The City of Charlottesville’s civic facilities and services are important to fostering a healthy and vibrant community. Residents benefit from access to excellent public services, recreational facilities and public buildings. Therefore, Charlottesville will have outstanding civic and recreational facilities, bicycle and walking trails and be served by a strong support system that includes one of the nation’s best emergency response systems. Effective and efficient water, wastewater and stormwater services will support the health and welfare of the City.
GOAL 1
FIRE DEPARTMENT

CONTINUE TO PROVIDE EXCELLENT FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE AND FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION SERVICE TO THE CITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA AND PORTIONS OF ALBEMARLE COUNTY.

1.1 Maintain the response time standard of within 6 minutes for 80% of the service calls in the City. Take measures to maintain this standard when increased traffic results from growth, tourism, special events and entertainment venues.

1.2 Provide supplementary support to the Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad.

1.3 Encourage every residential unit to have a properly functioning smoke detector outside every sleeping area.

1.4 Encourage every residential gas customer to have a functioning carbon monoxide unit.

1.5 Achieve an Insurance Service Office Class 1 and thus further reduce the City’s insurance premium for the Fire Department.

1.6 Complete a Facilities Master Plan for the Fire Department to maximize service delivery, energy conservation and safety.

1.7 Prevent fires before they occur through an aggressive public safety education program and through effective fire code enforcement.

GOAL 2
EMERGENCY RESCUE SERVICES

CONTINUE TO PROVIDE EXCELLENT RESCUE SERVICE TO THE CHARLOTTESVILLE AND ALBEMARLE COMMUNITY.

2.1 Resolve the current issues of facility quantity and quality to allow the Emergency department to continue to expand its membership.

2.2 Develop a strategy to address the issue of City-wide and County accessibility so that a quick response time can be maintained.

2.3 Develop funding sources to maintain an effective rescue apparatus replacement schedule to ensure reliable response vehicles and to purchase and implement necessary technology, such as mobile computers.

2.4 Explore feasibility of using alternative firefighting and rescue apparatuses designed to accommodate dense and more compact built environments.
GOAL 3

POLICE DEPARTMENT

SECURE ADEQUATE FACILITY SPACE, EQUIPMENT AND STAFF FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ITS OPERATIONS TO CONTINUE PROVIDING SAFETY AND PROTECTION TO CITY RESIDENTS.

Goal 3

3.1 Identify and obtain permanent, centralized locations for the Jefferson Area Drug Enforcement Task Force and for the Neighborhood Services Bureau.

3.2 Purchase and implement needed technology for the Police Department and its operations.

Goal 4

SOLID WASTE

4.1 Consider designating several collection stations around the Downtown for daily trash collection rather than having collections at multiple individual locations.

4.2 Explore opportunities to expand public and private recycling, composting, and other innovations for waste management.

Goal 5

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

IMPROVE THE WATER SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE TO PROVIDE RELIABLE, HEALTHY AND EFFICIENT WATER SERVICE TO CITY RESIDENTS AND ADDRESS INCREASING DENSITIES WITHIN THE CITY AS PART OF ANY IMPROVEMENTS.

5.1 Maintain, repair and replace water lines where necessary.

5.2 Continue to implement the recommended improvements for capacity by reducing infiltration and inflow, fire protection and redundancy of systems through looping lines from the RWSA Draft Report on the Urban Finished Water Systems Facilities Plan.

5.3 Ensure that all applications for increased density are analyzed to discern adequate water capacity early in the review.

5.4 Identify sources of non-revenue water and reduce the amount.
GOAL 6

WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

IMPROVE WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT SANITARY SEWER SERVICES TO RESIDENTS, TO ACCOMMODATE THE ZONED AND PROJECTED DENSITIES AND USES IN THE CITY AND TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

6.1 Map and inventory the existing infrastructure, assess the condition of these facilities and identify actions that can be taken to improve the conditions of the wastewater network, especially the capacity of the network in prime development areas.

6.2 Emphasize the annual maintenance of wastewater facilities and continue to identify and complete improvement projects that could include increasing the size of pipes to enlarge the system's capacity, relocating main lines that were built on private property or building new main lines to extend the system.

6.3 Complete replacement of designated sanitary sewer projects throughout the City.

6.4 Develop and implement a plan to increase the capacity of the 14/15th St. line. There is evidence that this line is currently over-capacity and will be receiving significant additional flow from recently completed developments (between 2005 and 2007), developments currently under construction and planned development in this area.

GOAL 7

PARKS & RECREATION (UPGRADES)

UPGRADE EXISTING PARK AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE TO MODERN STANDARDS AND ADDRESS THE VALUE AND USES OF NATURAL AREAS.

7.1 Develop and apply as appropriate system-wide design standards.

7.2 Improve the overall aesthetics of park sites through signage, landscaping, parking lot and safety improvements that also include area lighting and trash receptacles.

7.3 Create resource management plans to support and maintain natural areas and create a new core recreation service in environmental education to teach and educate users on the value of these natural areas.*

7.4 Update recreation amenities such as tennis courts, outdoor basketball courts, the skateboard park, picnic shelters, sports fields and playgrounds, and refurbish existing restrooms and drinking fountains.

7.5 When possible, parks should provide a cross functional benefit for the City’s environmental goals.
GOAL 8
PARKS & RECREATION (EXPANSION)

EXPAND CURRENT INVENTORY OF PARK FACILITIES.

8.1
Add those facilities identified in the updated Needs Assessment Study.*

8.2
Examine the feasibility of creating a regional park authority in conjunction with City/County planning efforts.*

8.3
Encourage acquisition of natural areas, particularly along existing and proposed trails, through developer contributions and fee simple purchase.

8.4
Encourage the acquisition of land that serves a cross functional purpose as parkland/public space and the development of green infrastructure for stormwater management.

8.5
Incorporate best practices in the location and design of a range of parks, school yards, public trails and recreational facilities of various scales and functions, from large natural areas to small urban parks throughout the city.

8.6
Prioritize acquisition of park land.

8.7
Add additional soccer fields to the parks and recreation network.*

8.8
Add fenced, smaller, flexible fields designed to accommodate multiple recreational uses.

GOAL 9
PARKS & RECREATION (USE)

PROMOTE EFFICIENT USE OF ALL PARK PROPERTIES AND RECREATION FACILITIES.*

9.1
Evaluate the level of productivity of each park and recreation facility based on cost per acre to maintain, capacity of use, and cost per experience in each facility.

9.2
Create a Parks and Recreation system wide Master Plan for the City.

9.3
Create an updated master plan for each underperforming park.

9.4
Implement program changes for all underperforming recreation facilities.

9.5
Enhance multimodal access to parks.*

9.6
Incorporate best design practices for creating multiple, complimentary uses in urban scale parks while following best practices for the stewardship of the parks’ historic resources.

McGuffey Park playground
ADOPT CUSTOMIZED PARK AND RECREATION FACILITY STANDARDS THAT SUPPORT A LIVABLE COMMUNITY FOR THE CITY AND ITS PARTNERING AGENCIES, AND PERFORM CONSISTENT MAINTENANCE ON ALL PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES.

10.1 Implement facility standards that support the recreation needs of the community and region.

10.2 Establish the appropriate level and role the City will play in meeting the desired facility standards, and seek the support of other service providers in order to determine their appropriate role in meeting the desired standards.

10.3 Communicate the facility standards to users to demonstrate needs and describe the extent to which the City is meeting the standards.

10.4 Establish maintenance standards for all park facilities, trails and recreation facilities in the system.

10.5 Communicate park maintenance standards to users of parks and recreation facilities.

10.6 Include more kinetic and/or creative play modules and equipment.

GOAL 11

PARKS & RECREATION (TRAILS)

CONNECT THE PARK SYSTEM TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRAILS AND THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE AND APPROPRIATE DESIGN OF PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES.

11.1 Fully implement the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Greenway Plan that has been approved by City Council.

11.2 Encourage land acquisition along trail corridors to ensure permanent use as trail and the ability to manage land as park space and a green infrastructure resource.

*[Goals and objectives are in accordance with the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County Joint Vision and Goals]*
DEVELOP TRAILS THAT ARE SENSITIVE TO THE COMMUNITY’S ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS AND CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES.

12.1
Ensure that all new trails and trail improvements are designed within the context of surrounding natural systems and urban areas to maximize positive and minimize negative impacts on environmental systems and cultural and historic resources by formalizing natural environment-focused trail system guidelines for trail design, trail construction materials and trail maintenance and improvements. Trails should avoid large trees and their root zones, steep slopes and environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands and use native plants and trees when restoring disturbed natural areas or creating new trails.

12.2
Develop information materials and trail signage that highlight the characteristics of natural resources and cultural and historic areas located along trail systems in the City.

GOAL 13
PARKS & RECREATION (ACCESS)
CREATE BALANCE AND ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL TYPES OF PARKS AND FACILITIES ACROSS THE CITY.

13.1
Utilize GIS mapping to examine the equity or disparities in place by park and facility types.

13.2
Reduce inequities over the next 10 years.

13.3
Make existing and future parks and recreation facilities ADA accessible.

GOAL 14
PARKS & RECREATION (PROGRAMS)
DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAM STANDARDS AS THEY APPLY TO CORE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, INCLUDING STRONG EDUCATION AND FAMILY ETHICS.

14.1
Develop program budgets around program standards.
GOAL 15
PARKS & RECREATION (FINANCES)

IMPLEMENT POLICIES THAT WILL CREATE A MORE COST EFFECTIVE PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM.

15.1 Determine the true cost of services for programs and facilities, and create a cost recovery goal for each program.

15.2 Facilities should be designed to produce revenue to offset operating costs.

GOAL 16
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

IMPROVE AND MAINTAIN CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES TO CONTINUE PROVIDING AN EXCELLENT EDUCATION TO CITY STUDENTS.

16.1 Procure the necessary funding to complete renovations and improvements that will bring all City schools into ADA compliance.

16.2 Complete all needed renovations, repairs and replacement according to Facilities Maintenance Division’s system of prioritization.

16.3 Maintain school properties in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding developed in 2013.

GOAL 17
PUBLIC BUILDINGS

DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN MODERN PUBLIC FACILITIES.

17.1 Create and maintain a City-wide map that tracks public facility upgrades, additions and other public infrastructure improvements. These improvements may pertain to sidewalks, stormwater and other public utilities.

Clark Elementary School
2: COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Parks and Recreation:
- Park Classifications Appendix
- Urban Forest Management Plan
- Invasive Plant Management Plan
- Parks & Recreation Facilities

Facilities:
- Community Facilities Map
- ADA Transition Plan

Fire Department:
- Fire Department Response Times

Public Utilities:
- City Water Distribution System Map 2012
- City Sanitary Sewer Interceptor & Trunk Lines 2012

Additional reading for Community Facilities:
The first Comprehensive Plan for the City of Charlottesville was adopted in 1979. This most recent version of the Comprehensive Plan was adopted by City Council on August 19, 2013. Previous plans and drafts may be accessed online through: CHARLOTTESVILLE.ORG

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