

# EXPLORATION SURVEY



Share your ideas today by taking the exploration survey. This survey helps get the conversation started about what's next for Davidson. It is an opportunity for the planning team to gather initial input and feedback from the community about the town's existing seven planning principles, which enhance the quality of life for Davidson's residents.

Davidson's Planning Principles were implemented in 2001 to guide decisions on physical changes and public investments in the community. The principles help create the Davidson that exists today by managing growth and requiring excellent design. *What's Next* is kicking off with an exploration of these principles.

**Directions:** For each of the town's Planning Principles below, circle your level of support for the principle and then how successfully you think the principle has been implemented. In the text box below, provide thoughts, comments, or additions you have for the principle.

## 1. We must preserve Davidson's character and sense of community.

How strongly do you support Principle 1?

DO 1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → FULL  
SUPPORT SUPPORT

How successfully has Principle 1 been implemented?

1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → VERY  
SUCCESSFUL SUCCESSFUL

Additional Feedback on Principle 1: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. We must preserve and enhance Davidson's unique downtown.

How strongly do you support Principle 2?

DO 1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → FULL  
SUPPORT SUPPORT

How successfully has Principle 2 been implemented?

1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → VERY  
SUCCESSFUL SUCCESSFUL

Additional Feedback on Principle 2: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. We must encourage alternative means of active transportation.

How strongly do you support Principle 3?

DO 1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → FULL  
SUPPORT SUPPORT

How successfully has Principle 3 been implemented?

1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → VERY  
SUCCESSFUL SUCCESSFUL

Additional Feedback on Principle 3: \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. We must use our scarce land resources wisely.

How strongly do you support Principle 4?

DO 1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → FULL  
SUPPORT SUPPORT

How successfully has Principle 4 been implemented?

1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → VERY  
SUCCESSFUL SUCCESSFUL

Additional Feedback on Principle 4: \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. We must create an environment that fosters diversity.

How strongly do you support Principle 5?

DO 1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → FULL  
SUPPORT SUPPORT

How successfully has Principle 5 been implemented?

1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← → VERY  
SUCCESSFUL SUCCESSFUL

Additional Feedback on Principle 5: \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. We must manage growth so the town can provide public facilities and services space with development.

How strongly do you support Principle 6?

DO 1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← SUPPORT → FULL SUPPORT

How successfully has Principle 6 been implemented?

1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← SUCCESSFUL → VERY SUCCESSFUL

Additional Feedback on Principle 6: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. We must enhance our quality of life through architecture and design.

How strongly do you support Principle 7?

DO 1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← SUPPORT → FULL SUPPORT

How successfully has Principle 7 been implemented?

1 2 3 4 5  
NOT ← SUCCESSFUL → VERY SUCCESSFUL

Additional Feedback on Principle 7: \_\_\_\_\_

## Assets & Challenges

1. What do you love most about Davidson?

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2. What do you think are the major challenges and opportunities facing Davidson today and over the next 10-20 years?

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## Tell Us About Yourself

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is your age?

under 18                       25-34 years                       45-54 years                       65-74  
 18-24 years                       35-44 years                       55-64 years                       over 75

2. How long have you lived in Davidson

Less than 1 year                       6-10 years                       more than 20 years  
 1-5 years                       11-20 years

3. Where do you live? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Where do you work or go to school? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Additional Comments (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

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*Thank you for completing this survey and participating in the **What's Next** process!*

*Please return your completed survey to the front desk at Davidson Town Hall (attn: Cristina Shaul) or mail to Cristina Shaul at P.O. Box 579 Davidson, NC 28036 **by December 14.***

# DAVIDSON'S PLANNING PRINCIPLES

**1. We must preserve Davidson's character and sense of community.** The essence of Davidson is that residents know their neighbors and interact with them in a variety of well-designed settings. This sense of community is enhanced by:

- Compact developments with community open space
- A street, sidewalk, and greenway network that knits the community together
- Engaging public spaces
- A walkable and historic downtown
- Neighborhoods welcoming to all citizens
- Neighborhoods as integral parts of town

**2. We must preserve and enhance Davidson's unique downtown.** The presence of our cherished downtown has always contributed to the quality of life of our residents. This valuable asset will remain viable if we:

- Capitalize on its status as Davidson's social and civic center
- Encourage a mix of uses in each building
- Provide a variety of retail and services to meet citizens' needs
- Provide compelling areas for citizens to congregate
- Strengthen existing businesses while encouraging new businesses
- Maintain its walkability and increase its bikability

**3. We must encourage alternative means of active transportation.** The built environment can enhance the use of alternatives to the car and increase our physical health. We will make it preferable to do some of life's activities without driving by:

- Development and redevelopment in walkable, mixed-use, connected neighborhoods
- Planning commercial centers so walking, bicycling, and riding public transit to these destinations are viable options
- New greenway, bike, and sidewalk connections to existing developments
- Creating streets that give preference to cyclists and pedestrians

**4. We must use our scarce land resources wisely.** The natural environment enhances our quality of life, both physically and socially. We will preserve this irreplaceable asset for future generations by:

- Preserving rural views, significant hardwood forests, farmland, wildlife habitats, rock outcroppings, parkland, and watersheds in their pristine form
- Balancing natural habitat with active and passive recreational opportunities in our preserved open space
- Encouraging development that uses green design, energy conservation, and flexible spaces
- Ensuring that development builds up and not out

**5. We must create an environment that fosters diversity.** We will create a community where all persons are welcome and are able to fully and safely participate in community life. To encourage diversity of all economic levels, all races and ethnic groups, all ages, and all physical and mental abilities we will:

- Provide a mixture of housing types and prices in every neighborhood
- Support our citizens who wish to age in place by employing universal design and accessibility principles
- Encourage economic opportunities at all income levels and all abilities
- Preserve our cultural heritage

**6. We must manage growth so the town can provide public facilities and services space with development** We will create a community where all persons are welcome and are able to fully and safely participate in community life. To encourage diversity of all economic levels, all races and ethnic groups, all ages, and all physical and mental abilities we will:

- Establishment and maintenance of an adequate commercial tax base
- A healthy diversity of uses in walkable, compact neighborhoods
- Alternative transportation options between destinations
- Encouragement of economic growth without jeopardizing our sense of community
- Decisions based on the long-term goals of the comprehensive plan rather than a short-term benefit

**7. We must enhance our quality of life through architecture and design.** Livable environments include well-designed buildings, a dynamic public realm, and seamless connections between the two. This means that:

- Private buildings and public infrastructure must work together to shape public space and to build community character
- We will preserve our historical assets
- The design of our public spaces, parks, and plazas will encourage social interaction, cultural experiences, and recreational opportunities
- Public art will animate our civic spaces

