



2035 Comprehensive Plan – Update

Why Do We Plan?

What is planning?

In its simplest form, planning is a way of preparing a community for the future. Planning gathers and analyzes data, examines future trends, presents a shared vision, considers goals and strategies to achieve the vision and outlines steps for implementation. Planning involves a dialogue between the public, stakeholders, the County staff and elected and appointed officials.

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

The 2035 Comprehensive Plan is a tool for addressing future growth in Frederick County for its citizens, building upon its rich history and furthering the great community that exists. For the general public, the Plan encompasses the values and strategies for improving the quality of life of residents in Frederick County. More importantly, the Plan implements the vision for the future of the County. A comprehensive plan should be updated at least every 5 years to reflect changing conditions in the community.

How is the 2035 Comprehensive Plan updated?

The 2035 Comprehensive Plan is a 5-year update of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan and was updated over the course of previous year in three (3) phases. Phase I updated the background analysis and data regarding the community as it exists today and what the community could look like in the future; Phase II, through the Comprehensive Planning and Program Committee (CPPC) of the Planning Commission, and the Blue Ribbon Panel (comprised of stakeholders, citizens, and community partners), reviewed and updated each section of the Plan including the goals and implementation steps; Phase III involves soliciting feedback from the public on the draft revisions and a final review of all changes and feedback by the Planning Commission and ultimate action by the Board of Supervisors.

How is the Comprehensive Plan used?

The 2035 Comprehensive Plan is an extension of the Board of Supervisor's vision for the future of Frederick County. The comprehensive plan is one of several tools instrumental to future planning efforts of the County, which also includes the Official Land Use Map, the Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision of Land and Site Plan Regulations, and the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). All of these tools work together to manage growth and development as envisioned in the comprehensive plan.

Why is public input important?

Public involvement is the hallmark of a fair and transparent planning process, and it is vital for elected and appointed officials to hear the thoughts from the community on enhancing the quality of life while also managing growth. For public outreach to be impactful it should be broad, encompass the diverse segments of the community, and provide for feedback at each step in the process. More importantly, public input can influence the direction of major Plan initiatives, establish new priorities and/or play a lead role in plan implementation.

All citizens are encouraged to attend the upcoming community meetings, or provide feedback directly online through www.fcva.us/2035.