

Comprehensive Plan and Budget Impacts

Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Budget Retreat

Education

- Create broadband “hot spots” at community centers, recreation center, public library.
- Form a New Century Scholar type of program for vocational jobs
- Explore Supplemental Housing allowances
- Partner with School system to increase awareness for Safe Routes to School Program
- Support apprenticeship and vocational based summer programs for k-12 and community college educational professionals

Public Health

- Support efforts to construct a new Animal Rescue facility
- Work with health care partners to establish a mobile health services
- Continue to provide and broaden transportation options to healthcare offices and facilities.
- Expand community gardens on County owned land
- Develop a food sustainability plan
- Invest in infrastructure (sidewalks/greenway) in existing communities to increase physical activities.

Infrastructure

- Encourage local government coordinating with housing developers.
- Work with critical facility owners to compile a list of critical assets, existing facilities, including age, condition and estimated life expectancy
- Coordinate with NCDOT, County, Municipalities, and service providers to extend trunk lines to economic nodes.

Natural Resources/ Environment

- Educate and promote the conservation of sensitive areas
- Collaborate with local land trust to protect sensitive areas

Economic Development

- Promote and encourage reliable broadband solutions for our rural areas.
- Explore opportunities to secure land for future development opportunities.
- Establish a business incubator for emerging businesses.
- Perform market campaign and/or analysis for the County.
- Update the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Housing

- Partner and support Mt. Projects in providing housing options to County residents
- Research and identify public/private/ non-profit partnerships to provide more housing options to residents (i.e. Housing Trust Fund, Land Banking)
- Partner with local non-profits to provide facilities and services for the County's homeless population.

Transportation

- Designate funds in the County budget for local match requirements and maintenance of infrastructure projects (sidewalks/greenways)
- Expand sidewalks, bike lanes, and greenways to housing and community centers.
- Plan and construct bicycle and pedestrian connection between Fairview School and NC 107, Scotts Creek and the HUB with the Town of Sylva, Cullowhee Valley School and WCU and Village of Forest Hills, and between Smokey Mountain Elementary and the Qualla Boundary
- Partner with Airport Authority to identify funding resources for airport improvements
- Partner with WCU to create transit routes that are interconnected
- Explore making wifi available on transit vehicles.

Recreation

- Build trail connections between places of interest to increase accessibility by active modes of transportation
- Provide access to recreational opportunities near all major communities- Geographical Equity
- Develop pocket park in Whittier
- Expand the County's greenway system
 - Update to Greenway Master Plan
- Develop a Special Events program to host large scale events, increasing visitation to the County and generating revenue for the Parks and Rec Department to invest in sustaining programs and expanding opportunities.
- Develop Cullowhee River Park/Dillsboro River Park

Cultural Resources

- Conduct a survey of non-structural historic and cultural sites
- Work with the State Historic Preservation Office to become a certified local government
- Explore options to preserve and maintain historic cemeteries.

Land Use

- Update the 441 Corridor Small Area Plan
- Identify areas of the County that may require future Small Area Planning