



Catawba Community Planning Area (CPA)

Seven Roanoke County 200 Plan open house planning meetings were held around Roanoke County in Spring 2022 for citizens to review draft goals and recommendation options based on the feedback received throughout the Fall 2021 community engagement. Draft goals were developed based on input that we received at the community meetings and online surveys in Fall 2021. Citizens reviewed and provided comments on the new draft goals and recommendations that will shape the draft Roanoke County 200 Plan document. The draft goals and recommendations displayed included natural and cultural resources, land use, community facilities and infrastructure, and transportation.

Community Meeting

The community meeting for the Catawba CPA was held in conjunction with the Masons Cove CPA on April 4, 2022 at Masons Cove Elementary School. There were 41 attendees.

Summary

Natural and Cultural Resources: The majority (90%) of survey and community meeting participants support the eleven initiatives to protect and improve ground, surface and stormwater resources; beautify the county's public areas, viewsheds and roadways; clean up garbage; protect steep slope areas; protect trees and forests, natural areas and wildlife habitats; as well as protection of historic and cultural resources.

Land Use: 86% of respondents support the activity centers as shown on the Activity Center Map, while 12% indicated interest in additional activity centers. 69% of respondents support the proposed changes to the Future Land Use Map.

Community Facilities and Infrastructure:

1. Parks, Recreation and Tourism: 64% of respondents support the countywide initiatives as well as the following items pertaining to the Catawba CPA:
 - a. Improvements at the Catawba Center.
 - b. Improvements at Whispering Pines Park.
 - c. Explore new park, greenway and blueway opportunities.
 - d. Continue regional collaboration for the Triple Crown.
 - e. Expand options for Little Free Libraries.
2. General Services: 69% of respondents support recycling options and assessments of County Fire Department Facilities and the Administration Center.
3. Public Libraries: 66% of respondents support the countywide library system initiatives.
4. Communications and Information Technology: 86% of respondents support expansion and improvement of broadband and cell phone access.
5. Public Safety: 70% of respondents support countywide public safety initiatives.



Transportation:

Catawba CPA Transportation Questions	
13 Survey Respondents	
Percentage of respondents support	
1. Route 311/Catawba Valley Drive Multimodal Safety Study	100%
2. Catawba Hospital access	82%
3. Improve access & accommodations Appalachian Trail & McAfee Knob	91%
4. Improve Newport Road & Blacksburg Road Appalachian Trail crossings	83%
5. Improve Dragon's Tooth trailhead parking lot	83%
6. Trailhead parking lot location for North Mountain Trail	66%
7. Pedestrian connections within Catawba Village	70%
8. Bicycle infrastructure in Catawba, along US Bicycle Route 76	63%

Catawba Transportation Ranking Questions	
13 Respondents	
Proposed Recommendation	Rank
1. Route 311 multimodal safety study	1
2. Access for Catawba Hospital	2 (tie)
3. Improve access for Appalachian Trail & McAfee Knob	2 (tie)
5. Improve Dragon's Tooth parking & access to the lot	2 (tie)
4. Improve Appalachian Trail crossings - Newport Road & Blacksburg Road	5
7. Pedestrian connections within Catawba Village	6
6. Trailhead parking for North Mountain Trail	7 (tie)
8. Improve bicycle accommodations in Catawba CPA	7 (tie)

Note: Numbers in charts refer to numbered projects on transportation map (next page).

Transportation: Catawba

Route 311, Catawba Valley Drive, is the most heavily traveled roadway in the Catawba CPA, with between 5,000 and 10,000 vehicle trips per day, and the highest percentage of crashes (4.7%). The northbound infrastructure in Catawba includes two significant investments: US 15, Bike Route 7A along Catawba Creek Road to Catawba Valley Drive to Blackbord Road, and the Appalachian Fabrics/Scenic Trail (AT). Both resources attract cyclists and hikers from the country and the world. There are two trailhead parking lots located on Route 311 that serve the AT for access to Dugout's South and McAfee Knob. A pedestrian bridge for AT is planned and will be constructed over Route 311 in 2024. The Catawba Greenway provides a connection between the AT and the Virginia Tech Catawba Sustainability Center, where Roanoke County has constructed a new trailhead parking lot.

Exercise: Use the map to provide your thoughts on proposed transportation recommendations.



Roanoke County 200 Plan: Spring 2022 Community Input Summary



Land Use, Natural & Cultural Resources, Community Facilities & Infrastructure Survey: Catawba		
		34 Respondents
Natural and Cultural Resources	Yes	No
1. Protect and improve the quality of water in our streams, creeks and rivers.	24	2
2. Coordinate with State agencies regarding floodplain risks and prevention.	21	4
3. Reduce quantity and improve quality of stormwater.	22	3
4. Protect and prevent risks to surface waterways, reservoirs, underground aquifers and drinking water wells.	23	2
5. Beautify County roadways and public areas.	23	2
6. Protect viewsheds from the ridges and from the valleys.	19	5
7. Clean up and prevent litter and illegal dumping.	24	1
8. Protect steep slope areas.	21	4
9. Protect trees and forests and increase tree canopy.	24	2
10. Protect natural areas and wildlife habitats.	23	2
11. Coordinate with State agencies regarding historic and cultural resources, including cemeteries and archaeological sites.	23	2
Land Use - Activity Centers	Yes	No
1. Do you support the location of the activity centers shown on the map?	18	3
2. Are there other areas in Roanoke County that should be designated as an activity center?	2	15
Land Use - Changes to Future Land Use Map	Yes	No
1. From Rural Preserve to Conservation	15	5
2. From Rural Preserve to Conservation	15	5
3. From Rural Preserve to Conservation	15	5
4. From Rural Preserve to Conservation	14	6
5. From Rural Preserve to Conservation	14	6
6. From Rural Preserve to Conservation	14	6
7. From Village Center to Rural Village	15	5
Community Facilities & Infrastructure: Parks, Recreation & Tourism	Yes	No
1. Evaluate new park, greenway, and blueway opportunities.	9	4
2. Evaluate on- and off-road connectivity options between parks, neighborhoods, and community facilities.	8	5
3. Continue coordination on regional efforts to enhance and develop outdoor recreation opportunities in our communities.	8	5
4. Update the Parks, Recreation & Tourism Master Plan.	8	5
5. Continue promotion of the Park Partners Program to encourage citizens and businesses, and organizations to adopt a park, greenway, or trail.	11	2
6. Educate citizens on park ordinance updates (i.e. park sign updates, dog-friendly parks/special events and leash laws, drones, etc.).	10	3
7. Continue developing programs that allow for safer post-COVID plans that balance community needs with available staffing resources.	8	5
8. Evaluate improvements at Catawba Center (i.e., proposed playground).	9	4
9. Evaluate improvements at Whispering Pines (i.e., sports field lighting).	10	3
10. Evaluate opportunities for parks, greenways/trails, and blueways (i.e., Hinchee Trail opened in 2020; Catawba Greenway opened in 2021; Masons Cove Greenway).	10	3
11. Continue collaboration with National Park Service, VDOT, US Forest Service, and Appalachian Trail Conservancy on the Triple Crown Area (i.e. Dragons Tooth, McAfee Knob, and Tinker Cliffs).	9	4
12. Evaluate additional options for expanding Little Free Libraries Program with the Park Partners Program.	8	5
Community Facilities & Infrastructure: General Services	Yes	No
1. Evaluate recycling program options.	11	2
2. Complete planned Roanoke County Fire Department Facilities Assessment.	10	4
3. Complete planned Roanoke County Administration Center Assessment.	8	5
Community Facilities & Infrastructure: Public Libraries	Yes	No
1. Improve services and continue enhancing facilities.	8	6
2. Evaluate programming needs and wants based on a variety of data and customer feedback.	9	4
3. Implement responsive, community focused program that serves people of all ages and backgrounds.	11	3
4. Ensure timely delivery of all circulating materials.	11	2
5. Raise level of engagement with the community, and increase awareness about library services and programs.	7	5
Community Facilities & Infrastructure: Communication & Information Technology	Yes	No
1. Explore opportunities to extend broadband service with universal availability and access to high-speed Internet in unserved and under-served areas.	12	2
2. Explore alternative broadband and cell phone providers for choice and competition.	12	2
3. Explore more public-private partnerships to implement more stages of Roanoke County's Rural Broadband Initiative to bring high-speed Internet to homes without broadband access.	12	2
4. Explore providing improved cell phone service in unserved and under-served areas.	12	2
5. Consider submitting applications for the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VTI) grant and other grants.	12	2
Community Facilities & Infrastructure: Public Safety	Yes	No
1. Provide the efficient delivery of public safety services with minimal response times.	11	3
2. Enhance and maintain public safety staffing.	9	5
3. Enhance and maintain facilities and equipment.	9	5
4. Provide a high-level of citizen engagement and educational opportunities.	10	4

