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County Administrator

## County Administrator's Office

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### Wythe County Looking to the Future

WYTHEVILLE, Va. - Wythe County officials are updating the long-range County's Comprehensive Plan with the help of Hill Studio, and are asking for public input through an online survey. The comprehensive plan is branded as *Connect Wythe 2040*.

The Commonwealth of Virginia requires counties to have comprehensive plans to provide guidance for public investment, development strategies and facilities. Connect Wythe 2040 will utilize public input, information, trends, and recommended policies to make informed public decisions for managing future growth and development.

Wythe County hired consultant Hill Studio, located in Roanoke, to help with Connect Wythe 2040. "It will be good to have a fresh set of eyes to help the county grow and pinpoint additional opportunities Wythe County can work on," stated Wythe County's Public Information Officer, Elizabeth Sweeney. "Hill Studio has been around for years and has a well-equipped staff to help communities plan and prosper."



The plan will consider existing conditions, challenges, and future needs for Wythe County over the next 20 years. Connect Wythe 2040 will look at diverse topics including economic development, utilities, public safety, education, environment, historic resources, recreation, transportation, housing, and land use.

Hill Studio will host a series of public meetings throughout the summer to get input from local residents on the plan's priorities. These meetings will be conducted in person and online. The citizen survey went live today and residents and visitors can give their input through the 10-minute survey.

"We strongly encourage Wythe County citizens to participate in these meetings and surveys that are being conducted," Sweeney said.

Connect Wythe 2040 is expected to be completed by October 2021. A project **Facebook Page** has been established to keep citizens informed of community meetings, project work, and important planning topics. [<https://www.facebook.com/ConnectWythe>]

In addition, a **Citizen Survey** has been launched to engage residents and stakeholders in helping to plan for the future of the County. You can find the survey link is posted on the Facebook Page and the County Webpage. [[https://corexms292ywldvy24j5.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_7aBvQy5dMbuV1nU](https://corexms292ywldvy24j5.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7aBvQy5dMbuV1nU)]

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Wythe County officials, please call Elizabeth Sweeney at 276-724-0992 or email Elizabeth at [wythepio@wytheco.org](mailto:wythepio@wytheco.org)