

Exciting News from the Lancaster Board of Supervisors

Dear Lancaster County Resident,

In 2020, the Board of Supervisors, as directed by the County Strategic Plan, formed the Citizens Business Relations Advisory Committee (CBRAC). A key part of their mission was to create a 2035 Strategic Plan. CBRAC is looking for ways to strengthen our economic future and enhance our lifestyle while retaining our rural charm. They began by reviewing our county's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. These impact us all in some way; in many ways we are already feeling the results of some problems.

Key findings, our challenges, and a Vision for 2035

Our Biggest Problem: Declining Workforce Population

Over the last 10 years, the number of people in the 20-55 year old age bracket has declined by 8.6% which is over 900 residents. Here's what this means:

- Businesses can't find workers, especially in the trades, and consumer services suffer.
- The school population is declining.
- As a result, higher taxes will burden the remaining population.

Want to help? Contact one of our teams:

Housing for All Ty Brent – tyjbrent@gmail.com

Creating a Business-Friendly Environment Paul Sciacchitano – paul.sciacchitano@gmail.com

> Broadband Access for All Don Gill – dgill@lancova.com

Age-Appropriate Recreation Jason Bellows – jbellows@lancova.com

Dynamic School System Jessica Davis – jdavis@lcs.k12.va.us

Communicating Lancaster2035 Susan Cockrell – susancockrell@kilmar<u>nockva.com</u>

Six key strategies have been identified and are underway to make Lancaster a highly desirable place to live, work, and play!

- Bring broadband access for all
- Create a **business-friendly** environment
- **Transform our schools** into dynamic and innovative places with outstanding facilities
- Build housing for all
- Expand recreation and cultural opportunities
- **Communicate the issues with all residents**. Knowledge of the issues and strategies may help stimulate private investment and public-private partnerships.

As we begin this process, we welcome your involvement and enthusiasm to boost our community and help us thrive.

The County Government cannot do it alone. It will take all of us pulling together.

- Bring forward your ideas to one of the committee members.
- Public private partnerships will be essential.
- Actively support new growth opportunities.
- Mentor and offer internships to young people.

We need your support and welcome your ideas. Please visit www.lancova.com/lancaster2035 for more details and learn how you can become involved!