

## Comments Received- Community Conversation

January 1, 2008-April 30, 2008

**April 14, 2008**

### James City County-Williamsburg Recreation Center Group 3

1. a. *Think about how James City County has developed or grown since you have been here. How have these changes affected your daily life, both positively and negatively?*

Increased retail/service industry to support growth

Traffic increase

Shopping opportunities

New Town (premium shopping, professional business growth, office space)

Lack of housing to support retail service industry, middle-income government related, young professionals

Improvements of tourism infrastructure with Jamestown 2007

Better coordination in marketing area as a destination

Alienation of people of lesser wealth, i.e., recreation opportunities

Over development of retail (where do we get workers, will service quality/quantity be stress with uncertainty of labor) – a broader regional issue

Coordinate regional comp plans to address increased employment and subsequent traffic issues of growth

Disproportionate growth rate and trend growth rate for seniors

- b. *Assuming some growth is inevitable, in which areas would you like to see growth occur (i.e. residential, commercial, industrial...); where would you like to see it go, and at what pace?*

2. *What would you change about James City County if you could?*

Diversify economy for more entry level positions (knowledge based) for economic balance

More diversified tax base, less impact on individual

Positive outlook on business growth (more business friendly), high end

Workforce training, i.e., workforce development center in community

Better medical support (more physicians)

Bus service helps support employment

Cultural opportunities, i.e., Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Croaker Library, orchestras

Seasonal Weather (fall, winter)

Greenery (trees, plants)

Availability of volunteer, volunteer opportunities, i.e., support to community giving community

Christopher Wren, WALT programs

Friendly population (retirees)

Recreational center (youth programs)

Public school system

3. a. *What are your top three examples of what makes James City County a desirable place to live and work and why?*

Police force (professional)  
Opportunities to interact with Natural Resources  
Entertainment options (Busch Gardens, CWF)  
College of William and Mary  
Off season tourism opportunities

- b. *What do other localities do that you would like to see James City County do and why?*

More aggressive practices to entice business and to retain business  
More transit (rail, bus) connections to Lower Peninsula  
Move Rocky Mountains  
Broader assistance to first-time home owners, i.e., police, fire, etc.  
Business related cluster development (Association Park, New Town – good examples)

4. *What are important features (such as clean industry, living wages, and shopping opportunities) you would like to see in the business and industries the County attracts?*

High wages, benefits, and entry level opportunities for young professionals  
Business related cluster development (associations, regional banning, etc.)  
More non-industrial  
More balanced economy, less dependent on tourism  
Central locations between Hampton Roads and Richmond  
Greater communities, center of regional areas, great opportunities  
Create more density for better opportunities, i.e., transit, research and development support, for infrastructure  
Accelerate home business opportunities (less traffic)  
Evaluate water consumption impact with growth (better water efficiency practices)  
Encourage local production of food, i.e., additional farmers market, west part of county  
Encourage green buildings, i.e. less energy use, less impact on water  
Encourage research opportunities of College of William and Mary – use of county opportunities (business incubator)  
Surveys to find out why William and Mary College graduates leave (how to keep young professionals)

5. *What do you want James City County's legacy to be for future generations?*

Create a more balanced community (employment, environmental, health)  
Preserving historical heritage, i.e., Norge depot  
Coordinated signals along major corridors (according to flow)  
A community where children will stay