

What are the community core values that should guide planning decision-making in the county over the next 5-8 years?



Walking the Talk

Improving Decision-making

- All actions should make our county a better place to live, work, and play
- Be accepting of change
- Be open to different viewpoints
- Build on the success of others
- Do what we can afford
- Maintain an open dialogue between citizens and decision-makers
- Provide a variety of opportunities for public participation in decision-making
- Use a long-term perspective in planning, to include impacts on future generations
- Use common sense when writing regulations

Developing a High Quality of Life

- Develop and maintain youth programs (e.g., support systems and athletics)
- Encourage the building of strong family units
- Recognize the needs of all age groups
- Start early with quality education
- Strive for educational excellence (all age groups)

Preserving and Building Community

- Be Mitchell County (versus copying others)
- Develop/retain a sense of community
- Preserve our cultural heritage and quality of life (to include farms and rural character)
- Promote the health and wellness of residents
- Respect others

Preserving Natural Resources

- Be environmentally responsible
- Be mindful of the greater Southern Appalachian ecosystem
- Establish rules and regulations to preserve and protect our natural environment
- Preserve public access to outdoor activities/areas
- Promote environmental awareness

Expanding Economic Opportunities

- Be technologically up-to-date
- Develop support services for working families (e.g., daycare)
- Promote our strengths
- Provide broad-based educational training for job-related skills (e.g., vocational training)

- Seek jobs that match the county resource base (e.g., available skills, tourism, etc.)