

Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners Community Vision

Mecklenburg County will be a community of pride and choice
for people to **LIVE, LEARN, WORK, and RECREATE.**

LIVE: (1) Residents in Mecklenburg County will reside in a welcoming and thriving metropolitan area comprising 14 counties in North Carolina and South Carolina. **(2)** Mecklenburg County will be the regional place of choice and home to generations of families and cultures from all over the world and economic backgrounds. **(3)** Taxes will be competitive relative to the region for the scope and quality of service provided by local government. **(4)** We will celebrate diversity and inclusion, promote equality of opportunity and have respect for all of our citizens. **(5)** We will have safe communities that provide affordable housing opportunities throughout the County. **(6)** We will provide alternatives to incarceration for those suffering from the disease of alcoholism, substance abuse and mental illness. **(7)** We will eliminate preventable child deaths and injuries and will have no disparities in resident health based on ethnic background. **(8)** We will reduce homelessness and poverty in the community. **(9)** Our senior citizens will receive appropriate services and have the choice to age with dignity. **(10)** Residents will be physically and socially connected to one another. **(11)** Residents will have ownership of the community and actively participate in citizen involvement opportunities.

LEARN: (12) Residents in Mecklenburg County will have access to high-quality education at any point in life and be prepared to meet the needs of employers. **(13)** We will be a model learning community committed to maximizing academic achievement for every student regardless of socio-economic standing. **(14)** The County will continue to be a regional hub for higher education, offering individuals opportunities to attain degrees and further their professional development.

WORK: (15) Residents in Mecklenburg County will have continuing employment opportunities in a diverse economy that provide all who are capable and willing to work, a living wage. **(16)** All residents will have the opportunity to share equitably in the community's prosperity. **(17)** We will be innovative and have a vibrant economy as we attract new businesses and support existing businesses. **(18)** We will have adequate regional mass transit that connects residents to their homes, work, schools, park facilities and commercial centers.

RECREATE: (19) Residents in Mecklenburg County will have access to a system of parks, greenways and open space located throughout the County that connects neighborhoods and satisfies public recreation needs. **(20)** We will sustain and enhance the environment by protecting our natural landscapes, and have an abundant source of clean drinking water, healthy creeks and good air quality. **(21)** We will preserve our historical landmarks. **(22)** Residents and visitors will learn, be inspired by, and enjoy our community's arts, cultural, and recreational opportunities.

(23) Mecklenburg County will be the best local government service provider. **(24)** We will maintain a local government that is effective, efficient, responsible and accountable. **(25)** Partnerships between government, private sector, non-profit organizations, and the faith community will bring together people from diverse backgrounds to ensure that our community is resilient and able to address and solve community problems. **(26)** Through collaborative land use planning and strategic capital investments, there will be a good quality of life in our community.