

# CHAPTER 1

## CAMPBELL COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

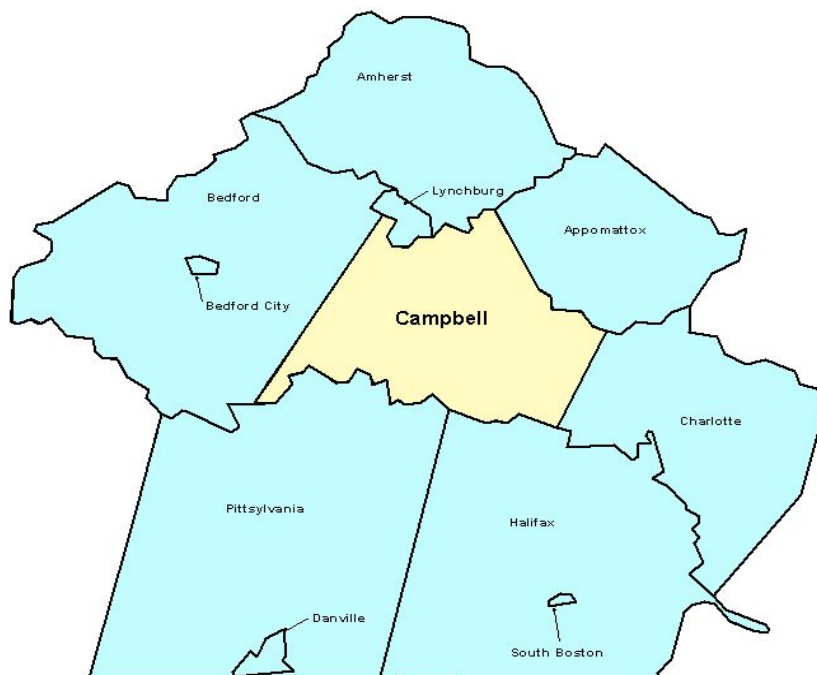
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### INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

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#### THE COUNTY

Campbell County was formed in 1781, the first Virginia county formed after the American Revolution. It is located in the southern part of central Virginia and is bordered by Bedford County to the west, Pittsylvania and Halifax Counties to the south, Appomattox and Charlotte Counties to the east and Amherst County and the City of Lynchburg to the north. Campbell County encompasses 511 square miles and includes the incorporated towns of Brookneal and Altavista. The County is home to more than 54,000 residents who enjoy living in areas that range from the established suburbs of the city to rural farms that are miles from any town or village. Campbell County affords a good quality of life and a diverse economy that are supported by an effective transportation network. Major roads in the County include U.S. Routes 29, 460 and 501. Charlottesville, Roanoke, and Danville are a one-hour drive away while Richmond, Greensboro, Raleigh and Durham can each be reached within two hours. An extensive network of rail lines supports the transportation of materials and products. Commercial flights are available through the Lynchburg Regional Airport, which is also located in Campbell County.



## **THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

The Commonwealth of Virginia requires local jurisdictions to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan to be reviewed at least once every five years. A comprehensive plan takes into account the various trends affecting the physical development of the land within the jurisdiction. It is intended to be the mechanism for anticipating and dealing with change in the County over time, and in our case we have chosen fifteen years as the period of focus for the plan. It articulates policies, and establishes goals and objectives to influence development in both the private and public sectors. A comprehensive plan is implemented in large part by the zoning and subdivision ordinances of the locality, as well as by capital improvement spending on public projects. The Code of Virginia, (VA. CODE ANN. §15.2-2223) states that “The comprehensive plan shall be made with the purpose of guiding and accomplishing a coordinated, adjusted, and harmonious development of the territory which will, in accordance with present and probable future needs and resources, best promote the health, safety morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of the inhabitants...” The Campbell County Comprehensive Plan can be amended as needed by the Board of Supervisors, following a public hearing and a recommendation by the Planning Commission. The County is committed to maintaining its comprehensive plan as a functional document that accurately represents the community’s vision of the future.

## **THE PLANNING PROCESS**

The Comprehensive Plan underwent a significant review and update process from November 2001 to February 2003. Members of the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission participated in surveys to rank the importance of multiple topics. Updated statistical information from the 2000 U S Census aided in the planning process. County department directors and constitutional officers also revised and updated their respective sections of the Plan. In April 2002, public input sessions were held at the four Campbell County high schools. Citizens provided their views on growth, change, and development in the County. The annual Board of Supervisors Retreat in June 2002 and a subsequent joint work session of the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in October 2002 further refined the draft Comprehensive Plan and prepared both bodies for public hearings and final adoption of the Plan.

Minor updates to the Comprehensive Plan were made when the plan was reviewed in 2008-2009. During the 2014 update, the focus has been on updating the demographic information as a result of the 2010 U.S. Census data, reviewing the Goals and Objectives of each chapter, and ensuring that the current plan accurately reflects the County’s long-term priorities. County staff has been involved in reviewing and making recommended updates to each chapter. The Planning Commission has also reviewed each chapter as drafts have been completed. Drafts of the chapters have been available on the County website for the public to review, and opportunities for public comments have been available through forms provided at public meetings and online.

## **THE MISSION**

The Board of Supervisors adopted the following statement: “The Mission of Campbell County is to create a cooperative, self-sustaining environment in which its citizens, elected officials, and government work toward common excellence. The County will preserve and protect its heritage and quality of life while creating opportunity for business and community alike in an era of conscientious, managed growth. The County will courteously and civilly represent, without fail, Virginia’s leadership in governing, planning, and education.” There are also five core values common in our organization: cooperation, dedication, quality of life, trustworthiness, and family/community. All of the goals, objectives, and strategies presented in the Comprehensive Plan support the mission statement and are consistent with our core values.