

Community Conversation Questions

1. What do you like most about living in Prince William County?

- Good overall quality of life
- Great leadership in PWC
- Great greenspaces, parks, playgrounds, libraries
- Safe and livable neighborhoods
- Clean streets, well-maintained roads
- I love individuals in the community that are willing to hold law enforcement and political officials accountable for their actions and make sure our community is safe
- Affordability of the area compared to other areas
- Quality of county staff
- PWC works hard at collaboration and innovation
- Neighborhood Services is outstanding
- High quality schools; quality of education
- Bridge near Rt 1 – very nice wetland
- Excellent focus on designing services to assist underserved and undocumented members of our community especially during this pandemic. Even though there's much to be done, the fact that these groups are even top-of-mind is encouraging and heads and shoulders above many communities.

2. What do you like least about living in Prince William County?

- Transportation – as we've grown, we've been slow to adapt to make changes
- Should be more walkable communities so don't have to rely on car to go everywhere
- Need to balance commercial real estate against residential real estate. Need to increase commercial.
- Need to do more with the unsheltered population
- Traffic congestion issues especially during commute times
- Transportation – lack of planning – insane to run bypass through neighborhood

- Parkway – path from Hoadley to Liberia doesn’t get maintained without calling and complaining
- Need more economic development in our community so we have a greater tax base to fund our schools, etc
- Inability to attract good paying jobs to the community. More high paying employment would benefit us in the areas of transportation as well as residential tax burden
- Need more affordable housing
- People begging in mediums – PWC needs to address
- Cost for someone to build own home has gone up incredibly – very expensive
- Improve accountability by doing what we say we’re going to do. Focus on results and outcomes.
- Need increased access to broadband and internet connectivity for all areas of the county
- Diversify tax base by balancing data centers and warehouses.
- Still need more for underserved and undocumented members of community

3. If you were in charge, what would you change about Prince William County?

- Transportation
- Is there a way to make our public health clinics more accessible to those who do not have access to family medicine during this pandemic?
- Diversify the economic base by attracting businesses that will create high-tech jobs then balance that with affordable housing
- Do more long-range planning
- Work with the state, Sentara, Novant Health to bring a medical school to the PWC George Mason University campus
- Ensure residents have affordable health care starting with prevention
- Look at creating more traffic circles to relieve traffic congestion. For example—at Bristow Rd and Independent Hill Drive
- Figure out how much green space in relation to everything else do we want to keep
- Would incentivize more affordable housing stock

- Create teams with education, human services, veterans, retired service employees and look at all issues we’ve brought up on this call to see how to address.
- Improve lives of people of color
- Work to support special needs children
- Create a detailed plan to swiftly transition to renewable energy
- Address climate change and effects of climate change (flooding, heatwaves)
- Continue to prioritize education

4. What do you believe should be the **top 3 priorities for the community** over the next 4 - 5 years?

- Increasing revenues, creating opportunities for businesses
- Public Health Clinics (short-term); fix railroads (mid-term); policing issue (long-term)
- address climate crisis, educate Police for better treatment of Black & brown people
- Improvement of social services
- Create more affordable housing
- More public transportation
- Create businesses, affordable housing, policing (training to avoid any potential issues)
- Find way to get through COVID crisis, protecting & preserving small businesses, figure out PWC can deal with postal service issues that have arisen
- Balanced economic development, balanced housing, regional transportation focus
- Broadband access, economic development, schools
- Add an environment and sustainability chapter into the next strategic plan, look at MWCOC housing target chapter, add more transportation options
- Create a community energy plan – energy efficiency and solar panel will also help with jobs
- Smart growth development; more public transportation, particularly buses which will help with equity
- Policing - no blow ups in our community ...credit to those in charge, but if one makes a mistake can make situation bad; Leadership has to make sure what standards are for policing and interaction with folks; Training for police to deal with others fairly not rush to judgement --make sure training is there to avoid future issues; militarization of American police forces has eroded community policing (don't see

community policing --can we put more responsibility for riot control and violent responses on State police and National Guard and local police return to community focus?)

- Get through COVID crisis with min loss of life; appropriate PPE for those involved with protecting community; and ensuring education not disrupted--related to future challenges to have IT in place to deal with future pandemics
- Postal Service Discussion - every citizen voting at home; medications come through mail and concerned about impact of that; Zoning in PWC doesn't support business
- Add environment and sustainability chapter in strategic plan
- Regional housing targets through COG – good strategies
- Comprehensive trails network – need mobility beyond cars

5. What other comments or insights do you want to share that would be important to PWC's strategic planning process?

- Need to demilitarize Police; use more community policing;
- Rethink zoning of property that was done in the 1970s
- Maintain balance
- Re-imaging County seal – does it project what we want to portray in our community - diversity
- Safe and accessible food system (food security)