

The third round of public input is scheduled with meetings between May 14 and May 24, 2018. The entire draft General Plan and Countywide Transportation will be available for review and comment. The format has exhibits and opportunity for the public input. The first meeting is at Harmony Middle School May 14, 2018 from 6:30 to 8:30. Our position statement with respect to the Comprehensive Plan is as follows:

### *Friends of the Blue Ridge Mountains*

- 1) We understand that growth is inevitable; however, it should take place in areas where adequate transportation and infrastructure exist -- in and around existing and new mixed use, pedestrian oriented town centers -- rather than continuing suburban sprawl and traffic congestion. New centers should not be created in areas, including the Transition Area, without sufficient infrastructure to support it.
- 2) Support a vigorous program using Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) from land owners in the AR and TR zoning districts to increase density, in appropriately located new urban center developments, beyond current allowances. This program will assure a more efficient plan both economically and environmentally to maintain open space in Western Loudoun and in the Transition area to combat additional suburban sprawl and traffic. Additionally, TDRs are a vehicle for development of new urban centers by providing an alternative proffering opportunity for developers. Additionally, affordable housing should be required and exempt from the purchase of TDRs.
- 3) A high priority needs to be the development of trails and connecting green corridors, for hikers, bikers, horses, and wildlife.
- 4) Protect the County's environment and natural, and historic assets by policy and by encouraging Conservation Easements.
- 5) Develop Performance Standards for Special Events based on objective criteria such as road safety standards, lot sizes, density of surrounding event centers, noise and lighting standards, etc.

These items are a high priority for *Friends of the Blue Ridge Mountains* as well at the public's response to the Envision process. Please reiterate their importance and make sure the Comprehensive Plan states it clearly. For more on Envision, the following is a link that provides access to the County website:

<https://www.loudoun.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=4262>