

The Livable Communities Planning Project



Charlottesville-Albemarle MPO

1998 Sustainability Accords

- Encourage and maintain strong ties between the region's urban and rural areas
- Strive for a size and distribute the human population in ways that preserve vital resources
- Retain the natural habitat
- Ensure water quality and quantity are sufficient to support people and ecosystems
- Optimize the use and re-use of developed land and promote clustering
- Promote appropriate scale for land uses
- Retain farm and forest land
- Develop attractive and economical transportation alternatives
- Conserve energy
- Provide educational and employment opportunities
- Increase individual participation in neighborhoods and communities

In February 2011, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded nearly \$100 million in grants to 45 communities across the country to support livability and build economic competitiveness by connecting housing with good jobs, quality schools and transportation. The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) was awarded a \$999,000 grant on behalf of the Charlottesville-Albemarle Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to develop a regional implementation plan for the MPO area. The project will build upon the region's 1998 Sustainability Accords and other planning documents to create strategies for land use, transportation, housing, economic development, air and water quality, and energy use.

During the three year grant period, TJPDC will assist in coordinating comprehensive plan updates for Charlottesville and Albemarle County and for the MPO's long range transportation plan. These updates will focus on four key themes: housing, economy, transportation and environment. While City and County funds will not be used to carry out the project, TJPDC staff plan to work closely with City and County staff to provide added capacity to the individual comprehensive planning efforts. The result will be a process which extends limited staff resources and encourages collaboration, information sharing and transparency across municipal boundaries.

The Livable Communities Planning Project will result in the creation of five key deliverables:

- ▶ A Performance Measurement System to analyze where the region stands with respect to transportation, environment, housing, economic development, and energy use
- ▶ One map reflecting future land use and transportation designations for the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County
- ▶ A list of recommended Livability policies to inform the Charlottesville and Albemarle Comprehensive Plans, and the MPO Long Range Transportation Plan
- ▶ Recommendations for code and ordinance changes to help implement Livability policies
- ▶ Recommendations for voluntary individual and community-wide actions



Many Plans, One Community is the hub for information exchange and public input to inform updates to the Charlottesville and Albemarle comprehensive plans, the Long Range Transportation Plan, and the creation of a Livability Implementation Plan for our region.

TJPDC is committed to keeping the public informed throughout the project. Please visit 1-community.org for periodic project updates, a calendar of upcoming events and links to additional resources.

