

A MORE EQUITABLE CHARLOTTE



CHARLOTTE’S VISION

The Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan is Charlotte’s shared vision to guide growth and development over the next 20 years. Through robust engagement, the Charlotte community expressed a desire to ensure future growth benefits as many residents as possible and helps make Charlotte a more equitable city for all. In the context of the Comprehensive Plan and Community Area Plans (CAP), equity is defined as prioritizing the needs of our most vulnerable populations. It involves working towards providing more opportunities for these residents, reducing their exposure to harms, and improving overall quality of life.

HOW IS EQUITY MEASURED?

The Equitable Growth Framework (EGF), a key component of the Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan, evaluates current levels of access and impacts based on metrics that align with the principles of equitable growth and the ten Comprehensive Plan goals. The framework includes a Vulnerability to Displacement Overlay, which highlights socioeconomic conditions, and four primary metrics: Access to Housing Choices, Employment Opportunities, Essential Goods & Services, and Environmental Justice Impacts. These metrics are further broken down into 27 measures, many of which assess the diversity and proximity of land uses within a given area’s existing development pattern. As such, the development profile of a geography can directly influence its equity score, helping to identify priority goals for a plan area.

If an area’s access and impact scores (shown right) fall below the City’s goal of 5 then future development should address these needs. This approach ensures growth benefits as many people as possible and helps create a more equitable city for all.

VULNERABILITY TO DISPLACEMENT

Displacement occurs when an individual, household or business leave a neighborhood or district, voluntarily or involuntarily, due to changing circumstances. These changes could be related to dilution and weakening of history and culture, increasing rents and taxes, or something else. Vulnerability to Displacement measures:

- Poverty Rate
- Race
- Educational Attainment
- Age

COMMUNITY NEEDS

COMMUNITY PLANNING AREA	ACCESS TO AMENITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proximity to Childcare and Early Childhood Education• Parks, Open Space and Trails• Community Facilities• Fresh Food• Healthcare and Pharmacies• Financial Services• Internet Service	ACCESS TO JOBS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proximity to Employment• Employment in Commute Shed• Wage Levels• Middle Skill Jobs• Knowledge Based Jobs	ACCESS TO HOUSING <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing Unit Diversity• Housing Cost• Housing Size• Subsidized Housing• Tenure• Level of (re)Investment	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tree Canopy• Impervious Surface• Proximity to Heavy Industrial Uses• Proximity to Major Transportation Infrastructure• Floodplain
East Inner				1st Priority
East Middle & Outer	3rd Priority	1st Priority	2nd Priority	
North Inner	2nd Priority		3rd Priority	1st Priority
North Middle & Outer	2nd Priority	3rd Priority	1st Priority	
Northeast Inner			1st Priority	
Northeast Middle & Outer	3rd Priority	2nd Priority	1st Priority	
South Inner			1st Priority	
South Middle	2nd Priority	3rd Priority	1st Priority	
South Outer	3rd Priority	2nd Priority	1st Priority	
Southwest Middle	2nd Priority		1st Priority	3rd Priority
Southwest Outer	2nd Priority	3rd Priority	1st Priority	
West Inner			2nd Priority	1st Priority
West Middle	2nd Priority	3rd Priority	1st Priority	3rd Priority
West Outer	3rd Priority	1st Priority	2nd Priority	

COMMUNITY GOALS

COMMUNITY GOALS

The Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan includes ten goals that reflect the values and guiding principles for creating an equitable city. While it is important to advance all ten goals across Charlotte, some goals are more of a priority for a community area based on unique needs for increased access and reduced impacts. These priorities are reflected in the table to the right. Goals 5 and 10 are important across all community areas.



GOAL 1: 10-MINUTE NEIGHBORHOODS
All Charlotte households will have access to essential amenities, goods, and services within a comfortable and tree-shaded 10-minute walk, bike, or transit trip by 2040.



GOAL 2: NEIGHBORHOOD DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
Charlotte will strive for all neighborhoods to have a diversity of housing options by increasing the presence of middle density housing (e.g. duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, townhomes, accessory dwelling units, and other small lot housing types) and ensuring land use regulations allow for flexibility in creation of housing within existing neighborhoods.



GOAL 3: HOUSING ACCESS FOR ALL
Charlotte will ensure opportunities for residents of all incomes to access affordable housing through the preservation of naturally occurring affordable and workforce housing and increasing the number of affordable and workforce housing units through new construction.



GOAL 4: TRANSIT-AND TRAIL-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (2TOD)
Charlotte will promote moderate to high intensity, compact, mixed-use urban development along high-performance transit lines and near separated shared-use paths or trails.



GOAL 5: SAFE AND EQUITABLE MOBILITY
Charlotte will provide safe and equitable mobility options for all travelers regardless of age, income, ability, race, where they live, or how they choose to travel. An integrated system of transit, bikeways, sidewalks, shared-use paths, and streets will support a sustainable, connected, prosperous, and innovative network that connects all Charlotteans to each other, jobs, housing, amenities, goods, services, and the region.



GOAL 6: HEALTHY, SAFE, AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES
All Charlotteans will live and work in safe and resilient neighborhoods that enable healthy and active lifestyles by reducing exposure to harmful environmental contaminants, expanding and improving the quality of tree canopy, encouraging investment in walking, cycling, and recreation facilities, and providing access to healthy food options and health care services.



GOAL 7: INTEGRATED NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENTS
Charlotte will protect and enhance its surface water quality, tree canopy, and natural areas with a variety of trees, plantings, green infrastructure, green building practices, and open space at different scales throughout the entire community as a component of sustainable city infrastructure.



GOAL 8: DIVERSE AND RESILIENT ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
Charlotteans will have opportunity for upward economic mobility through access to a diverse mix of jobs and careers that align with education and skill levels of residents and the economic strengths of the region.







GOAL 9: RETAIN OUR IDENTITY AND CHARM
Charlotte will cultivate community-driven placemaking and identity, while limiting displacement and retaining the essence of existing neighborhoods by intentionally directing redevelopment.



GOAL 10: FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE
Charlotte will align capital investments with the adopted growth strategy and ensure the benefit of public and private sector investments benefit all residents and limit the public costs of accommodating growth.

COMMUNITY AREA GOALS

	GOAL 1	GOAL 2	GOAL 3	GOAL 4	GOAL 6	GOAL 7	GOAL 8	GOAL 9
COMMUNITY PLANNING AREA								
East Inner		★	★	★	★	★		
East Middle & Outer	★	★	★	★			★	
North Inner	★	★	★	★	★	★		
North Middle & Outer	★	★	★	★			★	
Northeast Inner		★	★	★				★
Northeast Middle & Outer	★	★	★	★			★	
South Inner		★	★	★				★
South Middle	★	★	★	★			★	
South Outer	★	★	★				★	
Southwest Middle	★	★	★		★	★		
Southwest Outer	★	★	★				★	
West Inner		★	★	★	★	★		
West Middle	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	
West Outer	★	★	★	★			★	