

HOWARD J. COLLINS Certificate No. 05302 03/18/2019

1909 CYPRESS AVENUE

SHEET NUMBER

LS101

EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY BUDGET

Eastern Shore of Va Regional Library and Heritage Center

Description	Vendor	Amount	Priority	Notes
Install Internet cabling	ES Communications	\$2,671	1	erate
WiFi access points	tbd	\$2,400	1	erate
Routes, switches, etc.	tbd	\$33,000	1	erate - have bidded quote
Communications rack	tbd	\$700	1	erate
Moving - incl. removing books, disassembling shelving reassembling shelving, and reshelving books	Bates Moving (United)	\$70,624	1	have quote
Burgler Alarm (fire alarm in contract)	Johnson Controls	\$5,414	1	have quote
Copier for ESR		\$4,000	1	
Desks, tables, seating, file cabinets		\$100,000	1	
Trash cans - outdoors		\$5,000	1	
Signage (indoor and exterior street sign)		\$15,000	1	Not a quote, just an estimated figure. Brickwork of exterior sign by road in contract, but not the sign itself; A sign ON the building, as in the conceptuals has not been quoted and not included here.
Misc custodial (entry mats, etc)		\$5,000	1	Guessed estimate.
Compact shelving (archives)	SpaceSaver	\$140,000	2	applied to NEH. 3rd trylongshot. Expected notification Aug '21
Projection equipment - for meeting rooms		\$5,000	2	
Storage shed - outdoors		\$3,500	2	
Donor plaques		\$10,000	2	Guessed estimate.
Video Surveillance`	Johnson Controls	\$27,351	3	have quote
Archive Prep Room - freezer, tables, tools, cabinets		\$10,000	3	

Slatwall information board-hallway & kids' area		\$2,500	3	
Tech kiosks, recharging stations		\$7,000	3	
Map case		\$5,000	4	
Digitization station & Makerspace (see attached.)	various	\$50,000	4	appled ESVA Comm Ftn.
Gallery wall exhibit hanging system		\$5,000	4	
Outdoor information kiosk		\$2,000	4	
Bike rack		\$3,000	4	Friends sponsored, but funds used in capital
	Total:	\$514,160		

The Eastern Shore Public Library requests the addition of the following items in the Northampton County Comprehensive Plan "Your Northampton County 2040":

p. 17 – Your Cultural Heritage: add #8 "Collaborate with the Eastern Shore Public Library System and ESVA Museum Network members to promote to visitors and educate residents about historic areas and sites with the planning of exhibits, history trails, collection development, and programs."

p. 18 – Heritage Tourism:

- add #14 "Support the preservation and digitization of local archival materials to improve access for the use of promoting tourism and educating about the value of history."
- Add #15 "Develop regional collaborations to include Northampton's heritage in the history narrative of the broader Hampton Roads region, the state, and the nation."
- p. 22 Community Character: add #15 "Ensure new development provides access to lifelong learning and wellness spaces, such as libraries, community centers, and outdoor public green spaces."
- p. 63 Education and Workforce Development: add #19 "Support public libraries that provide public access for all ages to study spaces, technology and educational resources that support life and work skill development, including virtual learning access."
- p. 64 Tourism: add #23 "Continue to include public libraries as both a destination and part of the tourism infrastructure, making use of the facilities to tie to trails."
- p. 68 Livable Communities: add #20 "Incorporate access to lifelong learning and wellness venues in housing development to increase convenient access and walkability to public libraries, parks/green spaces, and community centers."
- p. 83 Facilities Public Education: add #5 "Support access to educational resources outside of the K-12 school buildings by improving public library operations and infrastructure."

p. 140 –

- change library location from Accomac to Parksley
- add photo (or rendering?) of the new ESVA regional library and Heritage Center



Northampton County will value, protect, and promote its rich cultural heritage and well-preserved history, leveraging the County's unique assets to enhance community character and foster economic growth.

For over 400 years, Northampton County residents have lived and **thrived on the bounty of nature.** The area's long and well-preserved history predates the earliest English settlements and is uniquely integrated into life and the community today. Throughout its rich history, Northampton County's geography and abundant natural resources have **attracted inhabitants and visitors** – Native American tribes, early explorers and colonists, railroad and ferry speculators, and today's retirees and tourists have all contributed to the physical and cultural development of the community.

The **lifestyle in Northampton County** has been shaped by the area's unique natural features – tidal marshes abundant in seafood; productive soils; woodlands; long growing season for agriculture; and clean air. The availability of these resources has produced an economy based on agriculture and seafood production with people living on farms or in small towns and villages. Northampton County's rural character, **working waterfronts**, and historic communities are a point of pride for residents and an integral component of the **economy and culture**.



Your Cultural Heritage

Cultural Resources are discussed in detail in the Community Overview, Appendix A. Key considerations and strategies are described below.

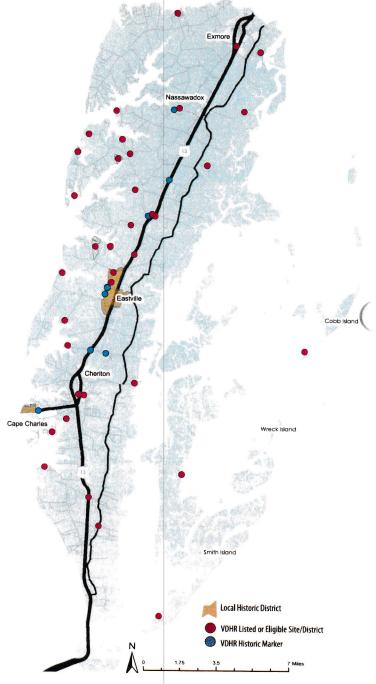
Historic Areas & Sites

Preserving the unique heritage of Northampton County is critical to its future. While the current economy continues to be based in the agricultural and seafood industries and most development remains in towns and villages, tourism and strip development has begun to have an impact. Historic areas and sites require consistent preservation efforts to ensure their future benefit to Northampton County. Historic areas and sites can often be overlooked and even destroyed without local interest and assistance. Land use strategies to guide growth and development and complement existing character will be essential in historic areas.

Strategies to Preserve Historic Areas & Sites

- 1. Ensure the preservation of areas and properties of historic and cultural significance in Northampton County.
- Consider pursuing Certified Local Government status through the National Park Service and State Historic Preservation Offices to access federal historic preservation funds and resources.
- Develop and adopt land-use practices and zoning regulations, including Historic Overlay Districts, to protect historic sites and structures and their gateways and provide adequate buffer areas.
- 4. Continually update the County's inventory of historic sites and structures.
- Study the need for regulations requiring archaeological surveys of land proposed for development.
- 6. Ensure that new development is sensitive to the character and context of historic areas.
- 7. Ensure protection of archaeological resources found during the construction process according to state and federal guidelines.





Map 3.1 Designated Historic Sites & Districts

Data Source: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Historic Reinvestment

Northampton County's historic cultural resources are a benefit to the community. Culturally, well-preserved resources help to connect us to our past. Economically, these same resources serve as a draw for tourists to visit the County. Renewed investment in historic cultural resources ensures their continued utility for the next generations. Specific attention is needed to preserve historic resources and encourage reinvestment in historic sites. Northampton County should work to improve historical resources when possible by working with historical societies and other groups in pursuit of preservation funding opportunities.

Strategies to Promote Historic Reinvestment

- Promote existing federal and State historic tax credit programs available for the rehabilitation of incomeproducing historic properties.
- Encourage efforts to maintain and repair historic structures and support the donation of historic easements.
- 10. Support efforts of local historical societies to protect sites and encourage restoration of buildings.



What are Rehabilitation Tax Credits?

The Rehabilitation Tax Credits are dollar-for-dollar reductions in income tax liability for taxpayers who rehabilitate historic buildings. Credits are available from both the Federal government (from income-producing properties) and the state of Virginia (for residential or income-producing properties). In order to qualify a building must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The amount of the credit is based on total rehabilitation costs. The Federal credit is 20% of eligible rehabilitation expenses. The State credit is 25% of eligible rehabilitation expenses. In some cases, taxpayers can qualify under both programs, allowing them to claim credits of 45% of their eligible rehabilitation expenses.

Source: Virginia Department of Historic Resources https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/tax-credits/



Economic Impact of Tourism

The full economic impact of the tourism industry can be hard to quantify, but the Virginia Tourism Corporation estimates that 2016 travel expenditures in Northampton County totaled \$77,532,198. (See Appendix A for more detail.)

Heritage Tourism

Heritage-based tourism, such as fishing excursions, oyster roasts, farm-to-table dinners, garden tours, heritage trails, and genealogical research, offers opportunities to share and sustain Northampton County's tranquil way of life. These tourism opportunities are an important aspect of Northampton County's economy and should be promoted whenever possible. The experience visitors have while in Northampton County may determine if they return to visit again, so improving the tourist experience through better wayfinding and promotion of historic resources, for example, is critical. The County should make efforts to boost tourism and encourage travelers to engage with the historical resources found in Northampton County.

Strategies to Enhance Heritage-Based Tourism

- 11. Support local, regional and state efforts to develop and promote heritage tourism and eco-tourism opportunities in the County, such as the Heritage Trail and the John Smith Water Trail.
- Develop an interpretive signage program for historic parks and selected sites.
- 13. Promote the efforts of local artists, artisans, musicians and writers to publicize events where their work is offered.



Community Character

An important function of this chapter is to articulate the design and land use considerations for different types of development that define Northampton County's landscape. Each community in Northampton County has developed with its own unique character – often defined by environmental resources and prevailing building methods, infrastructure, and transportation options at the time of construction. While only some areas are appropriate for new development, many areas throughout Northampton County can benefit from revitalization and reinvestment. Where new development is recommended, the County has embraced the Livable Communities principles to enhance community character while addressing other housing, environmental, and economic goals identified in this plan.

Strategies to Protect Community Character

- 13. Encourage revitalization, repurposing, and rehabilitation of existing structures by promoting available resources, such as grants and tax credits, and pursuing funding to support such efforts.
- 14. Ensure that new development complements and enhances its surroundings through proper land use, design, landscaping, and transitional buffers.
- 15. Establish and maintain usable public access to and along the waterfront.



Livable Communities

In 2011, the County adopted the Eastern Shore Healthy Communities "Livable Communities" concept for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan. The concept encourages development in towns and villages, saving the rural landscape for farming and forestry. This reduces sprawl, redevelops existing downtowns, and may lead to improvements in existing infrastructure, like water, wastewater treatment, sidewalks, and roads.

Livable Communities promote construction of varied housing types for varying income and age levels. Building apartments, condos, townhouses, and free-standing homes on smaller sites creates more affordable housing. Homes built in "Livable Communities" may appreciate faster, improving town economy and personal investment. When people of different incomes and ages live nearby in well-designed residences, socialization and neighborliness may produce safer and healthier outcomes. Livable Communities support pedestrian transportation options like safe sidewalks and bike lanes. The Livable Communities concept encourages desirable amenities within walking distance like grocery, medical, library, education, arts and play facilities.

Education & Workforce Development

Northampton County is already taking steps to sustain a vibrant economy through education and workforce development. County schools offer career and technical education, and renovations to the High School/Middle School have been approved. Northampton County also benefits from the three workforce development centers in Accomack County, and partners with the Eastern Shore Community College to offer courses to high school seniors. Continued support and expansion of programs will diversify and elevate the workforce.

Strategies to Invest in People

- Support the school system in developing an educated, skilled workforce to fill the community's needs.
- Establish funding through grants or other local sources for high school juniors to attend the community college.
- Partner with businesses and the Eastern Shore Community College to identify employment gaps and fund workforce training for the highest priority programs.



Tourism

Northampton County's natural areas, parks, and historic small towns are a draw for vacationers, while high traffic volume on Route 13 makes the area ideal for pass-through visits. Attracting travelers requires visibility from the highway, which can best be achieved by allowing a limited number of concentrated commercial clusters at strategic location, such as town gateways, and developing a coordinated wayfinding system to direct visitors. The growth of tourism and travel will also depend upon leveraging partnerships with the Eastern Shore Tourism Commission, increasing the facilities and amenities available to tourists, and extending use into the off season. New and expanding markets, such as special events, agritourism, and ecotourism, are important opportunities for Northampton County to take advantage of.

Strategies to Enrich the Tourists' Experience

- Develop a wayfinding system that is partnered with tourism marketing campaigns to provide clear and consistent signage that enhances the travel experience.
- 20. Expand water access, trails, and bike infrastructure that promote outdoor sports and ecotourism.
- Continue supporting the Eastern Shore rail-to-trail project as a transformational economic development investment.
- Continue partnering with the Eastern Shore Tourism Commission to promote and enhance tourism in Northampton County.



Livable Communities

Livable Communities promote healthy and active living by providing a mix of housing types in sustainable, walkable communities with ample open space. New housing development in Northampton County should embody Livable Communities principles, while targeted retrofits and revitalization projects may be needed to enhance livability in established communities. To protect against rising sea levels, future development should incorporate sustainable design principles and be targeted away from coastal zones, floodplains, and other sensitive areas. (See the Environmental Resilience and Land Use chapters for additional information and strategies.)

Strategies to Create Livable Communities

- 16. Support new housing development that aligns with Livable Community design principles in Town Edge pattern areas.
- Support neighborhood investments (lighting, sidewalks, crosswalks, roads) that allow Northampton County residents to improve neighborhood safety and walkability and promote aging in place.
- 18. Utilize state and federal grant and loan programs for community revitalization projects that embody Livable Communities principles.
- 19. Promote the use of "green" building technologies, including weatherization and low impact development, to provide energy conservation benefits and increase community resilience.













Potential Partnerships

Effective partnerships will be key to achieving the housing strategies identified in this chapter. The Eastern Shore Regional Housing Coalition is actively working to bring together housing organizations, such as:

- Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission
- Accomack-Northampton Regional Housing Authority
- Accomack Interfaith Crisis Council and Northampton Interfaith Crisis Council (A.I.C.C. and N.I.C.C.)
- Bayview Citizens for Social Justice (BCSJ)
- The Eastern Shore of Virginia Housing Alliance
- Eastern Shore of Virginia Habitat for Humanity
- New Road Community Development Group of Exmore, Inc. (NRCDG)
- Virginia Department of Health
- Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
- Virginia Housing (formerly known as the Virginia Housing Development Authority)

Collectively, these groups offer innumerable programs – housing development, rental assistance, homeowner education, home improvement grants, first-time homebuyer grants, and many others – that can be leveraged to improve housing in Northampton County.



host The Plan

Your Northampton

Planning Elements

implementation

Annendice

Your Facilities & Services

Existing community facilities are shown in Map 9.1 (at the end of the chapter) and additional background information on each facility type is detailed in the Community Overview, Appendix A. Key considerations for the strategies in this chapter are described below.

Public Education

Public education is a top priority for Northampton County residents. Improving public schools and education opportunities was identified as the #1 area of focus through the county-wide Comprehensive Plan survey. Northampton County currently operates two elementary schools and a combined middle and high school. While the schools have adequate capacity to support student enrollment, the school system faces many challenges, including deferred facility maintenance, teacher retention, and funding challenges due to state aid formulas and competition from well-funded Maryland and Virginia Beach schools.

Northampton County recognizes the importance of quality education and has taken steps to improve the school facilities, including an approximately \$36 million Middle/High School facility renovation plan. The County also acknowledges that quality teachers, technology, and programs require ongoing investment to achieve and maintain excellence in education.

It should also be noted that direct investment in the school system both supports and is supported by the goals and strategies found throughout this plan. Strong schools and student outcomes are critical to economic development, and learning outcomes are often correlated to the quality of life, housing, and infrastructure offered in a community. Improving learning outcomes will likely require investment beyond physical classroom facilities and can also be expected to yield benefits to the broader community as well as to the individual student.

Strategies to Invest in Education

- Implement plans to modernize public school buildings and grounds to provide state-of-the-art learning experiences, ensure student safety, and enhance community connections.
- Support efforts to recruit and retain quality teachers, such as lobbying state support for Cost of Competing Adjustments (COCA) that help Northampton County and Accomack County compete with teacher salaries across state lines.
- Evaluate school capacity, technology, and programs on a minimum five-year basis and develop specific action strategies to address identified service gaps.
- 4. Enable 21st century learning inside and outside the classroom by leveraging state and federal infrastructure support programs, such as E-Rate, and offering innovative solutions to increase internet connectivity, such as equipping school buses with WiFi and creating and advertising hotspot locations throughout the county.



Middle School / High School Modernization Project

Northampton County is undertaking a major investment in its school system. The middle school and high school modernization project will consist of: replacing all major building systems including roof, heating and air conditioning, and electrical systems; separate wings for high school and middle school students; and demolishing 43,000 square feet of space and rebuilding to a total of 145,590 square feet. When complete, the facility will accommodate a combined 900 students, 400 middle school students (grades 6-8) and 500 high school students (grades 9-12). The approximately \$36 million renovation received overwhelming support from the community with 71% voting for the 1% sales tax referendum to fund the project in the November 2020 election.





About The Plan

Your Northamoton