



Comprehensive Plan Community Review Period

[Cville Plans Together](#) is collecting input on the Comprehensive Plan Chapters and Future Land Use Map. To provide input there are four virtual avenues:

Although the recent community review period ended on June 13th, you can still continue to engage and support these efforts.

- **Send the Cville Plans Together team an email** – Send comments to engage@cvilleplanstogether.com
- **Call the toll-free phone line** – Call (833) 752-6428 to share comments via a recorded message, or request a time to speak to a Cville Plans Together team member on the phone.
- **Complete the comment form at surveymonkey.com/r/cville3**
Review the draft chapters and Future Land Use Map and then share your thoughts via this form.
- **Submit comments** using the [interactive map](#)

To support Food Justice Network members providing feedback on the 25 remaining recommendations, we have pulled together a draft letter indicating your support for our suggestions and highlighting any specific recommendations that align with your work. We encourage FJN members to send their feedback to Cville Plans together and show our collective support for building a Charlottesville Food Equity City!

Email Template to Support FJN Recommendations: Send email to engage@cvilleplanstogether.com

Cville Plans Together team,

In partnership with Cultivate Charlottesville Food Justice Network, we [\(add organization name\)](#) are writing in robust support of the Food Justice Network's 25 remaining Comprehensive Plan recommendations as detailed [in the attached document](#). We strongly support the incorporation of the food equity language across the Comprehensive Plan chapters to build towards a just, equitable, and healthy community. Food is a human right. Our City's Comprehensive Plan must prioritize food equity.

The Food Justice Network recommendations [\(add #s\)](#) are of particular interest for our organization as they align with the work that we [\(add organization name\)](#) do. We stand in support of these specific recommendations because [\(add your thoughts including why you support these specific recommendations, statistics from your work on the importance of these recommendations to our community impact, etc.!\).](#)

Thank you for your time and consideration reviewing the Food Justice Network's recommendations and our collective support for building a Food Equity City in Charlottesville.

With appreciation,

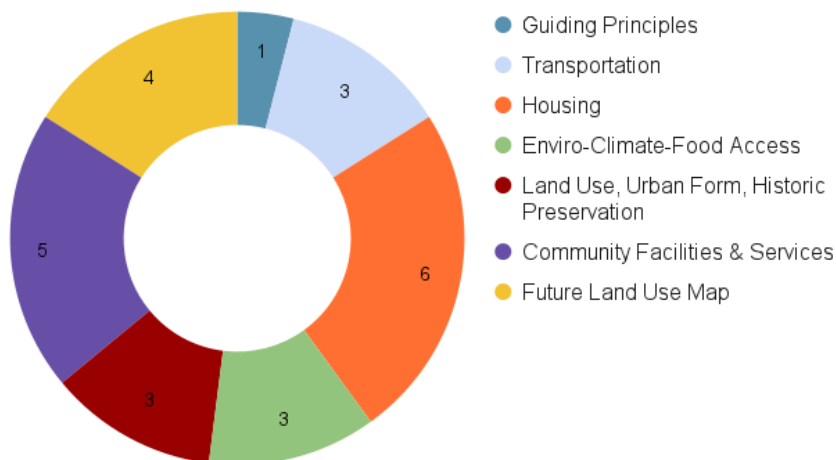
Food Justice Network's Recommendations in Comprehensive Plan Community Review Recommendations

To elevate the Food Justice Network's remaining 25 food equity priorities, feel free to copy and paste the below language to share with the Cville Plans Together team via one of the options above. For reference, the chart below has outlined the outstanding food equity recommendations which FJN staff will be sharing with the Cville Plans Together team. Your support and reinforcement of these recommendations will showcase to the Cville Plans Together team that these are community priorities!

25 remaining FJN Food Equity Policy Recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan for the 2021 Cville Plans Together Community Review Period. Here's the breakdown in the chart below.

25 Food Equity Policy Recommendations in Comprehensive Plan

Recommended food equity goals, strategies, vision statements, principles & measures to be included



Recommendation incorporated into Comprehensive Plan updates as of September 2021

Additional FJN Food Equity Goals / Recommendations:

Links to each resource: [Guiding Principles & Chapters](#); [Future Land Use Map](#); [Affordable Housing Plan](#)

- [Guiding Principles:](#)

#1. Include 'urban agriculture and land stewardship' in the Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability Guiding Principle [[Where: Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability Guiding Principle, page 2](#)]

- The City government will reduce its carbon footprint and other environmental impacts. The Charlottesville community will be empowered and encouraged to reduce their environmental footprint and benefit from energy efficiency efforts and <add 'urban agriculture and land stewardship'>. All will have access to high-quality natural resources, including improved air, soil, and water quality.

- [Transportation Chapter:](#)

#2. Revamp the CAT and NDS feedback process to include and increase community input through diverse frameworks including, a formal feedback channel such as submission of comments online as well as informal avenues such as community-based events or Townhalls. [[Where: Transportation Chapter, Goal 5, Strategy 5.5, page 37](#)]



#3. Design and establish a system to increase data collection on utilization and route preferences, including where people board and disembark, what demographics are utilizing transit, what is the purpose of the travel, and other relevant information to develop routes that contribute to equitable transportation. [[Where: Transportation](#)

[Chapter, Goal 5, Strategy 5.5, page 37](#)]



#4. Develop a system to evaluate bike and pedestrian programs (pathway assessment and prioritization, especially to key food resources) by how well they are reaching people in low wealth neighborhoods and collect broad community feedback.

[[Where: Transportation Chapter, Goal 5, Strategy 5.5, page 37](#)]

- [Housing Chapter/Affordable Housing Plan:](#)

#5. Include 'accessible to resources (affordable food, green space, etc)' in the Housing Vision Statement [[Where: Housing Vision Statement, page 19](#)]



- The City of Charlottesville will recognize the importance of housing for all residents by implementing strategies to achieve a housing market that is affordable, healthy, high quality, <add 'accessible to resources (affordable food, green space, etc)'> and, above all, equitable.

#6 Include 'healthy, affordable food options' in the Affordable Housing Plan [[Where: Affordable Housing Plan pages 77, paragraph 1](#)]

- **"Increase access to opportunity.** – Land use policies should create more housing in areas of opportunity such as near main transit lines, jobs, <add "healthy, affordable food options" here> or in mixed-income neighborhoods, but must also be designed to prevent displacement of low-income residents due to increased investment and rising housing costs."

#7 Include 'healthy, affordable food options' in the Affordable Housing Plan [[Where: Affordable Housing Plan pages 77, paragraph 3](#)]

- **"Increase housing supply to limit market pressure on rents and home prices."**–The City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County are expected to add 15,000 households by 2040. Housing prices are growing rapidly as demand exceeds supply. The region must build more housing to prevent pricing pressure, and to ensure that residents have equitable options to access schools, access jobs, <add "healthy, affordable food options" here> and age in place."

#8 Include 'healthy, affordable food options' in the Affordable Housing Plan [Where: Affordable Housing Plan, pages 81, paragraph 1]

- **"Racial Equity"**– Zoning has historically been a tool to create and enforce racial segregation, so zoning reform is essential to building racial equity into housing in Charlottesville. To successfully align with this guiding principle, the zoning changes must increase access to housing near major transit lines, <add "healthy, affordable food options" here> and employment centers while limiting displacement pressures in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods."

#9 Develop an infrastructure of accountability to incentivize housing developers to consider health impacts of affordable housing development projects [Where: Housing

Chapter, Goal 2, Strategy 2.7, page 22]



#10 Require housing developers to conduct a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) which includes a full review of all neighborhood food and beverage access, and plans to offset negative health impacts of creating housing in low-food access areas through urban agriculture or store-front space dedicated to healthy and affordable food markets.

[Where: Housing Chapter, Goal 2, Strategy 2.7, page 22]



- Environment, Climate, Food Access Chapter

#11. Hire an Urban Agriculture & Climate Justice position to focus on issues of land, environment, and climate justice. For example, review, clarify, and simplify the process of garden space rentals for community organizations, and low wealth community members to grow food on city land, as well as coordinate efforts with private landowners who may donate land for community food security purposes. [Where: Environment, Climate, Food Access Chapter, Goal 4, Strategy 4.1, page 45]

#12 Change Chapter Title to 'Environment, Climate, **Food Equity**' Chapter [Where:

Environment, Climate, Food Access Chapter, page 41 etc]



#13 Change Goal 4 Progress Measure from ½ mile to **¼ mile** to match ¼ mile progress measure & strategy in Goal 1 Transportation Chapter [Where: Environment, Climate,

Food Access Chapter, Goal 4 Progress Measure, page 45]



- *"% community within walking distance (current: ½ mile <change: ¼ mile>) to a grocery store or food market by Neighborhood Planning Area"*

- Land Use, Urban Form, Historic Preservation Chapter

#14. Update public land policy to require a percentage of land be reserved by the city for urban agriculture and affordable food market vending for low wealth communities.

[Where: Land Use, Urban Form, Historic Preservation Chapter, Goal 4, Strategy 4.5, page 9] ✓

#15. Use comprehensive plan and zoning updates currently underway to incentivize private landowners and developers to preserve or create urban agricultural space.

[Where: Land Use, Urban Form, Historic Preservation Chapter, Goal 4, Strategy 4.5, page 9] ✓

#16. Identify assets, priorities, and targets for long term permanent land access and infrastructure for both food production and access points including existing city parks and city owned land. [Where: Land Use, Urban Form, Historic Preservation Chapter, Goal

1, Strategy 1.2, page 4] ✓

- Community Facilities & Services Chapter: Goal 2 City Schools

- #17 Intentionally transform Charlottesville City Schools' meal program to increase participation for all students, especially students eligible for the federal meals program.

[Where: Community Facilities & Services Chapter, Goal 2, page 60]

#18. Revamp school meal delivery systems to include functional kitchen and serving lines and proper storage to accommodate fresh, from scratch cooking at each school [Where: Community Facilities & Services Chapter, Goal 2, page 60]

#19. Develop strategies to resolve the annual student meal debt in ways that are financially sustainable, promote increased participation in CCS meal programs, decrease in-school hunger, and reduce stress for families with limited financial resources. [Where: Community Facilities & Services Chapter, Goal 2, page 60]

- #20 Improve procurement practices and meal offerings to include increased fresh, from scratch, and local menu items that are healthier and provide energy for students.

[Where: Community Facilities & Services Chapter, Goal 2, page 60]

#21. Establish and practice a new local standard for healthy school meals that goes beyond the current USDA regulations, which CCS is meeting, and significantly increase fresh, from scratch locally sourced, and healthier meal options in the next five years. [Where: Community Facilities & Services Chapter, Goal 2, page 60]

- Future Land Use Map / Planning Objectives:

#22. Add "neighborhood food access avenues and markets" in Future Land Use Map Planning Objective [Where: Future Land Use Map Planning Objective, page 1]

- Increase density around community amenities such as shopping, employment centers, <add> "neighborhood food access avenues and markets" and transit.

#23 Add 'focus on urban agriculture and neighborhood food access' in Future Land Use Map Planning Objective [Where: Future Land Use Map Planning Objective, page 1]



- Explore the development potential of vacant or underutilized properties <add> with a focus on urban agriculture and neighborhood food access avenues and markets

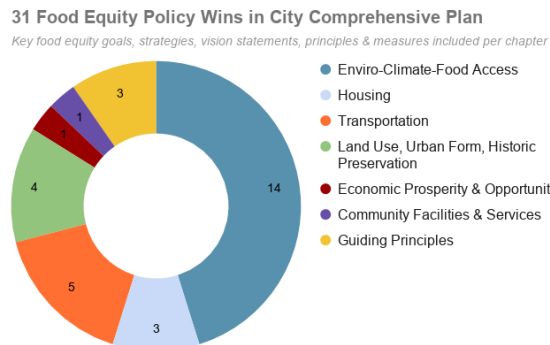
#24. Add a Land Use Category for urban agriculture and community garden spaces on the Future Land Use Map. Here's the [2020 mapping research By Taha K Suhrawardy](#) which shows current garden locations and identified potential locations. [Where: Future Land Use Map, page 2]

#25 Utilize UVA Equity Center's Heat Index map, once finalized, to identify areas with lower tree cover investment leading to higher energy costs and negative health implications in the Future Land Use Map [Where: Future Land Use Map; Land Use, Urban

Form, Historic Preservation Strategy 4.5] ✓

Celebrating FJN Comp Plan Policy Wins

62 Food Equity Policy Wins in the City Comprehensive Plan: including 1 Title, 2 goals, 25 strategies, 7 vision statements, 4 guiding principles, 1 Top Priority Strategy, 2 Top Priority Progress Measures & 20 Progress Measures across 7 chapters!



Thank you to all of the community members and advocates, organizational partners and City departments involved for your support. 62 Food Equity Policy Wins in the Comprehensive Plan have been achieved to date due to your continued support and momentum over the past few years!

- For a shortened version of the Food Justice Network's Policy Wins, [view here](#).
- For a comprehensive breakdown of the Food Justice Network's food equity language recommendations and policy wins thus far, [view here](#).