

“Historic Past – Sustainable Future” that is the Steering Committee’s Motto.

Just what is it we wish to sustain? Is it “Growth and Prosperity” that we are trying to sustain/protect, or is it the Historic Past, or somewhere in between?

Or is it the Quality of Life for residents of JCC that we wish to be sustainable? And if so, what constitutes “Quality of Life”?

Is it good transportation and less congestion?

Is it clean water and clean air and other environmental concerns?

Is it ready access to unspoiled spaces for the residents?

Where does Education fit in?

Perhaps what we should be examining as far as a Sustainable Future is one for the very existence of the residents of James City County, and beyond. I maintain that we need not only Air and Water protected for our continued existence but also land.

We already are exceeding the legally available drinking water sources, and recently spent \$25 million to join a plan that essentially pays Newport News to steal water resources from distant neighbors (KWC) and Native American tribes by building a huge environmentally destructive reservoir. All so people can water their lawns in the summer.

Our air quality was already compromised by approval of a Coal Fired Power Plant at the far end of the State in Wise County. Fall out from that plant directly affects our quality of life, our health, and our environment. Now we are faced with a much larger plant just over the James in Surry County.

Both clean air and clean water are dependent on undisturbed land with forests and unspoiled drainage. Our food supply depends on unspoiled agricultural lands. Yes we can import our food from far and wide these days, but that is the antithesis to Sustainability.

For the health and wellbeing of the current James City County residents, we need to preserve as much unspoiled lands and the agricultural heritage of our past if we ever want to live up to a “Sustainable Future”. This is the overwhelming feedback you have gotten from the citizens that you represent.

Two related points to consider:

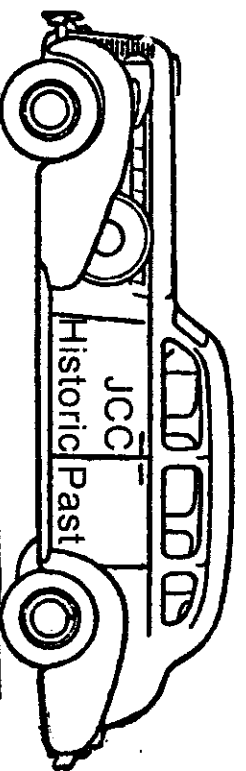
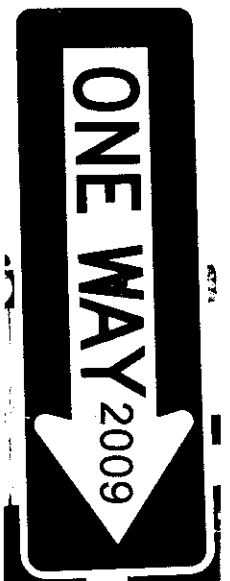
Once Rural and Agricultural Land is lost to growth and development they are seldom if ever restored.

In the age of the Internet, I shop for gas, groceries, hardware and building supplies and groceries locally. The vast majority of the rest is fluff and space that is directly in conflict with a Sustainable Future.

I believe this Committee is spending far too much time trying to determine how to develop beyond “By Right” and thus on a path to complicate our problems (traffic, environment, taxes, QOL), when instead you should be planning on how to protect as much of the unspoiled lands remaining as possible.

Finally, I would like to see a survey of residents about their thoughts on rural lands and willingness to help fund preservation of rural lands through increased tax rates. What is the status of our PDR and Greenspace funds?

- Problems
- Traffic
- Drinking Water
- Runoff/Streams
- Education
- Taxes
- Blight
- Cumulative Impact
- Etc.



JCC Comp Plan Steering Committee

Land Use Approach

