) Identify historically significant areas of the County, particularly within the towns.
- Task b) Consider the development of an historic overlay district that would promote preservation through the use of local controls such as architectural design standards, signage guidelines, and site development standards, particularly within the towns.
- Task c) Consider administrative re-zoning of additional properties to the Historic Zoning District (H-1).
- Task d) Work closely with the National Park Service to ensure that all land germane to the April 1865 surrender of the Southern army is duly protected from development, but not at the cost of tax revenue lost as a result of additional land being expunged from the County's tax rolls.

Strategy 2) Encourage the preservation of historic structures throughout the County for the enjoyment of residents for years to come.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

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- Task a) Consider contracting with graduate students, interns, and other individuals or organizations to conduct an assessment of the historical structures located in the County. Historical structures would include, but would not be limited to, residences, churches, schools, stores, post offices, outbuildings, bridges, and other such structures.
- Task b) Assist as possible those property owners who desire to add their buildings to the National Historic Registry.
- Task c) Keep abreast of and promote grant programs tailored to fund historic preservation efforts.
- Task d) Support the National Park Service in its effort to relocate VA Route 24 within existing park property in order to preserve the buildings and viewshed of the historic court house village as were found in April 1865.
- Task e) Evaluate the feasibility of hiring a full- or part-time staff person to oversee Clover Hill Village and to provide tours as necessary.
- Task f) Work with the Appomattox County Historical Society to find a suitable new location for the Historical Museum in order to safeguard the museum's valuable collection.
- Task g) Promote membership in the Appomattox County Historical Society as means of preserving the County's heritage.

**Objective B.** Promote land development controls and site development standards that preserve existing rural areas by focusing development in historic population centers.

Strategy 1) Designate the following areas as town centers, village centers, or growth corridors: Town of Appomattox, Town of Pamplin, Bent Creek, Oakville, Stonewall, Vera, Hixburg, Evergreen, Chap, Promise Land, Spout Spring, Concord, and Route 727.

- Task a) Clearly identify the boundaries of these areas and criteria for their expansion or reduction.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

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- Task b)      Develop land use plans for each town center, village center, and growth corridor that are tailored to the individual historic and cultural character of these areas.

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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## EXISTING CONDITIONS

The following is an inventory of both public and private facilities and services which reflect the standard of living within the Appomattox community. The amount each jurisdiction contributes toward the provision of these services varies from the county operated public school system to public water and sewer services that are provided almost solely through town efforts. But the majority of the community services, including those mentioned, is provided with a degree of cooperation between the three jurisdictions.

### *PUBLIC UTILITIES -- WATER*

At the present time, public water systems are found only in and around the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin. The Town of Appomattox relies on five wells, one of which is treated with chlorine prior to distribution to the town's customers. The average use is 0.24 million gallons per day (MGD). There are presently 650 residential connections, 6 manufacturing connections, 114 commercial connections and 15 institutional connections.

If all variables such as population, business and industrial growth, and purity of the groundwater supply were to remain as they currently are, the capacity of the current Appomattox water system would suffice for the foreseeable future. However, with a rated production capacity of 0.328 MGD, based on pumping capacity, and total storage of only 1.10 MG in two storage tanks, there is valid fear that the system will be taxed beyond capacity by the planned industrial growth within the Appomattox Center for Business and Commerce as well as residential and commercial growth in and around the Town of Appomattox. The possible erection of an additional storage facility will ease the capacity burden somewhat, but long term the system is not expected to adequately support the industrial, commercial, and residential demands sure to come.

The Town of Pamplin also has a central water system. This system serves approximately 100 customers. The system will be expanded to serve 116 customers via a Community Improvement Grant from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

Holliday Lake State Park uses groundwater as a water supply source with a 13 gpm well and a 20 gpm well. There is a 10,000 gallon concrete reservoir to provide storage for this supply, and the water is of sufficient quality to be distributed without any treatment.

The remainder of the County has historically been rural and thus has not required a central water system. Individual wells have more than adequately supplied water for residential and agricultural consumption throughout the County. Residential development over the past decade, however, has increased population densities in diverse areas throughout of the County. This naturally raises the potential for well contamination and/or taxing of groundwater stores in these

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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areas.

In order to mitigate well contamination and decrease the potential for stressing groundwater stores, the County will employ the spirit of this Comprehensive Plan and the language of revised Land Use controls to guide development, including water and sewer infrastructure, into areas of the county deemed most appropriate for development to occur. With adequate infrastructure, water supplies will be sufficient to meet the needs of Appomattox residences, businesses, industries, and farms well into the future.

### ***PUBLIC UTILITIES – WASTEWATER***

At the present time, public sewer systems are found only in and around the Town of Appomattox. The Town of Appomattox sewage treatment system provides primary and secondary treatment with chlorination and has a capacity of 300,000 gallons per day. Average daily use of the sewage treatment system, including the trickle filter sewage treatment plant, is 100,000 gallons, with another 70,000 gallons being treated daily at a secondary site.

At this point, all households within the Town of Appomattox have public sewer available. This includes the Meadowlark Subdivision, an area that had suffered several failing septic systems prior to the installation of sewer lines in 1999. The Meadowlark Sewer Project was financed in part by funds from the Virginia Community Development Block Grant Program due to its benefit primarily to low- to moderate-income persons.

The Town of Pamplin currently has no central sewage treatment system, necessitating sub-surface disposal of sanitary waste. However, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) received as part of the revitalization of Pamplin contains funds for a central sewage system, which together with loan and grant funds being sought from USDA's Rural Development will serve the entire town.

The sparsely distributed inhabitants of the unincorporated areas of the County rely on personal septic disposal systems.

### ***PUBLIC UTILITIES -- SOLID WASTE***

In 1999 a solid waste baling facility was constructed at the landfill. This facility is being utilized to compact and bale the solid waste at a greater density than was possible with the prior method of land filling and compacting with a steel-wheeler compactor. The operation consists of two roll off trucks that provide collection of the waste from the nine container sites provided for residential use. The trucks bring the containers into the landfill, a weight is taken, and then waste is dumped onto a cement floor in the baler building. At this time, any item that cannot be baled due to size or material composition is removed and all recyclables are culled from the

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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general waste. An articulating loader pushes the waste onto a steel conveyor that carries the waste into the baling machine. The baler produces a 3 x 3 x 5 foot bale with an average weight of 1.25 tons. The bales are loaded onto a flatbed roll-off truck which deposits the bales at the pit for placement. A 973 Loader is then used to place the bales in a three high layer. Construction debris and items that cannot be baled are used to fill in around the bales and to level for better bale placement. A six-inch layer of dirt is placed on top of the bales as a daily cover.

The County operates an increasingly efficient paper and cardboard recycling program. This program utilizes both 20 cubic yard closed-top containers and 30 cubic yard open top containers that are located at seven of the collection sites (Route 620, Route 604, Route 648, Route 608, Oakville, Vera, and the Landfill) and at several of businesses around the County and within the Town of Appomattox. The Town of Appomattox helps with the collection of paper products by picking up recycle bins from the schools and businesses located in the Town limits. All of the paper that is brought into the landfill and removed from the containers is baled and sold to a local paper recycler.

The County Landfill offers other services as well. Residents are encouraged to bring their brush to the landfill where brush trimmings and tree limbs up to six inches in diameter are chipped and offered as mulch to residents free-of-charge. Bagged leaves are currently set aside and given to the residents for use as a soil conditioner. Any metals that are brought into the landfill are removed from the containers and sold to a local recycler. Wood waste is separated, mulched and either sold to businesses as fuel or given for free to County residents. Likewise, any usable items found inside the containers are salvaged and stored in a building and are offered free to residents.

Tires that are received at the landfill are taken to Emanuel Tire of Virginia, which is located on the landfill property. The tires are chipped and used as fuel, in septic systems, as landfill cover at other landfills and as playground material.

Efforts are made to encourage school age children to recycle via presentations at the schools and the distribution of promotional materials to all grade levels. Recently, school recycling was taken to a new level with the purchase of two Worm Wigwags to recycle food scraps into a compost material used as a soil conditioner.

Recycling is important to the Commonwealth and to Appomattox County for three primary reasons. First, recycling reduces the amount of raw materials needed to produce finished goods, thus offers a degree of protection to the environment. Second, recycling conserves landfill space. The cell currently in use at the Appomattox County Landfill has a projected life of four years, meaning that the County will shortly have to perform a costly closure of the cell while preparing an adjacent cell for use. Third, the landfill can receive revenue from selling certain materials to those who recycle aluminum cans, plastic bottles, newsprint, and other such

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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materials.

The County's recycling efforts are more important today than in the past due to the ever-increasing pressure being put on local solid waste facilities by the General Assembly and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). This is exemplified by the fact that Amendment 2 to the Commonwealth's Solid Waste Regulations was approved in May of 2001, by which time work had already commenced on Amendment 3 of those same regulations.

The mandatory 25 percent recycle rate imposed by the state ten years ago is a constant concern for those in the waste management field. After a twenty year "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" campaign, this required level of recycling is still difficult, if not impossible, to reach at this time in Appomattox County. Increased awareness through education has improved recycling efforts, though nowhere near the 25 percent mandated by the state. Source separation by citizens at the collection sites is the best way to increase recycling levels, though without supervision, the amount of waste separated by citizens will remain low. It may be that only through the use of manned collection sites and/or curbside recycling will the recycling rate increase to the levels mandated by the regulatory agencies.

### ***PUBLIC UTILITIES -- OTHER UTILITIES***

The Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin, as well as the central part of the county, are furnished electricity by Dominion Virginia Power, headquartered in Richmond. Dominion Virginia Power also supplies electricity to the Central Virginia Electric Cooperative of Lovingston (Nelson County), supplier to the rural areas in the northern part of the county. The Southside Electric Cooperative of Crewe (Nottoway County) supplies the southwest portions of the county, also with current supplied by Dominion Virginia Power.

Historically, Virginia has enjoyed adequate supplies of energy delivered at relatively low prices when compared to other states. However, with the coming of deregulation, all regulated prices for electricity will end by 2007. Also, by January 1, 2004, all Virginians will be able to choose their supplier of electricity. At this point, it is difficult to predict the results of deregulation, but the general belief is that Virginians will see their electric bills increase while those in states with high electric rates will see their bills decrease. One reason for this is that Virginia is expected to become more of an energy exporter to satisfy the needs of other states, particularly in the Northeast and Midwest, and as consumers in these other states bid against Virginia consumers, the laws of supply and demand dictate that prices will increase.

Several large transmission lines of the Williams Gas Company cross the county from north to south. Utilizing the same Williams right-of-way are two 30" lines and one 36" line. Rights to provide natural gas service are held by Columbia Gas of Virginia.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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Fiber optic lines owned by Williams Communications traverse the County utilizing the Williams Gas Company right-of-way. Verizon has installed fiber between Lynchburg and Appomattox along the US Route 460 corridor.

Wireline telephone service is provided by Verizon, while wireless telephone service can be purchased through several digital and analog providers. However, at the current time, wireless coverage is still limited in many areas of the County. Digital coverage exists predominantly within a three mile radius of the Town of Appomattox and along the US Route 460 corridor west of Appomattox to the Campbell County line. A 300 foot tower recently constructed in Evergreen should provide expanded digital coverage to the US Route 460 corridor between Appomattox and Pamplin. Areas to the north and south of US Route 460 are served by analog coverage.

Cable television service is provided to the citizens of Appomattox County by Nesbe Cable Company. Nesbe is currently in the process of upgrading to digital service to better serve its customers. Satellite television service through DirectTV and DishNetwork is available in all parts of the County except in those areas without a clear view of the southern sky due to obstructions such as trees, mountains or buildings.

### ***RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES***

Following is an inventory of existing recreational activities and facilities in Appomattox County.

*Public School Facilities* - Appomattox public schools continue to play an important role in the provision of recreational opportunities available to residents. Facilities offered by these schools are as follows:

- Appomattox County High School completed an all new outdoor sports complex in 1994. Included in the complex are a football stadium, a baseball field, a softball field and a track. In addition, the high school has four tennis courts and a gymnasium.
- Appomattox County Middle School has one multi-purpose field and a gymnasium.
- Appomattox Elementary School has one multi-purpose field, a gymnasium and a playground area.
- Appomattox Primary School has three playgrounds areas and two multi-purpose fields.

*County and Town Facilities* - Beyond the public school facilities, Appomattox County and the

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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Town of Appomattox offer the following municipal recreational opportunities:

- Appomattox County operates the Appomattox Community Center, located within the Town of Appomattox off of Business 460 near the Town's eastern corporate limits. Indoor facilities at this location include large multi-purpose rooms, with kitchen and restroom facilities available, for recreational activities and public rentals. Outdoor facilities include a playground area, picnic area, and basketball and volleyball courts. The Community Center is available for public rentals seven days a week.
- Appomattox County also operates the Appomattox County Ball Park located adjacent to the Community Center. This facility includes a press box, concession stand and restrooms.
- Watt Abbitt Memorial Park, located next to the Jamerson Library in downtown Appomattox, is operated by the Town of Appomattox. This park is equipped with picnic facilities and is used for special events.
- The Town of Appomattox maintains Courtland Field, located across from the Courthouse on Court Street. This multi-purpose area, owned by Appomattox County, is used for festivals and other special events.
- The Town of Appomattox operates a Town Park located near the Appomattox County High School. Facilities at this park include a picnic shelter and a large playground area.
- A Community Park on VA Route 613 is currently under development. Preliminary plans for this facility include soccer, football, baseball, and softball fields, as well as an amphitheater and nature trails.

Private Facilities - The following private facilities offer recreational opportunities to the Community:

- The Spout Spring Ruritan Club operates two multi-purpose community centers and a softball field located on US Route 460 West.
- The Woodmen of the World operate a Dixie Youth ball park in the Town of Appomattox.
- The Pamplin Ruritan Club operates a softball park near the Town of Pamplin.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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- Thomasville Furniture has one softball field located on US Route 460 West.
- Bent Creek Adventures on the James is a private company that offers canoeing, tubing, camping, and fishing from April through October.
- The Falling River Country Club, a private club, operates a golf course, tennis courts, and a swimming pool.
- Paradise Lake Campground, located west of the Town of Appomattox, provides swimming, fishing, boating, camping, and picnicking.

Parks within the County - There are two parks located within the borders of Appomattox County. They are as follows:

- Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, located two miles northeast of the Town of Appomattox, is an historical conservation park dedicated to the preservation of the village of Appomattox Court House as it existed at the time of General Lee's surrender in 1865. The National Park is open to public tours seven days a week.
- Holliday Lake State Park, also located northeast of the Town of Appomattox within the confines of the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest, offers various recreational activities to the public including swimming, boating, fishing, canoeing, hunting, camping, and picnicking.

Recreational Programs within the County - The Appomattox County Recreation Department sponsors a variety of recreational programs for all ages. Participation continues to increase yearly; therefore, additional recreational facilities are needed to keep up with the increased demand. Also, since many of the activities are conducted using public school facilities, and since the schools need to use the facilities for their own athletic programs, use of the school facilities by the Recreation Department is limited.

### ***PUBLIC SAFETY -- LAW ENFORCEMENT***

The Appomattox County Sheriff's Office is the primary law enforcement agency in Appomattox County. With an elected sheriff and a staff of 32 sworn deputies, the office provides the citizenry with a wide array of law enforcement services. Patrol coverage is provided throughout the County and within the incorporated Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin on a 24 hour-a-day basis. The Sheriff's Office investigates all crimes in the County under its jurisdiction of

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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authority. In addition to enforcement duties, the Sheriff's Office also maintains the County Jail with an approximate daily population of 25, both male and female inmates. In addition to the duties required for the operation of the jail, the deputies assigned to the jail also provide emergency dispatch services for the Sheriff's Office and for the volunteer fire and rescue agencies serving the County. Most criminal warrants and all Civil papers, whether sworn out by a citizen, an officer, or issued by the court, are also served by the Office.

The Sheriff's Office is a progressive community-oriented policing agency dedicated to the schools and the young people of the community. Since 1987, the DARE Curriculum has been taught at the Appomattox Elementary School. In 1999, the County and the School Division, in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office, began the School Resource Officer Program. This program, partially funded by grants, employs one full-time uniformed deputy at the Appomattox Middle School throughout the school year. A second full-time uniformed deputy works at the Appomattox County High School throughout the academic year.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Headquarters of the Virginia State Police is located in Appomattox County. The location of the Headquarters is advantageous to the County since valuable personnel and resources provided by the State Police are at our immediate disposal. Criminal Investigators, tactical specialist, and computer crime experts are only a few of the individuals that can be utilized by local authorities to assist them in fulfilling the needs of the County. Also located beside Division III Headquarters is the State Police Area 21 office. This office is home to two sergeants and five troopers who are specifically assigned to any motor vehicle accidents in the County. These officers also assist, as needed, the Sheriff's Office in performing day-to-day operations.

Other state agencies that have a law enforcement officer to provide specialized enforcement in the County include the Department of Alcohol and Beverage Control, the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

As needed, Federal agencies also provide law enforcement services within the County. These agencies generally include the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). These agencies, plus other Federal agencies, each have an agent assigned to serve Appomattox County from headquarters in either Richmond or Roanoke.

The current Appomattox County Jail was constructed in 1981 and is certified by the Virginia Department of Corrections to hold 12 inmates. However, the daily inmate population currently averages 25 per day. As a result, non-violent inmates sentenced to serve their time on weekends have to be turned away on occasion due to a lack of bed space. In addition, recently mandated federal law requires local governments to provide educational services for some incarcerated

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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individuals until the age of 21. The jail facility has a limited amount of space to provide such programs.

### *PUBLIC SAFETY – FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE*

The Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department, located at Court and Linden Streets in the Town of Appomattox, serves the majority of Appomattox County. Currently funded at a 75 percent County/25 percent Town level, the Appomattox VFD has 30 firefighter positions, 27 of which are filled by active members. Equipment owned by the Appomattox VFD include three pumpers (1973, 1990, and 1998 models), one 3,500 gallon tanker, one 1997 brush truck, and one 1978 hazardous material unit.

The Appomattox VFD is in the process of upgrading its facilities and equipment. Early in 2003, the 1973 pumper truck will be replaced with a new aerial truck having a pump capacity of 1,500 gallons per minute and a 500 gallon tank. Also in progress is the construction of a new station to be located next to the rescue squad building on Confederate Boulevard just outside of the Town of Appomattox.

The Pamplin Volunteer Fire Department serves the Town of Pamplin and portions of Appomattox, Charlotte and Prince Edward Counties. Currently funded by Appomattox and Prince Edward Counties and the Town of Pamplin, the Pamplin VFD has 30 firefighter positions, 28 of which are filled by active members. Equipment owned by the Pamplin VFD includes two pumpers, one 1,000 gallon tanker, and two brush trucks. Also in the inventory is a 1952 Ford that was the department's original truck. This vehicle has been restored and is still in service to the community. The equipment is housed in a recently constructed station next door to the old station along Business 460 (Pamplin Highway).

Four other fire departments--Concord (Campbell County), Gladstone (Nelson County), Red House (Charlotte County), and Toga (Buckingham County)--located outside the county also provide service to the county. In honor of this, each department is given an annual donation by the Board of Supervisors as funds permit.

The Appomattox Volunteer Rescue Squad, located on Confederate Boulevard just outside of the Town of Appomattox, serves Appomattox County, including the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin, as well as parts of Campbell, Nelson, Buckingham, Prince Edward, and Charlotte Counties. This service area is the second largest in the state. Currently funded by Appomattox County and the Town of Appomattox, the rescue squad has an unlimited number of positions, 31 of which are filled by active members. Equipment owned by the rescue squad includes four Advance Life Support Units (1994, 1995, 1998, and 2002 models), one light-duty crash truck, and two boats.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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Each of the above mentioned volunteer units relies heavily on donations from within their service areas to augment other income sources. In addition, the volunteer units use fundraising activities to a varying degree. However, as training, equipment and other costs continue to rise each year, each unit will find it necessary to increase their fundraising activities to new levels to afford proper equipment and training for volunteers.

### ***PUBLIC SAFETY -- ANIMAL CONTROL***

Under the direction of the Animal Warden, the Appomattox County Animal Control handles in excess of 1,000 animals per year. The Animal Pound has eight dog pens capable of holding 24-30 dogs. The pound has five cat cages and 3 puppy/cat cages for a total holding capability of 16-20 additional animals. A used mobile home located next to the pound is utilized as a storage area. The Office of the Animal Warden is located in the County Administrator's Office.

The major issue facing Animal Control at this time is the relatively small size of the existing pound facility. Consideration will need to be given to either expanding the current facility, building a new facility, or using another existing structure as the site of a new pound. Another issue that should receive consideration is the creation of a seasonal part time Assistant Animal Warden position that would be responsible for conducting rabies and license checks in the interest of public health and safety.

The Animal Warden is assisted in his efforts by community groups such as A.W.A.G., an organization that is working to provide low cost spay and neutering to help control the County's pet population.

### ***PUBLIC SAFETY -- ENHANCED 9-1-1***

In accordance with a recent General Assembly mandate, Appomattox County initiated a project in November 2000 to implement a County-wide Enhanced 9-1-1 system. Upon completion, residents of the County and the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin will be able to dial 9-1-1 to reach a centralized emergency dispatch center, or Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). Appomattox County is currently one of a handful of remaining counties that require seven-digit dialing for emergency services.

The basic elements of the County-wide E-911 system will consist of the following:

- Automatic Number Identification (ANI) and Automatic Location Identification (ALI). Dispatchers will be able to see each caller's telephone number and street address on a computer terminal, allowing for more efficient and accurate service response.
- Receipt of both wireline and wireless calls. Callers using both landline telephones and

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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wireless telephones will be able to reach the PSAP by dialing 911. Wireless implementation will be contingent on the availability of funding from the State.

- City-style street addressing and signage. The County completed a project in July 2001 to name roughly 380 public and private County and Town roads. These road names will be used in conjunction with a distance-based structure numbering system to develop city-style street address that will replace the rural route/box number addresses currently used in most areas. Street signage is anticipated to be installed in spring 2003.
- PSAP Development. An E-911 compliant dispatch center, or PSAP, will be developed and staffed by full-time, specially trained dispatchers. The PSAP will handle all fire, rescue, and law enforcement 911 calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Other enhancements to the basic E-911 system, such as a Geographic Information System (GIS), computer-aided dispatching (CAD), and "Reverse E-911," will be implemented based upon availability of funding.

### ***PUBLIC SAFETY – COMMUNICATIONS***

Effective communications between and among the various police, fire and rescue personnel that serve the citizens of Appomattox County is vital during any emergency situation. However, dangerous forest fires that occurred in the fall of 2001 resulting from severe dry weather brought to light deficiencies in the current communications system.

The County offers central dispatch through the Sheriff's Department via a low band Motorola system that is approximately ten years old. The primary deficiency of this system is the fact that no other public safety agency in the region utilizes low band frequencies, but have upgraded to high, ultra-high, or 800 megahertz systems such as was installed in the City of Lynchburg and Amherst, Bedford and Campbell Counties a few years ago. This means that communications between Appomattox personnel and those from other localities during an emergency often is limited to face-to-face meetings, hand signals, wireless telephones, or calls patched through dispatch centers.

Ideally, the Sheriff's Department, fire departments, and rescue squads should all have the same frequency range, with several channels within that range being set aside for each department. Each department should also have the capability of changing channels to communicate with a different department, including those from neighboring localities.

The second major deficiency of the system is its age. The Sheriff's Department considers this to be an officer safety issue due to the increasing number of radio failures that could potentially leave an officer without assistance when needed. Also, as the system ages, parts are becoming

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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scarcer, with some radios now being unavailable for purchase. The Appomattox Fire Department and the Appomattox Rescue Squad have purchased separate radio systems to combat the age issue.

### ***VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM***

The Appomattox County Victim-Witness Assistance Program was developed to assist those who find themselves involved in the criminal justice system as victims or witnesses of a crime. This program helps ensure that fair and compassionate treatment is given to all victims and witnesses. The legal process, frequently long and complicated, often fails to address the unique needs of victims and witnesses, but the Victim-Witness Advocate is available to make sure that these needs are addressed.

### ***LIBRARY FACILITIES***

Library service in Appomattox County began with a joint school and public library in 1936. After being housed in fifteen private homes, the Appomattox County Library moved into a 1,700 square foot building donated by David Bruce, who served as ambassador to France, Germany, Britain, China and NATO. The new library opened on April 12, 1940, with 4,780 books and served Appomattox County until 1991. The library collection (totaling nearly 19,000 books) moved again in late 1991 to the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library on Main Street. Appomattox residents dedicated this 5,456 square foot facility on May 3, 1992. Currently, nearly 8,000 people possess library cards.

During its more than 65 years of service to the citizens of Appomattox County, the library has grown dramatically in terms of collection, size, and service capabilities. The library contains over 35,000 items, including books, magazines, videos, and audiobooks, and offers eight (8) Internet-accessible computers for patrons, a computer for job searches, and a scanning station. In addition, the library maintains an automated catalog and circulation system.

The J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library is governed by an autonomous board appointed by the Board of Supervisors. A state-certified librarian appointed by the Library Board serves as the full-time Library Director. Two full-time and two part-time staff members are available to provide library patrons with assistance as needed.

Today, the mission of the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library is to provide the population of Appomattox County with access to knowledge, ideas, and creative expression by collecting and offering print resources, audio-visual materials, and electronic information services which are of interest to the community; to assure ease of access to these materials; and to provide programs to stimulate the awareness and use of these resources by establishing access to human informational and creative resources of Appomattox County and beyond. The J. Robert Jamerson Memorial

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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Library offers a welcoming and inspiring environment for learning and promotes individual enlightenment and community enrichment throughout the region. This mission is carried out by means of four primary library areas: Popular Materials Library, Reference Library, Education Support and Independent Learning Center, and Preschool and School-Age Children's Library.

The Jamerson Library is working with the Town of Pamplin to open its first branch at the restored Pamplin Train Depot. Opening is planned for mid-2003.

### *EDUCATION*

The Appomattox County School division serves approximately 2,350 students housed in four schools, all of which are accredited by the Virginia Department of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Total enrollment in the Appomattox Schools was 2,346 for the 2000-01 school year. According to the Weldon Cooper Center, enrollment is forecasted to peak at 2,385 in 2002-03, then decline over the following three years to 2,333 in 2005-06.

Appomattox County takes pride in its schools, especially the fact that they represent a partnership of students, parents, educators, and community role models. The school division is also proud to be one of the largest employers in Appomattox County with a staff of over 200 professional and 150 support staff employees.

Each of the four County schools presents students with modern instructional programs utilizing the latest research-based practices in teaching and learning. School programs provide instruction, direction, and support for students to develop fundamental skills and processes essential for the lifelong acquisition of knowledge. A diversified instructional program provides educational opportunities commensurate with the ability, maturity, achievement, and aspirations of students.

Student achievement is the priority of the school division. The Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) provide the framework for the K-12 instructional program. Students are involved in a variety of learning experiences that focus on the state standards in language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science.

In addition to these core academic areas, the division offers a wide array of programs to assist students in developing their intellectual, physical, social, and emotional capabilities. Specialists in art, music, reading, and special education provide instruction at all levels. Guidance and counseling services, a school psychologist, visiting teacher, programs for the academically talented, and after school tutorial and summer remedial programs are also available for students. Resource teachers in the area of reading assist students at the primary and elementary schools and special education services are provided for children ages 2 through 21.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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A fully equipped and staffed library media center is the hub of each school. A wide variety of print and technology materials enable students to pursue interests and school research. Furthermore, the school division has been a leader in this region in the use of technology. Each classroom is equipped with a minimum of one networked, multi-media, Internet connected computer. Each school has a least one lab of computers for large group instruction. Specialty areas such as mathematics, business, Computer Assisted Drawing (CAD) and desktop publishing classes use dedicated computer labs as a part of the instructional program. Distance learning and Internet-based classes are being explored.

Each school offers a variety of age-appropriate programs and services to meet the developmental and cognitive needs of its students. Appomattox Primary School (pre-k - 2<sup>nd</sup> grades) focuses its educational programs on developing the basic literacy and mathematics skills that will enable students to become successful. The core of the program is an integrated language arts program where instruction is tailored to the needs of each individual student via the use of technology, tutors and other methods. Students are instructed in art, music, health, physical education, and character education, with regular visits to the school library as a way of promoting reading.

The Appomattox Elementary School (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grades) program concentrates on continuing the development of basic literacy and mathematics for each child while helping them to become more independent learners. The focus on language arts includes expansion of basic phonics and whole language instruction through the use of the basal reader, children's literature, spelling and writing. Mathematics instruction includes basic knowledge in computation, numeration, and problem solving. The instructional program also includes a strong emphasis on social studies and science. Elementary school students participate in music, art, physical education, and library programs, and receive instruction in health and drug education, character education, and keyboarding. Services are also available in the areas of gifted, remedial, and special education.

Appomattox Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grades) offers a challenging academic curriculum and an array of extra curricular opportunities. Sixth and seventh grade students are arranged into academic teams and are able to explore a variety of subjects. Exploratory cycles provide students with the opportunity to learn about subjects such as foreign languages, band, chorus, agriscience, technological systems, computer applications and work and family roles. Eighth grade offerings include high school credit courses in Latin, Spanish, algebra I and geometry in addition to elective courses in the exploratory areas noted above.

Student offerings expand at Appomattox County High School (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades) in academic and career and technical programs. Block scheduling gives students the opportunity to take more courses than the traditional school schedule allows. Advanced Placement and college level courses are offered in several subjects for the advanced students. Career and technical education programs enable students to complete programs in a number of offerings including agriculture, machinery and production, auto mechanics, business, culinary arts, drafting, early childhood,

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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floriculture, landscaping, marketing, nurse's aide and work and family studies. These programs are competency-based and have been validated by advisory committees composed of business and industrial representatives. Technology is an integral part of the high school program, and students have access to a wide range of technology opportunities, including word processing, spreadsheets and data base. Several state-of-the-art computer labs and classroom computers, which are networked within the schools and school division, are available for students and teachers. Computerized connections provide media access to a vast number of resources.

Through a cooperative arrangement with Central Virginia Community College, high school students are offered the opportunity to take college credit courses at CVCC in heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), machine tools, welding, Emergency Medical Technician, and CISCO systems. A required college level math course for these students will be offered as an Internet-based course at the high school. Additional offerings through CVCC are being developed for future implementation.

Students at the middle and high school participate in a number of extra curricular activities. A wide range of competitive sports is played each year on the varsity and junior a varsity levels under the auspices of the Virginia High School League. The high school also participates in academic competitions as part of the VHSL program. Raider teams have been competitive and won numerous district titles as well as regional and state crowns.

The progress and success of the school division is shown in its graduates. In recent years, more than half of the high school graduates have met the requirements for an advanced studies diploma. Nearly two-thirds have successfully completed at least one vocational program sequence, thus are deemed to have entry level job skills in that field. Each year, many graduates elect to continue their education at the two- or four-year collegiate level. Recent graduates have been accepted at such prestigious institutions as the University of Virginia, College of William and Mary, James Madison University, Virginia Tech, Hampden-Sydney College, Longwood University, Lynchburg College, Liberty University, and the United States Naval Academy.

The school division offers adult literacy programs, GED classes, and job skill development to adults within the community. However, the division supports the idea of expanding these services into a workforce training center that would feature educational and job training services provided by local and regional providers such as Central Virginia Community College (CVCC). This facility would offer adequate and timely training resources for new and existing employers, as well as retraining opportunities for displaced or underemployed workers. In addition, adult literacy programs would provide basic skill training while distance learning opportunities would permit more advanced leaning of the sort traditionally offered only by driving to Charlottesville, Blacksburg, Roanoke, and Richmond. Each of these activities would be conducted in the effort to raise the standard of living in Appomattox County by developing a workforce prepared to meet the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century employment

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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While no institution of higher learning is located in Appomattox County, several two- and four-year colleges, universities and trade schools are located in the region to provide ample educational opportunities for County residents.

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**TABLE VIII-1  
REGIONAL POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES**

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
Central Virginia Community College	Lynchburg	Public coed 2-year college
Hampden-Sydney College	Hampden-Sydney	Men's church-affiliated 4 year liberal arts college
Liberty University	Lynchburg	Coed church-affiliated 4 year liberal arts college
Longwood University	Farmville	Public coed 4 year liberal arts college
Lynchburg College	Lynchburg	Coed church-affiliated 4 year liberal arts college
Lynchburg Branch, University of Virginia	Lynchburg	Public coed graduate school (limited graduate course schedule)
National Business College	Lynchburg	Private 2 year business college
Miller-Mott Technical College	Lynchburg	Private 2 year business college
Randolph-Macon Woman's College	Lynchburg	Woman's church-affiliated 4 year liberal arts college
Southside Virginia Community College	Keysville	Public coed 2-year college
Sweet Briar College	Amherst	Private woman's 4 year liberal arts college
Virginia College	Lynchburg	Coed black church-affiliated 2 year junior college

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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## *SOCIAL SERVICES*

The Appomattox County Department of Social Services is a locally administered/state supervised human service agency. The office is located in the Courtland Building (lower level) on Court Street in the Town of Appomattox. Presently a staff of 15 full-time personnel serves approximately 1,750 citizens each year.

Services provided to citizens are divided into two units: financial assistance and social work services. The financial assistance staff determines eligibility and grants benefits for Medicaid, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Food Stamps, General Relief, Fuel Assistance, Auxiliary Grants, and State and Local Hospitalization. The social work staff offers seven major services: Intake Services, Adult Services, Prevention and Support Services, Adult Protective Services, Child Protective Services, Foster Care, Adoption Services, and Employment Services. Some services are available to all citizens while other services require income eligibility.

Brochures explaining the various DSS programs are available to citizens who call, write or visit the DSS offices. Emergency needs for Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services are available on a 24 hour basis.

Present office space is adequate with facilities meeting requirements for physically impaired citizens. Each worker is provided with private office space to safeguard confidentiality of our citizens.

Presently the office serves 77 families in the TANF program, 406 families in the Food Stamp program and 1,516 persons in the Medicaid program. The 2000-2001 Fuel Assistance program served 381 families.

## *SENIOR CITIZEN PROGRAMS*

Senior citizens in Appomattox County are primarily served by the Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging (CVAAA) although other organizations such as the Appomattox County Department of Social Services have programs specifically oriented to the elderly. CVAAA programs include nutrition, non-emergency medical transportation, homemaker services, weatherization/home repair, case management, insurance counseling and senior employment services. Many elderly persons in Appomattox County benefit from the nutrition program by receiving home delivered meals or noon meals at dining centers. Appomattox residents are also beneficiaries of all the other programs of the CVAAA.

As the baby boomers grow older, and with the continued advancement of medicine and medical procedures, more and more senior citizens will occupy Appomattox County than ever before.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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Thus, as the population grays, the demand for elderly services will increase, necessitating increased private and public funding.

One senior health care facility, Appomattox Health Care Center, a 60-bed facility, operates in Appomattox County.

There are three assisted living facilities within Appomattox County. These are the Babcock Manor, Pineview Rest Home, and Hoist Manor.

### *CHILD CARE SERVICES*

Child care services involve the care of children from birth to age six. Traditionally, child development took place in the home, making education of mothers and expectant mothers the only way to effect appropriate care and services. Today, as more mothers re-enter the workforce after giving birth, the demand for day care centers often falls behind the availability of such facilities.

A certified child care center conforms to state standards of quality, facilities, programs, and adult supervision. Currently, the Appomattox Children's Day Care Center and the YMCA/YWCA are the only certified day care centers in Appomattox County, with the YMCA/YWCA offering child care programs only during pre- and post-school hours at the Appomattox Primary School. Child care is also provided by two local churches and by individual persons. Presently churches are not required to have certification, nor are individuals caring for only one or two children.

### *HEALTH CARE*

Since there are no hospitals located in Appomattox County, residents must travel to either Lynchburg or Farmville for hospital services. Lynchburg has two hospitals, both of which are owned and administered by Centra Health, Inc. One facility, Lynchburg General Hospital, underwent a major expansion and modernization in the mid- to late-1990's, in the process becoming the region's cardiology center. The other, Virginia Baptist Hospital, has among its specialties maternity and premature infant care. Southside Community Hospital in Farmville serves many of the residents of eastern Appomattox County.

There are four doctors and four dentists with practices located in Appomattox. Health services are also provided through the Appomattox County Health Department. Services include prenatal care, immunizations, communicable and venereal disease control, home health services, family planning, and crippled children's services. Sanitarians from the health department also inspect restaurants, test soils for septic tank use, issue permits for septic tanks, and analyze water samples. The department also maintains vital statistics for the county, recording birth and death certificates and marriages and divorces.

# COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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The Central Virginia Community Services Board has an office in Appomattox and provides services in the areas of mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse and prevention services.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The quality of life issues that so often define a community usually begin and end with the facilities and services offered by that community. The quality of schools, libraries, and police and fire protection are high on the list of attributes that people search for when making decisions on where to live or where to locate a business, but so are medical, recreational and public utilities issues. Appomattox County has always been an excellent place to live and work, but even so, the County and its citizens strive each day to improve their community. The following Community Facilities and Services Plan recognizes that improvements must be made in many areas in order to enhance the everyday life of County residents as well as attract new employment opportunities to diversify the County's economy.

**GOAL: ENSURE THAT THE CITIZENS OF APPOMATTOX COUNTY ENJOY A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE BASED ON EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES.**

**Objective A.** Ensure safe and adequate drinking water, wastewater treatment and solid waste management for all county residents.

Strategy 1) Explore new sources of water to meet the County's ever growing needs while continuing to protect existing and future groundwater reserves and safely disposing of sewage waste.

Task a) Establish a Public Service Authority which would exercise primary responsibility for the water and wastewater systems in the County as well as for the County's solid waste facilities. This PSA could be formed in alliance with the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin or be developed with responsibility only for public infrastructure in the unincorporated areas of the County.

Task b) Assist as appropriate with the upgrading and expansion of existing public water and sewer systems in the County.

Task c) Explore the potential options for increasing the amount of potable water available for consumption by current and future residents of Appomattox County, as well as the amount of potable and raw water available for

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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industrial and commercial growth. Options include, but are not limited to, development of reservoirs or other above-ground impoundments within the County, or accessing water resources from outside the County. Once the best option package is determined, work towards implementation of that option package to insure a supply of potable water that is adequate for the planned growth of the County.

- Task d) Develop land use controls that discourage concentrated development in areas in or adjacent to existing or potential groundwater impoundments without substantial provision for water and sewer alternatives.
  - Task e) Require water/sewer impact studies for high-density residential development and certain water-intensive commercial and industrial developments.
  - Task f) Work with the Appomattox County Health Department to identify properties with failing well and/or septic systems.
  - Task g) Work with Lynchburg Community Action Group (Lyn-CAG), the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Rural Development, and other pertinent agencies to seek funding and other assistance to correct septic deficiencies suffered by low- to moderate-income households and to expand the availability of public sewerage.
  - Task h) Develop land use controls that, absent public water and sewer, discourage concentrated development in areas experiencing or likely to experience high levels of septic failures.
  - Task i) Develop and maintain County and Town Capital Improvement Plans to provide sound fiscal guidance when developing water and/or sewer improvements.
- Strategy 2) Continue to improve the efficiency of solid waste disposal and collection systems through reviews of standard operating procedures and preventive education for the general public.
- Task a) Establish a Public Service Authority which would exercise primary responsibility for the water and wastewater systems in the County as well as for the County's solid waste facilities. This PSA could be formed in alliance with the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin or be developed with responsibility only for public infrastructure in the unincorporated areas of

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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the County.

- Task b) Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of continuing to landfill daily flow onsite versus transferring waste to a commercial and/or regional landfill.
- Task c) Continue to improve the onsite operations of the recycling program.
- Task d) Develop a program to continually educate the public concerning recycling and other solid waste issues. Educational techniques should include, but not be limited to, school and civic presentations, newspaper articles, and an enhanced Internet presence.
- Task e) Develop and maintain a County Capital Improvement Plan to provide sound fiscal guidance when planning major solid waste improvements.
- Task f) Evaluate options for collection sites, including the use of manned "Supersites", to increase recycling and to insure compliance with regulations issued by the Department of Environmental Quality.
- Task g) Evaluate the feasibility of a curbside recycling program in the towns and/or other portions of the County as may be identified in the effort to increase recycling.

**Objective B.** To increase both the level of service and responsiveness of nonpublic utilities serving the residents of Appomattox County.

Strategy 1) Increase digital wireless telephone coverage to as great a portion of the County as is feasible.

- Task a) Communicate with service providers the need to expand their service areas as a matter of safety.
- Task b) Continue to balance the need for expanded digital wireless telephone service with maintaining the rural and historical character of the County.

Strategy 2) Maintain stability in the wake of electric deregulation in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

- Task a) Be aware of the various deregulation issues and educate the public as necessary to guide them through deregulation.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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**Objective C.** To foster a strong sense of community security through superior police, fire, rescue, and animal control services.

Strategy 1) Promote the completion and future development of an Enhanced 9-1-1 (E-911) System.

Task a) Complete the implementation of the E-911 system on or before the deadline mandated by the General Assembly.

Task b) Establish a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the receipt and dispatch of all E-911 calls. Staff with trained, dedicated personnel under the supervision of a single department.

Strategy 2) Provide community-oriented police services that offer maximum protection to all citizens with emphasis on education as a deterrent.

Task a) Continue to fund the DARE and Resource Office Programs within the county school system to educate county students as to the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and firearms.

Task b) Continue to improve capabilities in the investigation, detection and apprehension of criminal offenders by funding training courses for officers and by seeking assistance from state, federal, and other local agencies.

Task c) Improve as financially feasible the equipment available to officers as they carry out their duties. This would include, but would not be limited to, laptop computers for each squad car, video imaging to archive photos of those arrested, video conferencing to reduce transportation costs, and implementation of an Automated Fingerprint Identification System to detect criminals much more quickly than now possible.

Task d) Consider options to alleviate jail overcrowding based on projected inmate population. These options may include, but are not limited to, increasing the size of the County Jail, becoming a partner in one of the regional jails in the area, or contracting with other localities to house certain inmates.

Task e) Ensure sound fiscal practices by inserting into the County's Capital Improvement Plan all major improvements and upgrades relating to the Sheriff's Department.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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- Strategy 3) Provide modern and efficient fire protection to all areas of the County.
- Task a) Work with both the Appomattox and Pamplin Volunteer Fire Departments to insure that equipment is kept modern via fiscally sound practices that are documented in the County's Capital Improvement Plan.
  - Task b) Work with both fire departments to insure that any upgrades to their respective facilities are documented in the County's Capital Improvement Plan.
  - Task c) Continue to improve the skills of the volunteers by use of both classroom and field training methods.
  - Task d) Continue to assist as necessary with grant-seeking activities to fund equipment, training, and other needs.
  - Task e) Continue to foster communication and cooperation between all the fire departments that serve Appomattox County.
  - Task f) Investigate whether paid firefighter positions will be necessary in the future and plan finances accordingly.
- Strategy 4) Provide modern and efficient emergency medical service to all areas of the County.
- Task a) Work with the Appomattox County Rescue Squad to insure that equipment is kept modern via fiscally sound practices that are documented in the County and Town Capital Improvement Plans.
  - Task b) Work with the rescue squad to insure that any upgrades to their facilities are documented in the County and Town Capital Improvement Plans.
  - Task c) Continue to improve the skills of the volunteers by use of both classroom and field training methods.
  - Task d) Continue to assist as necessary with grant-seeking activities to fund equipment, training, and other needs, including the purchase of automatic external defibrillators for all emergency response vehicles.
  - Task e) Continue to foster communication and cooperation between all rescue squads that serve, whether as primary or secondary providers, Appomattox

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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- County.
- Task f) Explore the development of a medical transport service for non-emergency transports.
- Task g) Investigate the feasibility, and if positive, begin to plan for the development of a rescue squad in Pamplin. The planning should be coordinated with the nearby areas of Prince Edward and Charlotte Counties so as to extend services into these counties. The Enhanced-911 capabilities will make such regional extensions practicable.
- Strategy 5) Continue to upgrade the Animal Control Program to protect the citizens from dangerous and nuisance animals.
- Task a) Explore the options available for upgrading the animal impoundment facility to meet nationally-accepted standards. Upgrade options include renovating the existing pound to create separate dog and cat areas along with more office and storage space; demolishing the existing pound and rebuilding on the same property; rebuilding on a different property; or utilizing another existing county building as the pound.
- Task b) Any major upgrade to the animal control facilities should be documented in the County's Capital Improvement Plan.
- Task c) Investigate and pursue means by which to effectively increase the number of adoptions.
- Task d) Investigate revising the County Code to prohibit the training of attack dogs; to require that owners of dangerous dogs carry a minimum of \$50,000 in insurance; and increasing the fees charged by animal control.
- Task e) Evaluate the hiring of an assistant animal warden as a part time seasonal summer position with responsibility for checking rabies tags and writing tickets for non-compliance. This person could also provide evening and weekend animal control services as necessary.
- Strategy 6) Improve communications capabilities among and between emergency responders.
- Task a) Utilizing input from public safety agencies within the county as well as those serving the county from other jurisdictions, evaluate the existing radio communications system for deficiencies as based on both current

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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and realistic future needs. Once armed with this evaluation information, design a replacement system that would best address these deficiencies within budget constraints.

- Task b) Investigate the feasibility of forming a separate Department of Public Safety Communications to operate as a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and to handle emergency services planning for the County.

**Objective D.** Provide County residents with exemplary educational, recreational, and library services and opportunities.

Strategy 1) Continue refinement of the Appomattox County School Division towards a goal of providing both children and adults with the skills necessary to gain and keep successful 21<sup>st</sup> Century employment.

- Task a) Develop and implement long-range educational plans to ensure appropriate facilities and staff. Any major upgrades in facilities and equipment should be documented in the County's Capital Improvement Plan.

- Task b) Implement a study to determine the skills most needed by employers in Appomattox and the surrounding region, then develop and maintain a vocational education program that emphasizes the training of these skills.

- Task c) Cooperate with Central Virginia Community College, Southside Community College, and/or other educational providers in the region to offer basic skill education and job skill training through the proposed Appomattox Workforce Training Center. Programs offered would include adult literacy, GED, and job skill courses that would assist employers and employees, as well as the unemployed and underemployed.

Strategy 2) Enhance the recreational experience for residents and visitors of all ages.

- Task a) Explore the creation of additional organized recreational programs to complement existing programs.
- Task b) Maintain a cooperative agreement with the school system allowing for designated time periods when school recreational facilities may be used by non-school recreational programs.
- Task c) Aggressively pursue additional public and private funding sources to

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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- offset the local cost of improving recreational facilities, programs, and staff.
- Task d) Develop a Master Plan for the Community Recreational Park along VA Route 613 (Police Tower Road) and seek ways to fund implementation of the plan.
- Task e) Provide training opportunities in a variety of disciplines for both paid and volunteer staff. Examples are seminars on First Aid, recreational grounds maintenance, and event scheduling.
- Task f) Develop and implement long-range recreational plans to ensure appropriate facilities and staff. Any major upgrades in facilities and equipment should be documented in the County and Town Capital Improvement Plans.
- Task g) Work with private recreational providers, as well as Holliday Lake State Park, to increase recreational opportunities.
- Strategy 3) Continue development, through the Library Board, of a library system that offers a variety of services to all County residents.
- Task a) Develop and implement long-range library plans to insure that facilities and staff will meet the future needs of County residents. Any major upgrade of facilities or equipment should be documented in the County's Capital Improvement Plan.
- Task b) Explore the establishment of branch libraries in select rural villages across the County.
- Task c) Aggressively pursue additional public and private funding sources to offset the local cost of improving library facilities, programs, and staff.
- Task d) Continue to be the Appomattox Community's primary point of connection with the World Wide Web. Along with this responsibility, continue to educate the citizens on proper use of the Internet for maximum efficiency during information retrieval.
- Objective E.** Offer all County residents quality health care, child care, senior care, and social services programs.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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Strategy 1) Increase the health and mental health opportunities available within Appomattox County.

Task a) Work with Central Health, Inc., and/or Southside Community Hospital to establish a clinic where more traditional hospital services are offered.

Strategy 2) Child/Senior Care

Task a) Develop a Land Use Plan that devotes appropriate areas of the County to senior living. Included in, but not limited to, this category would be apartments, condominiums, and single family residences, any of which could offer either assisted or unassisted living or both. Nursing homes would also be included in this category.

Strategy 3) Provide citizens of the County with competent and confidential social services.

Task a) Continue, in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Social Services, implementation of the Electronic Benefit Transfer Program which uses debit cards to access benefits, significantly reducing the chance of fraud.

Task b) Continue to partner with other human service agencies in Region 2000 to bring more preventive services to Appomattox residents. Examples of partnering include, but are not limited to, cooperative agreements to provide for services through the Comprehensive Services Act, Pregnancy Prevention Program, Healthy Families Program, Employment Services, and Lyn-CAG.

Task c) Due to the new federal effort to involve the Faith Community in providing services, the Appomattox County Department of Social Services will increase its contact with the Faith Community, and with volunteers in general, in the effort to acquire more foster care families, mentors, and emergency needs requests.

Task d) The Appomattox County Department of Social Services will continue to work through the Workforce Investment Board, Virginia Employment Commission, Sheltered Workshops and other means to assist the unemployed to gain meaningful employment.

Task e) The Appomattox County Department of Social Services will continue to work with the Alliance for Families and Children Program to provide transportation opportunities for the working poor.

# GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## EXISTING CONDITIONS

### *APPOMATTOX COUNTY*

Although Appomattox County can be classified as predominately rural in character, there has been an increase in both residential and commercial development in recent years. With a large portion of the County's workforce employed outside of the County, Appomattox is becoming a preferred "bedroom" community for the businesses in the Lynchburg area. An estimated 80 percent of parcels in the County are currently zoned A-1 Agricultural, with roughly 15 percent zoned for primarily residential uses: R-1 Residential, R-2 General Residential, V-1 Village, and H-1 Historic. The remaining 5 percent of the County is zoned for commerce: B-1 Business, M-1 Industrial, and M-IP Planned Industrial Park.

**Agricultural areas** -- The A-1 Agricultural District dominates land use in the County, but varying by-right uses have begun to collide with one another in recent years. Because minimum lot sizes in A-1 are 1 acre, many developers have subdivided properties for residential use throughout the County without having to re-zone to gain approval of their subdivisions. The inevitable conflicts between residential uses and by-right agricultural uses have emerged with farming activities, livestock, and new homes trying to coexist with one another. It is evident that the usefulness of A-1 as a "default" zoning district is coming to an end, and that new rural residential districts need to be developed to further separate residential and agricultural uses.

Major agricultural activities in the A-1 district include cattle farming and production of corn, soybeans, and tobacco. Prime agricultural land, as determined by soil type and topography, is located west and southwest of the Town of Appomattox, at the headwaters of Wreck Island Creek, and along Vaughans Creek north of the Town of Pamplin. Appomattox County is one of the leading wood producing counties in the state with several large commercial forests located within its boundaries. In February 2002, the County adopted an Intensive Farming Overlay District to regulate any high-production livestock facilities that may choose to locate here.

**Residential areas** -- The R-1 and R-2 residential districts have over time evolved to segregate housing types rather than regulating housing densities. Many areas of the County were originally zoned R-1 Residential in 1988 not just to designate concentrations of existing homes, but to discontinue or to prevent the siting of mobile homes in those areas. The R-2 General Residential district is the least restrictive of zoning districts, allowing all types of residential uses (single and multi-family dwellings, stick-built and mobile homes) on the smallest lot configurations. Developers have sought to re-zone to R-2 in all areas of the County not just to maximize available lots for sale, but to enable siting of mobile homes in areas previously zoned R-1. The purpose of residential zoning districts needs to be carefully examined to establish policy for their use. Does the County wish to use the districts to control development densities, to segregate housing types, or a mix of both?

## GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Another problem with residential uses is the “stripping out” of state road frontage in lieu of constructing new residential streets. Most developers wishing to create subdivisions with less than 10 acre lots but without state road frontage must construct new roads built to state standards, which can result in considerable cost. To avoid this problem, developers have focused on cutting up small lots along the state road frontage and selling off residue parcels that have limited or no frontage. These residue parcels cannot be further subdivided unless a state road is installed, and often end up unused or developed poorly in the future. One solution may be to modify the subdivision ordinance provisions on private lot subdivisions, requiring a road to be installed that could be readily upgraded to state standards at reduced cost.

Use of the Planned Unit Development (PUD) should also be considered to encourage more efficient development of residential properties and neighborhoods. The PUD was part of the original 1988 Zoning Ordinance, but to date none have ever been developed. PUDs can provide developers with additional flexibility on lot sizes, setbacks, and uses in exchange for provision of certain public facilities for the development.

**Mixed Use/Historical** -- The V-1 Village district is used sporadically around the County, particularly in the Town of Pamplin and near the centers of Oakville, Vera, Evergreen, and Promise Land. V-1 represents the County’s only mixed use district, where residential uses and the commercial uses that serve them may exist side by side allowing for more flexible development. A close examination of this district should be conducted to find ways to better encourage its widespread use near town and village centers and development corridors.

Properties zoned H-1 Historic District primarily include the Appomattox Courthouse National Historical Park and nearby parcels. Since the 1988 adoption of the zoning ordinance, no property owner has sought re-zoning to H-1 and no properties have been administratively re-zoned to that designation. Because the H-1 district can serve as a valuable tool to buffer the County’s historical resources from new development, strong consideration should be given to re-zoning properties to H-1. Additionally, historic zoning can enable property owners to obtain low interest financing and tax credits towards renovating and restoring existing historical structures.

**Commercial/Industrial Uses** -- Commercial development, once occurring in scattered areas throughout the County, has begun to focus along the Richmond Highway (US 460) corridor west of the Town of Appomattox.

One possible impediment to commercial and industrial growth in the County is the lack of available properties zoned for such use. Only a scattered 5 percent of parcels in the County are zoned B-1 Business, M-1 Industrial, or M-IP Planned Industrial Park, and many of these tracts were re-zoned by developers.

## GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Because most new business has developed along Richmond Highway, measures should be taken to increase the number of available commercial and industrial properties along this corridor. Designating stretches of Richmond Highway as "commerce corridors" with a default zoning of B-1 would make it much simpler for businesses to develop. Strip development, however, must be discouraged and avoided, if possible. Site development standards could be adopted that would allow the County to limit the number of entrances and require traffic lights, turn lanes, and frontage roads among other requirements.

In late Summer 2000, approximately 400 acres off of Oakville Road (Rt. 26) was re-zoned to the M-IP Planned Industrial Park district as the new Appomattox Center for Business and Commerce. This new zoning district allows for a diverse number of by-right industrial uses in a planned setting designed to coexist with surrounding properties.

### ***TOWN OF APPOMATTOX***

The Town of Appomattox is the primary service center for the County, providing the bulk of retail stores, businesses, and other commercial services.

**Residential** -- Residential land uses are generally concentrated in three areas of town: north, west, and southwest of the Central Business District (CBD); and an area bounded by Oakleigh Avenue and Confederate Boulevard (US 460 Business). In addition, residential structures are scattered through most of the town. Recent development activity has been occurring on the fringes of town and sometimes overflowing into the County.

Single-family dwellings represent almost 75 percent of the units and over 95 percent of the residential land uses in the Town. Multi-family uses are approximately 17 percent of the housing stock and are primarily located in the southern section of town. Manufactured homes are present in the Town but do not play a significant role in the town's housing inventory at this time. Single-family neighborhoods are well defined in the town. Most of the single-family development is of moderate density with some higher density concentrated in the older section of the Town.

Multi-family housing consists of townhouses, apartments, and single-family conversions. Most of the new multi-family construction has occurred in recent years. National trends of decreasing family size and the sharp rise in the cost of a new single-family unit would seem to indicate that multi-family housing will make up an increasing percentage of the Town's total housing supply in the future. If adequately planned for, manufactured homes could also play an important role in providing low cost housing in the future. The only limitation to the expansion of the housing supply in the Town is the provision of public water and sewer.



## GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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**Public/Semi-Public** -- Because the Town is the major commercial and government center in the County, public and semi-public land uses occupy approximately 10 percent of the total land area. There are many local government facilities in the Town including the County Courthouse and government complex; the Town office; and the Appomattox Primary, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. Part of the new Elementary School property off of Lee-Grant Avenue is also within the Town limits. In addition, there are also offices of various state and Federal agencies in the Town. Public parks and recreation facilities are found primarily at the school sites, though there are two sizeable parks within the Town -- the Appomattox County Ball Park and the Appomattox Kiddie Park.

Other public/semi-public facilities include the railroad station/visitor center, the Jamerson Library, Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department, Appomattox Community Center, and several churches.

**Vacant** -- Vacant land comprises no more than 10 percent of all land uses within the Town of Appomattox. Of this amount, much is considered undesirable for building due to the size or shape of the parcel or to the presence of wetland conditions. Hence residential and commercial expansion is often limited to "infilling" (the use of vacant sites within a neighborhood or commercial district), adaptive reuse of vacant structures, or demolition followed by new construction.

**Land Use Trends** -- The Town will continue to develop at a slow, steady pace during the next 20 years barring any unexpected major developments. The majority of development activity will consist of low to moderate density single-family and some multi-family dwelling development.

It is essential that the land in the Town be developed wisely if the Town is to remain a viable and attractive community. Conflicts among various uses must be prevented, and new development should be conceived to enhance the Town as a desirable place to live and work. This enhancement process should include planning and constructing new developments to blend in with the architecture and atmosphere of the existing historic areas. Several areas of the Town were designated as part of a historic district in 2001, which will enable property owners to participate in special loan and tax credit programs for renovating their historic buildings. This designation can serve as the foundation for further development of site development standards, architectural review, and other measures to ensure the integrity of these historic assets.

New developments should also include provisions for open space, and existing open space should be preserved where possible and made accessible to existing residential neighborhoods. Attractive, efficient commercial and industrial areas must also be developed. To accomplish these ends, public policies must be developed and implemented to guide and control both public and private deployment in the public interest.

# GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## *TOWN OF PAMPLIN*

The Town of Pamplin is an important rural service center for the eastern portion of the county that lies equidistant from the Towns of Appomattox and Farmville. Similar to a neighborhood convenience center in an urban area, residents have access to a bank, a convenience store, gas stations, and a post office among other facilities in Pamplin.

Transportation has played an important role in the development of the Town. Pamplin is a railroad junction where the Main Line and the Belt Line of the old Norfolk and Western Railroad (now part of the Norfolk Southern Railroad) divide with one line heading east to Petersburg and the other southeast to Emporia and Franklin. The two lines rejoin at Suffolk and proceed to the Norfolk Southern Coal Loading piers in Norfolk. Most through traffic travels by way of the Belt Line while the Main Line is limited to local freight traffic. Pamplin was once situated on one of the main roads from Richmond to Lynchburg but today, Richmond Highway (U.S. 460), a limited access facility, bypasses the Town to the northeast.

**Residential** -- Residential land uses are scattered throughout the Town but are predominant along Thomas Jefferson Highway (Rt. 47). Residential uses account for 33 percent of the total land area in Pamplin. Almost all of the dwellings in the Town are single-family units. The majority of these single-family dwellings house low and moderate income families. There are twenty one (21) occupied mobile homes inside Town limits, three (3) of which are doublewides.

**Commercial/Industrial** -- Commercial and industrial uses are intermixed with residential uses in Pamplin. Commercial facilities occupy approximately eight acres, or 4 percent of the total land area, and consist primarily of a gas station, a convenience store, a car wash, and a branch bank. There is a small business district located adjacent to the Pamplin Depot, but with the exception of one store that sells used furniture only on Saturdays, the store fronts are inactive.

**Public/Semi-Public** -- Public and semi-public uses consist primarily of churches, a post office, and a volunteer fire department building. Outside the town limits is a ball field, managed by the Ruritan Club, which serves as the Town's recreation facility. The Town has an adequate public water system, but no sanitary sewer system at this time. Planning and design for a Pamplin sanitary drain sewer system is actively being pursued as discussed late in this chapter.

**Vacant** -- The most prevalent land use in the Town is vacant or open land, which forms almost 60 percent of all uses. This provides the Town with sufficient sites to accommodate any future commercial or industrial facilities or new residential construction.

**Land Use Trends** -- In the past five years, Pamplin has seen a number of commercial and industrial businesses close their doors and very few new residences have been constructed within

## **GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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the Town's borders. The vast majority of construction projects in the Town have involved renovation or rehabilitation of existing structures.

Several projects are currently underway that could reverse the existing trend and spur new development in Pamplin. The renovation of the Pamplin Depot will produce a centralized community facility housing the Town office, a branch of the Jamerson library, meeting space, and exhibits reflecting the history of Pamplin. This project will be key to reinvigorating the downtown business district and increasing its marketability to both local and regional interests.

The Town also recently completed a planning grant from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) that seeks to improve housing conditions. DHCD has in turn sent a Letter of Intent to the Town announcing the awarding of a sizable Community Improvement Grant (CIG) as a result of this planning effort. The CIG will result in the rehabilitation of twenty six (26) houses and mobile homes occupied by low- to moderate-income (LMI) families. The CIG also provides partial funding for a central sewage drain project to serve these dwellings. The Town is concurrently seeking set aside money from the Rural Development arm of the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to fully fund the sewer system. The scope of the sewage project will be expanded to include all of the residences in the East Pamplin sector of Town utilizing the USDA funds. The system will also be extended to the restored Train Depot and the adjacent small Business District along Main Street. If these proposals to USDA are approved, the Town will seek to add the remainder of Pamplin to the sewage system.

In addition to the housing rehabilitation and sewage project, the CIG provides funds for clearance of blighted and abandoned properties. Some ten (10) such properties will be cleared under the CIG. The Town will shortly conduct hearings to adopt code for property appearance and maintenance.

### **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE**

Because of its location and natural beauty, Appomattox County is likely to be a target for population growth in the coming years. The future land use component seeks to prepare for this anticipated growth by balancing flexible development mechanisms with controls to protect the county's rural and historical nature.

Under this land use plan, growth areas in the form of town centers, village centers, growth corridors, and commerce corridors designate when and where development may occur in the county. This leaves historical areas, prime agricultural sites, and forested/riparian areas protected by more strict controls that limit development to only the lowest of densities.

# GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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In a county currently designed to provide for the needs of around 13,000 citizens, demand for public services also must be accurately gauged as development expands. This plan includes impact study requirements and the development of the county's first comprehensive Capital Improvements Plan (CIP).

**GOAL: MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE RURAL AND HISTORICAL NATURE OF THE COUNTY WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY ENCOURAGING CONTROLLED DEVELOPMENT IN SPECIFIED AREAS.**

**Objective A.** Identify, preserve, and protect existing prime agricultural lands and areas of historical significance.

- Strategy 1) Delineate existing long-term productive farm land and preserve it from development through innovative zoning controls.
- Task a) Develop and adopt a Rural Residential zoning district that incorporates low-density development and does not permit agricultural activities as a by-right use. Utilize this district as a buffer between agricultural and developed or developing properties.
  - Task b) Adopt the A-1 Intensive Farming overlay district and encourage its use as a means to protect large scale agricultural operations from residential encroachment.
- Strategy 2) Consider the adoption of a land use assessment ordinance.
- Strategy 3) Promote preservation of historic areas through land use and development controls.
- Task a) Develop and adopt design criteria for buildings, signage guidelines, and site development standards in or around historic areas.
  - Task b) Consider administrative re-zoning of additional properties to the Historic Zoning District (H-1).
- Strategy 4) Encourage preservation of historic structures by assisting property owners in adding their buildings to the National Historic Registry and by promoting grant programs to fund historic preservation.
- Strategy 5) Encourage preservation of the lands encompassing and surrounding the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest and along the James and Appomattox Rivers.

# GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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- Task a) Consider adopting a forest preservation overlay district and watershed preservation district to place tighter controls on development in these areas.
- Task b) Encourage development projects that demonstrate efforts to blend into their surroundings, i.e., preserving existing timber, use of forested buffers, wetlands replacement, and innovative design criteria.

**Objective B.** Balance population growth with the county's ability to provide public services.

Strategy 1) Quantify the need level of public services and a time frame for their creation/expansion.

- Task a) Develop and maintain a comprehensive capital improvements plan that includes 25 year projections for all county services.
- Task b) Develop guidelines for requiring developers to conduct impact studies for projects that will increase the burden on county services, utilities, and roads.

Strategy 2) Consider the use of density-based zoning controls.

- Task a) Identify and implement a scheme to require rezoning of land to be subdivided if the density of new residences exceeds certain levels.
- Task b) Refine the Planned Unit Development (PUD) provisions of the zoning ordinance to allow for off-site development trade-offs to serve the proposed PUD. Encourage developers to make use of the PUD provisions.

Strategy 3) Encourage the use of proffers by zoning applicants to account for services impact of the proposed development.

- Task a) Upon adoption of a capital improvements plan, institute guidelines for cash proffers for developers of residential, commercial, and industrial properties.
- Task b) Develop other proffer guidelines to encourage the donation of open space for public facilities and/or cost-sharing of public utility improvements.

**Objective C.** Promote land development controls and site development standards that preserve existing rural areas by focusing development in population centers.

# GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Strategy 1) Designate the following areas as town centers, village centers, or growth corridors: Town of Appomattox, Town of Pamplin, Bent Creek, Oakville, Stonewall, Vera, Hixburg, Evergreen, Chap, Promise Land, Spout Spring, Concord, and Red House Road.

Task a) Clearly identify the boundaries of these areas and criteria for their expansion or reduction.

Task b) Develop land use plans for each town center, village center, and growth corridor that are tailored to the individual character of these areas.

Strategy 2) Designate the following areas as commerce corridors: Richmond Highway (US 460 West - Town limits to Campbell County Line; and US 460 East - Town limits to Prince Edward County line).

Task a) Clearly identify the boundaries of these areas and criteria for their expansion or reduction.

Task b) Develop land use plans and site development standards for each commerce corridor that are tailored to the individual character of these areas.

Task c) Develop and implement marketing plans for each commerce corridor, and identify/enumerate the types of businesses/industries preferred.

Task d) Consider administrative re-zoning as a tool to encourage commercial and industrial growth.

Strategy 3) Plan future water, sewer, gas, and fiber optic line connections to town centers, village centers, growth corridors, and commerce corridors as the highest priorities.

Strategy 4) Place limitations on strip development within growth areas to ensure that markets for certain businesses are not saturated. Seek to restrict or eliminate strip development outside of growth areas.

Strategy 5) Conduct a comprehensive revision of the County's land use ordinances.

Task a) Revise the County zoning ordinance.

## GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Subtask (1): Conduct a comprehensive revision of the County Zoning Map including administrative re-zoning.

Subtask (2): Develop new zoning districts and overlay districts to further the goals of the 2001 Comprehensive Plan.

Subtask (3): Adopt a fee schedule that is comparable to other Central Virginia counties of similar size and character.

Task b) Revise the County subdivision ordinance.

Subtask (1): Provide greater flexibility but tighter controls on the subdivision of land along private roads and rights-of-way.

Subtask (2): Tighten controls on the family exemption to the subdivision ordinance to discourage sale of such parcels to non-family members.

Subtask (3): Adopt a fee schedule that is comparable to other Central Virginia counties of similar size and character.

Task c) Revise the County erosion and sediment control ordinance.

Subtask (1): Require subdividers of land to obtain land disturbance permits prior receiving plat approvals.

Subtask (2): Improve the process of converting agricultural or forestal lands to building lots by establishing a mechanism to coordinate local erosion and sediment control enforcement with state erosion and sediment control programs for agricultural and forestal activities.

**THE APPOMATTOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AMENDED THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT SECTION ON  
MARCH 5, 2007 BY ADOPTING THE RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION PLAN. THE RCP DETAIL THE  
FUTURE LAND USES OF THE COUNTY AND  
DESIGNATES LAND USE AREAS. SEE APPENDIX C**

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

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## INTENT

The information technology plan focuses on how the county should take advantage of the latest advances in information technology to provide a higher level of government service, to bring computers and broadband internet access to citizens, and to make local businesses competitive in the information age.

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

### *INTERNET ACCESS*

Information technology is only as good as the speed at which it can be provided. That is why the centerpiece of any IT initiative is the availability of high-speed, or "broadband," internet access.

Broadband options in the County are currently limited, but the infrastructure exists for high-speed internet in many areas once expansion opportunities are realized. Fiber optic lines owned by Williams Communications traverse the County utilizing the Williams Gas Company right-of-way. These lines extend from the Appomattox-Buckingham line near the community of Tower Hill through the center of the County including the Appomattox Center for Business and Commerce, to the southwestern corner of the County near the Spring Mills community. Verizon has also recently installed fiber optic lines between Lynchburg and Appomattox that extends along the Richmond Highway (U.S. 460) corridor and northward to Amherst County along Oakville Road (Rt. 26).

Nesbe Cable, the County's cable television service provider, is in the process of replacing their existing lines with fiber optic cable. Once completed, residents and businesses will be able to use cable modems to receive high-speed, two-way internet access at affordable prices. Satellite providers DirecTV and Dish Network have also recently introduced two-way broadband access via special satellite equipment. And providers in Lynchburg have recently introduced wireless internet access using still emerging technologies.

Conventional dial-up internet access (56K) is available to any resident with a telephone line via numerous service providers (ISPs). While many residents are able to dial into their ISP at near 56K speeds, age and/or deterioration of telephone lines and equipment in certain areas of the county limit connections to a fraction of that speed (24K or less).

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

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## ***WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS***

Entering the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, wireless telephone use has evolved from a luxury to a necessity and, in some cases, is the primary choice for residential use over increasingly expensive local wireline service. Businesses and industry looking at the County as a new development opportunity will want assurances that wireless coverage will be strong and reliable at their prospective facilities and along major corridors nearby.

Wireless telephone service is provided by several companies including U.S. Cellular, Ntelos, SunCom, Sprint, Alltel, and Nextel. Digital coverage is made possible along the Richmond Highway Corridor between Appomattox and Campbell Counties via towers positioned in the Town of Appomattox, the Village of Concord, and points in between. Recent construction of a 300 foot tower in the Village of Evergreen further expands digital coverage from Appomattox to Pamplin. Coverage northward along Oakville Road and Old Courthouse Road (Rt. 24), and southward along Red House Road (Rt. 727) is limited to spotty analog reception only in most areas.

## ***GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES***

While diverse county and town government offices utilize desktop computers to provide more efficient services, there are still no public interactive IT services available to citizens, tourists, potential business prospects, or other third parties. Neither the County nor the Towns maintain official government websites or provide online services, and most informational materials can only be provided via hard copy. A local resident has maintained a site located at [www.appomattox.com](http://www.appomattox.com) that donates web space to governmental information, and has recently been upgraded to include economic development information.

## ***WORKFORCE***

Many county residents utilize computers at either their home or workplace on a daily basis, producing a substantial percentage of the workforce with basic computing skills. The problem is that few opportunities exist to allow residents to broaden their skills into something marketable and desirable to information technology and high-tech reliant firms. The county currently lacks a local workforce training resource to hone basic computing skills for common office operations, as well as to provide the level of advanced training desired by today's businesses. Employers must send their staff to Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) in Lynchburg, to centers in Altavista or Brookneal, or even to distant locations such as Roanoke or Richmond to obtain needed training.

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

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It is crucial to the future economic success of the County to build on this emerging skill base to develop a workforce that boosts competitiveness of local businesses and attracts new businesses to a yet untapped market.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

From the mid to late 1990s, many jurisdictions in Virginia and in other states boasted that they were “Certified E-Business Locations” or “E-Friendly,” with the connotation being that the infrastructure, workforce, and governmental climate are attractive to businesses reliant on information technology. In the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Appomattox County should strive to work towards meeting the parameters of an “E-Friendly” locality.

**GOAL: BRING ELEMENTS OF “E-GOVERNANCE” TO APPOMATTOX COUNTY.**

**Objective A:** Implement a local government internet portal.

Strategy 1) Launch a county government informational website.

- Task a) Designate a county webmaster and establish interdepartmental policies on providing content for sites in a timely, orderly fashion.
- Task b) Establish individual departmental sites with answers to frequently asked questions and downloadable forms and documents.

Strategy 2) Launch a marketing/business development/tourism website.

- Task a) Hire a consultant to design a marketing site to promote the county as a business location and tourist destination. Have the consultant produce a finished product that can be managed and upgraded by the county webmaster.
- Task b) Develop PowerPoint presentations, video clips, and other downloadable media that can serve as e-brochures for business and tourism.
- Task c) Add interactive enhancements where tourists can purchase tickets, make reservations, and print out trip itineraries online. Work with local businesses and attractions to develop discount packages and coordinate reservations and ticketing.

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

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Strategy 3) Establish portals at public facilities.

Task a) Designate computer terminals at the County Library, Community Center, and other locations for government services and information.

Strategy 4) Develop a local government owned or supported internet service provider (ISP).

Task a) Implement a locally owned or supported ISP to further network the community with the local government. Use profits from the ISP to offset costs of maintaining and upgrading technology infrastructure within the local government.<sup>1</sup>

Task b) Develop a web-hosting program for local businesses that otherwise would not have or use a company website.

**Objective B:** Use information technology to improve the level of service provided by the local government.

Strategy 1) Develop a strategic plan for upgrading and maintaining a government-wide computer network.

Task a) Upgrade computers and infrastructure in individual government offices to the current industry standard, including broadband internet access.

Task b) Place all county government offices on a single, centralized network.

Task c) Integrate computer networks in the County government offices, the schools, Towns of Appomattox, and Town of Pamplin.

Task d) Implement a Geographic Information System (GIS) for planning, land use, zoning, real estate, and other sources of information tracking.

Strategy 2) Implement online options for frequently used governmental services.

Task a) Implement an online Geographic Information System (GIS).

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<sup>1</sup> Initiation of this task is dependent upon the outcome of current litigation on the issue of whether a local government can provide telecommunications services to its citizens in direct competition with corporate providers.

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

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- Task b) Enable secure online bill payment for taxes and other county fees.
- Task c) Enable online permitting for zoning, building, erosion and sediment control, and other permits.
- Strategy 3) Use information technology tools to assist other governmental and government-supported entities with routine tasks.
  - Task a) Supply public safety and emergency services personnel with onboard computers.

**GOAL: EXPAND AND IMPROVE THE COUNTY'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE TO BENEFIT RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES, AS WELL AS TO ATTRACT NEW BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRY.**

**Objective A:** Develop high-speed and broadband internet options countywide.

- Strategy 1) Develop a strategic plan for attracting and implementing high-speed and broadband infrastructure.
- Strategy 2) Establish programs to bring high-speed access to low and moderate income families.
- Strategy 3) Work with telephone service providers to upgrade lines and equipment throughout the county to improve dial-up connection speed and provide digital subscriber line (DSL) service as a broadband option.
- Strategy 4) Work with wireless providers to increase digital coverage in the northern and southern portions of the County.

**Objective B:** Promote Appomattox County as a technology-friendly locality for business and industry.

- Strategy 1) Create an inventory of infrastructure elements necessary for technology companies.
- Strategy 2) Identify and prioritize areas of the technology infrastructure that need to be upgraded or brought to a baseline standard.

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

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Strategy 3) Develop a marketing/business plan to attract technology companies.

Strategy 4) Through land use and industrial development policy, create incentives for technology businesses to locate in the county.

**Objective C: Ensure that cable television/internet providers bring a high level of service to the County's residents and businesses.**

Strategy 1) Provide an "industry-standard" level of cable television service to residents and businesses.

Strategy 2) Ensure that cable internet access is provided to residents and businesses via broadband download and upload service, e.g., "two-way" modems that do not rely on telephone lines.

**GOAL: IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS TO BOOST THE MARKETABILITY OF THE COUNTY'S WORKFORCE IN THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY.**

Strategy 1) Promote continuing education and re-training opportunities.

Task a) Develop a workforce training center in Appomattox County that provides information technology and other "high-tech" courses and seminars, including certified programmer/engineer training (e.g., MCSE).

Task b) Work with new and existing businesses as well as business prospects to identify specific desired skills. Use this information to coordinate course offerings within the County and the region.

Task c) Support regional training centers that offer information technology training.

Strategy 2) Hone the emerging computer skills of the County's youth into useable, marketable talents in the workforce.

Task a) Support existing secondary school computer training programs and develop new programs as desired skills change.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

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- Task b) Develop certification training programs (e.g., MSCE) for high school seniors offered either locally or through the Governor's School.
- Task c) Support capital improvements for hardware or infrastructure upgrades within the public school system.

# GOVERNMENT

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## COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Virginia is officially a commonwealth, not a state. The word “commonwealth”, or “the public welfare “ in this case “denotes the government of a state possessing powers of self-government in respect of its immediate concerns, but forming an integral part of a larger government or nation”.<sup>1</sup> Though each of the fifty states could appropriately be referred to as a Commonwealth, only four, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Virginia, use Commonwealth in their official title. In Virginia, as in the other three Commonwealths, this title serves as a reminder that all power derives from the people for the ultimate good of the people, a philosophy reflected in the comments of the Honorable Thomas M. Moncure, Jr., who said that “A state may or may not reflect the will of the people, but a commonwealth simply cannot exist without the people’s express consent. The commonwealth is an extraordinary form of government based upon collective genius of its citizens.”<sup>2</sup>

Virginia is also a Dillon Rule state, one of only five remaining in the nation along with Kentucky, Minnesota, North Carolina and Pennsylvania. The Dillon Rule, named for John Forest Dillon, chief justice of the Iowa Supreme Court in the late 1800’s, is used to interpret state law when there is a question of whether or not a local government has a certain power. Under the Dillon Rule, should reasonable doubt exist as to whether or not a power has been granted to a local government, then the power has not been granted. Therefore, a local government such as Appomattox County can exercise no power or authority not expressly conferred on the locality by the Virginia General Assembly via the *Code of Virginia* or the local charter.

For more information, please visit the Commonwealth of Virginia’s official website at <http://www.myvirginia.org/>.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT – APPOMATTOX COUNTY

As with each of the 95 counties in the Commonwealth, Appomattox County government has two distinct functions. As a unit of local government, the County both adopts and enforces local ordinances and provides services to residents and employers. As a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, the County assists with the local implementation of state laws and programs.

Appomattox County employs a Traditional Form of government, the most common form of government found among Virginia’s counties. Under this form of government, an elected Board of Supervisors holds responsibility for the general legislative and administrative affairs of the County. With this form, the voters also elect five other officers, known as Constitutional Officers, who are responsible for the administration of certain specific aspects of the County’s

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<sup>1</sup> *Black’s Law Dictionary*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition, 1990, p. 278.

<sup>2</sup> Secretary of the Commonwealth’s Website -- [www.commonwealth.state.va.us/common.htm](http://www.commonwealth.state.va.us/common.htm)

# GOVERNMENT

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affairs.

## ***APPOMATTOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS***

In Appomattox County, the Board of Supervisors consists of five (5) members elected by district. (Prior to 1991, there were only three members.) There are no at-large seats. The five electoral districts, each with statistically-equal populations, are as follows:

- Appomattox River District (includes the Town of Pamplin)
- Courthouse District (includes the Town of Appomattox)
- Falling River District
- Piney Mountain District
- Wreck Island District

Each supervisor is elected to a four-year term and elections are held on a rotating basis to ensure against a complete Board turnover in any given election. At the first Board meeting of each new calendar year, the Board elects a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from among the members.

The Board of Supervisors is responsible for establishing County policy via passage of resolutions and ordinances within limitations established by the General Assembly, approving an annual County operating budget, setting tax rates, and making appointments to various boards and committees. The Board also approves land use plans and any subsequent amendments via rezonings. Business is conducted in public meetings, though the Board may elect to enter into a Closed Session to discuss issues that are exempt from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), including personnel or legal issues.

The Board of Supervisors meets twice per month and at other times as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. The meetings are advertised and the public is welcomed.

**County Administrator**<sup>3</sup> -- As is the case in most every county still utilizing the Traditional Form of government, the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors has chosen to employ a County Administrator to assist the Board with the daily administration of the County. The County Administrator is responsible for overseeing all administrative matters not expressly assigned by the General Assembly to another person or entity. Duties include serving as Clerk to the Board, administering all affairs of the County under the statutory authority of the Board, preparing an annual budget, communicating with the public and the media, supervising personnel, and overseeing enforcement of local ordinances. This professional manager also represents the Board through service on various committees and commissions and through attendance at sundry functions throughout the community and the Commonwealth.

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<sup>3</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Sections 15.2-1540 and 15.2-1541.

# GOVERNMENT

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The County Administrator directs the activities of seven departments – Animal Control, Building and Housing, Economic Development, Maintenance, Recreation, Solid Waste, and Victim-Witness Advocate. Each of these departments has been created to offer a service to the public based on health, safety and/or public welfare issues. With the exception of the Recreation Department, which is located in the Appomattox Community Center off Business Route 460 at the east end of the Town of Appomattox, and the Solid Waste Department, located on VA Route 634 east of the Town of Appomattox, all other departments are located within the Courthouse complex at the corner of Court Street and Morton Lane in the Town of Appomattox.

## ***CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS***

Voters in counties that operate under the Traditional Form of government must elect a Treasurer, a Sheriff, a Commonwealth's Attorney, a Clerk of the Circuit Court, and a Commissioner of the Revenue.<sup>4</sup> These five positions, referred to as Constitutional Officers, are elected by all registered voters in the county, including those who reside within towns.

In Appomattox County, each of the five Constitutional Officers has an office within the Appomattox County Courthouse Complex located at the intersection of Court Street and Morton Lane in the Town of Appomattox. Their duties are as follows:

**Treasurer**<sup>5</sup> -- The Treasurer is responsible for the finances of the County, including insuring that the County's funds are properly invested for the best and safest return according to those guidelines found in Section 58.1 of the *Code of Virginia*.<sup>6</sup> The Treasurer's Office accepts payment for County real estate, personal property, and machinery and tools taxes, as well as for State income taxes. Fees for County automobile decals and dog tags are also collected at the Treasurer's Office. This position carries a four-year term of office.

**Sheriff**<sup>7</sup> -- The Sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer in Appomattox County and is responsible for overseeing the activities of the Sheriff's Department and the Appomattox County Jail. The Sheriff works in conjunction with the Virginia State Police to protect the safety and well being of the County's citizens, including by contract those within the towns. The Sheriff serves all warrants and summonses and also acts as bailiff at sessions of Circuit, General District, and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. This position carries a four-year term of office.

**Commonwealth's Attorney**<sup>8</sup> -- The Commonwealth's Attorney is the chief prosecutor of the

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<sup>4</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2-1600.

<sup>5</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2-1608.

<sup>6</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 58.1-3149.

<sup>7</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-1609 to 15.2-1625.

<sup>8</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-1626 to 15.2-1633.

## GOVERNMENT

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County's criminal cases in Circuit, General District, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts, as well as any subsequent appeals. This position carries a four-year term of office.

**Clerk of the Circuit Court**<sup>9</sup> -- The Clerk of the Circuit Court serves as the chief administrative officer of the Circuit Court and prepares, records and maintains court orders and court proceedings. Circuit Court jury management is also a responsibility of the Clerk's Office, as is providing case-related information and court documents to all parties as necessary. All plats, wills, deeds, and other such legal documents are recorded in the Clerk's office along with minutes of the Board of Supervisors. The Clerk's staff is available to assist the public with accessing these records. This position carries an eight-year term of office. For more information, please visit <http://www.myvirginia.org/vipnet/clerks/appomattox.html>.

**Commissioner of The Revenue**<sup>10</sup> -- The Commissioner of the Revenue is responsible for assessing the value of real estate, personal property, and machinery and equipment within the County, then preparing tax bills based on the rates set by the Board of Supervisors. This position carries a four-year term of office.

### **ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Though most counties in Virginia still retain the Traditional Form of government, the *Code of Virginia* does provide alternative forms that, upon successful completion of a referendum and with approval of the General Assembly, any given county may choose.<sup>11</sup> These alternative forms of government, with summaries courtesy of *Virginia Government in Brief 1998-2002*, are as follows:

- **County Executive Form**<sup>12</sup> -- An alternative available since 1932, this form of government establishes the position of County Executive and provides it with increased administrative authority compared to the position of County Administrator. Also, this form of government abolishes the offices of Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer and places the duties of these positions upon the shoulders of a Director of Finance who serves under the County Executive. Finally, the County Executive under this form of government is statutorily directed to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for persons to head the major administrative departments. Currently, only Albemarle and Prince William Counties operate under the County Executive Form of government.

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<sup>9</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2-1634 and 15.2-1635.

<sup>10</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2-1636

<sup>11</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-300 to 15.2-307.

<sup>12</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-500 to 15.2-541.

## GOVERNMENT

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- **County Manager Form**<sup>13</sup> -- An alternative available since 1932, this form is very similar in nature to the County Executive Form in that the County Manager is given stronger administrative authority compared to a County Administrator. This form of government also abolishes the offices of Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer, with their duties again falling to the Director of Finance. However, since a County Manager has the statutory authority to appoint all department heads who serve under his or her command, the Director of Finance is appointed by the County Manager and not the Board of Supervisors as under the County Executive Form. Only Henrico County is currently organized under this form of government.
- **County Board Form**<sup>14</sup> -- An alternative available since 1940, this form of government closely resembles the Traditional Form of government. However, the major difference is that the County Board Form requires the employment of a County Administrator. Also, one member of the Board of Supervisors must be elected at-large, with the other members being elected from districts. Currently, only Carroll, Russell and Scott Counties utilize this form of government.
- **Urban County Executive Form**<sup>15</sup> -- An option available since 1960 to counties of at least 90,000 people, this form of government is similar to the County Executive Form. However, because this form is designed to meet the needs of heavily populated and urbanized areas, the provision of varying levels of public services throughout different portions of the county is made easier. Furthermore, no new municipalities may be created within a county that has adopted the Urban County Executive Form of government, but towns located within such a county may abandon their charters and be administered by the county. Under this form, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is elected at-large by the voters and a Director of Finance is appointed to perform the duties of the Commissioner of the Revenue and Treasurer. The other three Constitutional Officers continue to be elected by the citizens. Only Fairfax County utilizes the Urban County Executive Form of government.
- **County Manager Plan**<sup>16</sup> -- An option since 1930, this type of government is available only to counties with population densities of at least 500 persons per square mile. Similar in many ways to the County Manager Form of government, this form is specifically designed for smaller counties. Counties that adopt this form of government are exempt from annexation by neighboring cities unless the voters in the county approve by referendum the annexation of the entire county. Currently, only Arlington County is

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<sup>13</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-600 to 15.2-642.

<sup>14</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-400 to 15.2-418.

<sup>15</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-800 to 15.2-858.

<sup>16</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-700 to 15.2-749.

# GOVERNMENT

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organized according to the County Manager Plan.

- ***County Charters***<sup>17</sup> – Legislation passed in 1985 gave authority to each Virginia county to seek a county charter that would establish a form of government specifically tailored to meet that county's individual needs. Furthermore, county charters may contain any of the powers available to cities and towns through the *Code of Virginia*. Currently, only Chesterfield, James City and Roanoke Counties operate under charters

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT – TOWN OF APPOMATTOX

### *APPOMATTOX TOWN COUNCIL*

Located in the heart of Appomattox County, the Town of Appomattox employs a Mayor-Council Form of government, the most common form of government found in Virginia towns.<sup>18</sup> Under the Mayor-Council Form of government, the powers of government are vested in a Town Council. In the Town of Appomattox, the Town Council consists of six (6) members elected at-large by all registered voters residing within the Town boundaries. The Appomattox Town Council is responsible for developing an annual Town budget, amending the Appomattox Town Code, and developing policy to guide the activities of the Town. Council also has taxing authority and sets tax rates that are in addition to the County's rates for those citizens who live within the Town limits.

A Mayor, not considered a member of Town Council, is also elected by all voters within the Town. The Mayor's duties include presiding over Council meetings and voting only in the event of a tie. The Mayor and Council Members are each elected to two-year terms, with all seats being up for election every other May.

The Appomattox Town Council meets twice per month (*2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday*) and at other times as necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. Meetings are held in the Appomattox Town Office Building on Linden Street and are advertised and open to the public.

**Town Manager**<sup>19</sup> -- The Appomattox Town Council has chosen to employ a Town Manager who is charged with overseeing the daily operations of the Town and carrying out the policy set forth by Council. Other functions of the Town Manager include communicating with the public and media, setting Council agendas and preparing associated materials, and assisting Council as needed. The Town Manager represents Council at many local, regional, and state functions.

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<sup>17</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-200 to 15.2-208.

<sup>18</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 15.2-1400 to 15.2-1433.

<sup>19</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2- 1540 and 15.2-1541.

# GOVERNMENT

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The Town Manager directs the activities of the various departments, each of which has been created to offer a service to the public based on health, safety, and/or public welfare issues. Currently, the Town of Appomattox offers public water, public sewer, and solid waste collection through the Department of Public Works. Zoning issues within the Town are the responsibility of the Town's Zoning Administrator, but building permits and inspections are handled through the County's Department of Building and Housing. All Town departments are headquartered at the Town Office Building on Linden Street.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT – TOWN OF PAMPLIN

The Town of Pamplin is a small community bisected by the Appomattox-Prince Edward County line. The Town is governed by a seven-member Council that also includes a Mayor.<sup>20</sup> Council has direct responsibility within the Town limits, and is charged with, among other tasks, developing an annual Town budget, amending the Pamplin Town Code, and developing policy to guide the activities of the Town. Council also has taxing authority and sets tax rates that are in addition to the County's rates for those citizens who live within the Town limits. Each Council member is elected to a two-year term. Council meets once per month and at other times as necessary to carry out its assigned responsibilities.

Pamplin does not employ a Town Manager. However, a Town Clerk-Treasurer is employed and this person works closely with the Mayor to handle many of the responsibilities normally associated with a Town Manager. Zoning issues are managed by Town Council, while building permits are issued by either Appomattox County or Prince Edward County depending on the project's location within the Town.

## APPOMATTOX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

In 1992, the Virginia General Assembly gave localities the authority to popularly elect members to local school boards. Appomattox County has taken advantage of this authority and now residents elect a five-member School Board, with each member elected from one of the five election districts within the County.<sup>21</sup> The main responsibility of the School Board is to set the educational policies that govern the four County schools and other associated educational programs within the County. The School Board also develops the School Division's annual budget and employs a Superintendent to direct the daily activities of school personnel. School Board members serve four-year terms of office and are elected on a rotating basis. The School Board and Administrative Staff are headquartered in the School Administration Building across from the Appomattox County Courthouse on Court Street in the Town of Appomattox. For more information on the Appomattox County School Division, please visit

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<sup>20</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2- 1400 to 15.2-1433.

<sup>21</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 22.1-1 to 22.1-57.5.

## GOVERNMENT

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<http://www.appomattox.k12.va.us/>

### APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND POSITIONS

**Appomattox County Court System** – Two levels of courts operate within Appomattox County -- Circuit Court and District Court. District Court is in turn comprised of General District Court and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

**Circuit Court**<sup>22</sup> -- Appomattox County, along with Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward Counties, is a member of the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. According to the Supreme Court of Virginia's website, "The circuit court is the trial court with the broadest powers in Virginia. The circuit court handles all civil cases with claims of more than \$15,000. It shares authority with the general district court to hear matters involving between \$3,000 and \$15,000. The circuit court has the authority to hear serious criminal cases called felonies. The circuit court also handles family matters, including divorce. In addition, the circuit court hears cases appealed from the general district court and from the juvenile and domestic relations district court. There is a circuit court in each city and county in Virginia. Circuit court judges are elected by the General Assembly for 8-year terms."<sup>23</sup>

**General District Court**<sup>24</sup> – Appomattox County, along with Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Prince Edward Counties, is a member of the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. According to the Supreme Court of Virginia's website, "The court that most people have contact with is the general district court. The general district court handles most traffic violations. The general district court also hears minor criminal cases known as misdemeanors and conducts preliminary hearings for more serious criminal cases called felonies. General district courts have exclusive authority to hear civil cases with claims of \$3,000 or less and share authority with the circuit courts to hear cases with claims between \$3,000 and \$15,000. Examples of civil cases are landlord and tenant disputes, contract disputes and personal injury actions. There is a general district court in each city and county in Virginia. General district court judges are elected by the General Assembly for 6 year terms."<sup>25</sup>

**Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court**<sup>26</sup> – According to the Supreme Court of Virginia's website, "In Virginia, a juvenile is any person under 18 years of age. The juvenile and domestic relations district court hears all matters involving juveniles such as criminal or traffic matters. Juvenile delinquency cases are cases involving a minor under the age of 18 who has

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<sup>22</sup> See Constitution of Virginia, Article VII, Section 4.

<sup>23</sup> See <http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/circuit/Appomattox/home.html>

<sup>24</sup> See Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended), Section 16.1.

<sup>25</sup> See <http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/gd/Appomattox/home.html>

<sup>26</sup> See Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended); Section 16.1-226 to 16.1-245.1.

## GOVERNMENT

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been accused of committing an offense that would be considered criminal if committed by an adult. Other juvenile offenses may be referred to as status offenses. Status offenses are those acts that are unlawful only because they are committed by a minor. In addition, this court handles other matters involving the family such as custody, support, and visitation. The court also hears family abuse cases, cases where adults have been accused of child abuse or neglect, and criminal cases where the defendant and alleged victim are family or household members. There is a juvenile and domestic relations district court in each city and county. The judges of the juvenile and domestic relations district court are elected by the General Assembly for 6 year terms."<sup>27</sup>

**Magistrates**<sup>28</sup> – Magistrates, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court, have the authority to issue search warrants and subpoenas. Magistrates also may admit to bail or commit to jail any person charged with an offense as well as administer oaths.

**Board of Assessors and Board of Equalization**<sup>29</sup> – The *Code of Virginia* requires that localities assess the value of real property a minimum of every six years. To insure that the reassessment process is fair and equitable, the *Code of Virginia* makes provisions for two distinct appointed boards to which citizens may appeal for relief. The first, the **Board of Assessors**, is appointed to ensure that the process used to assess each property was just and that the assessment reflects fair market value. The second board, the **Board of Equalization**, is appointed to equalize the assessments of similar properties to insure that similar properties are assessed at similar amounts.

**Board of Building Code Appeals** – This body, composed of five members, hears appeals of decisions made by the Appomattox County Building Official. Appeals of the decisions made by the Board of Building Code Appeals are heard by the State Building Code Technical Review Board.<sup>30</sup> Membership of the Board of Building Code Appeals must include an experienced builder, a licensed architect or professional engineer, and an experienced property manager.<sup>31</sup>

**Board of Social Services**<sup>32</sup> – This board, whose members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors, is responsible for the administration of the various public welfare programs conducted within Appomattox County. Included in their responsibilities is the appointment of a Director of Social Services to oversee the daily operations of the Department of Social Services. This agency, located in the lower level of the School Administration Building on Court Street in the Town of Appomattox, is a locally administered, but state supervised, human service agency that divides services into two units, financial assistance and social work services.

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<sup>27</sup> See <http://www.courts.state.va.us/courts/jdr/Appomattox/home.html>

<sup>28</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 19.2-26 to 19.2-48.1.

<sup>29</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 58.1-3250 and 58.1-3370 to 58.1-3389.

<sup>30</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 36-105.

<sup>31</sup> See Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, Section 122.0 Appeals

<sup>32</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 63.1-14 to 63.1-28.1.

## GOVERNMENT

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**Board of Zoning Appeals**<sup>33</sup> – Every locality in the state that enacts a zoning ordinance is required to also establish a board of zoning appeals. Appomattox County and the Town of Appomattox have chosen to develop a Joint Board of Zoning Appeals as is permitted by the *Code of Virginia*.

The responsibilities of the Board of Zoning Appeals include the ability to hear and decide appeals of decisions made by the Zoning Administrator; the ability to grant variances to provisions of the Zoning Ordinance based on strict guidelines; and the ability to provide interpretations for zoning district boundaries where uncertainty exists. The Board of Zoning Appeals does not have the authority to rezone property or to rule upon or revoke conditional use permits, powers reserved for the Board of Supervisors. Decisions of the Board of Zoning Appeals made be appealed to Appomattox Circuit Court.

The Board of Zoning Appeals contains five members, two of whom represent the County. Of the remaining three members, two represent the Town of Appomattox while the final member, recommended by the Board of Supervisors, holds an at-large position. Each member is appointed by the Circuit Court judge upon recommendation by the governing body. Currently, in order to establish a system of staggered terms, two (2) members serve 2-year terms, two (2) serve 4-year terms, and the at-large member serves a 5-year term. After that, all successive terms will be for five (5) years.

**Commissioner of Accounts** – This position, appointed by the Judge of the Circuit Court, is responsible for auditing accounts and inventories for estates, foreclosures and trusts within Appomattox County.<sup>34</sup>

**Electoral Board and General Registrar**—Please see Conduct of Elections on Page XI-14.

**Industrial Development Authority**<sup>35</sup> -- The Industrial Development Authority of Appomattox County is the body responsible for economic development activities within the County. The powers granted to the Industrial Development Authority are extensive and include the ability to enter into contracts, the ability to acquire and dispose of real property, the ability to lease and collect rent, the ability to issue bonds, the ability to borrow money, and the ability to make loans or grants to promote economic development.

The Industrial Development Authority of Appomattox County is comprised of seven members, each of whom is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to a staggered 4-year term. This body is

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<sup>33</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2-2308 to 15.2-2316.

<sup>34</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 26-8.

<sup>35</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2-4900 to 15.2-4920.

## GOVERNMENT

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the owner of the Appomattox Center for Business and Commerce, but works with industrial prospects interested in locating anywhere within Appomattox County.

**J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library Board**<sup>36</sup> -- The governing body of the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library is an autonomous board appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Library Board's duties include setting goals and policies for the library and appointing a Library Director to carry out these goals and policies. For more information, visit the library's website at <http://65.169.41.33/Jamerson/default.asp>

**Joint Planning Commission**<sup>37</sup> -- Chapter 22 of Title 15.2 of the *Code of Virginia* provides the legal structure for planning, zoning, and subdivision activities within the Commonwealth. One of the requirements of every city, town and county in the state is the establishment of a Planning Commission to foster proper planning techniques that ensure an orderly pattern of growth and development. Appomattox County and the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin have chosen to establish a Joint Planning Commission to promote a uniform development agenda across the entire County. The duties of the Joint Planning Commission include preparation and recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan to the governing bodies for adoption as well as making recommendations to the governing bodies concerning rezoning and conditional use petitions.

The Planning Commission consists of ten members appointed in the following manner: Five (one from each district) are appointed by the Board of Supervisors, three are appointed by the Appomattox Town Council, and two are appointed by the Pamplin Town Council. Planning Commissioners serve 4-year terms unless a commissioner is also a member of the governing body, in which case the commissioner would serve until their term of office on the governing body expires.

### **ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENTAL PARTNERS**

**Appomattox County Health Department** – Located on Court Street in the Town of Appomattox, the Appomattox County Health Department is responsible for a wide variety of public activities including vaccinations, food service inspection, testing and treating for rabies, and granting permits for wells and septic systems. As required by state code, the director of the Appomattox County Health Department is a physician licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Virginia.<sup>38</sup> This person also serves as the director for the Health Departments in Amherst, Bedford, and Campbell Counties and for the City of Lynchburg through directorship of the Central Virginia Health District. For more information, please visit the Virginia Department of

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<sup>36</sup> See Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended), Section 42.1-33 to 42.1-45.

<sup>37</sup> See Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended), Section 15.2-2210 to 15.2-2222.

<sup>38</sup> See Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended), Section 32.1-30.

## GOVERNMENT

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Health's website at <http://www.vdh.state.va.us/>.

**Appomattox Court House National Historical Park** – The National Park Service has jurisdiction over approximately 1,800 acres including and surrounding the village of Appomattox Court House, the former Appomattox County seat of government and the site of the famous surrender that signaled the end of the American Civil War. Congress has given the National Park Service the responsibility of preserving (and reconstructing as necessary) this property, including buildings, to its appearance in April of 1865. For more information on the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, please visit the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/apco/>.

**Region 2000 Regional Commission**<sup>39</sup> – Comprised of the Counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell; the Cities of Bedford and Lynchburg; and the Towns of Altavista, Amherst, Appomattox, and Brookneal, this organization was created from the former Central Virginia Planning District Commission in January 2001. The Regional Commission is focused on providing economic competitiveness on a regional basis, reducing redundancy in government, improving efficiency, enhancing services, and improving implementation time for regional projects. This organization provides a forum for innovative and creative interaction in the effort to address quality of life issues on a regional basis. As one of 21 planning district commissions across the Commonwealth, the Regional Commission is a political subdivision of the state that provides a variety of technical and program services to its ten member localities, particularly in the areas of grant applications and administration and geographic information systems (GIS). For more information on the Region 2000 Regional Commission, please visit <http://www.regcomm.org/>.

**Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District**<sup>40</sup> -- Soil and Water Conservation Districts have been created by the Commonwealth to provide for the conservation of soil and water resources and to control and prevent damage from soil erosion, flood waters, and sediment deposits, all in the name of preserving the Commonwealth's natural resources. The Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District, headquartered in Appomattox, serves Amherst, Appomattox, and Campbell Counties and the City of Lynchburg. The District is governed by a Board of Directors, two of whom are elected from each member locality during the General Election in November. Members serve three-year terms. Two additional Directors are appointed, one as a "Director at-large" and the other as a representative of the Virginia Cooperative Extension. Associate Directors are also appointed by the Board of Directors for

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<sup>39</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*, Section 15.2-4200 to 15.2-4222.

<sup>40</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 10.1-500 to 10.1-505.

## GOVERNMENT

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their expertise and talents.<sup>41</sup> For more information, please visit the Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District's website at <http://www.mindspring.com/~relswcd/>.

**Virginia Cooperative Extension Office**<sup>42</sup> – Virginia Cooperative Extension is an educational outreach program of Virginia's land grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University. A local office in the County Administration Building on Morton Lane provides County residents, employers and others with research-based information in three broad areas of study -- agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H youth development.<sup>43</sup> For more information, please visit the Virginia Cooperative Extension's website at <http://www.ext.vt.edu/>.

**Virginia's Region 2000** – Virginia's Region 2000 is the public-private partnership created in the mid-1980's to market the Central Virginia area for industrial development purposes. Comprised of the Counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell; the Cities of Bedford and Lynchburg; and the Town of Altavista, Virginia's Region 2000 also maintains support programs for existing business and industrial enterprises, as well as technical and educational programs operated in conjunction with Central Virginia Community College and each local school district. Virginia's Region 2000 serves as the primary liaison between its member localities and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the public-private partnership responsible for economic development at the state level. For more information on Virginia's Region 2000, please visit <http://www.region2000.org/>.

## CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS<sup>44</sup>

One of the most important aspects of a democracy is the staging of fair and impartial elections. Oversight of the election process in Appomattox County requires the involvement of (a) the County Electoral Board, (b) the County General Registrar, and (c) the Officers of Election at each precinct.

The Electoral Board is composed of three members appointed by the Judge of the Circuit Court for three-year terms. The members serve staggered terms with one member of the board being appointed each year. Nominees for appointment are submitted by the local political parties. The party of the current Governor is entitled to two appointments and the party out of power is entitled to one appointment.

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<sup>41</sup> See Robert E. Lee SWCD website at <http://www.mindspring.com/~relswcd/>.

<sup>42</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 23-132.1 to 23-132.12.

<sup>43</sup> See Virginia Cooperative Extension Website at <http://www.ext.vt.edu/>.

<sup>44</sup> See *Code of Virginia, 1950, (as amended)*; Section 24.2

# GOVERNMENT

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It is the duty of the Electoral Board to ensure that all persons eligible to vote, as determined by the General Registrar, are provided the opportunity to vote once in each election. This objective is met by providing the location for precinct voting places, appointing and training the individual Officers of Election, supervising the conduct of each election, canvassing the votes after each election, appointing the General Registrar, and providing guidance and support for the General Registrar.

The General Registrar is appointed to a four-year term by the Electoral Board. The General Registrar is required to maintain a public office for the purpose of voter registration as well as to maintain current and official registration records of all registered voters within the county. Prior to each election the General Registrar provides to the precincts an accurate and current list of persons eligible to vote at each precinct. At the request of the Electoral Board, the General Registrar may also perform other tasks mutually agreed upon by the Electoral Board and the General Registrar, including preparing ballots, administering absentee ballots, conducting of elections, training officers of election, determining election results, and assisting with redistricting.

The primary duty of the Officers of Election is to conduct the election on Election Day, ensuring that anyone authorized to vote is afforded the privilege of voting. They are also charged with the responsibility of preventing anyone from voting more than once, or voting if not on the list of registered voters.

**Determination of Eligibility to Vote** -- Any U.S. Citizen who is a resident of both Virginia and Appomattox County, and who will be over eighteen years of age prior to the next general election, is eligible to register to vote with the two following exceptions: (1) A person convicted of a felony cannot register to vote until his or her rights have been officially restored by the Governor, and (2) a person who has been determined by a court of appropriate jurisdiction to be mentally incompetent cannot be registered to vote.

**Voting Locations** -- The County maintains nine (9) precincts for the purpose of conducting elections. These nine precincts are divided among the five election districts as follows:

**Appomattox River District**

Vera Precinct -- located near the intersection of State Routes 24 and 616

Pamplin Precinct -- located adjacent to the fire house in the Town of Pamplin

**Falling River District**

Chap Precinct -- located on the grounds of Central Baptist Church on State Route 604

Spout Spring Precinct -- located at the Spout Spring Ruritan Club on US Route 460 west of the community of Spout Spring

## GOVERNMENT

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### Wreck Island District

US 460 Precinct -- located in the Appomattox Moose Lodge off of US Route 460 near the Appomattox Town Limits  
Stonewall Precinct -- located at the county dumpster site on the south side of State Route 608

### Courthouse District

Courthouse Precinct -- located in the School Board conference room across Court Street from the 1892 Courthouse

### Piney Mountain District

Oakville Precinct -- located at the Oakville Ruritan Club on the north side of State Route 608 just east of State Route 26  
Agee Precinct -- located on the east side of State Route 616 about one mile south of State Route 615

These locations have been reviewed and approved by the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). Any changes to registration times or places or any changes in precinct attributes and/or locations must also be reviewed and approved by DOJ. Of particular interest to DOJ are any adverse impacts on minority or handicapped voters as a result of an inappropriate precinct location or inadequate facilities.

After each decennial (ten-year) Census, the voting districts must be adjusted to ensure that each district contains approximately the same number of voters. Care must be taken to ensure that the changes do not adversely affect the voting strength of any particular group of voters.

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

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### LIST OF TABLES

TABLE II-1: Historical Population Counts: Appomattox County and Adjacent Counties	Page A-2
TABLE II-2: Population Counts: Appomattox, Pamplin and Neighboring Towns	Page A-2
TABLE II-3: Age Distribution: Appomattox County	Page A-3
TABLE II-4: Gender Distribution	Page A-3
TABLE II-5: Racial Distribution: Appomattox County and Virginia	Page A-4
TABLE II-6: Household Characteristics	Page A-4
TABLE II-7: School Enrollment	Page A-5
TABLE II-8: Educational Attainment: Appomattox and Surrounding Counties and Towns	Page A-6
TABLE II-9: Household Income: Appomattox County and Surrounding Counties	Page A-7
TABLE II-10: Household income: Regional Towns	Page A-8
TABLE II-11: Poverty Statistics: Appomattox County and Adjacent Counties	Page A-9
TABLE II-12: Poverty Statistics: Appomattox, Pamplin and Neighboring Towns	Page A-10
TABLE II-13: Public Assistance and Retirement Income: Appomattox Region	Page A-11
TABLE III-1: Average Precipitation/Snowfall, Appomattox	Page A-12
TABLE III-2: Average Fahrenheit Temperatures, Appomattox	Page A-12
TABLE III-3: Soil Associations	Page A-13
TABLE III-4: Soil Associations and Limitations for Development	Page A-15
TABLE IV-1: Employment by Industry, Appomattox County and Adjacent Counties	Page A-16
TABLE V-1: Estimate of Low Quality Housing in Appomattox County and Towns	Page A-17
TABLE V-2: Age of Housing Units, Appomattox County and Towns	Page A-18
TABLE VI-1: Annual Average Daily Traffic Counts, Appomattox County Primary Highways	Page A-19
TABLE VI-2: Accident Rates for Selected Roadways, Appomattox County, 1993 and 2000	Page A-20

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-1  
HISTORICAL POPULATION COUNTS:  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY AND ADJACENT COUNTIES**

	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Appomattox Co.	8,402	9,020	8,764	9,148	9,784	11,971	12,298	13,705
Amherst Co.	19,020	20,273	20,332	22,953	26,072	29,122	28,578	31,894
Buckingham Co.	13,315	13,398	12,288	10,877	10,597	11,751	12,873	15,623
Campbell Co.	22,885	26,048	28,877	32,958	43,319	45,424	45,572	51,078
Charlotte Co.	16,061	15,861	14,057	13,368	12,366	12,266	11,688	12,472
Nelson Co.	16,345	16,241	14,042	12,752	11,702	12,204	12,778	14,445
Prince Edward Co.	14,450	14,922	15,398	14,121	14,379	16,456	17,320	19,720

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 1930-2000 decennial counts.

**TABLE II-2  
POPULATION COUNTS:  
APPOMATTOX, PAMPLIN, AND NEIGHBORING TOWNS**

	Appomattox	Pamplin	Altavista	Amherst	Brookneal	Charlotte CH	Farmville
1990	1,707	220	3,686	1,060	1,344	531	6,046
2000	1,761	199	3,433	2,331	1,246	430	6,660

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-3  
AGE DISTRIBUTION:  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY**

	Under 5 years	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65-74	75-84	85 years and over	Med. Age
Virginia	461,982	495,084	495,955	484,065	480,574	1,036,965	1,200,690	999,256	358,442	273,169	432,456	272,611	87,266	35.7
Appomattox County	842	959	974	937	644	1,660	2,152	1,898	883	731	1,128	679	218	39.1
Appomattox	136	110	114	111	102	213	270	218	78	71	150	127	61	38.7
Pamplin	17	17	17	19	7	23	36	13	7	5	19	10	9	34.5

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

**TABLE II-4  
GENDER DISTRIBUTION**

	Total population	Gender	
		Male	Female
Virginia	7,078,515	3,471,895	3,606,620
Appomattox County	13,705	6,671	7,034
Appomattox town	1,761	795	966
Pamplin	199	95	104

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-5  
RACIAL DISTRIBUTION:  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY AND VIRGINIA**

	Total Population	Total	White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	Some other race	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	Not Hispanic or Latino	
										Total	White
Virginia	6,187,358	6,187,358	4,791,739	1,162,994	15,282	156,036	3,017	58,290	160,288	6,027,070	4,701,650
Appomattox County	12,298	12,298	9,459	2,816	14	5	1	3	30	12,268	9,439

**TABLE II-6  
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS**

	In Group Quarters	Total Households	Family households (families)					
			Total	With own Children Under 18	Married-couple family:		Female head, no husband:	
					Total	With own Children Under 18	Total	With own Children Under 18
Virginia	231,398	2,699,173	1,847,796	881,893	1,426,044	645,504	320,290	186,591
Appomattox County	135	5,322	4,013	1,714	3,178	1,270	613	331
Appomattox	76	716	470	210	306	118	143	84
Pamplin	0	78	51	27	35	18	11	6

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-7  
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT**

	Total Persons 3 years & over enrolled in school	School Enrollment				
		Nursery school, preschool	Kindergarten	Elementary school (grades 1-8)	High school (grades 9-12)	College or graduate school
Virginia	1,868,101	125,701	101,127	806,445	384,028	450,800
Appomattox County	3,174	196	192	1,578	858	350
Appomattox Town	371	33	40	171	98	29
Pamplin	60	4	5	26	21	4

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-8  
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT:  
APPOMATTOX AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES AND TOWNS**

Educational Attainment										
	Total Persons Age 25 years & over	Less than 9th grade	9th to 12th grade, no diploma	High school graduate (includes GED)	Some college, no degree	Associate degree	Bachelor's degree	Graduate or professional degree	Percent high school graduate or higher	Percent bachelor's degree or higher
Virginia	4,666,574	338,184	526,426	1,212,463	951,700	262,813	835,011	539,977	81.5	29.5
Appomattox Co.	9,421	1,081	1,678	3,610	1,666	396	625	365	70.7	10.5
Amherst Co.	21,293	3,275	2,990	7,108	4,073	1,065	1,876	906	70.6	13.1
Buckingham Co.	10,893	1,861	2,194	4,143	1,344	422	619	310	62.8	8.5
Campbell Co.	35,018	3,492	5,813	11,683	6,835	2,088	3,570	1,537	73.4	14.6
Charlotte Co.	8,570	1,447	1,704	2,984	1,236	317	540	342	63.2	10.3
Nelson Co.	10,403	1,390	1,834	2,766	1,793	458	1,205	957	69.0	20.8
Prince Edward Co.	11,089	1,300	2,036	3,147	1,996	484	1,193	933	69.9	19.2
Appomattox	1,131	155	251	439	156	32	55	43	64.1	8.7
Pamplin	127	21	22	51	17	7	8	1	66.1	7.1
Altavista	2,425	337	434	648	450	76	348	132	68.2	19.8
Amherst	1,634	187	227	480	340	83	224	93	74.7	19.4
Brookneal	855	176	155	278	123	30	61	32	61.3	10.9
Charlotte CH	301	27	41	106	55	12	39	21	77.4	19.9
Dillwyn	408	132	68	135	34	9	10	20	51.0	7.4
Farmville	3,023	233	453	641	706	106	497	387	77.3	29.2

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-9  
HOUSEHOLD INCOME:  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY  
AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES**

	Household income											Median household income (in dollars)
	Total households	Less than \$10,000	\$10,000 to \$14,999	\$15,000 to \$24,999	\$25,000 to \$34,999	\$35,000 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$74,999	\$75,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 to \$149,999	\$150,000 to \$199,999	\$200,000 or more	
Virginia	69,337	11,409	5,956	10,568	293,678	11,394	11,421	4,354	2,297	611	505	\$46,677
Appomattox Co.	5,331	653	355	786	766	995	1,076	435	167	17	81	\$36,507
Amherst Co.	11,928	1,125	961	1,728	1,771	2,390	2,411	905	446	109	82	\$37,393
Buckingham Co.	5,312	730	533	968	793	952	803	300	176	37	20	\$29,882
Campbell Co.	20,653	1,987	1,408	3,151	2,999	3,964	4,335	1,631	906	162	110	\$37,280
Charlotte Co.	4,954	782	452	925	793	911	706	218	86	48	33	\$28,929
Nelson Co.	5,887	620	359	795	1,006	955	1,079	520	287	143	123	\$36,769
Prince Edward Co.	6,564	918	666	1,205	812	1,227	1,011	345	229	95	56	\$31,301

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-10  
HOUSEHOLD INCOME:  
REGIONAL TOWNS**

	Household income											Median household income (in dollars)
	Total households	Less than \$10,000	\$10,000 to \$14,999	\$15,000 to \$24,999	\$25,000 to \$34,999	\$35,000 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$74,999	\$75,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 to \$149,999	\$150,000 to \$199,999	\$200,000 or more	
Appomattox	700	154	79	124	106	112	64	39	9	5	8	\$24,167
Pamplin	74	9	6	16	14	11	8	6	0	0	4	\$28,000
Altavista	1,498	218	154	204	225	282	219	97	82	7	10	\$31,818
Amherst	912	137	100	137	102	150	151	77	32	12	14	\$33,000
Brookneal	525	83	69	103	84	74	78	19	12	2	1	\$25,938
Charlotte CH	146	11	11	33	22	20	14	9	10	7	9	\$33,000
Farmville	2,105	400	228	381	288	278	338	68	66	39	19	\$26,343

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-11  
POVERTY STATISTICS:  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY AND ADJACENT COUNTIES**

	Number below poverty level											
	Families			Families with female householder, no husband present			Individuals					
	Total	With related children under 18 years	With related children under 5 years	Total	With related children under 18 years	With related children under 5 years	Total	18 years & over	65 years & over	Related children under 18 years	Related children 5 to 17 years	Unrelated individuals 15 years & over
Virginia	129,890	98,863	45,898	71,397	63,280	28,548	656,641	447,109	71,545	202,174	142,391	235,697
Appomattox Co.	351	228	108	191	165	94	1,547	1,062	431	470	347	529
Amherst Co.	698	507	211	380	356	163	3,238	2,148	494	952	651	1,136
Buckingham Co.	600	420	176	228	206	69	2,671	1,789	382	860	629	636
Campbell Co.	1,176	814	378	541	460	198	5,329	3,612	744	1,680	1,174	1,587
Charlotte Co.	438	274	107	191	155	60	2,228	1,553	445	664	540	674
Nelson Co.	354	223	78	157	138	40	1,743	1,297	344	441	340	620
Prince Edward Co.	629	479	164	349	290	106	3,013	2,030	418	962	732	932

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-12  
POVERTY STATISTICS:  
APPOMATTOX, PAMPLIN AND NEIGHBORING TOWNS**

	Number below poverty level						Number below poverty level					
	Families			Families with female householder, no husband present			Individuals					
	Total	With related children under 18 years	With related children under 5 years	Total	With related children under 18 years	With related children under 5 years	Total	18 years & over	65 years & over	Related children under 18 years	Related children 5 to 17 years	Unrelated individuals 15 years & over
Appomattox	92	75	41	75	70	41	297	187	64	110	71	71
Pamplin	9	5	3	1	1	1	40	27	8	13	7	5
Altavista	127	74	28	78	55	18	450	340	118	110	79	136
Amherst	72	65	20	52	52	20	397	261	127	124	94	192
Brookneal	50	38	20	29	29	14	235	149	24	82	57	67
Charlotte Court House	8	8	6	5	5	3	51	28	3	23	19	13
Farmville	214	140	47	166	129	36	952	712	101	234	168	397

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE II-13  
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND RETIREMENT INCOME:  
APPOMATTOX REGION**

	Total households	With public assistance income	Mean public assistance income (in dollars)	With retirement income	Mean retirement income (in dollars)
Virginia	2,699,173	66,492	\$2,242	507,879	\$20,920
Appomattox Co.	5,331	168	\$2,198	964	\$13,120
Amherst Co.	11,928	332	\$2,159	2,255	\$13,716
Buckingham Co.	5,312	248	\$1,090	988	\$12,921
Campbell Co.	20,653	536	\$1,482	3,437	\$15,581
Charlotte Co.	4,954	153	\$1,389	830	\$16,742
Nelson Co.	5,887	134	\$1,540	1,334	\$23,740
Prince Edward Co.	6,564	245	\$1,071	1,172	\$17,501
Appomattox	700	41	\$1,784	124	\$7,907
Pamplin City	74	4	\$825	16	\$24,238
Altavista	1,498	55	\$676	306	\$14,209
Amherst	912	58	\$1,655	165	\$12,188
Brookneal	525	31	\$1,928	83	\$6,671
Charlotte CH	146	0	\$0	35	\$21,132
Farmville	2,105	108	\$1,312	419	\$22,656

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

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**TABLE III-1  
AVERAGE PRECIPITATION/SNOWFALL  
(Water equivalent in inches)  
APPOMATTOX, VA  
1961 - 1990**

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
2.80/ 6.5	3.05/ 5.5	3.82/ 2.7	3.35/ 0.1	4.21/ 0.0	3.25/ 0.0	4.30/ 0.0	4.17/ 0.0	3.45/ 0.0	3.77/ 0.0	3.38/ 0.6	3.10/ 2.2	42.64/ 17.7

SOURCE: Virginia State Climatology Office, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia.

**TABLE III-2  
AVERAGE FAHRENHEIT TEMPERATURES  
APPOMATTOX, VA  
1961 - 1990**

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL
33.6	35.8	45.4	54.8	63.6	71.2	75.3	74.1	67.4	55.6	47.3	37.4	55.1

SOURCE: Virginia State Climatology Office, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia.

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE III-3 -- SOIL ASSOCIATIONS**

<b>Cecil-Appling Association</b>	Minor inclusions of Cullen, Madison, and Poindexter. Deep well-drained soils with moderately permeable red to yellowish red clay subsoil. Gently sloping to moderately steep slopes.
<b>Tatum-Georgeville-Manteo Association</b>	Minor inclusions of Cecil, Herndon, and Cullen. Tatum and Georgeville are deep well-drained soils with moderately permeable red clay subsoils. Manteo is shallow and excessively drained. Gently sloping to moderately steep.
<b>Georgeville-Tatum-Nason-Manteo Association</b>	Minor inclusions of Herndon and Cullen. Deep to moderately deep well-drained soils with moderately permeable red to yellowish-red subsoils. Manteo is shallow and excessively drained. Gently sloping to moderately steep.
<b>Cullen-Poindexter Association</b>	Minor inclusions of Georgeville, Herndon, and Cecil. Cullen soils are deep, well-drained, have dark brown loam surface layers, and moderately permeable reddish brown sub-soils. Poindexter is shallow and excessively drained. Gently sloping to moderately steep.
<b>Iredell-Mecklenburg-Poindexter Association</b>	Minor inclusions of Enon and Cullen. Iredell and Mecklenburg are moderately deep soils with slowly permeable plastic to very plastic to subsoils, mostly on gentle slopes. Poindexter soils are shallow and excessively drained. Gently sloping to moderately steep slopes.
<b>Poindexter-Helena-Vance Association</b>	Minor inclusions of Cullen, Iredell, and Enon. Helena and Vance are deep to moderately deep soils with fine sandy loam surface layers and slowly permeable yellowish-brown plastic to very plastic clay subsoils, mostly on gentle slopes. Poindexter is shallow and excessively drained on strongly sloping to moderately steep slopes.
<b>Cullen-Mecklenburg-Poindexter Association</b>	Minor inclusions of Georgeville, Herndon, and Enon. Cullen soils are deep, well- drained with dark brown loam surface layers and moderately permeable reddish brown clay subsoils on gently sloping to strongly sloping relief. Mecklenburg soils are moderately deep to deep with loam surface layers and slowly permeable yellowish-red plastic clay subsoils mostly on gentle slopes. Poindexter soils are shallow and excessively drained on strongly sloping to moderate to moderately steep slopes.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service.

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE III-4 -- SOIL ASSOCIATIONS AND LIMITATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT**

SOIL ASSOCIATION	% OF SOIL ASSO.	% OF ASSO. IN COUNTY	SEPTIC TANKS	SEWAGE LAGOONS	BLDG. FOUND.	STS. & PARKING	LAND FILLS	LAWNS & LANDSCAPE	BASEMENTS	ATHLETIC FIELDS	PICNIC AREAS	CAMPS & TENTS
1. Cecil	60	12	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	1
Appling	30		2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	1
Other Soils (2)	10											
2. Tatum	40	17	3	2	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1
Georgeville	25		2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	1
Manteo	20		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Other Soils (2)	15											
3. Georgeville	40	55	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	1
Tatum	30		3	2	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1
Nason	15		3	2	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1
Manteo	10		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Other Soils (2)	5											
4. Cullen	60	7	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE III-4 -- SOIL ASSOCIATIONS AND LIMITATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)**

SOIL ASSOCIATION	% OF SOIL ASSO.	% OF ASSO. IN COUNTY	SEPTIC TANKS	SEWAGE LAGOONS	BLDG. FOUND.	STS. & PARKING	LAND FILLS	LAWNS & LANDSCAPE	BASEMENTS	ATHLETIC FIELDS	PICNIC AREAS	CAMPS & TENTS
Poindexter	30		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Other Soils (2)	10											
5. Iredell	35	7	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	1	2
Mecklenburg	25		3	2	3	3	3	1	3	2	1	2
Poindexter	20		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Other Soils (2)	20											
6. Poindexter	30	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Helena	30		3	2	3	3	3	1	3	2	2	2
Vance	30		3	2	3	3	3	1	3	2	1	2
Other Soils (2)	10											
7. Cullen	35	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1
Mecklenburg	30		3	2	3	3	3	1	3	2	1	2
Poindexter	25		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Other Soils (2)	10											

RATING LEVELS: (1) = SLIGHT LIMITATIONS, (2) = MODERATE LIMITATIONS, (3) = SEVERE LIMITATIONS  
 Ratings are for slopes of 2 to 7 percent for all soils except Manteo and Poindexter. These are rated for slopes of 15 to 25 percent.  
 All ratings are merely guides and detailed soil surveys of specific sites should be consulted. Other soils are not rated because of wide variations in characteristics.

SOURCE: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service.

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE IV-1  
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY  
AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES**

	APPOMATTOX		Amherst		Buckingham		Campbell		Charlotte		Nelson		Prince Edward	
	Bus.	Employs	Bus.	Employs	Bus.	Employs	Bus.	Employs	Bus.	Employs	Bus.	Employs	Bus.	Employs
Ag/Forest/Fish	8	43	9	34	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	11	78	>25	>298	7	43
Mining	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	7	168	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)
Construction	46	416	106	725	44	174	212	1943	30	135	75	304	48	352
Manufacturing	28	1020	56	1935	36	310	80	6550	41	1361	31	256	19	689
Transportation/ Communication/ Public Utilities	13	118	>31	>295	28	116	60	837	25	263	20	200	22	160
Finance/Insurance/ Real Estate	16	103	48	136	17	62	>89	>358	>15	>66	>24	>70	51	214
Wholesale Trade	13	81	23	349	10	72	60	728	13	80	14	44	24	210
Retail Trade	65	683	129	1701	41	333	215	2328	45	288	>57	>350	135	2657
Services	68	371	156	1380	66	580	253	2465	59	389	110	1517	171	2526
Public Admin	30	856	36	2832	22	1084	42	2555	26	805	22	615	36	1710
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>3691</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>9092</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>2899</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>17406</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>3399</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>2936</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>8561</b>

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE V-1  
ESTIMATE OF LOW QUALITY HOUSING IN APPOMATTOX COUNTY  
AND THE TOWNS OF APPOMATTOX AND PAMPLIN**

	APPOMATTOX COUNTY		TOWN OF APPOMATTOX	TOWN OF PAMPLIN
	1990	2000	2000	2000
Total Occupied Housing Units	4,913	5,322	702	82
(a) Overcrowded Units	147	73	12	8
(b) Value below \$20,000/\$50,000 or rent below \$100/\$200*	182	462 (value) 49 (rent)	75 (value) 49 (rent)	22 (value) 0 (rent)
© Units built before 1939	590	612	151	35
(d) Inadequate Plumbing	156	45	0	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>69</b>
Estimate of Low Quality	270	310	72	17
Percent	5.5%	5.8%	10.3%	20.7%

\* \$20,000 and \$100 in 1990, \$50,000 and \$200 in 2000

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 1990 2000.

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

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**TABLE V-2  
AGE OF HOUSING UNITS:  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY  
AND THE TOWNS OF  
APPOMATTOX AND PAMPLIN**

	Year of Construction								Total
	Before 1939	1940- 1959	1960- 1969	1970- 1979	1980- 1989	1990- 1994	1995- 1998	1999- March 2000	
Appomattox County	612	970	817	1285	913	458	596	177	5,828
Town of Appomattox	151	220	119	125	78	40	41	4	778
Town of Pamplin	35	26	5	11	8	4	0	0	89

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

**TABLE VI-1  
ANNUAL AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC COUNTS\*  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY PRIMARY HIGHWAYS\*\*  
1992 AND 2001**

Route	From	To	Segment Length (mi)	1992 AADT	2001*** AADT
24 and 460	Campbell CL	Route 689	3.28	13,000	15,000
24 and 460	Route 689	Corp. Limits Appomattox	3.8	15,000	21,000
24	Route 460	Route 616	5.23	3,700	3,800
24	Route 616	Buckingham CL	4.92	2,200	2,700
26	Route 460	Route 608	5	3,200	2,600
26	Route 608	Route 60 Bent Creek	7.8	2,100	1,800
Bus 460 and 131	Route 131 Appomattox	Route 131 Appomattox	0.07	19,000	***11,000
460	E Corp. Limits Appomattox	Route 707 E of Appomattox	0.27	15,000	8,100
460	Route 707 E of Appomattox	Route 630 Evergreen	2.88	8,700	11,000
460	Route 630 Evergreen	Route 601	5.28	7,900	8,400
460	Route 601	Prince Edward County Line	0.99	5,300	7,600
47	Prince Edward County Line	Corp. Limits Pamplin	0.57	****	1,800
727	Charlotte County Line	Route 644 South	3.75	****	2,200
727	Route 644 Route	Route 644 Mid	2.51	****	1,700
727	Route 644 Mid	Route 604	2.09	****	2,000
727	Route 604	Route 1002 South	1.9	****	3,200
727	Route 1002 South	S Corp. Limits Appomattox	0.01	****	3,600

\* Annual Average Daily Traffic Count is the total annual traffic estimate divided by the number of days in a year.

\*\*Virginia Route 727 is classified as a secondary highway by the VDOT, but traffic counts for this roadway are included due to its importance as a main entranceway into the County.

\*\* Segments measured in 2001 may vary somewhat in length from those measured in previous years due to changes in both roadway patterns and reporting methods. This may prohibit direct comparisons of a given segment from year to year, but will still provide a sense of the changes in traffic usage.

\*\*\* Not reported in 1996 Joint Appomattox Comprehensive Plan.

Source: Virginia Dept. of Transportation

## APPENDIX A -- TABLES

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**TABLE VI-2  
ACCIDENT RATES FOR SELECTED ROADWAYS  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY  
1993 AND 2000**

Route Number	Total Crashes		Injury Crashes		Property Damage		Fatal Crashes	
	1993	2000	1993	2000	1993	2000	1993	2000
All Routes	204	200	101	85	99	114	4	1
460	57	53	22	27	35	26	0	0
24	13	13	3	3	5	10	1	0
26	22	17	12	2	9	14	1	1
727	7	11	4	2	2	9	1	0
608	12	11	6	7	6	4	0	0
691	8	6	3	1	4	5	1	0
613	4	2	3	2	1	0	0	0
611	4	6	2	2	2	4	0	0
604	6	3	5	2	1	1	0	0

# Appendix B

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## FINAL REPORT

# APPOMATTOX COUNTY ROUTE 460 CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT STUDY

From Town of Appomattox to Campbell County

---

June 15, 2007

Developed By  
**URS Corporation**

Developed For  
**Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council  
Lynchburg, Virginia**

In cooperation with  
**Appomattox County, Virginia,  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
and  
The Federal Highway Administration**

*Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and the Virginia Department of Transportation. The contents of this report reflect the views of the author(s) who is responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Federal Highway Administration, of the Virginia Department of Transportation or of Virginia's Region Local Government Council. This report does not constitute a standard, specification, or regulation. FHWA or VDOT acceptance of this report as evidence of fulfillment of the objectives of this planning study does not constitute endorsement/approval of the need for any recommended improvements nor does it constitute approval of their location and design or a commitment to fund any such improvements. Additional project level environmental impact assessments and/or studies of alternatives may be necessary."*

# APPOMATTOX COUNTY ROUTE 460 CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT STUDY

## Table of Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
Executive Summary.....	ES-1
I. INTRODUCTION.....	1
II. EXISTING CORRIDOR CONDITIONS.....	3
A. Traffic Volumes.....	3
B. Capacity Analysis .....	5
C. Corridor Safety .....	10
D. Land Use.....	12
E. Public Involvement.....	12
F. Summary.....	12
III. FORECASTED CORRIDOR CONDITIONS.....	14
A. Land Use.....	14
B. Population .....	14
C. Traffic Volumes.....	17
D. No Build Alternative .....	18
E. Summary.....	19
IV. IMPROVEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....	21
A. Alternative 1: TSM .....	21
B. Alternative 2: Access Management.....	31
C. Implementing Corridor Access Management .....	33
D. Public Comment .....	39
V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	41
A. Existing Conditions.....	41
B. Forecasted Year 2030 Conditions .....	41
C. Recommended Improvements - Roadway .....	42
D. Recommended Improvements – Land Use.....	42

# APPOMATTOX COUNTY ROUTE 460 CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT STUDY

## List of Tables

<u>Table No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Summary of Roadway Traffic Counts .....	3
2	Levels of Service .....	5
3	Inventory of Driveways & Median Crossovers.....	7
4	Multi-Lane Highway Capacity Analysis .....	7
5	Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis .....	9
6	Comparison of Crash, Injury and Fatality Rates.....	10
7	1990 -2000 U.S. Census of Population.....	14
8	2001-2006 Population Estimates.....	15
9	2010-2030 Population Forecasts .....	15
10	U.S. Census Tracts & Block Groups Data: 1990 & 2000.....	16
11	U.S. Census Journey to Work: 1990 & 2000.....	17
12	Daily Traffic Volumes 1980-2006: U.S. Route 460 .....	17
13	Highway Capacity Analysis: Year 2030 No Build Alternative.....	18
14	Intersection Capacity Analysis: Year 2030 No Build Alternative .....	19
15	Intersection Capacity Analysis: TSM Alternative .....	23

## List of Figures

<u>Figure Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
1	Corridor Location .....	2
2	Existing Peak Hour Volumes .....	4
3	Conceptual Examples of Levels of Service .....	6
4	Service Levels and 24-hour Volumes .....	8
5	Crash Locations and Types .....	11
6	Existing Land Zoned for Commercial Use .....	13
7	Forecasted County Population Growth .....	15
8	Forecasted Peak Hour Traffic Volumes .....	20
9	Recommended Improvements & Forecasted Service Levels.....	22
10	Improvement Concept: Route 613 (Police Tower).....	24
11	Improvement Concept: Route 703 (Snapps Mill).....	25
12	Improvement Concept: Route 647 (Little Dogwood) .....	26
13	Improvement Concept: Route 647 (Spouts Spring).....	27
14	Improvement Concept: Route 689 .....	28
15	Improvement Concept: Route 667 (Hummingbird Lane).....	29
16	Improvement Concept: Route 609 (Stage Road) .....	30
17	Before and After Crash Rates: Access Management .....	32
18	Relationship of Increased Speed and Market Area .....	33
19	U.S Route 460 Corridor Overlay District .....	37
20	Minimum Dimensions For Right Turn Lane.....	38
21	Access Management Concepts at Retail Centers .....	40

## Executive Summary

At the request of Appomattox County and with the support of the Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council engaged URS Corporation to conduct the Appomattox County Route 460 Corridor Management Study. Between Campbell County to the west and the Town of Appomattox to the east, the study area of U.S. Route 460 includes a segment with a length of approximately 7.2 miles.

The purpose of the study is to identify and define existing and forecasted deficiencies and to develop recommendations both for roadway improvements and for managing land use development activities along the corridor to maximize traffic flow, safety, and long-term economic viability.

### *Existing Conditions*

To conduct the analysis of existing conditions, traffic volume counts were compiled at major intersections and along the mainline of U.S. Route 460. Crash records were also compiled and analyzed. The results of an analysis indicates that the four-lane U.S. Route 460 facility is providing adequate service within the study area limits. All intersection movements and roadway segments exhibit adequate service levels. The crash rates do not indicate the existence of disproportionate hazardous conditions when compared with similar facilities, and that commercially zoned parcels are distributed along the entire length of the corridor.

### *Forecasted Year 2030 Conditions*

Forecasts of future traffic volumes were developed by evaluating three factors:

1. **Population Growth:** Examining data from the U.S. Census for 1990 and 2000 and from The Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia for population estimates and forecasts, a growth rate of population for Appomattox County was developed. When compared with population growth as documented in the U.S. Census with forecasts through the year 2030, the annual rate of population growth is expected to decline to 0.8% from 1%.
2. **Travel Patterns:** The *Journey to Work* data provided by the U.S. Census indicates that more residents of Appomattox County travel to employment opportunities located in the City of Lynchburg. The U.S. Route 460 corridor is the major access routes for such commutes.
3. **Traffic Volumes:** Using VDOT data collected since 1990, the daily volume of vehicles on U.S. Route 460 has increased by an annual rate of 0.3%.

Considering the combined patterns of population, employment and traffic volume growth, the study forecasts an 8% increase over current traffic volumes on U.S. Route 460 through the year 2030. The analysis of forecast year 2030 conditions

indicates that the four-lane facility will continue to provide adequate service within the study area limits. Neither capacity nor crash rates are expected to begin to exhibit deficient conditions. However, the pattern of land use development may cause a diminution of capacity and safety by increasing the frequency of vehicle conflicts points.

### *Recommended Improvements*

To ensure continued safe operation on the U.S. Route 460 corridor as volumes increase, the recommended improvements include both turn lanes at intersections and corridor land use policies that are designed to manage the addition of driveways, intersections and median crossovers.

At each major intersection, a full set of turn lanes is recommended. These include left and right turn lanes off the mainline of U.S. Route 460 and combination left & through lanes with a separate right turn lane on all of the minor street approaches to U.S. Route 460. The intersections included in this recommendation are:

- State Route 613 (Police Tower Road)
- State Route 703 (Snapps Mill Road)
- State Route 647 (Little Dogwood Road)
- State Route 647 (Spout Springs Road)
- State Route 667 (Hummingbird Lane)
- State Route 689 (Spout Springs Road)
- State Route 609 (Stage Road)

The recommendations for land use management of development along the corridor include the establishment of an access management program through the adoption of a Commercial Corridor Overlay District. Implementation of this program includes the following steps:

1. **Comprehensive Plan:** Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to include tasks that provide for access management and coordination of retail commercial development. The location of the Commercial Corridor Overlay District should also be identified.
2. **Zoning Ordinance:** Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to establish and map the Commercial Corridor Overlay District. The overlay district should include limiting the range of permitted uses along the corridor and increasing the minimum permitted lot size and lot dimensions (particularly lot width) along the corridor. The overlay district should establish that any application for more than one access point will require a traffic impact analysis.
3. **Subdivision and Site Plan Ordinance:** The existing subdivision ordinance is adequate for accommodating access management along the corridor.

## I. INTRODUCTION

U.S. Route 460 (Richmond Highway) is a four-lane primary highway connecting the City of Lynchburg and points west with the City of Petersburg and points east (See Figure 1: Corridor Location). Along its path, U.S. Route 460 moves through the Town of Appomattox (with both a business route through Town and a limited access by-pass), and from the Town's western limits the roadway extends to and beyond the Campbell County line. Between Campbell County and the Town of Appomattox is a segment of Route 460 that is approximately 7.2 miles in length. This report documents a study of this segment.

At the request of Appomattox County and with the support of the Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council engaged URS Corporation to conduct the Appomattox County Route 460 Corridor Management Study. By evaluating existing and forecasted land use and transportation conditions, the study identifies deficiencies and provides short-, mid-, and long-term recommendations for physical improvements. The study also develops recommendations for managing land use development activities along the corridor to maximize traffic flow, safety, and long-term economic viability.

As a connection between Appomattox and Lynchburg U.S. Route 460 has two principle functions: serving growing traffic volumes and providing access to adjacent land uses. The changing environment of growth and development is most evident at the segments immediately adjacent to the County limits with the Town of Appomattox to the east and Campbell County to the west. As growth and development continue, their combined effects will place escalating demands on the existing four-lane facility. Determining the optimum method for meeting those demands is the purpose of this study.

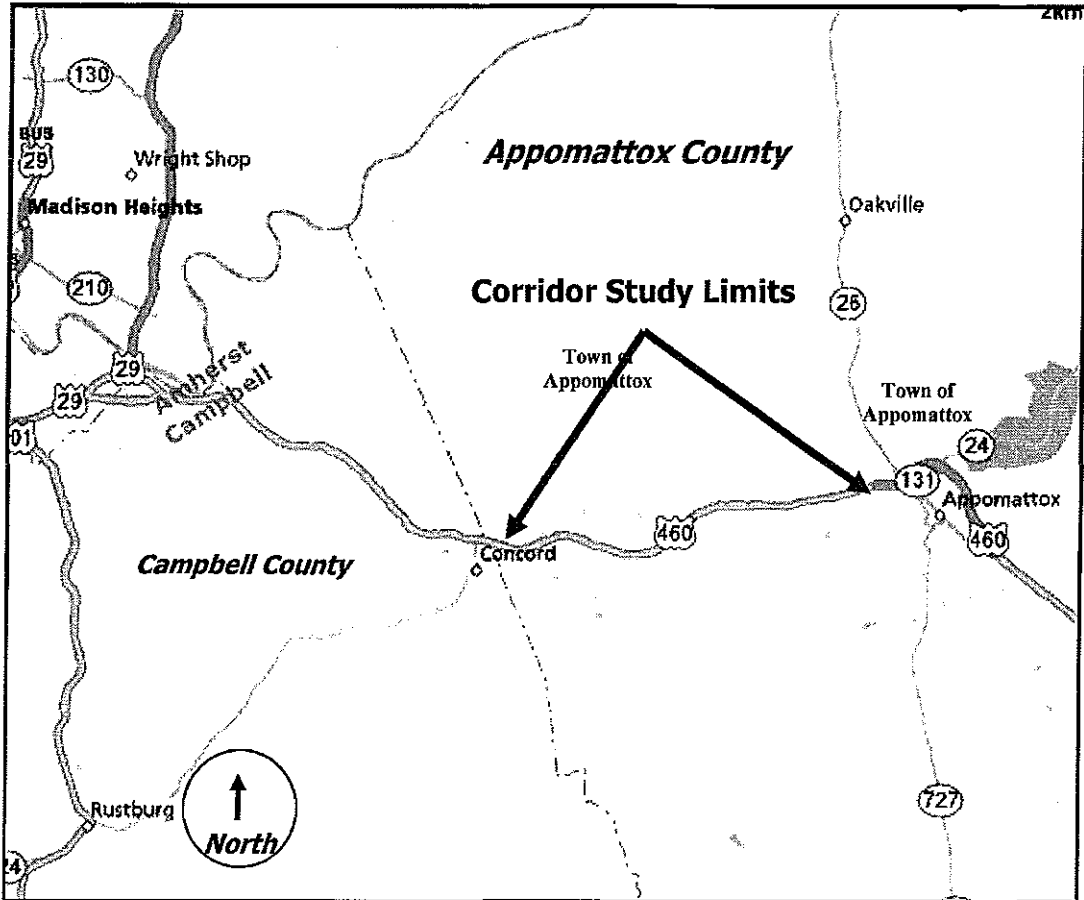
In focusing on the segment between the Town of Appomattox and Campbell County in western Appomattox County, the U.S. Route 460 Corridor Management Study includes areas that are either currently zoned for commercial development or identified for such development in the County's *Comprehensive Plan*.

In the past, development was accommodated with little regard for its impacts to roadway capacity, but limitations on current and forecasted revenue resources and other competing transportation priorities will most likely preclude the availability of adequate funding for widening major roadways such as U.S. Route 460. Consequently, this study places emphasis on defining those actions which can preserve and enhance capacity on the existing four-lane facility.

Following this introduction, Section 2 documents existing volumes, capacity, crashes and land use. Next, forecasts of future conditions are developed in Section 3, which discusses land use and transportation growth dynamics along the corridor leading to forecasts of daily and peak hour volumes in the year 2030. To evaluate year 2030 conditions without improvements along the corridor, this section also evaluates the No Build Alternative. Section 4 follows by developing and evaluating sets of improvements to address deficiencies documented in

Section 3. Each alternative focuses on either a type of improvement or a particular area of the corridor, and each alternative is evaluated in terms of its ability to address the forecasted deficiencies.

The final section of this report presents a summary of the findings, conclusions and recommendations.



**Figure 1: Corridor Location**

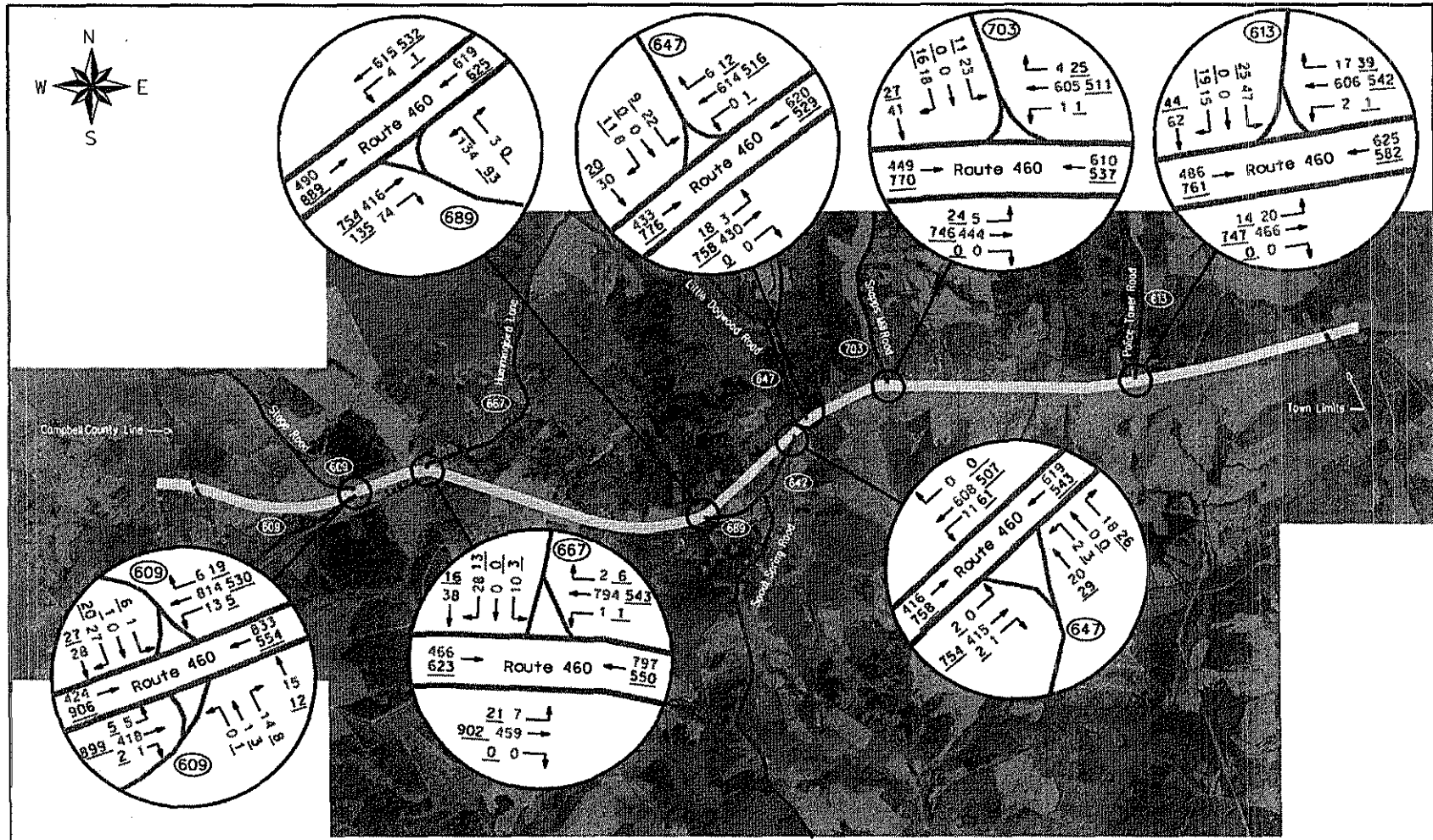
## II. EXISTING CORRIDOR CONDITIONS

### II.A. TRAFFIC VOLUMES

To determine existing conditions along the U.S. Route 460 corridor between the Campbell County Line and the Appomattox Town Limits, traffic counts were conducted at 7 intersections during the mid-week (Tuesday-Thursday) from 7-9 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. The intersection turning movement counts are summarized in Figure 2: Existing Peak Hour Volumes. In addition, daily traffic volumes including one vehicle classification count were collected. Both daily two-way and directional peak hour volumes are summarized in Table 1. Since all traffic data was collected during the winter when traffic volumes are relatively low, a seasonal adjustment factor was applied to the counted volumes to increase them to annual average daily traffic volumes.

**TABLE 1**  
**Summary of Roadway Traffic Counts**  
**Route 460: Campbell County Line-Appomattox Town Limits**  
**December 2006**

ROUTE 460		DAILY VOLUME	PEAK HOUR	
FROM	TO		AM	PM
Campbell County	Route 609	18,119	1,265	1,457
Route 609	Route 667	18,119	1,299	1,477
Route 667	Route 647 W	14,523	1,213	1,308
Route 647 W	Route 647 E	14,769	1,052	1,319
Route 647 E	Route 703	14,769	1,069	1,299
Route 703	Route 613	17,507	1,096	1,298
Route 613	Town Limits	17,507	1,138	1,354



**Figure 2**

**Route 460 Corridor Management Study**  
 Appomattox County, Virginia Existing Conditions AM and PM Peak Hour

← AM Peak Hour Volume  
 ← PM Peak Hour Volume



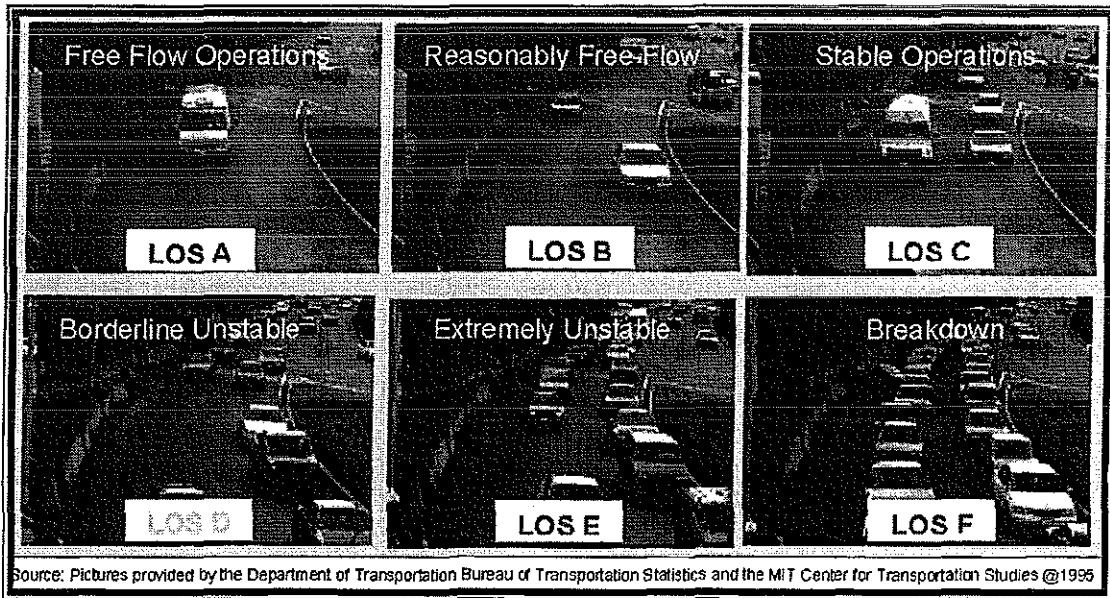
Dated 12/11/04

## II.B. CAPACITY ANALYSIS

To evaluate the ability of a roadway or intersection to accommodate traffic, capacity analysis is conducted using a.m. and p.m. peak hour volumes. The procedures of the analysis have been developed in the *2000 Highway Capacity Manual (HCM)*, and the calculations were performed using the HCM software package. On roadways, capacity is graded by level of service. With A as the highest and F as the lowest, service levels decline as traffic volumes and vehicle delays increase. VDOT defines levels of C or better as indicating adequate service. A general description of service levels is presented in Table 2. A pictorial representation of the service levels is shown in Figure 3: Conceptual Examples of Levels of Service.

**TABLE 2  
LEVELS OF SERVICE**

LOS A	Free-flow conditions	Vehicles can maneuver within the traffic stream and easily maintain the posted speed limit.
LOS B	Stable flow conditions	A spatial separation of vehicles allows easy maneuverability and drivers can maintain the posted speed.
LOS C	Stable flow conditions	Maneuverability and speeds are more restricted with higher traffic volumes.
LOS D	Approaches unstable flow conditions	Temporary restrictions to the traffic flow may cause substantial drops in operating speed and drivers have little freedom to maneuver.
LOS E	Represents the capacity of the facility	The traffic flow is unstable, vehicles are unable to pass, and there may be momentary stoppages in the traffic flow.
LOS F	Forced flow conditions	Traffic has low operating speeds and volumes exceeding capacity. This is often described as "stop and go" conditions.



**Figure 3: Conceptual Examples of Levels of Service**

It should be noted that service levels for intersections and for roadways are determined using different characteristics. For intersections service levels are based on the average vehicle delay (measured in seconds) experienced by motorists executing a maneuver through the intersection. On a multi-lane highway like U.S. Route 460 service levels are determined by the density of traffic flow (measured in vehicles per lane per hour). Since different metrics are used, it is possible for an intersection to exhibit a different service level from the roadway on which it is located.

One of the characteristics used to determine the level of service along a highway is the frequency of intersecting driveways. The number of driveways on U.S. Route 460 in the eastbound and westbound direction was inventoried by URS, and the results are summarized in Table 3. The results show a greater number of driveways accessing the westbound lanes – a result of the proximity of railroad tracks located along the south side of the corridor. From the eastern limits of the study area to the intersection with Route 609 (Stage Road) the rail road right of way is either immediately adjacent to or near the highway right of way. Where the rail road and highway rights of way do not abut, parcels of land with relatively shallow depths have been subdivided between the two facilities.

To evaluate the capacity of the existing 4-lane section of U.S. Route 460, the multi-lane Highway module of the *Highway Capacity Manual* software package was used. The results, summarized in Table 4, show that all segments are functioning at excellent to very good service levels. The only segment exhibiting a service level worse than A is at the Campbell County limits where relatively heavy commuter volumes exhibit a service level of B in the a.m. peak hour.

**TABLE 3**

**Inventory of Driveways and Median Crossovers  
Route 460: Campbell County Line - Appomattox Town Limits  
December 2006**

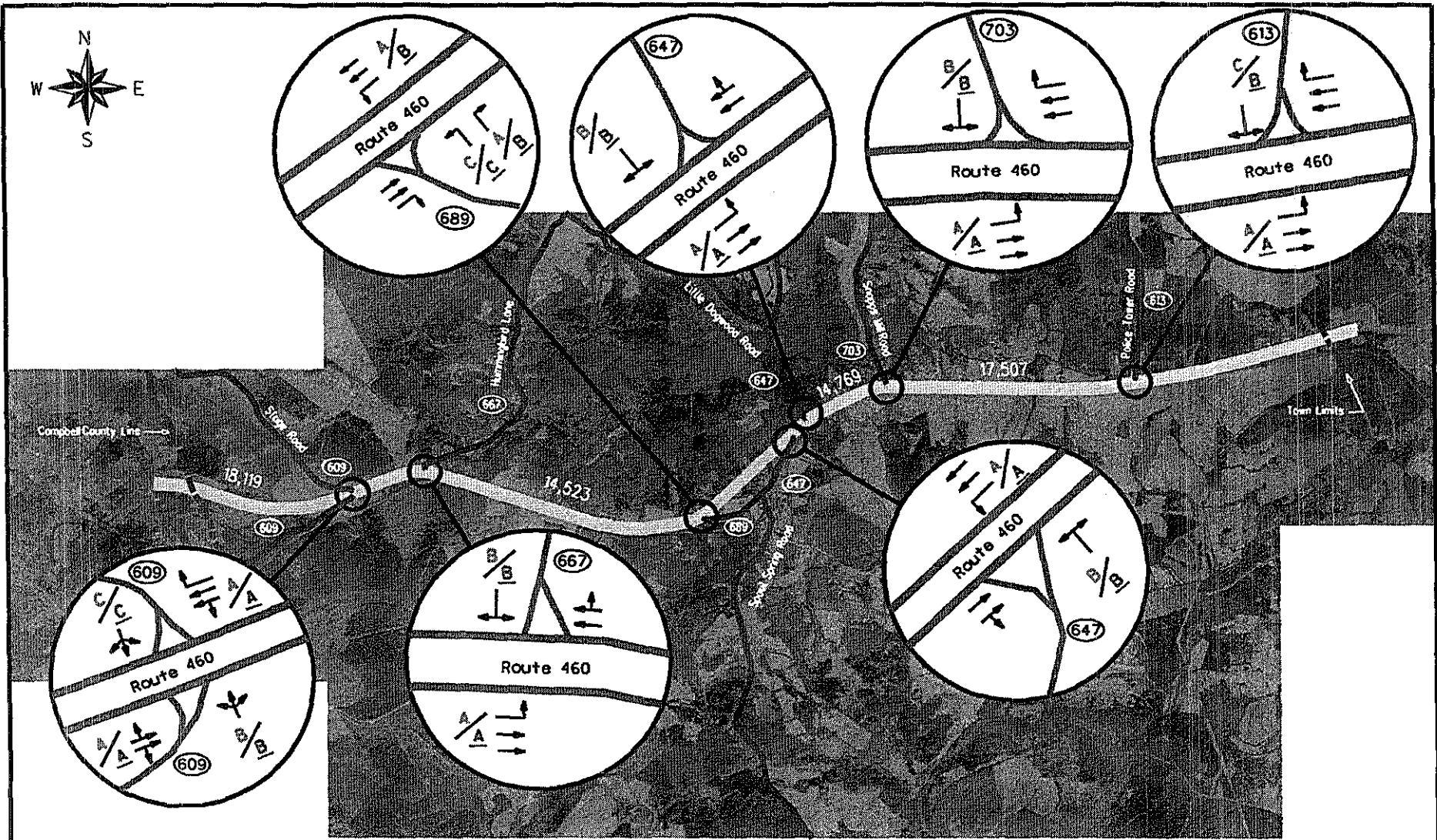
Location	Eastbound	Westbound	Crossovers
0-1 Miles West of Town Limits	9	22	6
1-2 Miles West of Town Limits	5	11	5
2-3 Miles West of Town Limits	5	16	5
3-4 Miles West of Town Limits	6	12	6
4-5 Miles West of Town Limits	5	12	5
5-6 Miles West of Town Limits	4	8	4
6-7 Miles West of Town Limits	3	3	3

**TABLE 4**

**Multilane Highway Capacity Analysis  
Appomattox County U.S. Route 460 – 2006 Peak Hour Volumes**

Segment	AM PEAK HOUR		PM PEAK HOUR	
	Density	LOS	Density	LOS
West of Appomattox Town Limits	325	A	385	A
East of Route 647 (Little Dogwood Road)	372	A	392	A
East of Route 609 (Stage Road)	305	A	418	A
East of Campbell County Line	706	B	398	A

The capacity analysis procedure used to determine service levels is the unsignalized intersection module of the *Highway Capacity Manual* software package. The methodology computes a service level for each movement in conflict with the through movements on the major street – U.S. Route 460. The procedure does not compute a service level for the overall intersection or for the mainline arterial roadway. The results of the analysis are shown in Table 5, and both service levels and intersection geometry are shown in Figure 4.



**Figure 4** **Route 460 Corridor Management Study**  
**Appomattox County, Virginia** Existing Conditions AM and PM Peak Hour

Annual Average Daily Volume 17,507  
 Intersection Geometry   
 Level of Service AM/PM



**TABLE 5**

**Unsignalized Intersection Capacity Analysis  
Appomattox County U.S. Route 460 – 2006 Peak Hour Volumes**

APPROACH (Movement)	AM PEAK HOUR		PM PEAK HOUR	
	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS
<b><u>Route 613 (Police Tower Road)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	9.4	A	9.4	A
SB Route 613 (Left/Right)	17.5	C	14.7	B
<b><u>Route 703 (Snapps Mill Road)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	9.3	A	9.1	A
SB Route 703 (Left/Right)	13.7	B	12.5	B
<b><u>Route 647 (Little Dogwood Road)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	9.3	A	9.1	A
SB Route 647 (Left/Right)	14.5	B	12.7	B
<b><u>Route 647 (Spout Springs Road)</u></b>				
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.5	A	9.7	A
NB Route 647 (Left/Right)	10.4	B	12.1	B
<b><u>Route 689 (Spout Springs Rd West)</u></b>				
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.6	A	10.2	B
NB Route 689 (Left)	18.5	C	24.2	C
NB Route 689 (Right)	9.8	A	11.2	B
<b><u>Route 667 (Hummingbird Lane)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	10.2	B	8.8	A
SB Route 667 (Left/Right)	14.8	B	14.0	B
<b><u>Route 609 (Stage Road)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	10.3	B	8.8	A
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.4	B	10.2	B
NB Route 609 (Left/Through/Right)	10.4	B	14.5	B
SB Route 609 (Left/Through/Right)	12.9	B	12.6	B

The results in Table 5 show that with the exception of the southbound Route 613 approach, all movements exhibit service levels of A or B. The service level of C exhibited at the southbound Route 613 approach is a product of relatively heavy volumes on U.S. Route 460 and not due to heavy volumes on the minor street.

## II.C. CORRIDOR SAFETY

Crash records for the three-year period ending in December 2005 were collected and analyzed. The location, number and most frequently cited type of collision are presented in Figure 5. Of the 91 recorded accidents, 53 occurred at intersections and the remaining 38 occurred along roadway segments. Most of the accidents at intersections involved angle collisions - a typical pattern for locations where vehicles are pulling into a traffic stream. Of the 38 accidents along roadway segments, 16 involved vehicles hitting fixed objects off the roadway and another 16 involved collisions with deer: the former generally indicates driver inattention while the latter occurs most frequently in the autumn months. The frequency of crashes was fairly evenly distributed along the corridor segments, while injury accidents have occurred more frequently along the two western-most segments.

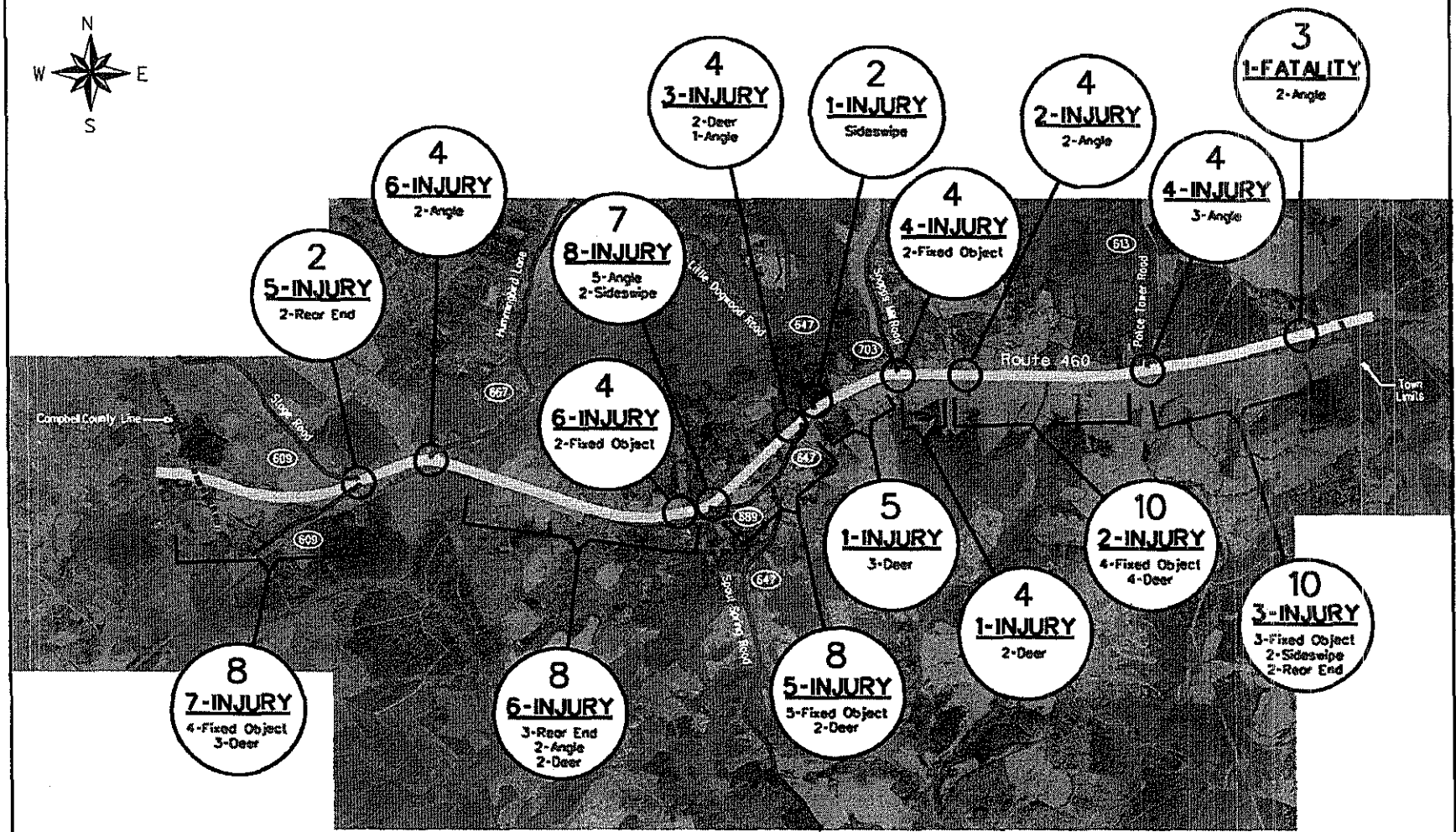
The distribution of crashes occurring at intersections exhibited one point of concentration: the intersections of Routes 648 and 689 which are approximately 500 feet apart. Eleven accidents occurred at these two intersections with 14 injuries. The close proximity of the two intersections likely plays a part of the dynamics leading to the large number of accidents.

Table 6 provides a comparison of crash rates on the U.S. Route 460 corridor with statewide averages for rural principal arterials. As the results show, for similar facilities with no access control, fatality and injury rates (per 100 million vehicle miles of travel - 100 MVMT) on the Corridor are lower than for similar facilities without access control. Facilities with partial control of access show lower injury and crash rates, but not lower fatality rates.

Based on the findings summarized in the crash analysis, the U.S. Route 460 corridor is not considered an excessively hazardous rural principal arterial.

**Table 6  
Comparison of Crash, Injury and Fatality Rates  
Route 460 Corridor with Similar Facilities**

Crash Rate by Facility Type	Route 460 Corridor	Rural Principal Arterials Virginia Averages - 2001	
		4-Lane Divided No Access Control	4-Lane Divided Partial Access Control
Miles of Facility Type	7.2	1,023	77
# of Persons Killed (per 100 MVMT)	0.78	1.6	1.4
# of Persons Injured (per 100 MVMT)	50.8	58.2	37.9
Total Crash Rate (per 100 MVMT)	71.1	83.1	64.2



**Figure 5** Route 460 Corridor Management Study  
 Appomattox County, Virginia  
 Accidents by Location 2003 - 2005

X = Number of Accidents  
 X = Collision Type



## II.D. LAND USE

The Route 460 Corridor exhibits a generally rural character. Starting on the east end of the corridor, there are a mix of commercial uses including small retail and automobile dealerships. Progressing westward, the corridor becomes more rural with a few commercial uses interspersed with large agricultural tracts.

The mix of zoning districts along the U.S. Route 460 corridor matches this land use pattern. According to the County's zoning map most of the corridor is zoned agricultural with a few commercially zoned parcels spread throughout the study area. The commercially zoned parcels tend to be grouped closer to the Town of Appomattox on the eastern end of the corridor, becoming more isolated farther west. There are approximately 35 parcels that have this zoning designation along the length of the corridor (see Figure 6: Commercially Zoned Parcels).

Appomattox County has a single general commercial zoning category, B-1. According to the ordinance,

*This district covers the portion of the community intended for the conduct of general business to which the public requires direct and frequent access but which is not characterized either by constant heavy trucking, other than stocking and delivery of retail goods, or by limited nuisance factors, including incidental light and noise of congregation of people and passenger vehicles.*

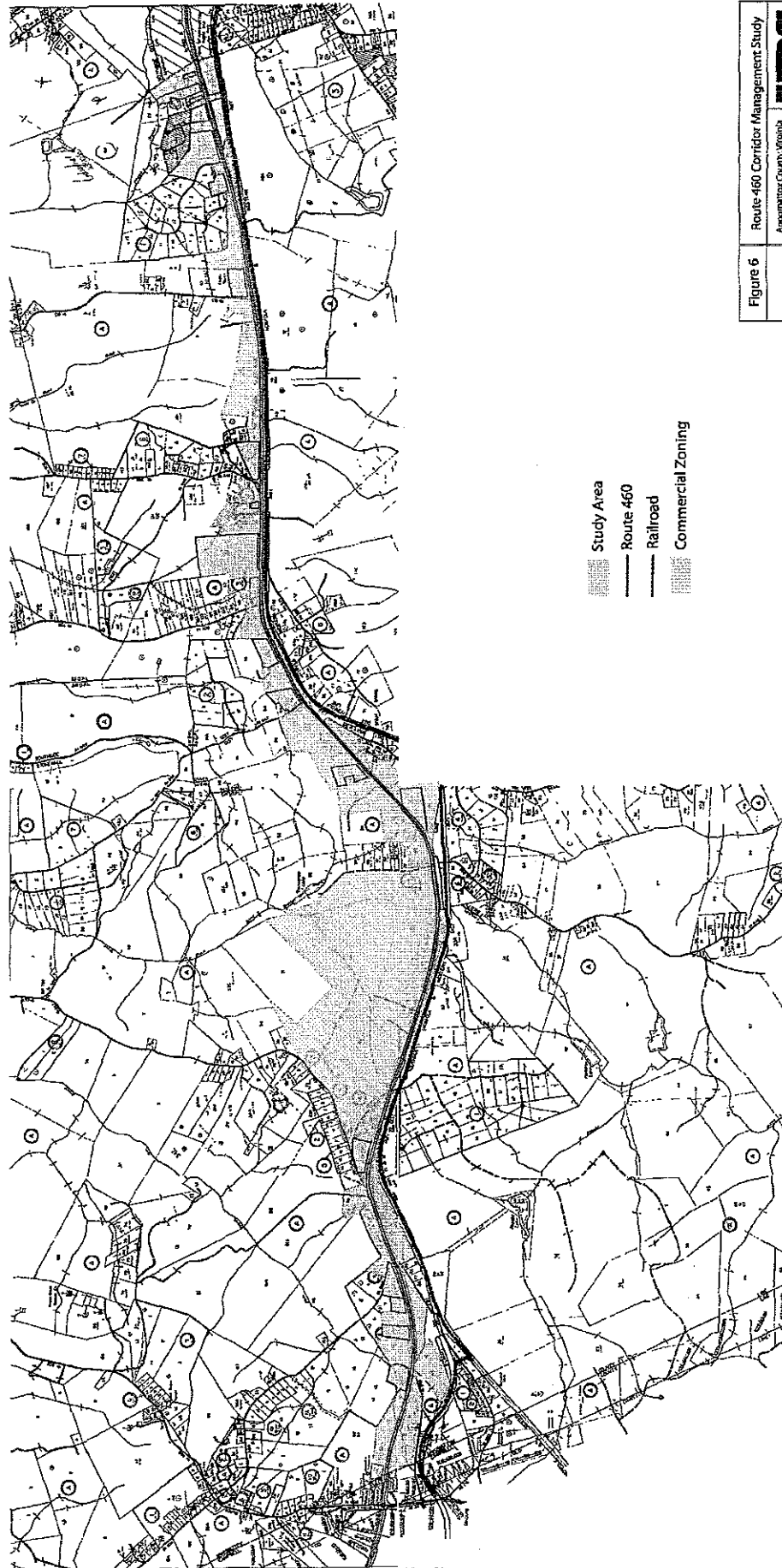
Because there is only a single commercial category, the number of permitted uses and conditional uses is unusually high. Most general retail uses (food stores, convenience stores, banks, etc) and light commercial uses are permitted by right. More intense uses (commercial nurseries, shopping centers, theaters, etc) are listed as conditional uses requiring permit approval the Board of Supervisors.

## II.E. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

An initial citizen information meeting was held at the Appomattox Community Center on Wednesday, January 31, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was attended by 20 citizens. The agenda included a review of traffic, safety and land use information, a description of the purpose and schedule of the study, and a discussion among citizens and members of the study management team. The principal concerns expressed by citizens focused on conflicts at driveway intersections and potential for right of way impacts

## II.F. SUMMARY

The analysis of existing conditions indicates that the four-lane facility is providing adequate service within the study area limits. The crash rates do not indicate the existence of disproportionate hazardous conditions when compared with similar facilities, and that commercially zoned parcels are distributed along the entire length of the corridor.



Study Area  
 Route 460  
 Railroad  
 Commercial Zoning

Figure 6  
 Route 460 Corridor Management Study  
 Appomattox County, Virginia  
 Commercial Zoning



### III. FORECASTED YEAR 2030 CONDITIONS

Although travel demand in the corridor is currently receiving adequate service from U.S. Route 460, continued growth in land development and traffic volumes may strain the existing capacity of the four-lane roadway. In addition to adding vehicles, land development may potentially reduce roadway capacity by increasing the number of intersecting streets and driveways.

#### III.A. LAND USE

As designated in the County's Resource Protection Plan (an amendment to the County's comprehensive plan), the U.S. Route 460 West/Richmond Highway Corridor is designated as a Commerce Corridor. According to the Plan, commerce corridors are the preferable area for the development of business and industry in Appomattox County. Currently, there is a mix of zoning types along the corridor. One of the plan's goals is to administratively rezone the corridor so that all of the properties that front onto U.S. Route 460 will be zoned B-1.

#### III.B. POPULATION

The most recent population data shows moderate growth in the County and stable population growth in the Town. Table 7 displays the U.S. Census data for 1990 and 2000 for Appomattox County and the Town of Appomattox. It shows that the overall growth in the County has been modest at 11% for the decade.

**TABLE 7**  
**1990 -2000 U.S. CENSUS OF POPULATION**  
**Appomattox County, Virginia**

JURISDICTION	U.S. CENSUS		
	1990	2000	10-YEAR GROWTH RATE
Appomattox Town	1,707	1,761	3%
Appomattox County	12,298	13,705	11%

Since 2000, estimates of the County's population have been developed by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia. These estimates are summarized in Table 8, which shows a low growth rate in the County contrasted with a slight population reduction in the Town.

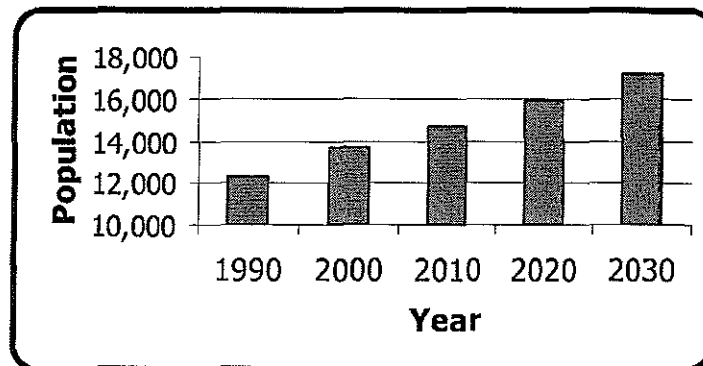
**TABLE 8  
2001-2006 POPULATION ESTIMATES  
Appomattox County, Virginia**

JURISDICTION	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% Change
Appomattox Town	1,761	1,739	1,729	1,742	1,729	1,729	-2%
Appomattox County	13,700	13,600	13,600	13,705	13,713	14,100	3%

The Weldon Cooper Center also develops forecasts of population for Appomattox County only. These forecasts are shown in Table 9, and the overall growth in population from 1990 through 2030 is shown graphically in Figure 7.

**TABLE 9  
2010-2030 POPULATION FORECASTS  
Appomattox County, Virginia**

2010	Annual Rate 2000-2010	2020	Annual Rate 2010-2020	2030	Annual Rate 2020-2030
14,700	0.7%	15,900	0.8%	17,200	0.8%



**Figure 7  
1990 -2030 POPULATION ESTIMATES AND FORECASTS  
Appomattox County, Virginia**

Focusing on the area of the U.S. Route 460 corridor under study, the U.S. Census aggregates population into two census tracts and several block groups within the tracts. Census Tract 401 is located south of U.S. Route 460, and within it Block Group 3 most closely borders the roadway corridor and Block Group 5 is also nearby and immediately south of the Town of Appomattox. Census Tract 402 is mapped on the north side of U.S. Route 460, and Block Groups 2 and 3 most closely border the roadway. A map of the census tracts and block groups is included in the Technical Appendix.

**TABLE 10  
U.S. CENSUS TRACTS & BLOCK GROUPS DATA: 1990 & 2000  
U.S. ROUTE 460 CORRIDOR VICINITY  
Appomattox County, Virginia**

Census Tract & Block Group	1990		2000		1990-2000 Change	1990-2000 % Change	Average Annual % Change
	Population	Households	Population	Households			
CT 401							
BG 1	883	337	970	397	87	10%	0.94%
BG 2	1,217	454	1,161	472	-56	-5%	-0.47%
BG 3	1,439	520	1,736	655	297	21%	1.89%
BG 4			853	335	853		
BG 5	971	363	1,085	444	114	12%	1.12%
BG 8	604	222					
BG 9	333	149					
CT 401	5,447	2,045	5,805	2,303	358	7%	0.64%
CT 402							
BG 1	857	301	1,000	387	143	17%	1.56%
BG 2	1,173	411	1,169	449	-4	0%	-0.03%
BG 3	1,349	494	1,593	616	244	18%	1.68%
CT 402	3,379	1,206	3,762	1,452	383	11%	1.08%
<b>Corridor Area</b>	<b>6,149</b>	<b>2,242</b>	<b>6,744</b>	<b>2,636</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>0.93%</b>
Percent of total county growth occurring within corridor area							42%

The results in Table 10 show that between 1990 and 2000 the amount of growth in the block groups located either nearby or adjacent to the study area was at the same general rate as that for the County as a whole. The study area comprises 49% of the County's population in 2000 and accommodates 42% of the population growth between 1990 and 2000.

A second factor evaluated to determine forecasted traffic volumes is the pattern of travel exhibited by the population. The reference source is the Journey to Work data provided by the U.S. Census. For Appomattox County, the results of the 1990-2000 journey to work analysis are shown in Table 11. The data shows that in the decade 1990-2000 the number of residents of Appomattox County who commute to employment in the City of Lynchburg increased by 862 to 1,849 from 987, while the number of County residents commuting to employment within Appomattox County decreased by 496 to 2,647 from 3,143. The number of residents of Appomattox County commuting to employment locations in Amherst County increased by 181.

The data indicates that Appomattox County has increasingly become a "bedroom community" for the City of Lynchburg. Indeed, the number of commuters to Lynchburg increased by more than the total growth in employment within the County. The U.S. Route 460 corridor is the key access route between the County and the City of Lynchburg.

**TABLE 11  
U.S. CENSUS JOURNEY TO WORK: 1990 & 2000  
Appomattox County, Virginia**

FROM Appomattox Cty TO	1990		2000		Change	
	Commuters	%	Commuters	%	Commuters	%
Appomattox County	3,143	56%	2,647	42%	-496	-16%
Lynchburg city	987	17%	1,849	30%	862	87%
Campbell County	837	15%	765	12%	-72	-9%
Amherst County	155	3%	336	5%	181	117%
Prince Edward County	167	3%	164	3%	-3	-2%
Buckingham County	56	1%	113	2%	57	102%
Bedford County	50	1%	100	2%	50	100%
Others	264	5%	288	5%	24	9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,659</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6,262</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>11%</b>

### III.C. TRAFFIC VOLUMES

While the population census and forecast data shows a growth rate of 9-11% per decade, the growth in traffic volumes on U.S. Route 460 exhibits a much slower rate of increase. A record of daily volumes beginning in 1980 is shown in Table 12. All of the volumes in Table 12 were obtained from VDOT records with the exception of the year 2006 volumes which were developed from automated field counts conducted as part of this study and adjusted using seasonal and daily factors provided by VDOT.

**TABLE 12  
DAILY TRAFFIC VOLUMES 1980-2006: US. ROUTE 460  
Appomattox County, Virginia**

YEAR	West of Route 689		East of Route 689	
	AADT Volume	% Change	AADT Volume	% Change
*2006	18,200	7.1%	17,500	-2.8%
2005	17,000	13.3%	18,000	-14.3%
2001	15,000	-16.7%	21,000	-4.5%
2000	18,000	12.5%	22,000	29.4%
1995	16,000	-7.6%	17,000	-1.8%
1990	17,320	17.6%	17,320	17.6%
1980	14,730		14,730	

While the volume growth patterns from year to year are somewhat erratic, particularly in the year 2000 and 2001 for the segment east of State Route 689, the overall trend clearly shows a slow growth rate. Comparing the volumes counted in 2006 with those documented in 1990 an annual growth rate of 0.3% is computed. Comparing the 2006 volumes with volume of more recent years would indicate a declining rate of growth.

To develop forecasts of year 2030 volumes based on a documented annual growth rate of 0.3%, current volumes would be increased by approximately 8% over current volumes. Applying a rate of 8% to existing peak hour turning movement volumes, the baseline year 2030 forecasted peak hour volumes are computed. To these baseline year 2030 volumes have been added volumes forecast to be generated by the proposed Wal-Mart store to be located on the west side of the Town of Appomattox. The results of these forecasts are shown in Figure 8.

### III.D. NO BUILD ALTERNATIVE

The No Build Alternative is defined as the roadway system in the horizon year (2030 for this study) with all improvements that are currently funded in VDOT's *6-Year Transportation Improvement Program*. Currently, no improvements to the corridor segment of U.S. Route 460 are funded, so the existing roadway and intersection geometry constitutes the No Build Alternative corridor.

To evaluate the capacity of the existing 4-lane section of U.S. Route 460 using the No Build Alternative geometry, the multi-lane Highway module of the *Highway Capacity Manual* software package was used. The results, summarized in Table 13, show that all segments are forecasted to function at excellent to very good service levels.

**TABLE 13**  
**Multilane Highway Capacity Analysis**  
**Appomattox County U.S. Route 460 – 2030 No Build Alternative**

Segment	AM PEAK HOUR		PM PEAK HOUR	
	Density	LOS	Density	LOS
West of Appomattox Town Limits	399	A	473	A
East of Route 647 (Little Dogwood Road)	461	A	342	A
East of Route 609 (Stage Road)	380	A	521	A
East of Campbell County Line	827	B	466	A

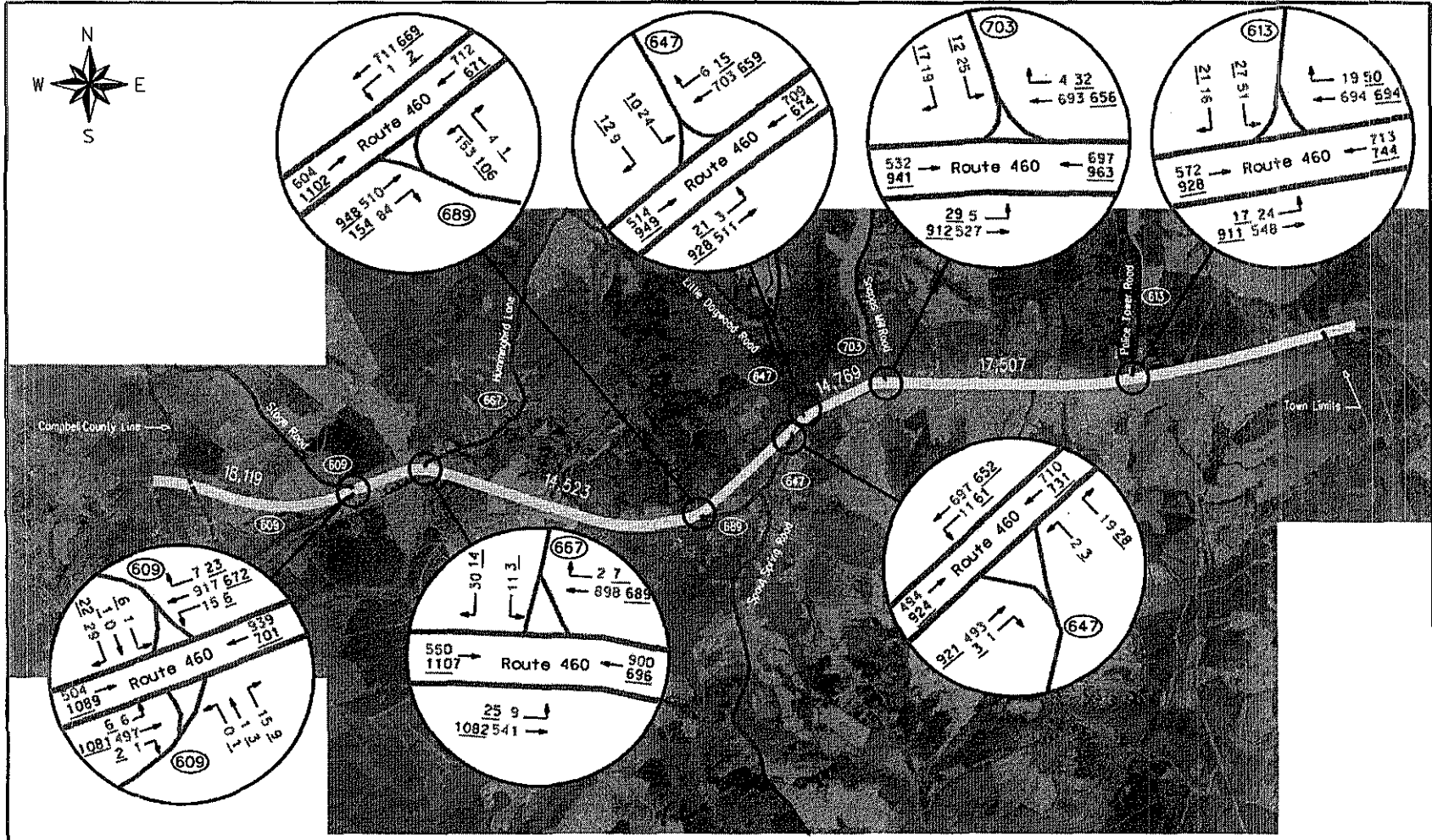
The results of the capacity analysis at the seven intersections are summarized in Table 14. The results show that a few movements exhibit deterioration of a service level when compared with the results of capacity analysis of existing conditions. However, the deterioration is not forecasted to approach deficient conditions because none of the service levels are worse than C – with one exception. The northbound movement on Route 689 (Spout Springs Road West) exhibits a service level of F during the p.m. peak hour. The delay is a product of the heavy eastbound through movement on U.S. Route 460.

**TABLE 14**  
**Capacity Analysis: No Build Alternative**  
**Appomattox County U.S. Route 460 – 2030 Peak Hour Volumes**

APPROACH (Movement)	AM PEAK HOUR		PM PEAK HOUR	
	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS
<b><u>Route 613 (Police Tower Road)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	10.0	A	10.0	A
SB Route 613 (Left/Right)	21.2	C	18.1	<u>C</u>
<b><u>Route 703 (Snapps Mill Road)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	9.7	A	9.8	A
SB Route 703 (Left/Right)	15.0	B	14.4	B
<b><u>Route 647 (Little Dogwood Road)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	9.8	A	9.8	A
SB Route 647 (Left/Right)	16.2	<u>C</u>	14.7	B
<b><u>Route 647 (Spout Springs Road)</u></b>				
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.8	A	10.9	<u>B</u>
NB Route 647 (Left/Right)	10.9	B	13.5	B
<b><u>Route 689 (Spout Springs Rd West)</u></b>				
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.8	A	12.5	B
NB Route 689 (Left)	23.3	C	59.6	<u>E</u>
NB Route 689 (Right)	10.0	B	13.4	13.4
<b><u>Route 667 (Hummingbird Lane)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	10.9	B	9.4	A
SB Route 667 (Left/Right)	16.6	<u>C</u>	12.6	B
<b><u>Route 609 (Stage Road)</u></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	11.0	B	9.5	A
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.7	A	11.2	B
NB Route 609 (Left/Through/Right)	10.9	B	17.9	<u>C</u>
SB Route 609 (Left/Through/Right)	13.8	B	14.3	B

**III.E. SUMMARY**

The analysis of forecast year 2030 conditions indicates that the four-lane facility will continue to provide adequate service within the study area limits. With a forecasted growth in traffic volumes of approximately 8% and with one exception at Route 689, neither capacity nor crash rates are expected to begin to exhibit deficient conditions. However, the pattern of land use development may cause a diminution of capacity and safety by increasing the frequency of vehicle conflicts points.



**Figure 8** **Route 460 Corridor Management Study**  
 Appomattox County, Virginia Year 2030 Volumes: AM and PM Peak Hour



Dated 10/14/04

## **IV. IMPROVEMENT ALTERNATIVES**

To address existing and potentially deficient conditions forecasted along the corridor and at many intersections, improvement alternatives have been developed and analyzed. The improvement alternatives are grouped by type.

### *IV.A. ALTERNATIVE 1: TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM MANAGEMENT (TSM)*

The Transportation System Management (TSM) Alternative provides for comparatively low-cost improvements to enhance the efficiency of the existing roadway system. Improvements generally include installation of turn lanes at potentially hazardous locations. TSM improvements do not include major capital improvements to increase system capacity such as the installation of additional through lanes. Along the U.S. Route 460 corridor this alternative establishes turn lanes at each of intersection.

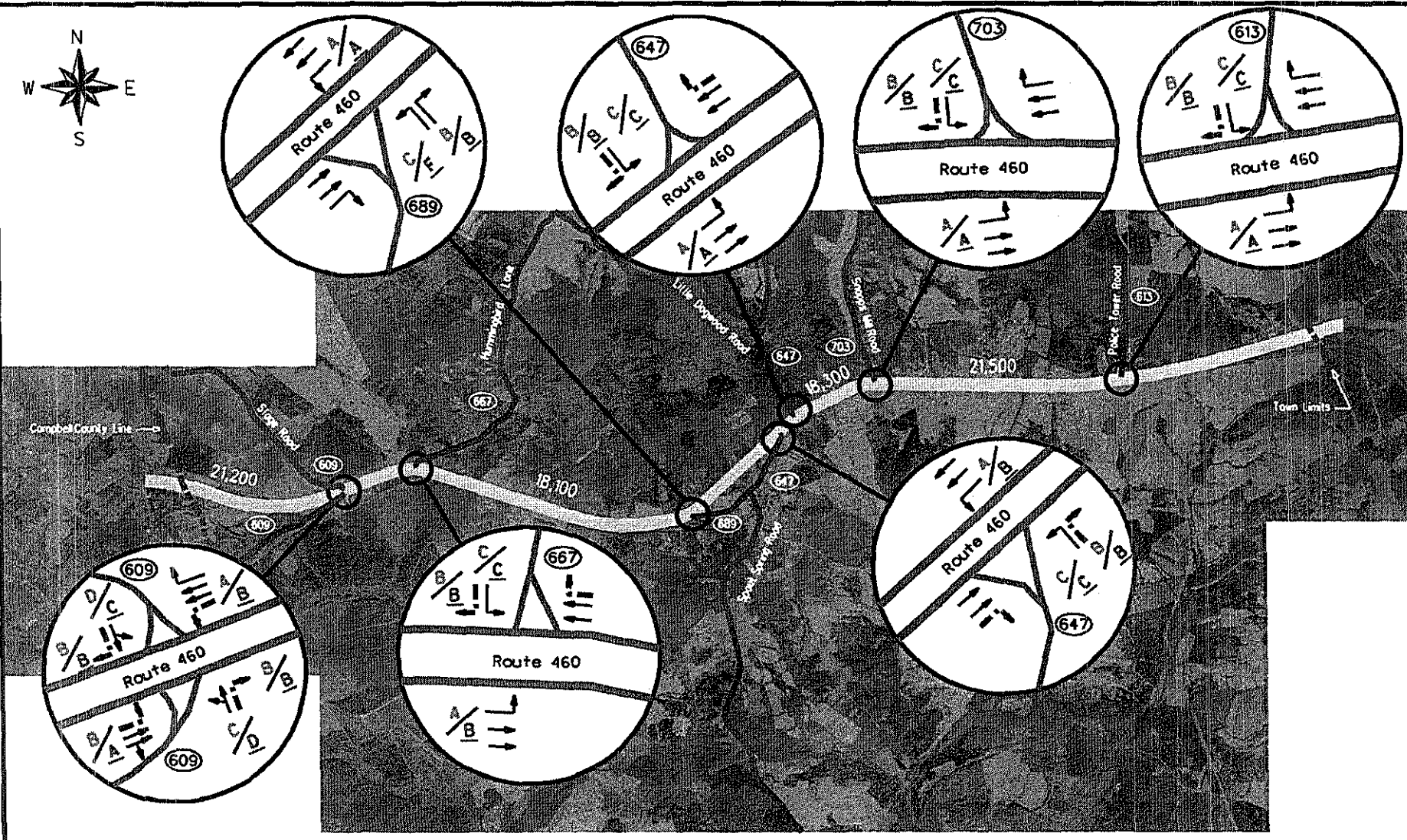
The capacity analysis results of the TSM Alternative using year 2030 forecasted volumes are shown in Figure 9 and summarized in Table 15. The results indicate that with the addition of separate turn lanes on both U.S. Route 460 and the intersection street approaches, service levels will moderately improve.

Adequate service is provided at all intersections except for the Route 689 (Spout Springs Road West), where during the p.m. peak hour, the northbound left turn movement continues to exhibit LOS F. The only remedy for this low service level would be a traffic signal, but traffic signal volume warrants are not forecasted to be met. Crash frequencies should be monitored to ensure that the intersection continues to provide safe service as afternoon peak hour volume increase




Two approaches at the Route 609 intersection exhibit deficient service levels for the combination left & through movement: both the southbound Route 609 movement in the a.m. peak hour and the northbound movement in the p.m. peak hour. These results should not be interpreted to indicate that the movements are deficient while the same movements in the No Build Alternative movements are not. The No Build Alternative results are an for all movements – left, through and right turning vehicles. As with any average, some vehicle delays on the approach are higher and some are lower.

In Table 15, the analysis results separate the left/through movements from the right turn movements. Since motorists executing the left turn or through movements encounter more conflicting vehicle movements on the mainline lanes of U.S. Route 460, they require more time to complete the maneuver. Conversely, motorists making the right turn movement require less time. Considering the average vehicle delay for the combined minor street approach movements, delay is less for the TSM alternative than for the same movement in the No Build Alternative.

Conceptual renderings of the recommended turn lane improvements for each of the intersections along the U.S. Route 460 corridor are shown in Figures 11-16. These renderings are conceptual in nature and should not be used to determine potential right of way impacts or cost. None of the improvements exhibited in these figures have been included in VDOT's current Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program.



**Figure 9** **Route 460 Corridor Management Study**  
**Appomattox County, Virginia Capacity and Safety Improvements**

Year 2030 Annual Average Daily Volume 17,507  
 Intersection Geometry   
 Level of Service AM/PM   
 Proposed Improvements 



**TABLE 15**  
**CAPACITY ANALYSIS: TSM IMPROVEMENT ALTERNATIVE**  
**Appomattox County U.S. Route 460 – 2030 Peak Hour Volumes**

<b>APPROACH (Movement)</b>	<b>AM PEAK HOUR</b>		<b>PM PEAK HOUR</b>	
	<b>Delay</b>	<b>LOS</b>	<b>Delay</b>	<b>LOS</b>
<b><i>Route 613 (Police Tower Road)</i></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	10.0	A	10.0	A
SB Route 613 (Left)	22.0	C	20.9	C
SB Route 613 (Right)	11.2	B	11.2	B
<b><i>Route 703 (Snapps Mill Road)</i></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	9.7	A	9.8	A
SB Route 703 (Left)	17.0	B	18.2	C
SB Route 703 (Right)	11.0	B	10.8	B
<b><i>Route 647 (Little Dogwood Road)</i></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	9.8	A	9.8	A
SB Route 647 (Left)	17.5	C	18.1	C
SB Route 647 (Right)	11.0	B	10.9	B
<b><i>Route 647 (Spout Springs Road)</i></b>				
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.8	A	10.9	B
NB Route 647 (Left)	15.2	C	21.5	C
NB Route 647 (Right)	10.5	B	12.5	B
<b><i>Route 689 (Spout Springs Rd West)</i></b>				
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.8	A	12.5	B
NB Route 689 (Left)	23.3	C	59.6	F
NB Route 689 (Right)	10.0	B	13.4	B
<b><i>Route 667 (Hummingbird Lane)</i></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	10.9	B	9.4	A
SB Route 667 (Left)	22.3	C	19.3	C
SB Route 667 (Right)	13.3	B	11.0	B
<b><i>Route 609 (Stage Road)</i></b>				
EB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	11.0	B	9.5	A
WB U.S. Route 460 (Left)	8.4	A	11.2	B
NB Route 609 (Left/Through)	24.7	C	29.3	D
NB Route 609 (Right)	10.3	B	13.2	B
SB Route 609 (Left/Through)	27.0	D	23.5	C
SB Route 609 (Right)	13.4	B	11.1	B



US Route 460

US Route 460

**Figure 10**      **Route 460 Corridor Management Study**

US Route 460  
at  
Route 613

Appomattox County, Virginia  
Recommended Improvements





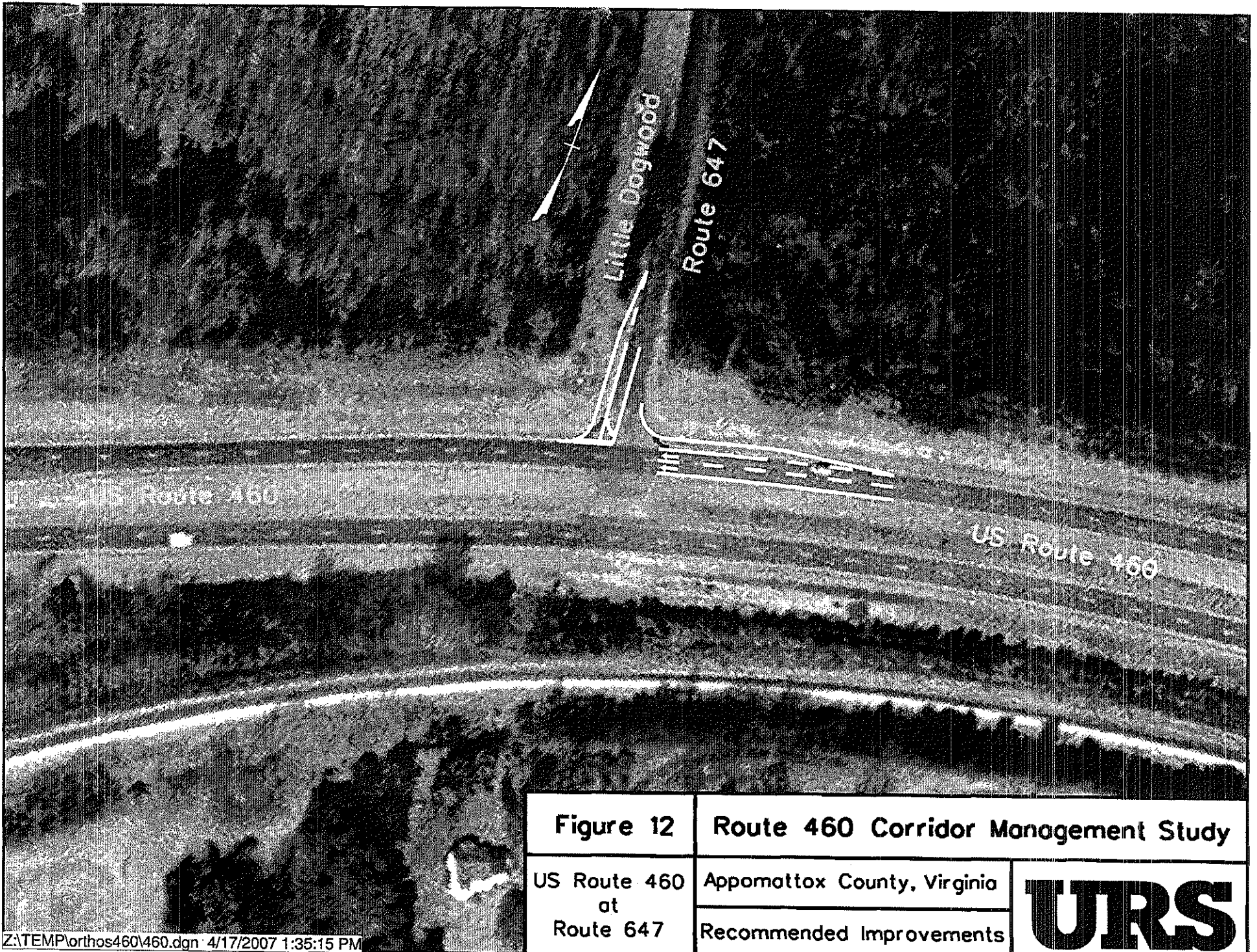
Figure 11

Route 460 Corridor Management Study

US Route 460  
at  
Route 703

Appomattox County, Virginia  
Recommended Improvements





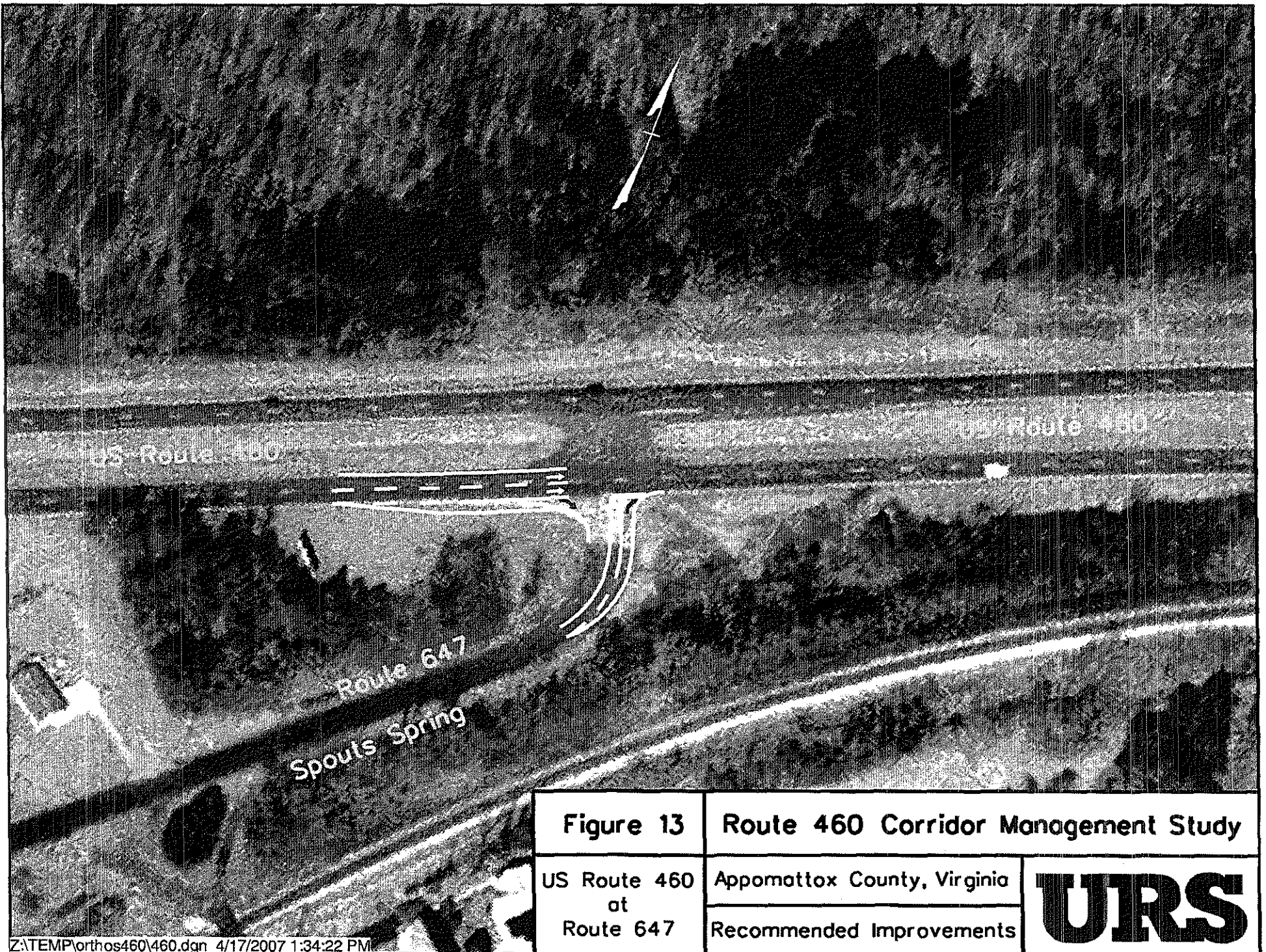
**Figure 12**

**Route 460 Corridor Management Study**

US Route 460  
at  
Route 647

Appomattox County, Virginia  
Recommended Improvements





<b>Figure 13</b>	<b>Route 460 Corridor Management Study</b>	
US Route 460 at Route 647	Appomattox County, Virginia	<b>URS</b>
	Recommended Improvements	



**Figure 14**

**Route 460 Corridor Management Study**

US Route 460  
at  
Route 689

Appomattox County, Virginia  
Recommended Improvements





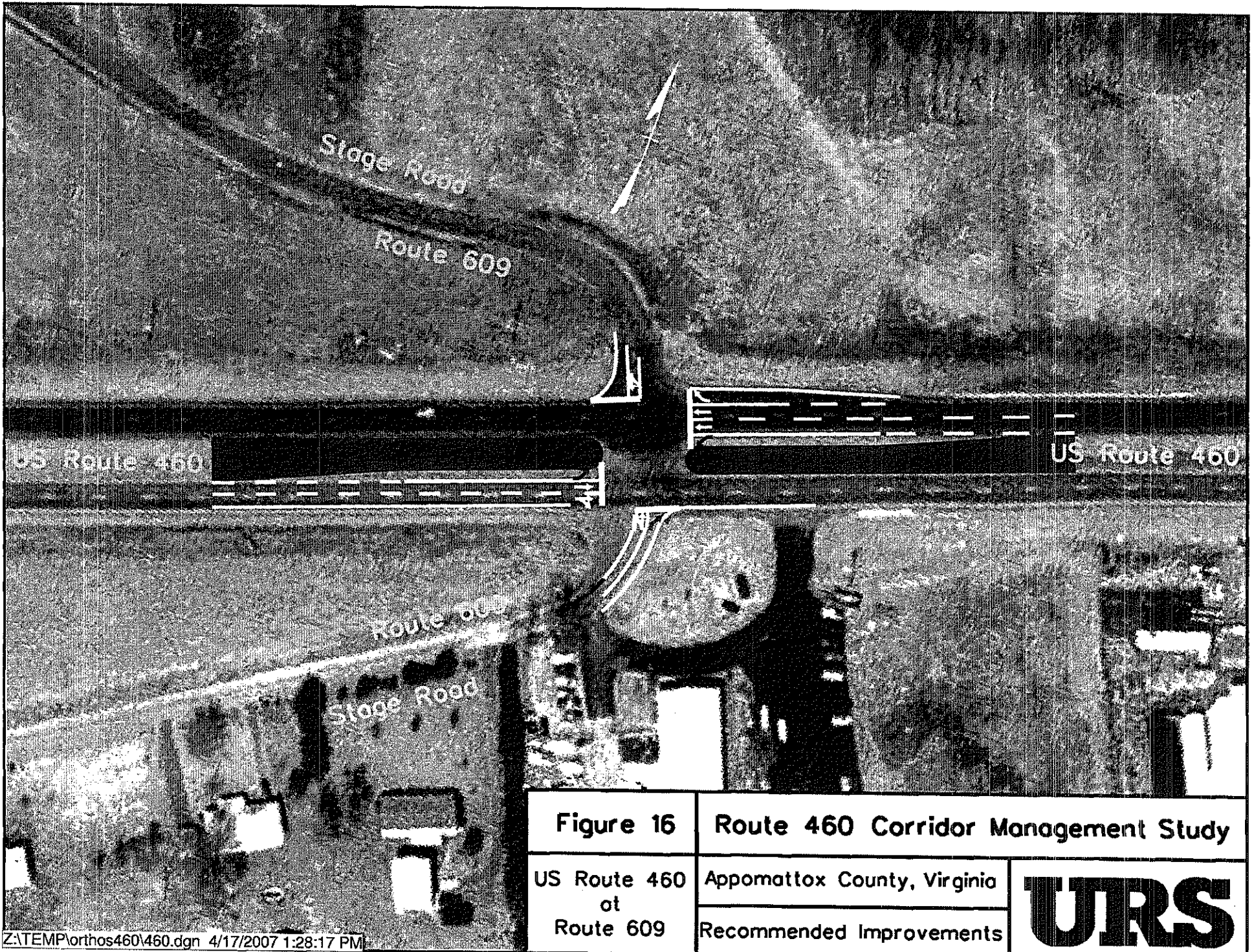


Figure 16

Route 460 Corridor Management Study

US Route 460  
at  
Route 609

Appomattox County, Virginia  
Recommended Improvements



## IV.B. ALTERNATIVE 2: ACCESS MANAGEMENT

The second and final improvement alternative developed for the corridor emphasizes avoidance of conditions where land use development patterns cause unnecessary deterioration in corridor capacity. By controlling the types of use, the format of development and the number of access driveways and streets, both roadway and intersection capacity along the corridor can be enhanced and preserved so that the existing 4-lane pavement section will continue to provide adequate service through the year 2030.

To effectively implement access management measures requires cooperation between both the County - as the entity managing land use - and VDOT - as the entity managing access. The guidelines developed and adopted by VDOT for managing access are documented in the publication, *Minimum Standards of Entrances to State Highways (Virginia Department of Transportation, Richmond, Virginia, 2003)*. These standards and guidelines are - for the most part - based on safety considerations, and little consideration is given to the impact of entrances to the capacity of the adjacent roadway. For example, the minimum spacing between commercial driveways can be as little as 50 feet, and the minimum separation of a commercial driveway from an adjacent intersection can also be as little as 50 feet (*Minimum Standards, p. 24*). While providing for safe entering and exiting vehicle maneuvers, developing closely spaced conflicts on the mainline highway will likely result in an increased number of rear-end and angle crashes since the need for attention of drivers in conflict areas increases.

Furthermore, it is recognized that the owners of parcels are entitled to reasonable access to adjacent public roads. In those instances where parcels in the corridor can only access a public roadway via a driveway to U.S. Route 460, the driveway must be approved provided it meets design standards. Here again, the emphasis is on ensuring safe design of individual access point with little consideration to the cumulative impact of multiple access points.

Only through management of land use can the number of access points be considered. Since VDOT cannot manage land use development or subdivision activities, it falls to the local government to provide appropriate management measures if the frequency and spacing of driveway or street access points are to be effectively managed.

### *What is Access Management?*

The Federal Highway Administration defines access management as follows:

*Access management can be defined as the process or development of a program intended to ensure that the major arterials, intersections and freeway systems serving a community or region will operate safely and efficiently while adequately meeting the access needs of the abutting land uses along the roadway. The use of access management techniques is designed to increase roadway capacity, manage congestion and reduce crashes.*

Access management programs include consideration of a variety of measures that when applied to the Route 460 Corridor Management Study generally can be classified into two

types: Site Access and Corridor Design. For implementing access management at the site development level, the following measures should be considered:

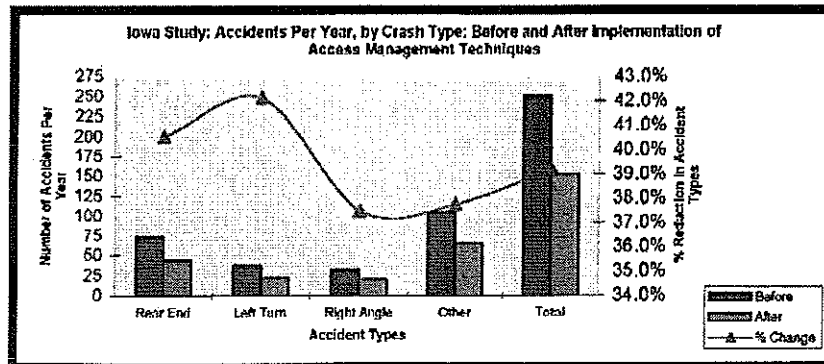
- *Managing driveway frequency and location*
- *Implementing turn lane requirements*
- *Encouraging shared driveways*
- *Increasing minimum lot frontage dimensions*
- *Increasing minimum lot sizes at intersections*
- *Restricting out-parcel access to adjacent arterial roadway*
- *Combining access points to adjacent arterial roadway*
- *Establish street connectivity between adjacent subdivisions*
- *Discouraging the subdivision of flag lots*
- *Recording access easements on commercial subdivision plats*
- *Requiring Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) for more than one access*

For a corridor-wide program, the following access management measures should be considered:

- *Increasing median crossover spacing*
- *Focusing retail commercial development at major intersections*
- *Restricting full movements at median crossovers*
- *Managing adjoining development to avoid meeting signal warrants*
- *Developing aesthetic and sign distance standards*
- *Providing incentives for combining access during redevelopment*
- *Increasing minimum building and parking lot set back dimensions*
- *Installing turn lanes at critical intersections*

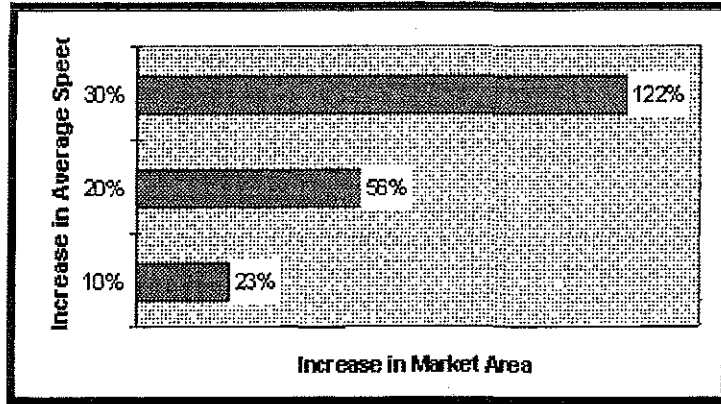
### *Benefits of Access Management*

The Federal Highway Administration also identifies a range of benefits associated with implementation of access management. The primary benefit is enhanced safety. By comparing the before and after access management crash rates along selected corridors in Iowa, Figure 17 documents a drop in crash rates by approximately 40% once access management has been implemented. By reducing conflict points, access management improves corridor safety.



**Figure 17: Change in Crashes**  
(Source: FHWA)

A second documented benefit of access management is maintaining speed on the arterial roadway. Here again, fewer conflict points enable through moving motorists to maintain a comfortable highway speed without increasing the likelihood of crashes. And a principal benefit of higher speed is an expanded market area for businesses along the corridor. Figure 18 shows how maintaining higher speeds expands market area.



**Figure 18: Relationship of Increased Speed and Market Area**  
(Source: FHWA)

#### IV.C. IMPLEMENTING CORRIDOR ACCESS MANAGEMENT

In the Commonwealth of Virginia, there are three key documents indicate the policies for regulating growth and land development in counties and municipalities. They are the Comprehensive Plan, the Zoning Ordinance, and the Subdivision Ordinance. Taken together, the documents set out a community's long term vision and provide the regulatory tools necessary to implement that vision.

##### *Comprehensive Plan*

The County's comprehensive plan looks at the future and sets out goals, strategies, and tasks to implement the desired vision. The County's current comprehensive plan, *Appomattox County Community Development Plan: A Guidebook for Elected Officials, Government Staff, Civic Groups and Concerned Citizens of Appomattox County and Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin*, has a good initial framework for corridor preservation. The a key strategy in the Transportation Plan chapter states,

**Strategy 2: Develop design criteria for residential, commercial, and industrial development access to public roads**

Task a: Establish traffic design standards to mitigate the number of crossovers and curb cuts along primary routes and heavily traveled secondary routes.

Task b: Amend the zoning ordinance to require developers to submit traffic

impact studies for certain projects, and to submit cash and/or development proffers to mitigate any potentially adverse traffic concerns.

Task c: Encourage, and in some cases mandate, the use of frontage roads or reservation of road easements along commercial and industrial developments.

The following tasks are proposed as amendments to the *Plan* to strengthen the framework for establishing a corridor access management program:

*Task d: Preserve existing capacity on the U.S. Route 460 corridor by minimizing the potential for conflicting movements between vehicles accessing the local street system and through moving vehicles.*

*Task e: Examine the range of permitted land uses along the U.S. Route 460 corridor to ensure that they correctly balance the long term mobility needs with economic development needs.*

*Task f: Major retail commercial rezoning applications on the U.S. Route 460 corridor are to be located at major public street intersections.*

To focus access management to the U.S. Route 460 corridor, the *Plan* should be amended to describe a special set of policies to be defined and mapped in an overlay zoning district. There are seven components to the U.S. Route 460 Commercial Corridor Overlay District Alternative:

1. *Increased Building and Parking Lot Setback Dimension from the U.S. Route 460 Right of Way.* The purpose of this provision is to ensure that the future improvements (including installation of turn lanes) will not have severe adverse impacts on existing development.
2. *Increased Minimum Lot Size & Roadway Frontage Dimensions.* All parcels are to be provided reasonable access, but a continuous row of small commercial or residential parcels with minimal roadway frontage can result in frequent and closely spaced driveways. Based on VDOT's minimum standards, driveway centers can be as close as 80 feet. Through the use of increased lot size and frontage dimensions, the County can reduce the number commercial driveways and increase between driveways to a preferred 300 feet.
3. *Limit Access to One Driveway per Parcel.* Small parcels such as convenience stores and service stations often have more than one driveway access point. Although two points of access to a corner parcel (one access to each adjacent street) may be preferable, a limit of one driveway to all mid-block parcels would also limit the frequency of commercial driveways.
4. *Shared Access Between Parcels.* There are two elements to this provision. First, to minimize the amount of traffic forced to use U.S. Route 460 to move between two adjoining commercial parcels, the establishment of cross access easements between parcels of similar use is recommended. Second, to minimize the number

of individual driveways, commercial parcels should be encouraged to share a driveway access.

5. *Access Management Plan.* For those larger parcels that may require more than one access point or parcels that may undergo further subdivision of commercial parcels, an Access Management Plan must be developed and submitted prior to subdivision. The Plan will identify all proposed points of access to the adjoining street system, detail improvements intended to address any deficiencies associated with those access points, and indicate the location of cross access arrangements between separate parcels. For retail commercial shopping centers with proposed out-parcel sites, the access management plan should include the platting of a no-access easement along the frontage with U.S. Route 460. Access to these out-parcels is to be provided by a coordinated site access plan.
6. *Traffic Impact Study.* Concurrent with the submittal of a re-zoning application, preliminary subdivision plat or preliminary site plan, a traffic impact study should be developed and submitted for review in association with any subdivision or site development plan proposing more than one access driveway to U.S. Route 460. The study should address access issues at proposed driveways and at adjacent major intersections.
7. *Median Crossovers.* Along the U.S. Route 460 corridor, new median crossovers are to be spaced no less than 1,200 feet from existing median crossovers. Where adequate spacing is not available due to the location of existing median crossover, the required minimum spacing is to be obtained through the closure of adjacent existing median crossovers.

### *Zoning Ordinance*

The second tool for managing land use is the zoning ordinance. As defined by the Code of Virginia, zoning is

*...the process of classifying land within a locality into areas and districts, such areas and districts being generally referred to as "zones," by legislative action and the prescribing and application in each area and district of regulations concerning building and structure designs, building and structure placement and uses to which land, buildings and structures within such designated areas and districts may be put.*

In practical terms, the zoning ordinance regulates the types of uses, business, and buildings that can be built in certain areas of the County. Typically, zoning ordinances set out uses by discrete areas or zones (i.e. residential zones, industrial zones, agricultural zones, etc.). However, in certain cases, additional controls may be desired without disturbing the existing zoning. Overlay districts, leave the underlying zoning in place and add additional district specific regulation that supplement those of the underlying zoning district.

As set forth in the provisions of the Appomattox County Zoning Ordinance Article XXI, various public interest overlay districts can be established. According to the ordinance, the purpose of these districts is to

*Protect and enhance certain specific land and structures which, by virtue of their type or location, have characteristics which are distinct from lands and structures outside the overlay districts...*

The parcels fronting the U.S. Route 460 Corridor meet these requirements for creating a new Commercial Corridor Overlay District by being adjacent to a critical transportation facility for county, regional, and statewide mobility and economic development. Used in many counties around the Commonwealth, Commercial Corridor Overlay Districts are planning tools to manage access, function and site and building design along major highways. The design, timing and pace of development along the major transportation corridors need to be master planned and coordinated by way of a series of corridor studies and plans so as to assure the preservation of lands for economic development, job creation and future right of way; promote the prioritization of investment in major regional improvements that are critical to the County's economic development; and assure the compatibility, efficiency and function of the County's transportation network and adjacent land uses. The location of Commercial Corridor Overlay District is shown in Figure 19.

There are three key issues that should be included in the overlay district. They are:

**1. Site access to Route 460:** To maintain the long term capacity of U.S. Route 460, it is critical that the number of access points on to the street be limited and those that are constructed meet engineering standards. Controlling access will preserve the high speeds, service levels, and safety of the roadway. Traffic operational factors leading to greater spacing of driveways include weaving and merging distances, space stopping sight distances, and acceleration rates.

In an effort to balance the property rights of land owners with the desire to preserve the capacity of the corridor, the following site access guidelines should be established:

A. Number of driveways per parcel (by right)	1
B. Minimum distance from adjacent driveways	300 feet
C. Number of residential lots for which second access required	20
D. Number of driveways requiring a Traffic Impact Analysis	2
E. Right turn lanes	Required

Sites with frontage sufficient to meet the driveway spacing requirement of 300 feet can be considered for additional access points during the site plan review process provided the access can be adequately accommodated as documented in a traffic impact analysis. The analysis should demonstrate that additional access points will not cause deterioration in traffic flows on the mainline lanes of U.S. Route 460.

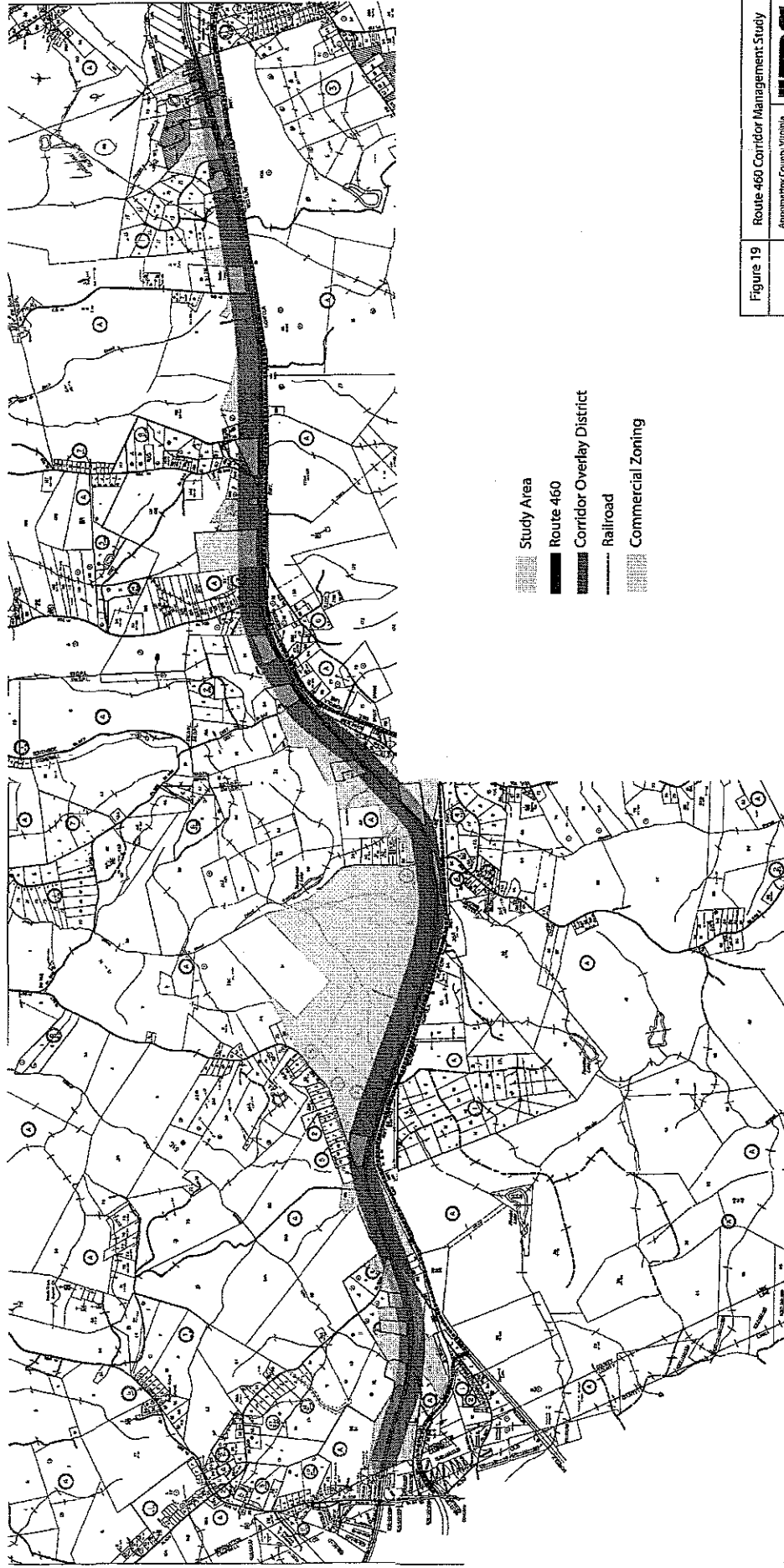


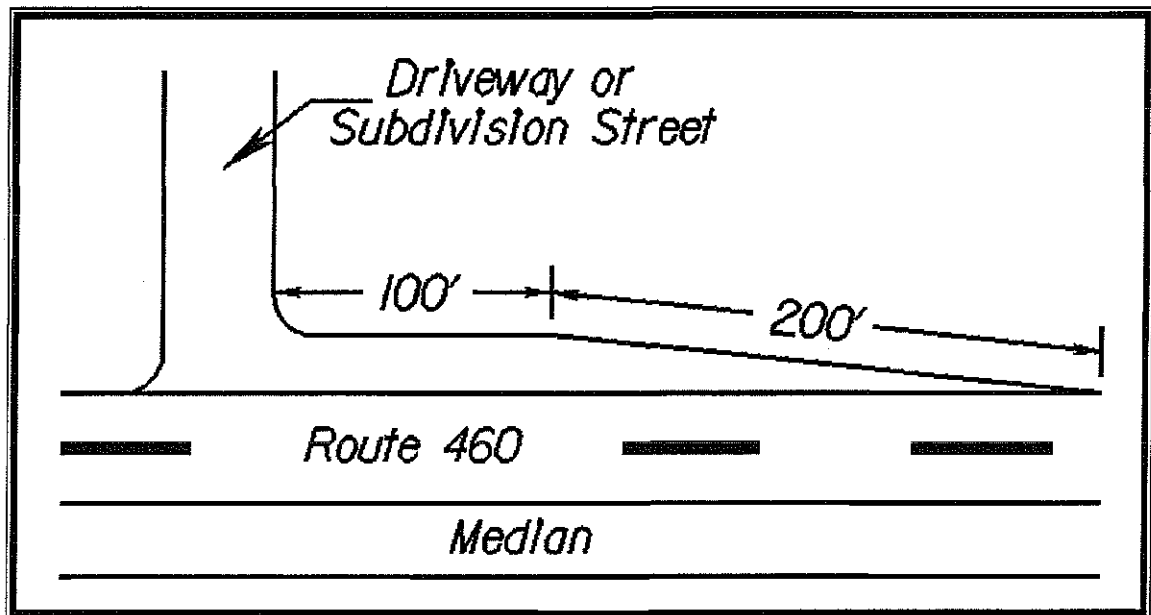
Figure 19

Route 460 Corridor Management Study  
 Appomattox County, Virginia  
 Commercial Corridor Overlay District



Subsequent subdivisions (based on the ordinance) will require that either a new public/private street be built or other access easement be granted to the new lots. Subdivisions of greater than 20 lots would require two access points either to U.S. Route 460 (if it is shown in the traffic impact study not have an impact) or on another adjacent public street.

The requirement for 300 feet of minimum lot width is directly related to the required dimensions for turn lanes into either driveways or intersecting streets. For a facility with a design speed exceeding 35 mph (U.S. Route 460 has a design speed of 60 mph), the taper for a turn lane must be 200 feet in length and the full-width storage lane must be at least 100 feet in length (See Figure 20). Without a wider minimum lot frontage width, access points will frequently be granted either without turn lanes or with turn lanes that do not meet the VDOT minimum guidelines.



**Figure 20: Minimum Dimensions for a Right Turn Lane and Taper**

**2. Set back requirements:** To preserve this ability, it is recommended that the Commercial Corridor Overlay District mandate 100-foot minimum building setbacks that would allow for future capacity to be added to the corridor without impacting structures. This distance could be reduced depending on site/lot conditions. In addition, increased setbacks for buildings and parking lots ensure adequate queuing and stacking distances for vehicles entering and exiting a site. Shopping centers, as regulated under Section 170-89 of the Appomattox County Zoning ordinance would continue to be required to have a 150 foot setback.

**3. Site Design/Circulation:** Many large scale commercial developments employ the use of multiple subdivided lots and out-parcels. Allowing each of these lots to have access to U.S. Route 460 is contrary to the goal of preserving the long term capacity of

the highway. As such, good site circulation is critical to an effective access management strategy. Some of the methods site designers can use to limit access include joint use driveways, cross access agreements, and shared parking. These arrangements allow for multiple platted lots and owners within a single commercial development, yet provide an incentive for the different owners to work together on common site access issues.

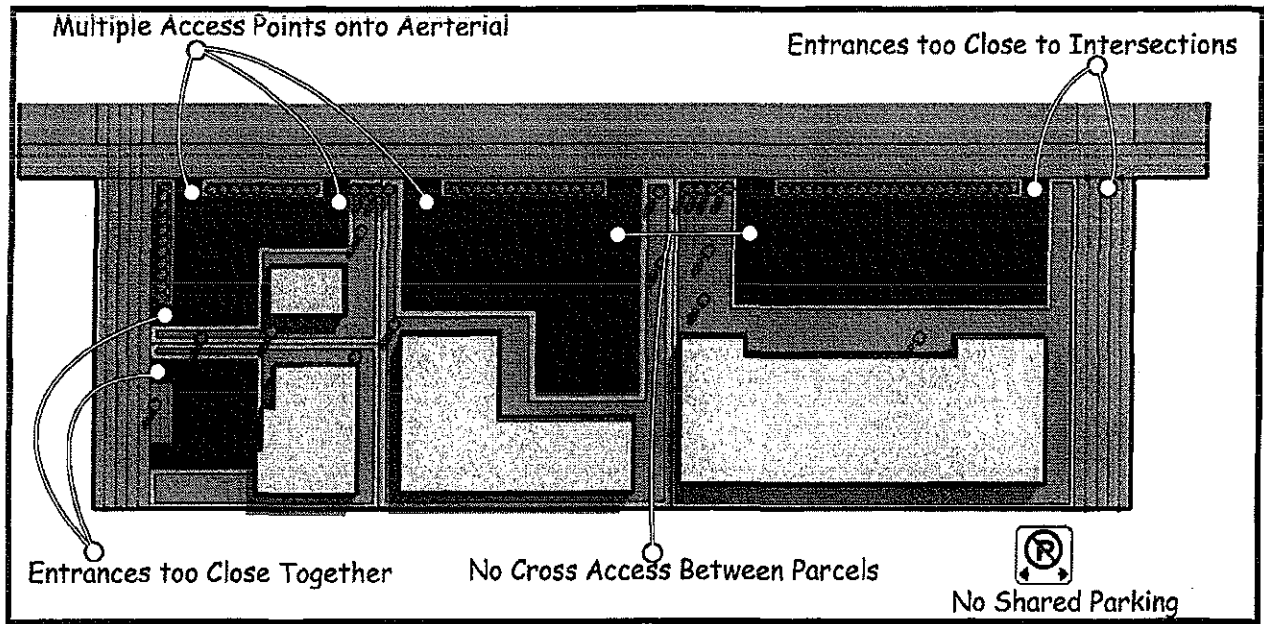
Joint use driveways allow for two or more lots to access the same driveway, similar to a private road. These driveways can be split down the middle or combined with cross access agreements to allow for access across one parcel to another. Joint use driveways and cross access agreements should be recorded with the County Clerk at the time of the site plan is approved to ensure compliance.

Another measure for ensuring management of driveway access points associated with retail commercial development is the platting of no ingress easements along outparcel frontage to U.S. Route 460. This provides control that only the County Board of Supervisors can change by approving a vacation of the easement.

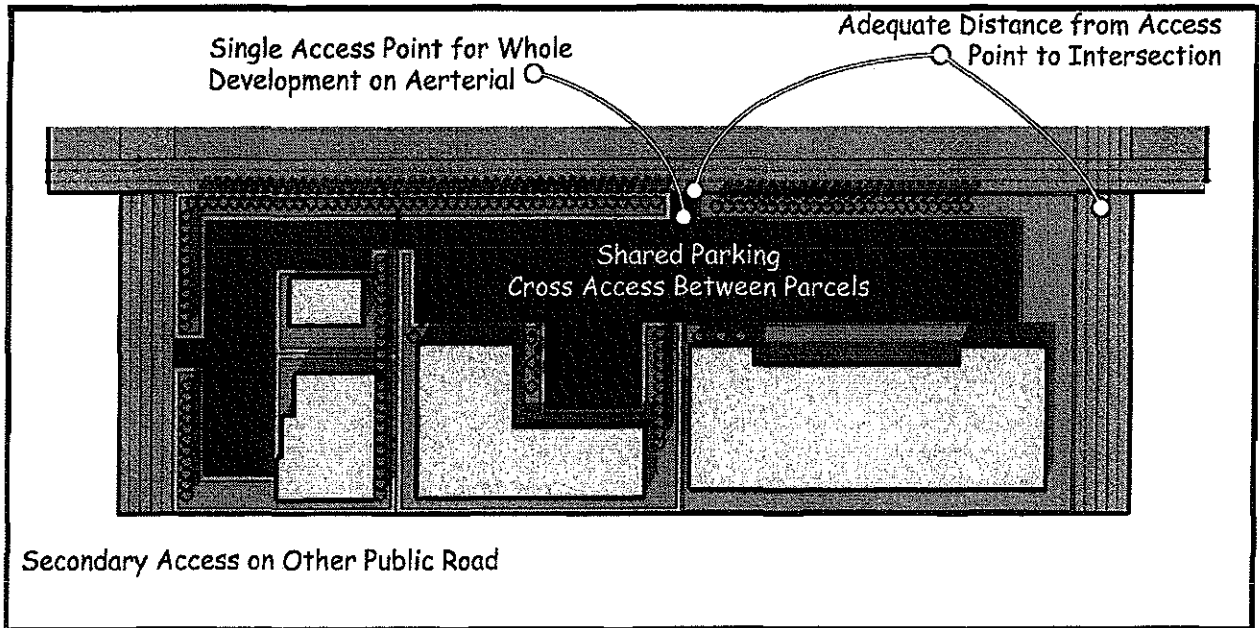
Figure 21 shows conceptual examples of typical access management practices with retail commercial.

#### *IV.D. PUBLIC COMMENT*

A second Citizens Information Meeting was held on March 29, 2007 at the Appomattox Community Center at 6:30 p.m. It was attended by approximately 10 citizens. In general, the comments indicated a favorable view of access management and the proposed turn lane improvements.



**Little or No Access Management**



**Effective Access Management**

**Figure 21: Comparison of Access Management Concepts at Retail Center**

## **V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Appomattox County Route 460 Corridor Management Study has been conducted to identify and define existing and forecasted deficiencies and to develop recommendations both for roadway improvements and for managing land use development activities along the corridor to maximize traffic flow, safety, and long-term economic viability.

### *V.A. Existing Conditions*

To conduct the analysis of existing conditions, traffic volume counts were compiled at major intersections and along the mainline of U.S. Route 460. Crash records were also compiled and analyzed. The results of and analysis indicate the following:

1. The existing four-lane section of U.S. Route 460 facility is providing adequate service within the study area limits. All intersection movements and roadway segments exhibit adequate service levels during the a.m. and p.m. peak hour conditions.
2. The crash rates do not indicate the existence of disproportionate hazardous conditions when compared with similar facilities.
3. Commercially zoned parcels are distributed along the entire length of the corridor.

### *V.B. Forecasted Year 2030 Conditions*

Forecasts of future traffic volumes were developed by evaluating three factors:

1. Population Growth: When compared with population growth as documented in the U.S. Census with forecasts through the year 2030, the annual rate of population growth is expected to decline to 0.8% from 1%.
2. Travel Patterns: The *Journey to Work* data provided by the U.S. Census indicates that more residents of Appomattox County travel to employment opportunities located in the City of Lynchburg. The U.S. Route 460 corridor is the major access routes for such commutes.
3. Traffic Volumes: The daily volume of vehicles on U.S. Route 460 has increased by an annual rate of 0.3% since 1990.

Considering the combined patterns of population, employment and traffic volume growth, the study forecasts an 8% increase over current traffic volumes on U.S. Route 460 through the year 2030. The following conclusions were defined:

1. The four-lane facility will continue to provide adequate service within the study area limits.
2. Crash rates are not expected to increase.

3. The pattern of land use development may potentially cause a diminution of capacity and safety by increasing the frequency of vehicle conflicts points.

#### *V.C. Recommended Improvements - Roadway*

To ensure continued safe operation on the U.S. Route 460 corridor as volumes increase, the recommended improvements include both turn lanes at intersections and corridor land use policies that are designed to manage the addition of driveways, intersections and median crossovers.

At each major intersection, a full set of turn lanes is recommended. These include left and right turn lanes off the mainline of U.S. Route 460 and combination left & through lanes with a separate right turn lane on all of the minor street approaches to U.S. Route 460. The intersections included in this recommendation are:

- State Route 613 (Police Tower Road)
- State Route 703 (Snapps Mill Road)
- State Route 647 (Little Dogwood Road)
- State Route 647 (Spout Springs Road)
- State Route 667 (Hummingbird Lane)
- State Route 689 (Spout Springs Road)
- State Route 609 (Stage Road)

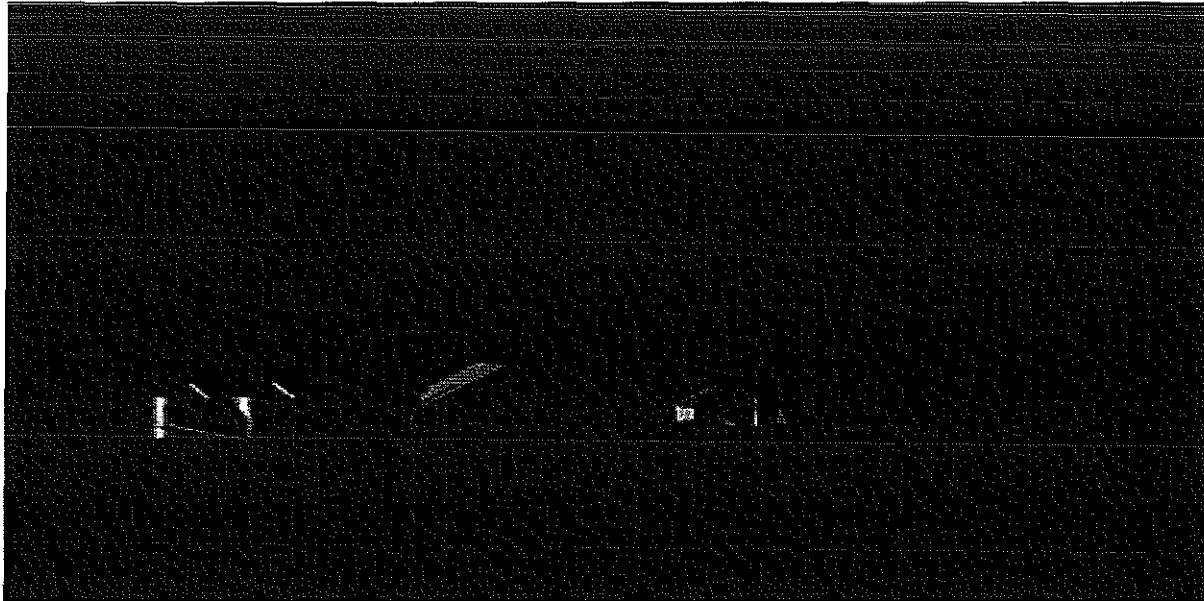
#### *V.D. Recommended Improvements – Land Use*

The recommendations for land use management of development along the corridor include the establishment of an access management program through the adoption of a Commercial Corridor Overlay District. Implementation of this program includes the following steps:

1. Comprehensive Plan: Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to include tasks that provide for access management and coordination of retail commercial development. The location of the Commercial Corridor Overlay District should also be identified.
2. Zoning Ordinance: Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to establish and map the Commercial Corridor Overlay District. The overlay district should include limiting the range of permitted uses along the corridor and increasing the minimum permitted lot size and lot dimensions (particularly lot width) along the corridor. The overlay district should establish that any application for more than one access point will require a traffic impact analysis.
3. Subdivision and Site Plan Ordinance: The existing subdivision ordinance is adequate for accommodating access management along the corridor.

Finally, nothing in the recommendations for amendments to existing land use regulations should be interpreted to indicate that existing driveways must be closed. The recommendations do not apply to existing developed uses unless and until they become associated with redevelopment. Any redevelopment activity will need to comply with applicable land use regulations.

**Appendix C**  
**RESOURCE CONSERVATION**  
**PLAN**



**AN AMENDMENT  
TO THE  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
PLAN (2003)**

**PREPARED BY THE  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**ADOPTED BY THE  
APPOMATTOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MARCH 5, 2007**

## RESOURCE CONSERVATION PLAN TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Executive Summary</b>	
<b>Plan Principles</b>	
<b><u>Chapter I-Efficient Organization of Land Uses and Land Development</u></b>	
Introduction	1
Rural Protection Areas	1
Town Centers	3
Village Centers	3
Primary Growth Corridors	8
Commerce Corridors	13
<b><u>Chapter II-Preservation of Historical, Scenic, and Recreational Resources</u></b>	
Historical Protection Areas	16
Scenic And Recreational Areas	17
Gateway Protection	19
Greenways/Blueways	19
<b><u>Chapter III-Preservation of Water Resources</u></b>	
Introduction	22
Floodplain and Watershed Management	22
Preservation of Prime Groundwater	
Impoundment Sites	23
<b><u>Chapter IV-Preservation of Agricultural and Forestal Resources</u></b>	
Introduction	26
Agricultural and Forestal Districts	26
Use Value Assessment Program	28
Forestry Protection and Preservation	29
Upland Forests	30
Riparian Forests	30
Landscape Buffers	31
Streetscapes & Parking Lot Plantings	31
Areas Acceptable for Intensive Farming	
Overlay District	32
Goals and Action Items	33
<b>Appendix A- Future Land Use</b>	
Introduction	35
The Map	35
Conclusion	37
Future Land Use Map	
Generally Accepted Areas for Intensive Farming Map	

## **Executive Summary**

The Resource Conservation Plan (RCP), adopted as the first “mini-plan” or appendix to the Appomattox Community Development Plan (CDP), serves a critical role in land use planning by striving to answer three important questions:

1. Where is development currently taking place in the community?
2. What areas of the community are best suited to handle moderate to intensive development in the future?
3. How should the community’s resources—scenic, historical, recreational, agricultural, silvicultural—be preserved from encroaching development?

One of the first steps in determining how best to preserve existing resources is to delineate the community’s centers of growth. For Appomattox County, the most intensive areas of current residential, commercial, and industrial growth are the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin. But there are also other growth “hubs” within the County that have developed over many years around well-traveled crossroads, country stores, or other communities. These are the County’s Village Centers, representing not just areas of rural growth but also growth cores from which new development radiates. Some may also be logical choices for future connection points for public water and sewer to sustain and better serve the concentrated population.

In addition to areas of growth around Town and Village “hubs,” growth also radiates along “corridors” — heavily traveled roads and highways that provide convenience for residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Primary Growth Corridors are roads or networks of adjoining roads where residential subdivisions have proliferated over the years and are projected to expand in the future, bringing accessory commercial uses, increased traffic, and increasing impact on groundwater and/or public water and sewer. Commerce Corridors, primarily U.S. 460, are high-profile, high-traffic areas that business and industry thrive upon for convenience and visibility.

After the Town Centers, Village Centers, Primary Growth Corridors and Commerce Corridors are inventoried, what remains are the purely rural areas of the County-- areas where development ranges from nonexistent to sporadic. Most development in rural areas consist of the lone store or service business to small subdivisions of 15 lots or less divided from former farmlands. These are the areas of the County where public water and sewer is unlikely to reach for several decades, but where continued and unrestrained subdividing of land could produce new Village Centers or Growth Corridors without the proper planning.

This is not to say that all rural areas should be protected from residential subdivisions and business growth. On the contrary, proper land use planning in these areas can work to ensure that development is allowed only to the extent that the roads and groundwater can sustain such development. Areas may be designated as Rural Transition Areas (RTAs)— locations where nearby concentrated growth could expand in the future. The more remote areas far from concentrated growth can be designated as Rural Protection Areas

(RPAs) to continue promoting agricultural, silvicultural, and light residential uses at the expense of increased growth.

Resource conservation is not just limited to protecting water supplies, roads, and public services from consuming businesses and residences. Conservation of the County's unique scenic, historical, and recreational resources is also a critical part of land use management. These resources are commonly found throughout the County without regard to the level of development concentration. While land use controls should not establish segregative walls around these resources, efforts should focus on blending and complementing existing and future development to the resources being protected.

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**Resource Conservation Plan Principles**

1. Appomattox County possesses unique historical, scenic, and recreational resources that must be protected from the encroachment of residential, commercial, and industrial development.
2. As a location of national historical significance, planning decisions should emphasize protecting the appearance of primary thoroughfares in the County.
3. As a jurisdiction with limited public water and sewer resources, planning decisions should be made to avoid the following adverse impacts:
  - a. Unduly burdening the current water and sewer systems operated by the Town of Appomattox without planning for additional capacity.
  - b. Allowing development in areas that could serve as future Town/County water impoundments.
  - c. Permitting medium-to-dense residential development that is reliant on groundwater supplies and onsite septic systems as opposed to public water and sewer.
  - d. Permitting medium-to-dense residential development in areas unlikely to be served by public water and/or sewer within the next 25 years.
4. Appomattox County follows a “town/village center” model of planning which encourages and directs development around and within existing established population centers. Under this model, random development in areas not designated for growth is strongly discouraged.
5. In areas not designated for growth, preservation of agricultural and silvicultural lands from unplanned development and subdivision is the primary goal.
6. “Effective land use planning should not unjustly burden the average citizen.”
7. As stewards of the community, let us not be guilty of a failure to plan or a failure to implement to the plan. Meaningful plans are those that become the basis for implementing decisions.

## Chapter I

### Efficient Organization of Land Uses and Land Development

#### A. Introduction

The function of this Chapter is to delineate planning areas within the County based on degree of growth, to outline the characteristics of each planning area, and to establish general guidelines for land use decisions. In some cases these general guidelines may be used as a framework for developing more detailed development plans for the individual planning areas.

The end product of this Chapter can be depicted in a planning map that in some aspects resembles a County zoning map. The difference is that while a County zoning map depicts grouped existing uses, the resultant planning map serves as a guide for making sound land use decisions in the future.

#### B. Rural Protection Areas

As discussed throughout this Plan, the primary goal of land use planning in this community is to encourage development in areas capable of sustaining the impact on resources while simultaneously discouraging development where providing public services would prove difficult and/or costly.

In rural areas where residential uses are solely dependent on private wells and on-site septic systems, allowing excessive concentrated development can be a recipe for disaster if the County lacks the ability to provide public water and sewer to the area. Drought periods can leave these homes in these areas without groundwater, and all septic systems have finite lifespans and will eventually fail. Ensuring that densities are light and minimum acreages more sizeable also ensures that residents stand a strong chance of obtaining new wells and drainfields if needed.

The 1988 Appomattox County Zoning Ordinance only provides one zoning classification suitable for residential development in rural areas—the A-1 Agricultural District. Over time, development patterns have proven that the A-1 District alone does an insufficient job of protecting rural areas from concentrated residential development and subdivision of land. A two-pronged approach can be taken to address this deficiency:

- Increase the minimum lot size in the A-1 Agricultural District from its current one (1) acre minimum to a three (3) acre minimum. This approach will ensure that developers wishing to carve rural lands into residential lots would only be able to do so in very light densities, or be forced to petition for a re-zoning and a possible Community Development Plan amendment. Family member divisions can be employed to ensure that these requirements do not overly burden the average citizen's goals of providing family lands for children and grandchildren.

- Create a Rural Residential District (RR-1) to fill the gap between growth and preservation areas. A Rural Residential District would essentially serve as a transition zone of lots no less than one (1) acre in size, and could allow a mix of single-family dwellings including modular and double-wide mobile homes.

In addition to zoning ordinance changes, planning areas can be used to reflect the degree to which rural areas can support future growth. The County's rural areas can be divided into rural preservation areas (RPAs) and rural transition areas, defined below:

1. **Rural Preservation Areas (RPAs)**- RPAs are areas where agricultural and silvicultural activities are considered the highest and best use, with very light residential development as a secondary use. These are areas that exist several miles from existing public water and sewer, or even planned expansion of public water and sewer within the next 25 years.
  - a. Goals of RPAs:
    - (1) A-1 zoning should be the dominant zoning classification with A-1 Intensive Farming overlays permitted in prime agricultural locations.
    - (2) Re-zoning petitions to smaller residential classifications should be denied absent amendment to the RCP designation of these areas.
    - (3) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken to return existing residential and business-zoned properties to A-1.
  - b. Allowable uses/densities. RPAs should only include A-1 and A-1 IF zoned properties, and RR-1 zoned properties that existed prior to enactment of the RR-1 district. RR-1 rezonings may be permitted for new subdivisions where housing density does not exceed 1 unit per 3 acres.
  
2. **Rural Transition Areas (RTAs)**- RTAs are predominately rural areas where there is existing light to moderate residential uses and some businesses amidst farmland. Because of the existing uses and the proximity to public services, these areas could be candidates for new development depending on the project being offered. Five of the seven Village Centers exist within RTAs.
  - a. Goals of RTAs:
    - (1) A-1 and RR-1 zoning should be the dominant zoning classifications with V-1 as a secondary classification in Village Centers.
    - (2) A-1 IF should not be permitted in these areas because of the potential for additional residential development.

- (3) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken to re-zone R-1 and R-2 parcels not located in planned subdivisions to RR-1. These parcels should also include platted frontage lots.
- b. Allowable uses/densities. RTAs should consist primarily of A-1 and RR-1 parcels. R-1 and R-2 re-zoning should be permitted only in planned subdivisions containing parcels 1 acre or larger unless served by public water and sewer. B-1, M-1, and M-IP uses should be permitted only along primary thoroughfares—Richmond Hwy, Oakville Rd, Old Courthouse Rd, and Red House Rd.

### C. Town Centers

The Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin represent the highest concentrations of existing development in the County. With public utilities available to serve residential and commercial uses, both towns should continue to be viewed as areas of highest development concentration for all types of uses.

Strong consideration should be given to creating Development Plans for each town focusing on the following elements:

1. Historic Preservation
2. Sustainable Uses (residential, commercial, industrial)
3. Current Capacity and Expansion of Public Utilities and Services

Town Development Plans can also focus on the specific types of uses allowable in specific areas.

### D. Village Centers

Village Centers represent a second level of concentrated development or, in some cases, logical service areas for nearby scattered pockets of development. These Centers are so designated because of their potential attraction to both residential and commercial development.

Because Village Centers are scattered in diverse areas throughout the County, each Center bears its own unique characteristics and ability to support new development. The boundaries of the County's Village Centers and their characteristics are as follows:

1. *Stonewall Village Center*
  - a. Boundaries. The Stonewall Village Center "hub" is located at the intersection of Stonewall Rd and Vineyard Rd (Rt. 721). The boundaries are roughly circular, crossing Vineyard Rd north of the hub at Spanish Oaks Rd (Rt. 653), Stonewall Rd southwest of the

hub at Arrowhead Rd (Rt. 670), and Stonewall Rd east of the hub at the intersection with Lyle Thomas Rd (Rt. 669). The area is approximately one-half mile (1/2) mile radius from the intersection.

b. Characteristics.

- (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, R-2 General Residential.
- (2) This Village Center is characterized by light residential use scattered among existing agricultural uses and some rural service businesses. Stonewall Vineyards serves as a tourist attraction to this area.

c. Conclusions.

- (1) Residential development has been slow in this area but given its proximity to Lynchburg as well as increased development near the Concord Growth Corridor, this area could very well experience residential growth in the near future.
- (2) In spite of its distance from existing public utilities, additional light residential growth in this area should be encouraged due to its proximity to Lynchburg. Planned Unit Developments with 3 acre minimum lots should be encouraged. Some rural service businesses should also be encouraged along Stonewall Rd. to serve this community.
- (3) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken to limit zoning classifications in this area to A-1 and RR-1.
- (4) A detailed area plan should also be developed for this Village Center.

2. Oakville Village Center

a. Boundaries. The Oakville Village Center "hub" is located at the intersection of Stonewall Rd, Piney Mountain Rd (Rt. 608), and Oakville Rd (Rt. 26). The boundaries are roughly circular, crossing Oakville Rd to the north of the hub at Liberty Chapel Rd (Rt. 615), Quail Run (Rt. 712) east of the hub, to the south at the North Creek Crossing on Oakville Rd, and crossing Stonewall Rd at Meadow Dr (Rt. 665) west of the hub. The area is approximately one-half mile (1/2) mile radius from the intersection.

b. Characteristics.

- (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, R-1 Residential, V-1 Village.

- (2) This Village Center is characterized by light residential use scattered among existing agricultural uses and some rural service businesses.

c. Conclusions.

- (1) Because of its location on a state highway at a busy intersection, there is the likelihood of rural service business development in this Village Center in the future.
- (2) Residential development has been slow in this area but given its proximity to the Town of Appomattox and location along a main highway, this area could very well experience residential growth in the near future.
- (3) In spite of its distance from existing public utilities, additional light residential growth in this area should be encouraged. Subdivision approvals should be based on 2-3 acre lots, and Planned Unit Developments should be encouraged. Some rural service businesses along Oakville Rd. should also be encouraged to serve this community.
- (4) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken in this area to replace R-1 zoned properties with either A-1, V-1, or RR-1 designations.
- (5) A detailed area plan should also be developed for this Village Center.

3. **Promise Land Village Center**

- a. Boundaries. The Promise Land Village Center “hub” is located at the intersection of Promise Land Rd (Rt. 604) and Double Bridges Rd (Rt. 679). The boundaries are roughly circular, crossing Double Bridges Rd to the west of the hub near the intersection with Hundley Springs Rd (Rt 645) and Chilton Rd (Rt 645), south of the hub on Promise Land Rd at Hundley Springs Rd, and north of the hub at Link Rd (Rt. 1080). The area is approximately one-half mile (1/2) mile radius from the intersection.

b. Characteristics.

- (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, V-1 Village, R-1 Residential.
- (2) This Village Center is characterized by light to moderate residential use scattered among existing agricultural uses and a rural service business (convenience store).

c. Conclusions.

- (1) Residential development has been slow to moderate in this area but given its proximity to the Town of Appomattox,

this area could very well experience residential growth in the near future.

- (2) In spite of its distance from existing public utilities, additional light to moderate residential growth in this area should be encouraged. Subdivision approvals should be based on 2-3 acre lots, and Planned Unit Developments should be encouraged. Some rural service businesses should also be encouraged to serve this community.
- (3) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken in this area to replace R-1 zoned properties with A-1, V-1, or RR-1 designations.
- (4) A detailed area plan should also be developed for this Village Center.

4. **Evergreen Village Center**

- a. **Boundaries.** The Evergreen Village Center “hub” is located at the intersection of Old Evergreen Rd (Rt. 630) and Cedar Tree Rd (Rt. 681). The boundaries are roughly circular, crossing Cedar Tree Rd to the west of the hub at Cypress Ct (Rt. 742), to the south on Old Evergreen Rd at Cedar Bend Rd (Rt. 675), and to the east at the intersection of Old Evergreen Rd and Richmond Hwy.
- b. **Characteristics.**
  - (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, V-1 Village, R-1 Residential.
  - (2) This Village Center is characterized by light to moderate residential use scattered among existing agricultural uses and rural service businesses.
- c. **Conclusions.**
  - (1) Residential development has been slow to moderate in this area but given its proximity to U.S. 460, this area could very well experience residential growth in the near future.
  - (2) In spite of its distance from existing public utilities, additional light to moderate residential growth in this area should be encouraged. Subdivision approvals should be based on 2-3 acre lots, and Planned Unit Developments should be encouraged. Some rural service businesses should also be encouraged to serve this community.
  - (3) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken to replace R-1 zoned properties with A-1, V-1 or RR-1 designations.
  - (4) A detailed area plan should also be developed for this Village Center.

5. **Bent Creek Village Center**

- a. Boundaries. The Bent Creek Village Center “hub” is located at the intersection of Anderson Hwy (US 60) and Oakville Rd. The boundaries extend westward from the hub for a distance of one mile from Oakville Rd along James River Rd (Rt 605), crossing Oakville Rd south of the hub at the bridge over an unnamed branch of Bent Creek, east of the hub at the intersection of Anderson Hwy and Mockingbird Ln (Rt 682), and north of the hub at Riverside Dr (Rt 605) and the Buckingham County line.
- b. Characteristics.
- (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, V-1 Village, R-1 Residential, B-1 Business.
  - (2) This Village Center contains two businesses (canoe rental, convenience store) and light residential use.
- c. Conclusions.
- (1) Because of its location on U.S.60 at the James River and County line, there is the potential for additional commercial growth to occur in the form of service and recreational-related businesses in this Village Center. These types of businesses should be encouraged.
  - (2) The Village Center is located in a remote section of the County away from other population centers and public utilities. As such, residential growth is unlikely to occur.
  - (3) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken to replace R-1 zoned properties with A-1, V-1, or RR-1 designations.
  - (4) A detailed area plan should also be developed for this Village Center.

6. **Vera Village Center**

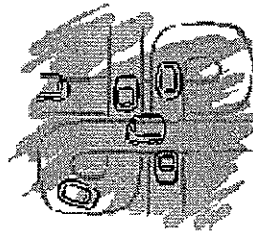
- a. Boundaries. The Vera Village Center “hub” is located at the intersection of Old Courthouse Rd (Rt 24), Wildway Rd (Rt 616), and Old Grist Mill Rd (Rt 616). The boundaries are roughly circular, crossing Watt Abbitt Rd (Rt 654) north of the hub one mile from Old Courthouse Rd, Wildway Rd northwest of the hub at Piney Mountain Rd, Old Courthouse Rd southwest of the hub at the Rocky Run bridge, Old Grist Mill Rd southeast of the hub one mile from Old Courthouse Rd, and Old Courthouse Rd northeast of the hub at the easternmost intersection with Mini Ball Ln (Rt 699). The area is approximately one-half mile (1/2) mile radius from the intersection.

b. Characteristics.

- (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, R-1 Residential, V-1 Village.
- (2) This Village Center is characterized by light residential use scattered among existing agricultural uses and some rural service businesses.

c. Conclusions.

- (1) Because of its location on a state highway at a busy intersection, there is the likelihood of rural service business development in this Village Center in the future.
- (2) Given that the Vera Village Center is located in close proximity to the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, additional consideration should be given to new proposed uses and how they will impact the appearance of this thoroughfare.
- (3) Residential development has been slow in this area but given its proximity to the Town of Appomattox and location along a main highway, this area could very well experience residential growth in the near future.
- (4) In spite of its distance from existing public utilities, additional light residential growth in this area should be encouraged. Subdivision approvals should be based on 2-3 acre lots, and Planned Unit Developments should be encouraged.
- (5) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken in this area to replace R-1 zoned properties with either A-1, V-1, or RR-1 designations.
- (6) A detailed area plan should also be developed for this Village Center.



**E. Primary Growth Corridors**

Primary Growth Corridors are similar to Village Centers in that both designate areas where there is existing concentrated development. But unlike Village Centers, concentrated uses in these areas sprawl along a road or series of roads within a definable area.

Growth corridors are so designated to maximize development in areas that can sustain such concentrations, or to minimize expansion beyond their boundaries in

areas unsuitable for future growth. A secondary goal is to encourage comparable development patterns along the corridors to decrease the chance of incompatible uses.

1. **Concord Growth Corridor-** While some may view the Concord area as more of a Village Center, its sprawling development patterns are better illustrated as a growth corridor within Appomattox County as opposed to the concentrated village area in Campbell County.
  - a. **Boundaries.** Includes Richmond Hwy (US 460) from Hummingbird Ln (Rt 667) to Campbell County line, Hummingbird Ln north one mile from Richmond Hwy, Phoebe Pond Rd (Rt 609) from Richmond Hwy to Campbell County line, Stage Rd (Rt 609) from Richmond Hwy to Stonewall Rd (Rt 608), and Stonewall Rd from Campbell County line to Stage Rd intersection.
  - b. **Characteristics.**
    - (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: R-1 Residential, R-2 General Residential, A-1 Agricultural, M-1 Industrial, and B-1 Business.
    - (2) Residential development concentration has increased over the past 10 years along Stonewall Rd and Stage Rd in the form of single-family dwellings and double-wide mobile homes. Because of its close proximity to Richmond Hwy and short travel time to Lynchburg, this area will likely to be targeted for further development in the future.
    - (3) Commercially-zoned properties have dramatically increased with the Concord Business Park near the intersection of Richmond Hwy and Stage Rd. It is important to ensure a clear separation between these uses and the residential uses developing further north along Stage Rd.
    - (4) Development south of Richmond Hwy is limited by the presence of both the County line and the Norfolk Southern Railroad.
    - (5) This Growth Corridor is a County gateway for traffic entering the County via Richmond Hwy and Stonewall Rd from the west.
    - (6) Portions of this Growth Corridor also fall within the Richmond Highway Western Commerce Corridor. Considerations for both development areas should be consulted when making land use decisions in the affected areas.
    - (7) This Growth Corridor also lies at the County's western gateway.

- c. Conclusions.
  - (1) A detailed area plan should be developed for this Growth Corridor.
  - (2) Great consideration should be given to aesthetic impact of new business and industry on the County's western gateway.
  
2. **Spout Spring Growth Corridor-** Existing residential concentrations in this corridor radiate out from Richmond Hwy along several secondary roads in the form of frontage lots. Very little "back land" behind these frontage lots are used for planned subdivisions.
  - a. Boundaries. Includes Richmond Hwy from Reedy Spring Rd (Rt 648) to Peaceful Meadow Rd (Rt 732), all of Spout Spring Rd (Rts 689/647), Salem Rd (Rt 647) from Spout Spring Rd to one mile south of Pumping Station Rd (Rt 691), Little Dogwood Rd (Rt. 647) from Richmond Hwy to Spring Grove Rd (Rt. 647), all of Depot Ln (Rt 674), Snapps Mill Rd (Rt 703) from Richmond Hwy to Tanglewood Rd (Rt 685), all of Cedar Cove Ln (Rt 646), all of Little Bear Ln (Rt 708), and all of Peaceful Meadow Rd.
  
  - b. Characteristics.
    - (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, R-1 Residential, R-2 Residential, and B-1 Business.
    - (2) Because of its close proximity to Richmond Hwy and short travel time to both Appomattox and Lynchburg, this area will likely to be targeted for further development in the future. Open lands north and south of Richmond Hwy offer ample targets for future residential development.
    - (3) There are few commercially-zoned properties in this corridor.
    - (4) Portions of this Growth Corridor fall within the Richmond Highway Western Commerce Corridor. Considerations for both planning areas should be consulted when making land use decisions in the affected areas.
  
  - c. Conclusions.
    - (1) A detailed area plan should be developed for this Growth Corridor.
    - (2) Businesses should be encouraged to develop along Richmond Hwy and not along secondary roads. Likewise, residential uses should be discouraged along Richmond Hwy.
  
3. **Pumping Station Road Growth Corridor-** This Corridor is the location of several of the County's largest subdivisions including Cannon Oaks,

Walton Place, Spring Brook Subdivision, Country Club Estates, and Wildwood Subdivision.

- a. Boundaries. Includes all of Pumping Station Rd to Town limits, Country Club Rd (Rt 643) from Pumping Station Rd to Falling River Bridge, Country Club Estates, Wildwood Subdivision, Chilton Rd (Rt 645) from Country Club Rd to Falling River Bridge), Purdum Mill Rd (Rt 719) from Pumping Station Rd to Rt 641 intersection, and all of Dunn Roamin Rd (Rt 641).
  - b. Characteristics.
    - (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, R-1 Residential, M-1 Industrial (Transco pumping station).
    - (2) Because of the existing residential uses as well as its convenient location, developers will likely continue to target these areas for more residential development.
  - c. Conclusions.
    - (1) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken to ensure that all residential parcels in planned subdivisions currently zoned A-1 Agricultural are re-zoned to R-1 Residential.
    - (2) R-2 re-zoning should be allowed only for subdivisions that will be served by public water and sewer.
    - (3) A detailed area plan should be developed for this Growth Corridor.
4. **Town of Appomattox Suburban Growth Corridors-** There are four areas of concentrated residential development outside the limits of the Town of Appomattox:
- 1) Horseshoe Rd corridor north of Town and the Historical Park;
  - 2) Log Cabin Rd corridor north of Town; 3) Church St/Purdum Mill Rd. corridor southwest of Town; and 4) Redfields Rd corridor southeast of Town.
- a. Boundaries. Includes Church St (Rt. 641) from Town limits to Purdum Mill Rd, all of Log Cabin Rd (Rt 677), all of Eldon Rd (Rt. 658), all of Country View Ln (Rt 1032), all of Tower Hill Rd (Rt 1064), Old Courthouse Rd from Town limits to Horseshoe Rd (Rt. 656), Horseshoe Rd from Old Courthouse Rd to Woodchuck Dr (Rt 1090), all of Hunting Ridge Subdivision, all of Babcock Farm Rd (Rt 706), Redfields Rd (Rt 635) from Confederate Blvd (US 460 Business) to Evergreen Av (Rt. 1002).

- b. Characteristics.
    - (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, R-1 Residential, R-2 Residential, some scattered B-1 Business parcels.
    - (2) These corridors contain some of the community's highest residential concentrations. Given their proximity to the Town, main highways, and public utilities, their growth should be encouraged to continue.
  - c. Conclusions.
    - (1) Strong consideration should be given to administrative rezoning of A-1 Agricultural properties to either R-1 or R-2 designations to ensure that residential and agricultural uses do not collide. Some A-1 parcels surrounding these corridors could also be rezoned to RR-1 as a buffer or transition zone into A-1 properties.
    - (2) Infilling of existing vacant properties with residential uses should be encouraged, particularly where public water and sewer is available or can be readily provided.
    - (3) R-2 rezoning requests, especially involving multifamily dwellings, should be honored only in areas currently served or to be served by public water and sewer.
    - (4) A detailed area plan should be developed for these corridors.
5. **Red House Road Growth Corridor** – This area is an emerging residential sector for the county. Previous single-family subdivisions have been developed on the northern end of the corridor closet to the town limits. The Northern portion is projected to develop faster than the southern portion.
- a. Boundaries. Includes Red House Rd (Rt 727) from Town limits to Promise Land Road (Rt 604). Also includes Country Estates Rd (Rt 642), Woodlawn Tr (Rt 1065) and the area south east of the town encompassing Redfields Road (Rt 635).
  - b. Characteristics.
    - (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, R-1 Residential, and R-2 Residential.
    - (2) With the exception of a few cul-de-sac subdivisions that branch off of Red House Rd, most residential development in this corridor consists of road frontage lots.
  - c. Conclusions.
    - (1) Administrative re-zoning should be undertaken to replace all R-1, R-2, and V-1 zoned properties with A-1 or RR-1

zoning designations. The exceptions are Country Estates on Rt. 642 and Cedar Knolls on Rt. 1065.

- (2) V-1 zoning should not be used in this corridor south of the intersection with Promise Land Rd (Rt 604).
- (3) A detailed area plan should be developed for this corridor.

## F. Commerce Corridors

One of the key planning goals for the community is to encourage the development of uses in areas that can best sustain them. Based on its prime location and proximity to other thoroughfares and Town Centers, Richmond Highway (U.S. 460) is the preferable area for the development of business and industry. Allowing for random development of business and industrial uses along secondary and/or rural roads only increases the likelihood of colliding incompatible uses.

### 1. *Richmond Highway Western Commerce Corridor*

- a. Boundaries. Includes that portion of Richmond Hwy from the town limits west to Police Tower Road for a distance of 1000 feet on either side of the highway, then extending west from Police Tower Road to Hummingbird Lane for a distance of 500 feet on either side of the highway, finally, from Hummingbird Lane to the Campbell County line for a distance of 1000 feet on either side of the road.
- b. Characteristics.
  - (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, B-1 Business, M-1 Industrial, R-1 Residential, and R-2 Residential.
  - (2) Concentrations of existing businesses and business-zoned properties are located between Town limits and Police Tower Rd (Rt 613), between Snapps Mill Rd (Rt. 703) and Little Dogwood Rd (Rt. 647), and between the Campbell County line and Hummingbird Ln (Rt. 667).
  - (3) Portions of this Growth Corridor also fall within the Concord and Spout Spring Growth Corridors. Considerations for these development areas should be consulted when making land use decisions in the affected areas.
- c. Conclusions.
  - (1) A detailed area plan should be developed for this Growth Corridor.
  - (2) One of the focuses of the detailed area plan should be the impact on traffic that new business and industrial uses may

have. Until this area plan is developed, no new Richmond Hwy crossovers should be approved.

- (3) Properties not currently zoned B-1 or M-1 that front on Richmond Hwy in the areas of concentration discussed in (b)(2) above should be administratively rezoned to B-1.
- (4) Some site elements that should give weight to a business or industrial zoning petition include:
  - (A) Provision for a minimum 50' service road to access adjacent business and industrial properties, especially connecting to existing service roads or reserved rights-of-way.
  - (B) Landscaping and/or preservation of greenspace in the form of screening buffers or greenways.
  - (C) Use of public water and sewer.
- (5) Great consideration should be given to aesthetic impact of new business and industry on the County's western gateway.

## 2. *Richmond Highway Eastern Commerce Corridor*

- a. Boundaries. Includes Richmond Hwy from Town limits extending east to Old Evergreen Road for a distance of 1000 feet in either direction, then from Piney Ridge Road eastward to Swan Road for a distance of 500 feet in either direction.
- b. Characteristics.
  - (1) Current zoning districts are as follows: A-1 Agricultural, B-1 Business, M-1 Industrial, R-1 Residential, R-2 Residential.
  - (2) Existing businesses are scattered throughout the Corridor and are not focused in one or more specific locations.
- c. Conclusions.
  - (1) A detailed area plan should be developed for this Corridor.
  - (2) One of the focuses of the detailed area plan should be the impact on traffic that new business and industrial uses may have. Until this area plan is developed, no new Richmond Hwy crossovers should be approved.
  - (3) Some site elements that should give weight to a business or industrial zoning petition include:
    - (A) Provision for a minimum 50' service road to access adjacent business and industrial properties, especially connecting to existing service roads or reserved rights-of-way.
    - (B) Landscaping and/or preservation of greenspace in the form of screening buffers or greenways.

- (C) Use of public water and sewer.
- (4) Great consideration should be given to aesthetic impact of new business and industry on the County's eastern gateway.
- (5) Existing R-1 and R-2 zoned properties should be administratively re-zoned to RR-1. Consideration should be given to administratively re-zoning properties to V-1 Village in the Evergreen and Pamplin areas of Richmond Hwy.

## **Chapter II** **Preservation of Historical, Scenic, and** **Recreational Resources**



### **A. Historical Resource Protection Areas**

In order to protect the community's historic resources from encroaching and/or inconsistent development, protection areas should be established that provide developers with a clear set of criteria regarding what they can and cannot do in and around these resources. These protection areas are as follows:

1. ***National Historical Park Protection Area***
  - (a) **Location.** This protection area includes the present and future boundaries of the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and adjacent/nearby properties zoned H-1 Historic. The protection area also includes properties fronting on Old Courthouse Rd (Rt 24) from the western Historical Park boundary to Confederate Blvd (US 460 Business), Old Courthouse Rd from the eastern park boundary to Old Grist Mill Rd (Rt 616), and River Ridge Rd (Rt 627) from Old Courthouse Rd to the intersection with Trents Mill Rd (Rt 631) and Oakleigh Ave (Rt 631).
  - (b) **Guidelines.**
    - (1) Limit development in the protection area to uses that complement the Historical Park.
    - (2) Consider developing an overlay district that imposes aesthetic requirements for new construction.
    - (3) Allow only residential subdivision developments with re-zoning to the H-1 Historic District.
    - (4) Consider developing a detailed area plan for this protection area.
2. ***Town of Appomattox Historic Resource Protection Area***
  - (a) **Location.** The Appomattox Historic District includes a total of 306 contributing resources and 144 non-contributing resources within a large portion of the incorporated area of the county seat. This district consists of the Courthouse Square, the commercial blocks

surrounding the railroad tracks and the 1923 Appomattox depot, and the enveloping residential areas. The area includes major corridors such as Lee-Grant Avenue, Court Street, Church Street, and Main Street.

- (b) Guidelines.
  - (1) Consider developing an overlay district that imposes aesthetic requirements for new construction, rehabilitation/renovation, and outdoor advertising. In conjunction with this initiative, also consider developing design criteria for the review board to utilize in making project approval decisions.
  - (2) Consider forming an architectural review board for projects that are undertaken in the protection area.
  - (3) Consider developing a detailed area plan for this protection area.

### 3. *Town of Pamplin Historic Resources*

- (a) Location. TO BE DETERMINED.
- (b) Guidelines.
  - (1) Consider developing an overlay district that imposes aesthetic requirements for new construction, rehabilitation/renovation, and outdoor advertising.
  - (2) Consider forming an architectural review board for projects that are undertaken in the protection area. In conjunction with this initiative, also consider developing design criteria for the review board to utilize in making project approval decisions.
  - (3) Consider developing a detailed area plan for this protection area.



## B. Scenic and Recreational Areas

In addition to its historic attractions, Appomattox County possesses many undeveloped areas of scenic beauty that should also be protected from encroaching and unplanned development. The two most obvious resources are the James River that forms the northwestern boundary of the County, and the Appomattox River and Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest that occupy a large section of the eastern portion of the County. The protection areas outlined below offer guidelines for development in these sensitive areas.

1. **James River Protection Area**
  - (a) Location. The James River Protection includes properties bordering the river extending eastward to Rt 605 (Dreaming Creek Rd, Beckham Rd, James River Rd, and Riverside Dr). This includes areas along Chestnut Mountain, Turner Mountain, and Cove Mountain.
  - (b) Guidelines.
    - (1) Zoning should be limited to A-1 Agricultural. Subdivision of land should be limited to lot sizes as prescribed by the A-1 district requirements.
    - (2) Consideration should be given to developing an overlay district that increases the minimum lot size beyond five acres and imposes density requirements for new developments.
    - (3) Consideration may be given to residential developments that would be re-zoned to the RR-1 District that provide for up to 40% reserved open space, conservation easements in the form of greenways or blueways, and public easements for hiking trails and/or river access.
    - (4) Businesses should be discouraged along rural roads in this area with the exception of businesses that cater specifically to recreational activities.
    - (5) Consider developing a detailed area plan for this protection area.
  
2. **Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest/Appomattox River Protection Area**
  - (a) Location. Encompasses the present and future boundaries of the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest. The Appomattox River Protection Area encompasses an area bounded by Looner Den Rd (Rt 614), Old Grist Mill Rd (Rt 616), River Ridge Rd (Rt 627), Hixburg Rd (Rt 627), Cutbanks Rd (Rt 601/612), Coleman Mountain Rd (Rt 617), and Hollywood Rd (Rt 618).
  - (b) Guidelines.
    - (1) Zoning should be limited to A-1 Agricultural. Subdivision of land should be limited to lot sizes as prescribed by the A-1 district requirements.
    - (2) Consideration should be given to developing an overlay district that increases the minimum lot size beyond five acres and imposes density requirements for new developments.
    - (3) Consideration may be given to residential developments that would be re-zoned to the RR-1 District that provide for up to 40% reserved open space, conservation easements in

the form of greenways or blueways, and public easements for hiking trails and/or river access.

- (4) Businesses should be discouraged along rural roads in this area with the exception of businesses that cater specifically to recreational activities.
- (5) Consider developing a detailed area plan for this protection area.

### **C. Gateway Protection**

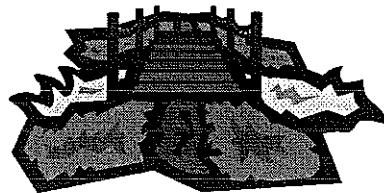
As a locality with national historical significance, it is important to ensure through land use controls that historic sites and attractions are not overwhelmed by advancing development. But often neglected are protections for the County's gateways— areas where major thoroughfares enter the County from adjacent jurisdictions. The first impression that visitors have of the County and its attractions is gained from the appearance of its gateways. For Appomattox County, the gateways are as follows: Richmond Hwy (US 460) from the Campbell County line to Hummingbird Lane (Rt 667), Richmond Hwy from the Prince Edward County line to Piney Ridge Rd (Rt 628), and Old Courthouse Road (Rt 24) from the Buckingham County line to Holiday Lake Rd (Rt 626).

Gateway protections should include the following:

1. Standard screening/buffering, landscaping, and open space requirements for business and industrial uses.
2. Additional restrictions on signage, including but not limited to height/area limitations and standardized color/design criteria.
3. Avoidance of uses that may not be visually or aesthetically appealing unless screened or not visible from road. Existing uses that are not visually/aesthetically appealing should not be permitted to expand without provision for adequate screening/buffering from the road.
4. Access limitations should be placed on business and industrial uses to avoid increasing traffic volumes. Utilize existing highway crossovers and seek to close any unnecessary crossovers.

Consideration should also be given to developing detailed area plans for each gateway.

### **D. Greenways/Blueways**



“Greenways,” and their aquatic counterparts “blueways,” are networks of designated areas that can be used to connect points of scenic, historical, and/or recreational interest. Greenways and blueways most commonly appear in the form of trails or routes reserved as a means of alternate transportation for hiking, biking, boating, and the like. But greenways and blueways can be also be used as land use tools to plan more efficient and aesthetically appealing developments:

1. Buffer strips. New developments can sometimes result in a clashing of incompatible or poorly compatible uses, be it a residential neighborhood moving into an undeveloped wooded area or a new business being constructed on a primary thoroughfare near an historical attraction. While the Planning Commission has in the past required additional setback distances or screening in the form of fences or plantings, greenway designation can be requested of many petitioners as a means of making buffer areas more formalized and to demonstrate sound planning.
2. Growth control/land preservation. The use of a greenway to buffer an individual property can help separate two incompatible uses. But the use of such buffers on a series of properties across a large expanse can buffer entire areas of commonly zoned properties, growth areas, etc., from one another. Ideally, a large greenway buffer can be used help to delineate where growth can and cannot occur in a tangible fashion. Careful planning can strive to interconnect these greenway buffers as new developments are proposed and constructed in the same geographic area.
3. Recreational areas. Beyond serving as passively functional buffers or screens, a greenway or blueway can be actively functional by serving as a recreational facility for the public. For example, a developer may be interested in carving 100 lots from a 100 acre tract that has only 75 acres of land suitable for building sites and 25 acres of forested floodplain. Rather than selling some lots larger with the unusable land, the developer could make the project more attractive by reserving all or part of the 25 acres as a public park or nature area-- providing a useable public facility as an accessory to an intensive project.

The Region 2000 Regional Commission is has developed a Regional Greenways/Blueways Plan that designates a potential network of greenways and blueways that connect attractions across the region. The mapping product developed in conjunction with this regional plan can be used as a guideline for demonstrating logical routes for a potential greenway network within the County and its Towns, as well as with adjacent localities. A byproduct of this effort has been the creation of the Appomattox Heritage and Recreation Trail Committee. This committee was formed in 2005 to develop a system of local trails that would compliment the regional system. The committee is diligently working on developing a local plan, funding opportunities, and on-the-ground trails. Additional opportunities for connectivity abound with the recent development of the High Bridge Trail funded through the Department of Conservation and Recreation and utilizing old railroad beds and trestles to create a pedestrian trail from Burkeville to Pamplin.

Preferred areas for greenways within the County include the following:

1. Properties abutting the limits of the Towns of Appomattox and Pamplin.
2. Properties adjacent to the proposed Appomattox Recreation Park, the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest.
3. Properties that can be used to interconnect one or more historic/recreational attractions with neighborhoods and population centers.
4. Floodplain areas along the following bodies of water and their tributaries:
  - (a) Appomattox River
  - (b) James River
  - (c) Wreck Island Creek
  - (d) Stonewall Creek
  - (e) Reedy Creek
  - (f) Falling River
  - (g) Cub Creek
  - (h) Bent Creek
  - (i) David Creek
  - (j) Vaughns Creek
  - (k) Marrowbone Creek
5. Properties along Richmond Hwy (U.S. 460), Oakville Rd (Rt. 26), Old Courthouse Rd (Rt 24), Red House Rd (Rt 727).
6. Properties along routes designated in the County's Bicycle Plan.
7. Properties along established dividing lines of planning areas.

Once any greenways or blueways are successfully developed, consideration can be given to implementing a greenway/blueway overlay district to protect them from reverting to other uses in the future. The overlay district can include provisions such as limiting by-right uses to those of a recreational or public nature, requiring lands to be dedicated for greenway use to replace any lands removed from the overlay district, and imposing additional regulations on timber operations or land disturbance activities within the district.



## **Chapter III**

### **Preservation of Water Resources**

#### **A. Introduction**

The function of this chapter is to identify and discuss ways to preserve the various water resources throughout the county. The availability of water is one of the most crucial factors in determining the location and intensity of commercial, industrial, and residential development. Additionally, the potential impacts these types of developments have on the overall watershed need to be analyzed and proper protection of our natural environment should be at the forefront of our planning efforts.

#### **B. Floodplain and Watershed Management**

Floodplain management is the operation of a community program of corrective and preventative measures aimed at reducing flood damage. These measures take a variety of forms and generally include requirements for zoning, subdivision or building, and possibly special-purpose floodplain ordinances. Congress, in 1968, established the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to reduce future flood damage through community floodplain management. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is responsible for coordinating the NFIP at the state level. The "floodplain" is determined through the analysis of various river flow records, storm tides, hydraulic and hydrologic data. Floodplains are depicted on a map known as Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). A series of maps or *panels* have been prepared for each locality throughout the state. Appomattox County, like most communities, has many areas prone to flooding. The most flood prone areas are along the James River and the Appomattox River. Many of the smaller tributaries throughout the county have areas of localized flooding. Although everyone lives in a *watershed*, most people don't know the actual meaning of the word. Put simply, a watershed is all the land that drains into a given body of water. This body of water can be a creek, pond, river or ocean. Generally speaking, the larger the body of water, the larger its watershed. The Chesapeake Bay watershed, for example, covers 64,000 square miles and drains from six states including 60 percent of Virginia. There are approximately 497 subwatersheds throughout the state. Management of a community's watersheds is directly correlated to the management of the localities floodplain. Even the smallest developments can have major impacts on the larger watershed as a whole and development within the floodplain can alter the drainage of the watershed. Appomattox County is split between two large watersheds. The

northern two-third's (2/3<sup>rd</sup>) of the county are part of the James River Watershed, while the southern one-third (1/3<sup>rd</sup>) of the county is part of the Roanoke River Watershed. Several other watersheds throughout the county include the Appomattox River, David's Creek, Bent Creek, Rough Creek, Suanee Creek, Long Creek, Reedy Creek, and the North Fork Falling River.

Protecting a community's watersheds leads to a variety of benefits for our natural resources and environment. A watershed protection strategy can mean improved quality and quantity of water for the survival of fish, wildlife, and people. Stable floodplains and vegetated stream buffers are important to any watershed because they reduce the likelihood of flood events, provide recreational opportunities such as greenway trails, and offer aesthetic natural scenery. Watershed improvements can lead to ancillary benefits such as enhanced real estate values for homes and businesses near greenway or blueway trails and other recreational offerings.

#### **Guidelines:**

1. Encourage establishment of vegetative buffers along all active creeks and streams.
2. Maintain natural drainage courses wherever possible during the design and construction process for both residential and commercial development.
3. Maintain existing topography and vegetation wherever possible during the design and construction for both residential and commercial development.
4. Encourage establishment and preservation of 100 foot stream buffers along all active creeks, streams, and rivers.
5. Encourage the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for all agricultural, construction and silviculture activities.
6. Review the County's development regulations to ensure that the policies of this plan are supported and implemented through those ordinances.
7. Consideration should be given to creating detailed plans for each watershed and subwatershed throughout the county.

#### **C. Preservation of Prime Groundwater Impoundment Sites**

Appomattox County has several surface impoundments, only four of which are known to be greater than 10 acres. Holliday Lake, in the northern part of the county, is the largest surface impoundment in Appomattox County. The majority of surface impoundments in the county are farm ponds, which vary in size from less than an acre to several acres. These impoundments offer many benefits, most noticeably flood control and erosion and sediment control mitigation. An

additional surface impoundment has been considered over the past few years as a potential source of drinking water supply. This proposed impoundment is located on Wreck Island Creek near Stonewall Mill. A detailed analysis of the potential for a newly constructed impoundment was completed by Wiley and Wilson Engineers, in their report entitled *Water Resource Study for the Appomattox Area for the Town of Appomattox and County of Appomattox*. Through this analysis, it was determined that this impoundment would be extremely cost prohibitive to construct as a drinking water facility, therefore, the viability of this proposed impoundment remains in doubt. A separate study performed by MRG Consultants, through the Region 2000 Local Government Council (*Appomattox Long-Term Water Supply Project*), was performed in 2005 at the request of the Town of Appomattox and the County of Appomattox to evaluate various options for providing a sustainable drinking water source. The results of this study provided multiple alternatives for long-term drinking water sources. The governing bodies of both the Town of Appomattox and the County of Appomattox agreed to pursue Alternative 2B, which consist of the construction of a 16" waterline from Concord (approximately 8 miles) and purchase water wholesale from Campbell County Utilities and Service Authority (CCUSA). As of the date of this plan, efforts are on-going to bring this project to reality.

Groundwater is the main source of drinking water for the vast majority of the county. Most groundwater impoundments are found in fracture zones, joints in the bedrock, or just above the bedrock in the weathered rock zones, usually within 150 feet of the surface. Approximately 87% of all county residents utilize well systems for their drinking water needs. The remaining 13% are served by public water through the Town of Appomattox water system. The Town of Appomattox water system is supplied by a series of eight (8) wells interspersed throughout the community.

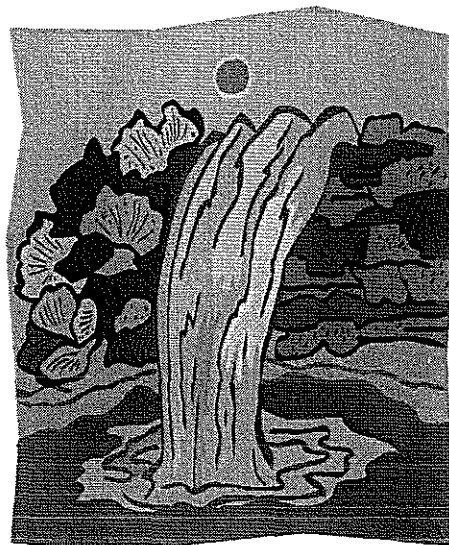
The Commonwealth of Virginia has developed legislation for new water supply planning regulations. The new regulations require the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to promulgate a regulation necessary for the establishment of a comprehensive water supply planning process including criteria for the development of local and regional water supply plans. The water supply planning regulations will influence long-term requirements for sustainable sources of drinking water. The Town of Appomattox and the County of Appomattox have agreed to participate in a regional water supply planning effort which is being spearheaded by the Region 2000 Local Government Council. As of the writing of this plan, this effort is on-going as well. Future amendments to the Community Development Plan will include details on the results of this planning effort.

#### **Guidelines:**

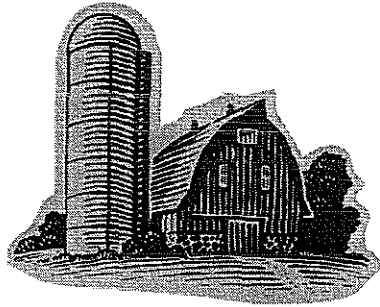
1. The County will remain dependent on groundwater resources for the

majority of its water supply needs through the year 2050. Development should be encouraged in areas that are known to provide adequate supply of land and groundwater supply, including critical recharge areas.

2. The County will seek to provide public water service to specific planned areas. A detailed water service area plan should be developed in order to detail areas for focusing future residential and commercial growth. Additionally, the creation and administration of a public water service should be further explored in detail.
3. Encourage developers to coordinate their plans with the Health Department to ensure that sufficient separation and dispersion of wells and septic fields is achieved in the Primary Growth Areas.
4. The County should develop well-head protection guidelines, possibly as part of the zoning ordinance, and coordinate with state agencies to implement measures to ensure the adequacy of such protection areas.
5. Continue to seek alternatives for long-term drinking water alternatives. This includes continued pursuit of a public water line in the Route 460 area from Concord to the Town of Appomattox.
6. Encourage the use of semi-pervious or pervious surfaces in proposed developments, where possible.
7. Encourage a minimum 100-foot setback from all rivers, creeks, streams, and surface impoundments for development related ground disturbing activities. In areas with steep slopes (20% or greater) encourage a greater setback.



**Chapter IV**  
**Preservation of Agricultural and Forestal Resources**



### **A. Introduction**

The purpose of this chapter is to take a closer look at the areas of the county which are more suited to remain agricultural in use. Additionally, the forestry industry plays a vital role in the economic make-up of the county therefore the need to preserve areas available for silviculture is desired as well. This chapter will explore tools available to encourage the preservation of agricultural and forestal resources. It is important though to identify whether we actually are intending to preserve “agriculture” i.e. “farming” or is our intention to preserve “open space”. The two are distinctly different and the tools for preservation are not the same. Many times a locality makes the mistake of interchanging the terminology when in actuality it desires to preserve mountainous views, pastoral scenery and pristine creeks and rivers. For the purpose of this chapter we will try to focus on the task of true agriculture and forestry land uses.

### **B. Agricultural and Forestal Districts**

When discussion agricultural and forestal districts, it is important to first gain some appreciation for the extent that these two land uses impact our community.

Forestry is an important industry in Appomattox County. Approximately 155,000 acres of forestland are managed by two individuals with the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOP) in Appomattox County. This year landowners were assisted in their forestry management by the Department of Forestry’s Reforestation program which consisted of 1122 acres of Loblolly Pine establishment, 10 acres of Shortleaf Pine establishment, 200 acres of Hardwood was either established by planting or by natural regeneration and 10 acres of White Pine establishment (2006). Loblolly Pine thinning averages approximately 400 acres a year. According to the Virginia Department of Forestry in 1999, approximately 1,144 persons in Appomattox County were directly impacted by the employment in the forestry field. Another 800 persons were indirectly impacted by this industry thereby providing over 1,900 persons with employment. The economic benefit totals over \$165 million annually for Appomattox County alone. On a regional basis, the economic impact of the forestry

industry is over \$1.9 billion annually. Harvest volumes have leveled off over the last couple of years (2001 figures) for the county; however the current level is a slight decrease from the harvest volumes of the late 1990's. Harvest volumes tend to change according to local demand. It is likely that that once more current figures are available a slight increase will be realized. Appomattox County has a significant amount of forest areas that are in what is known as the wildland-urban interface. This area is a contact zone between undeveloped forested areas and developing areas. The transitional area between the two is the most susceptible to fire. Forest landowners who harvest timber usually reforest these areas. Between 1994 and 2003, Appomattox County saw approximately 8,300 acres replanted in tree seedlings.

Agriculture is another driving force in the county's economic engine. According to the 2002 Agriculture Census, Appomattox County had 389 operating farms which accounted for approximately 85,000 acres in farming use. The majority of farms (44%) averaged over 50 acres in size but less than 180 acres. A much smaller percentage of farms (8%) average over 500 acres in size. The total number of farms did increase from 1992 to 2002 by 9%. Cattle and hay/pasture production are the two areas of agriculture that by far outdistance all others utilizing nearly 50% of all agricultural acres for these two uses. As a result of legislation in the late 1990's, tobacco farming has seen the number of farms decrease since 1992 by 75%. The total number of acres used for tobacco production is less than 50 as opposed to 160 acres in 1992. As time progresses, it is anticipated that this figure will continue to decline as is the general state of this industry throughout the United States.

One of the county's main challenges will be to maintain and even increase agricultural uses on smaller parcels. As noted in the Census on Agriculture information, the size of farms is decreasing over time. The percentage of farms over 500 acres decreased by 32% from 1987 to 2002, while the number of farms 50 acres or less increased by 12%. One segment of agriculture that is growing nationally and statewide is viticulture. Viticulture is the cultivation or culture of grapes especially in wine making. Appomattox County is home to Stonewall Vineyards in the western part of the county. The vineyards were established in 1978 with the planting of the test plots of selected varieties. Those varieties that proved successful were incorporated into the commercial vineyards that were planted two years later. The winery was established in 1983. Current production capacity is 23,000 gallons with room to expand ([www.stonewallwine.com](http://www.stonewallwine.com)). *(In recent months the vineyard has been closed, although local officials remain hopeful that the business will reopen in the near future, 2006)* Virginia ranks tenth nationally in commercial grape production (2001 figure) with 4,120 tons of commercial grapes harvested. In Virginia, a 20-acre vineyard is considered large while a 5-acre vineyard is most common. Another segment of the farming industry that is beginning to find a niche market is the growing of organic crops. This niche crop is another avenue for providing small to medium scale farms with an opportunity to be profitable.

The Virginia General Assembly passed two sets of legislation in an effort to assist land owners in preserving this valuable asset; the Use-Value Taxation legislation

originally passed in the early 1970's and its companion legislation the Agricultural and Forestal Districts Act. This second set of laws passed in 1977 allowed for the creation of agricultural and forestal districts (Code of Virginia, Title §15.1-237 and §58-769.6). These districts are an alternative for local governments that do not have ordinances providing for the use-value taxation. This act allows landowners to voluntarily apply and establish agricultural districts, forestal districts, or agricultural and forestal districts. The purpose of these districts is similar to the use-value taxation program; that is to lessen the tax burden for agricultural and forestal land owners. These land owners usually wish to reduce the pressure to convert their land for more developed uses (residential). The district is created by local ordinance. This ordinance also set conditions for the district. The conditions of the district can be anything that the local governing body deems appropriate. The key to the use of these districts is to provide an economic benefit to the land owner for keeping his land in an agricultural or silvicultural use. There has been some discussion of creating such districts within Appomattox County, but to date no real effort has been undertaken.

### **C. Use Value Assessment Program (Land Use Taxation)**

Land Use taxation is a small part of the overall effort to keep land in agriculture, forestry and open space. State, regional, and local policy makers need to develop comprehensive strategies to address the multitude of issues surrounding the support and protection of these lands. (*REAP, #59, 2004*) This statement alone exemplifies the plight of the farming community as they agonize over the future of their industry. The use value assessment program was created through legislation enacted by the General Assembly in 1977. The effectiveness of the program has had mixed results over the years, but a recent survey (2004) conducted by the Rural Economic Analysis Program at Virginia Tech indicates that approximately 58% of the communities utilizing the use value program find it somewhat to very effective in reducing the development pressure on agricultural community. The survey also found that the personnel costs to the county to administer the program was equivalent to a half time equivalent personnel. This is to say that on average a locality would spend less than 20 hours per week in the administration of this program. However, the time demand nearly doubles during the revalidation period which is a period of two to three months each year. A summary of the survey findings found three main concerns:

- Local conflicts arise and become increasingly intense as market values of farm land increase and use-value for agricultural and horticultural lands declines as farmers face a cost-price squeeze reducing profit margins. Thus, localities face the problem of implementing the use-value program to support the agricultural community, yet must address declining real revenues available to fund government services.
- Declining revenues to jurisdictions force many localities to increase the scrutiny on the use-value program insure only bona fide operations can participate. This increased scrutiny can lead to increased frustration for both owners of bona fide operations and government personnel who work to insure

compliance. Localities in this situation also face increased administrative costs for enforcement and compliance.

- Administration of the use-value program is not uniform statewide. A number of concerns were expressed that county officials and advisors were uninformed about the use-value program rules and State Code and were reluctant to support the efforts of Constitutional Officers to enforce the use-value ordinance.
- The minimum tract size needs to be increased. Five acres is too small and allows abuse.

Several attempts over the past few years have been made by local citizens and some local government officials to help educate the county on use-value program. The County should seriously evaluate the cost/benefit of this program as a tool for preserving the county's agricultural and forestal resources.



#### **D. Forestry Protection and Preservation**

Trees provide significant benefits for most any community as well as the global community as a whole. They make the air we breathe better, the water in our lakes and streams cleaner, and in some cases, trees provide increased property values. Healthy forests should be part of a community's plan for improving air quality. Trees remove carbon dioxide, which is a major byproduct of motor vehicles and fossil fuel burning processes. An acre of trees removes approximately 2.6 tons of carbon from the air each year, which is equivalent to the carbon dioxide produced by a car drive 26,000 miles per year. Forested neighborhoods and communities are often found to be more desirable. Various studies have shown that trees in neighborhoods can enhance property values by 5 to 15 percent, depending on the type of plantings and the maturity of the trees. Trees provide a neighborhood with its own unique character. In some urban environments, abundantly planted industrial/business parks have been found to be quite popular in attracting new businesses to the locality. Areas such as Charlotte and Raleigh North Carolina, Montgomery County, Maryland, and Fairfax, Virginia have had tremendous success with this strategy and they are generally considered prime examples of communities that have "wedded" environmental well being with economic growth. Trees also provide a therapeutic value. Many hospitals and long-term nursing facilities have found that patients recover faster from surgeries, note less pain, and generally feel more positive and relaxed in a wooded setting. Children with attention deficit disorder have been found to gain significant benefits from forested surroundings. Trees provide a beautiful sense of place, block noise, and have been found to improve outdoor exercise by subconsciously encouraging people to walk. Trees provide us with energy conservation. Naturally, the tree canopy provides for a cooling effect on a hot summer's day. The EPA and U. S. Forest Service have shown that well-placed trees can reduce the costs associated with summer cooling by 10 to 15 percent. Trees and forested areas provide a tremendous benefit to storm water control and water quality. When rain falls in a forested area, the drops are deflected by the leaves; which lessens the impact on the

underlying soil. Groundcover and roots help to hold soils in place, reducing erosion. These factors, when placed near a river or stream act as a sponge and reduce the amount of pollutants, such as yard and agricultural chemicals; that flow into our waterways.

Wildfire is always a threat to our forest resources and to homeowners. Fragmentation of forest creates a new fire hazard as homeowners continue to build homes in heavily wooded areas. In these instances, proper precautions should be taken to reduce the loss of life and property due to forest fire. Woodland home protection plans are highly recommended by the VDOF and are available upon request of the local forestry agent. Fourteen forest fires have occurred this year (2006). Quick response by the local fire departments and forestry personnel has kept these fires to a minimum size. Smokey the Bear is the main fire prevention tool used by the VDOF. The department is responsible for promoting fire safety throughout the county and within the school system. A one on one presentation is used at the primary school in which each student gets to meet Smokey. This effort annually totals 22 classes or approximately 650 students. Training for teachers to use materials directly related to the Standards of Learning and Project Learning Tree to promote conservation and protection of our natural resources are available through the VDOF.

### **Upland Forests**

The most difficult area for forest protection, preservation, or restoration is on those lands that are called upland forests. What exactly is an upland forest? Simply put is the land on top of the hill. More technically, upland forests are those areas on tops or hills or on gently sloping hills with mild transitions to stream valleys. Appomattox County is blessed with a terrain that matches this description perfectly. Such a terrain provides for beautiful vistas and view sheds. However, without the natural constraints of wetlands, floodplains, or steep slopes, then these areas are typically targeted for development. This is not to say that these areas do not have potential for protection or preservation; it simply means we must work harder to find incentives for keeping these areas in their natural state as the economic pressures to change the land use of these upland forest is tremendous.

### **Riparian Forests**

Just as Appomattox County is blessed with a gently rolling terrain, the County is equally blessed with an abundance of creeks, streams and rivers. These streambeds and the ensuing forests around them are what is known in their natural state as Riparian Buffers. Riparian buffers can easily be switched to riparian forests which are areas that are often formally set aside for environmental and community-oriented (open space) purposes prior to development of property. Healthy riparian forests provide benefits to water quality, stream bank protection, habitat improvement/protection for fish, birds, and other wildlife; and flood mitigation and protection. In some developments, riparian forests are preserved and used for recreational facilities providing open space and nature/hiking trails. Appomattox County should encourage the preservation of riparian forests in new subdivision developments.

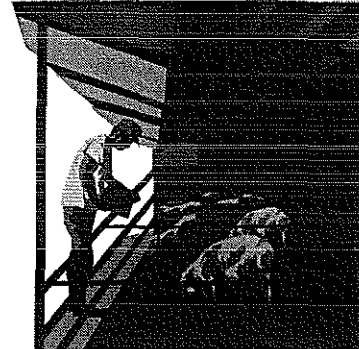
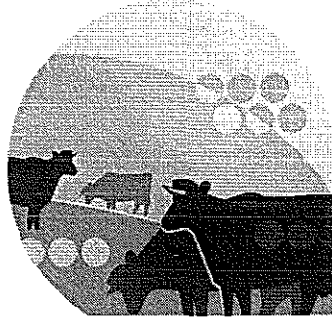
**Landscape Buffers**

A landscape buffer is a strip of land that should include trees and shrubbery to minimize impacts between differing land uses. Typically, these buffers are used when there is a significant difference in the adjoining land uses such as commercial versus residential. Such buffers are also used to protect natural and historic resources. Currently, Appomattox County does not have specific regulations that outline when and where landscape buffers should be used. Occasionally, the Planning Commission will include a buffer strip as a condition to a conditional use permit petition. In a perfect world, there should be logical transitions in land uses. However, where such transitions are not possible, landscape buffers can reduce the negative impacts of a particular development. These negative impacts include an unappealing view, spillage of light, and most often noise generated by traffic.

**Streetscapes and Parking Lot Plantings**

Streetscapes include tree plantings and conservation efforts in or near the public rights-of-way including yards, parking lots, and utility corridors. To truly beautify and realize environmental benefits along our roads and highways, it is necessary to look at the broader dimensions of our street corridors. Conserving the beauty and natural scenery of our highways and rural roads should be a basic goal of the entire community. Several methods or strategies can be utilized for improving our streetscapes. Many roads are lined with rows or pockets of trees. Some of these trees are located in our yards and are unusually large. These trees are part of the county's natural heritage and should be protected at all costs. Other strategies for preserving or improving the streetscape is to plant within the public right-of-way or even in medians along divided highways. As long as these methods do not pose obvious clear zone problems or interfere with utilities, these areas should be used for streetscape improvements. Several benefits include improved air quality, storm water runoff, and improved quality of life. Parking lots are often referred to as "necessary evils" as the use is necessary, but the aesthetics of the use are often unbearably "ugly". Vast expanses of unbroken pavement are not pretty and are often hot during the summer and appear as vast wastelands during the winter. Landscaping internal parking areas adds color, shade and variety to the unbroken pavement. Plants along the exterior of the parking area separate and define parking areas and screens parking lots from passersby and adjacent pedestrian walkways. Additional benefits of parking lot landscaping is from an economic point of view, consumers find landscaped businesses more pleasant to shop, work and to reside near. Some studies have shown that neighborhoods that place a premium on landscaping have found their property values to have increased by as much as 15 percent. Environmental benefits include the reduction of runoff and in the heat of the asphalt pavement thus providing an array of benefits to the entire eco-system.

### E. Areas acceptable for an Intensive Farming Overlay District



*What is an intensive farming operation?* An intensive farming operation is typically described as the industrialized production of livestock, poultry, fish, or other agriculture. The methods used in production are geared towards making use of economies of scale to produce the highest output at the lowest cost. These farms are typically very large in nature ranging from less than 100 acres to several thousand acres. The practice is not only used in livestock, but also in meat, dairy, eggs, produce, and vegetables.

*What is a traditional farming operation?* A traditional farming operation is one that is used primarily for the commercial, soil-dependent cultivation of agricultural crop production and/or for the raising of livestock. These farms are typically small in nature (35 acres or less) and provide enough for the subsistence of the farmer either through the use of his own product or through the sale of such product.

#### *Traditional farm vs. Intensive farm*

Intensive farming operations first originated in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century although the proliferation of such farming activities did not take hold in the United States until the 1960's as a method to maintain the "business" of farming. Proponents of this type of farming say that it provides low cost for production, it is efficient, safer than traditional farming since it is operated much like a "factory", and they provide more of an economic impact to the rural areas than a traditional farm. Opponents of such farms cite increased disease among animals, air and water quality degradation, and the sheer inhumanity of the "factory-like" facilities. Traditional farming is said to have been established thousands of years ago and can trace its lineage back to early Mesopotamia. This brand of farming developed over many centuries and seemingly coincided with the rise of humankind. In recent times, traditional farming has fallen upon hard times as economic forces have made it difficult for the average farmer to continue to survive, thus the rise of the intensive farming industry. An examination of the Census of Agriculture shows that the leading segment of the agricultural industry in Virginia consists of intensive farming operations, most notably poultry. These operations need relatively little land and the state of the soil does not particularly matter. Many intensive farming district regulations tie up large amounts of land with unnecessary setbacks. A fine tuning of these regulations may be needed.

*What is an intensive farming overlay district?* An intensive farming overlay district would be established on farming operations that meet the criteria to be classified as such according to the Appomattox County Zoning Ordinance. The intent of the overlay district would be to protect the public health and welfare, as well as, the environment of the citizens of Appomattox County. The district would provide areas for large scale, intensive farming operations with surroundings that will not inhibit the activities associated with their operation. Residential development would not be encouraged in this overlay district unless it is directly associated with the farming activity.

Areas of the county acceptable for intensive farming operations generally include the following sectors: See Map-2

North of Route 460- This area generally encompasses the areas of Hixburg, Oakville, Vera, and Bent Creek. In the eastern end of the county the area would follow Route 460 until Morning Star Road, at which point more rural development begins and the State Forest and National Historic Park come into conflict. From the Vera area generally north of Piney Mountain Road, to North Creek Road following Spring Grove Road and finally Spanish Oaks Road. The western and northern delineations would generally be along Dreaming Creek Road and Beckham Road/James River Road north to the county boundary.

South of Route 460- This area generally encompasses the areas of Evergreen, Chap and Promise Land. In the eastern end of the county the area would border Piney Ridge Road to the east, the railroad tracks to the north and generally following the line south of Mountain Cut Road to a point intersection with Promise Land Road at Route 727. From this point the area would generally be south of Promise Land Road to Chilton Road, following this road along the western side to Pumping Station Road. Pumping Station Road and then Route 460 would then act as the boundary to the northern area until reaching the county boundary.

## **F. Goals and Action Items**

Goal: Increase awareness of agricultural and forestal resources throughout the county.

Action: Develop a task force to collect data and provide information to the public.

Seek federal and state grant opportunities to fund preservation efforts.

Enhance the current reforestation program through private efforts.

Goal: Increase the amount of riparian and upland forest areas being protected throughout the county.

Action: Identify and prioritize upland forest areas and riparian forest areas throughout the county for preservation.

Develop an incentive program for upland forest and riparian forest preservation.

Create development standards to assist in mitigating forestry loss and fragmentation.

Goal: Increase the amount of tree plantings along major corridors and improve tree canopy on private properties in the county.

Action: Establish development standards so that there is no net loss of forest in the county from new development.

Amend zoning regulations to include tree plantings in areas designated as county gateways.

Establish a tree planting program that encourages volunteer community participation.

Establish tree planting incentives and technical support to increase canopy cover on private property.

Encourage interior forest restoration and preservation on private and public lands.

Goal: Protect and enhance the existing agricultural amenities throughout the county.

Action: Support the development of Agricultural/Forestal districts.

Consider the growth and enhancement of agricultural and farm lands as economic development opportunities and develop incentives for increasing eco-tourism.

Explore the development of a Land Use Assessment Taxation Program for agricultural, horticultural, and forestal uses.

Consider the development of a Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program in the county.

## APPENDIX A

### FUTURE LAND USE

#### A. Introduction

One of the primary functions of the Community Development Plan is to set forth a community's policies regarding the future use of land and needed improvements to the community's land use management ordinances. The Growth Management portion of the plan sets forth the basic issues facing our community and details many of the improvements that are needed. One component of this plan is to provide for an illustrative look at the future land uses which demonstrates general patterns for development and where changes in land use and development character are encouraged or anticipated.

This illustrated look is commonly referred to as the Future Land Use map and is integrated as a component of the Resource Conservation Plan. The Future Land Use map depicts the County's intention for the future uses of land. These uses are broad in nature and are intended to guide the County as it makes decisions regarding development proposals, such as rezonings and conditional use permits. The County may also use the map for planning its own facilities and for influencing state and federal agencies to plan their facilities, including roads, in conformance with the map. The Future Land Use map, just like the entire Community Development Plan, is a dynamic document and is not meant to be static. It can and should be changed to reflect the changing conditions, opportunities, and priorities of the community. However, these changes should be carefully examined to ensure both local and countywide impacts.

#### B. The Map

Each land use is grouped into broad categories that generally are compatible with one another and provide similar characteristics for a particular area. Each land use category has a corresponding definition and its illustrated color. The land use categories for Appomattox County are as follows:

***Primary Conservation Area-*** These areas represent existing public areas used for parks and recreation, as well as, areas of significant scenic or natural beauty. Some of these areas are owned by the county or other government institutions and are intended to be open for public recreational uses. The designated land use color is dark green.

**Rural Preservation Area-**These areas encompass land with special natural characteristics that make their preservation in open space particularly important to the County's environmental health. These areas include active and passive farm land, stream or river areas, steep slopes, trails, or other passive recreational areas. Housing densities should not exceed 1 unit per 5 acres. The designated land use color is light green.

**Institutional-** These areas include lands owned and operated by various governments (local, state, federal) and used for the general administration of the county. These facilities include government buildings, schools, fire, and rescue stations, libraries, and sheriff department and solid waste facilities. The designated land use color is blue.

**Light Industry-** These areas are intended to be used for large-scale office buildings with building floor plans exceeding 20,000 square feet, research and development firms, and light manufacturing. The designated land use color is light purple.

**Heavy Industry-** These areas are intended for a mixture of light and heavy manufacturing, research and development, and office parks. The intent is to have more of the intensive industrial activity in these areas. Examples of this exact mixture would be based on the permitted uses listed in the zoning ordinance. The designated land use color is dark purple.

**Primary Growth Area-**These areas are dominated by single-family housing and are characterized by densities ranging from 1 unit per acre to 3 or more units per acre. Included in this category are duplexes, townhomes, or multi-family developments. Interspersed within these areas are low impact public or institutional uses, country clubs, swimming area/clubs or open space. The designated land use color is orange.

**Commercial-** These areas contain office, retail, personal services, entertainment, and restaurant uses that draw customers from various regions of the County and beyond. This land use typically contains clusters of businesses, shopping centers, and is traditionally located near major intersections. The designated land use color is red.

**Village Center-**This land use is reserved for areas that do not fit into any one single use category as they are planned for a mixture of uses designed to blend together into village type settings. These areas are primarily residential but contain an integrated neighborhood serving a commercial or office core, civic uses, and parks. The land uses in

these areas are generally for the use of those persons living or working in the neighborhood and is not intended to be a destination point. The designated land use color is beige.

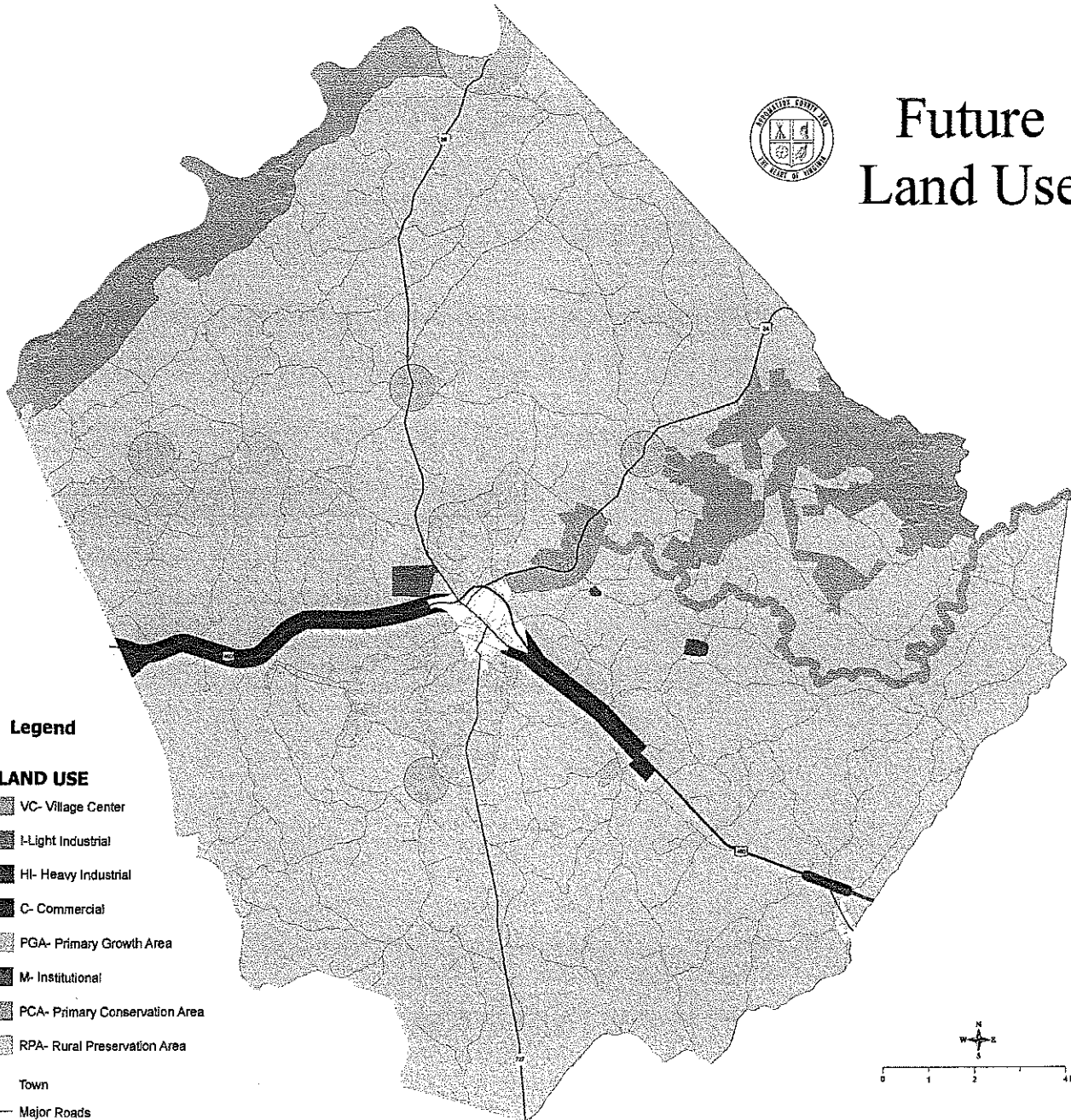
An illustrated look at the future land uses in Appomattox County accompanies this section.

**C. Conclusion**

The future land use map will be one of the most visible parts of any comprehensive plan. It is likely to be shown in a large, colorful format at Planning Commission and Board of Supervisor meetings. The Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors *should* refer to it frequently when making decisions on various development petitions. In many cases, land buyers or real estate agents will rely on it in choosing home sites. Developers will use it as a reference guide in planning for their next project. It should be considered much more than a map! It is a guide to the future! The exact nature of that future is shaped by the decisions of those willing to accept guidance.













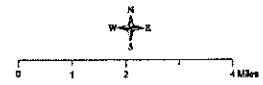
# Future Land Use



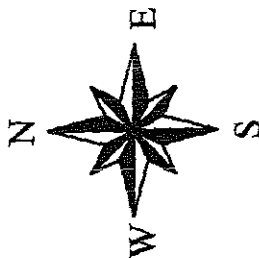
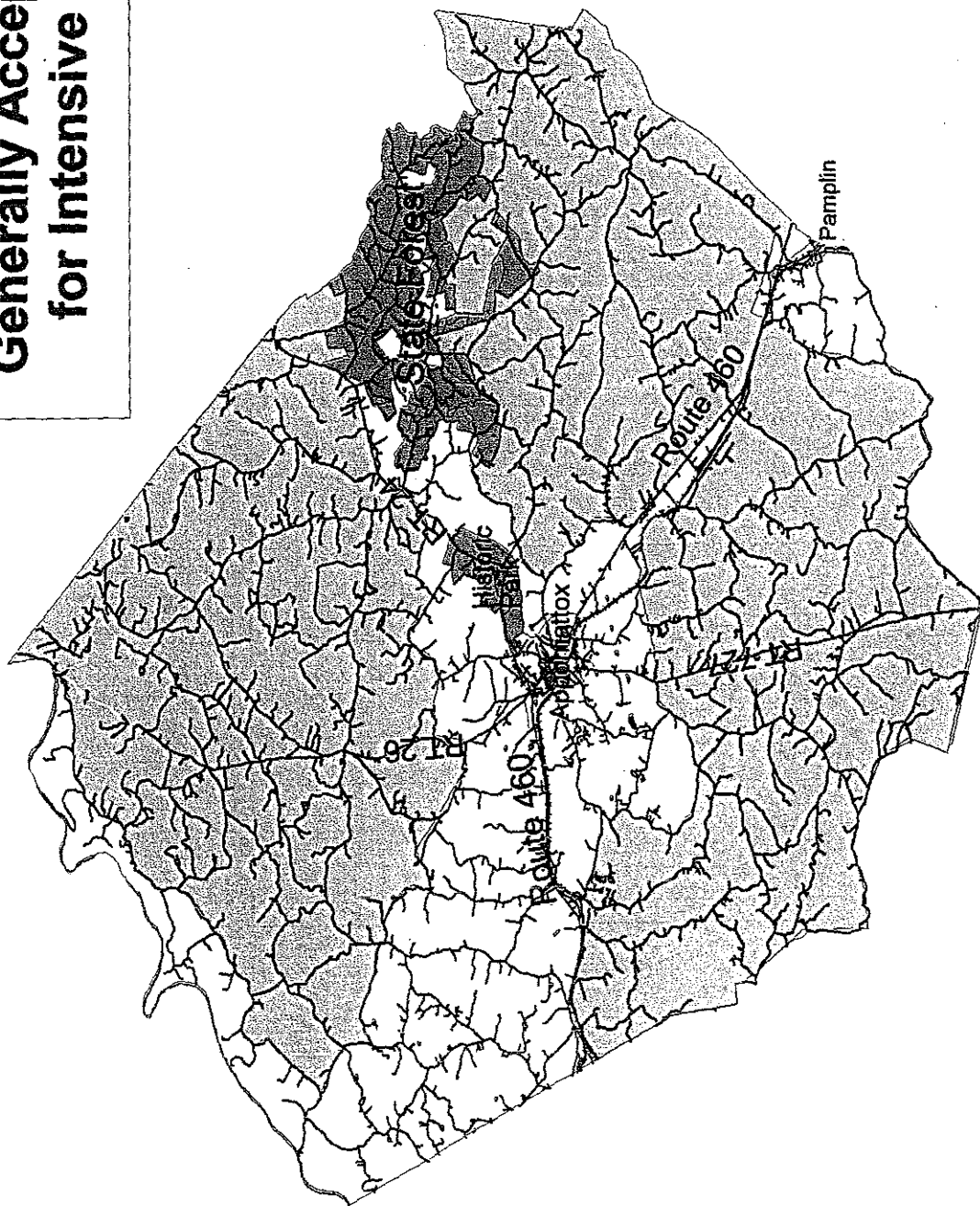
## Legend

### LAND USE

-  VC- Village Center
-  I- Light Industrial
-  HI- Heavy Industrial
-  C- Commercial
-  PGA- Primary Growth Area
-  M- Institutional
-  PCA- Primary Conservation Area
-  RPA- Rural Preservation Area
-  Town
-  Major Roads



# Generally Accepted Areas for Intensive Farming



18 Miles

