STRATEGIC PLAN YEAR 3



Darren Rhodes, Assistant City Manager August 5, 2024

Strategic Plan Overview

Our Vision: "Albemarle will be a place where all people can develop their potential, bringing neighbors together to support a connected community."

Our Mission: The mission of the City of Albemarle is to provide our citizens with a vibrant quality of life based on sound management, transparency, and good stewardship of resources.

Our Values: Ethics, Leadership, Vision

Year 2 Successes

- 1. Fund additional staff: Assistant Parks & 2. Fire Engine No. 2 In Service. Recreation Director; Paralegal; Fleet Maintenance Mechanic, Customer Service Representative; School Resource Officer; Electric Line Supervisor.

- 3. Commit to fully funding elements of compensation philosophy, i.e. merit, certification incentives, and compensation study
- 4. Continue funding Public Utilities transition Advanced Meter Infrastructure (smart meters) with outage management system.

5. Replace HVAC System at City Hall (3 Part/Multi-Year Project) 6. Site pad completion for Albemarle **Business Center.**

7. Complete Courthouse Plaza project.

- 8. Support Stanly Community College Line Technician program.
- 9. Host Downtown Revitalization workshop on utilizing Historic Tax Credits
- 10. Conduct community survey.

Year 3 Tactics

- 1. Continue to fund 1/3 mkt study (AFD, Planning, Parks and Rec, etc.), Fund COLA, merit pay, and 401k match
- 2. Create and implement career ladder process for Parks Maintenance.
- 3. Hire Staff Engineer

Year 3 Tactics

- 4. Develop 5 Year Staffing Plan (For New Hires, Succession Planning, and Retention), Adopted and Updated each year like the 5 Year CIP
- 5. Update retention plan for Fire and Police
- 6. Develop Internal Service Surveys (from HR, IS, Fin)

Year 3 Tactics

- 7. Create process to provide coaching for staff prior to presentations in front of City Council
- 8. Conduct social media strategy training/feedback for APD & AFD
- 9. Continue external customer service survey

Year 3 Tactics

- 10. Implement ongoing training resources for staff through NEOGov
- 11. Continue communications training and accountability
- 12. Update guidance to all supervisory staff on coaching employees

Year 3 Tactics

- 13. Hold quarterly onboarding meetings for new hires introducing Administration and key City strategic initiatives
- 14. Develop "Excellent Service" award program

Year 3 Tactics

- 1. Develop updated strategy for Traffic Team to respond to resident issues
- 2. Enhance community outreach efforts to improve feeling of safety
- 3. Update citywide Emergency Action Plan with input from staff

Year 3 Tactics

- 4. Implement recommended security improvements for city facilities
- 5. Evaluate safety and security practices for city parks
- 6. Establish staff safety committee to improve risk management

Year 3 Tactics

- 7. Conduct yearly cyber preparedness assessment and planning review
- 8. Conduct comprehensive update of AFD/APD policies to meet current best practices
- 9. Conduct tabletop exercise & drill for citywide emergency

Year 3 Tactics

- 10. Study installation of cameras and network infrastructure in high-risk areas
- 11. Research License Plate Reader (LPR) program for law enforcement use only

Year 3 Tactics

- 1. Develop RFP for design build contract for Fleet Maintenance Facility
- 2. Install generator at Old Whitney Raw Water Pump Station
- 3. Solicit RFQ Design Build contracts for 52 transmission and Old Whitney Raw Water Line.

Year 3 Tactics

- 4. Begin phase 1 of 6 to replace power lines on Hwy 73 Corridor
- 5. Research funding for design and permitting for elevated storage tank at Albemarle Business Center
- 6. Research capability of on-site electrical substation at Albemarle Business Center

Year 3 Tactics

- 7. Study AFD & APD New Station Facilities (Part of Comprehensive Plan)
- 8. Implement plumbing improvements to Public Housing facilities
- 9. Increase funding for street preservation

Year 3 Tactics

- 10. Implement Year 1 of Capital Improvement Plan
- 11. Begin yard waste collection by Public Works
- 12. Evaluate results from Long Creek stormwater studies & determine next steps

Year 3 Tactics

- 13. Continue phase 4 of 5 of LED street light conversion
- 14. Research full in-house city operated solid waste & recycling collection services
- 15. Complete Water/Sewer System development fee and rate study.

Year 3 Tactics

- 16. Install new ballfield lights at Don Montgomery and Rock Creek Parks.
- 17. Evaluate Utility Customer Service Policy and implement changes to align with industry best practices
- 18. Further Develop Munis/Tyler system to improve financial reporting and use for staff

Year 3 Tactics

- 19. Purchase and install SCADA equipment at sanitary sewer lift stations to increase efficiency
- 20. Plan for central electric substation expansion to increase capacity for future development
- 21. Plan audit of content/functionality of City website

Year 3 Tactics

- 22. Engage vendor for search engine optimization audit
- 23. Fully implement economic development modeling software to include downtown properties
- 24. Utilize Placer AI to demonstrate effectiveness and impact of events and provide data for further development

Year 3 Tactics

- 25. Research city-wide long-term vehicle replacement plan
- 26. Establish committee to develop roadmap for consolidation of enterprise software used citywide
- 27. Continue prioritized upgrades to computer network environment at all city locations

Year 3 Tactics

28. Implement new telephone/communications system citywide.

Year 3 Tactics

- 1. Complete Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan
- 2. Implement remaining 23/24 strategies related to Comprehensive Land Use Plan
- 3. Develop a new Strategic Plan to guide decisions over the next 3-5 years.

Year 3 Tactics

- 4. Utilize new Comprehensive Land Use Plan to identify housing diversity needs
- 5. Recruit new landlords for Housing Choice Voucher Program
- 6. Evaluate feasibility of new corridor revitalization grants

Year 3 Tactics

- 7. Expand marketing of Albemarle Business Center through partnerships and industry trade shows
- 8. Identify resources to expand available sites and spec buildings for business recruitment & expansion
- 9. Implement improved code enforcement and fire safety communication to building owners and prospective developers

Year 3 Tactics

- 10. Fund estimated \$100,000 for matching grant requirement to continue Five Points Redevelopment
- 11. Evaluate City-owned properties in downtown for reuse and revitalization
- 12. Support redevelopment efforts of the former APD

Year 3 Tactics

GOAL: Community and Economic Growth Opportunities - Guide growth and facilitate economic opportunities to benefit all residents and businesses.

13. Expand partnerships to connect high school youth, young adults, and underemployed with training opportunities

Year 3 Tactics

- 1. Purchase mobile/accessible restrooms for special events and parks
- 2. Revisit plan and cost study for Wiscassett Ball Park
- 3. Negotiate use of North Albemarle Elementary School with Stanly County Public Schools

Year 3 Tactics

- 4. Maintain and cultivate new relationships with digital media influencers
- 5. Organize a facilitator for meetings between all three boards (County Commissioners, Board of Education, and City Council) in the county for discussion of education.
- 6. Pilot program to establish internships in multiple city departments for Stanly County School students

Year 3 Tactics

- 7. Partner with Stanly County Schools to offer enrichment programs for middle school students.
- 8. Participate in homeless community taskforce to identify homeless population and needs
- 9. Assist with collecting and analyzing data from homeless community taskforce

Year 3 Tactics

- 10. Communicate results of community survey through various media platforms
- 11. Implement post special event survey for feedback from all participants
- 12. Develop a neighborhood planning program to cycle through each neighborhood or area on a 10 year basis

Year 3 Tactics

- 13. Promote community litter prevention and adopt-a-street program.
- 14. Share growth data and educational needs with school board (planning and zoning information)
- 15. Develop internal brand guide for the City

Year 3 Tactics

GOAL: Inclusive Community Engagement - Enhance community amenities programs, and services to engage residents of different backgrounds, lifestyles and generations

16. Create guide for new residents

17. Promote public safety's community risk reduction program