

Commissioner Goals

Beginning in 2017 and continuing in the coming fiscal year, the Board of Commissioners adopted Plan Chatham goals and added three additional goals. The complete set of goals adopted is as follows:

Plan Chatham Goals:

- Preserve the **rural character** and lifestyle of Chatham County.
- Preserve, protect, and enable **agriculture and forestry**.
- Promote a **compact growth pattern** by developing in and near existing towns, communities and in designated, well-planned, walkable mixed-use centers.
- **Diversify the tax base** and generate more quality, in-county jobs to reduce dependence on residential property taxes, create economic opportunity and reduce out-commuting.
- Conserve **natural resources**.
- Provide **recreational opportunities** and access to open space.
- Provide **infrastructure** to support desired development and support economic and environmental objectives.
- Become more **resilient** by mitigating, responding and adapting to emerging threats.
- Provide **equitable access** to high-quality education, housing, and community options for all.
- Foster a healthy **community**.

Additional Commissioner Goals:

- Demonstrate **sound fiscal stewardship** to ensure we can meet the important service needs of our residents.
- Provide **effective, efficient government** that is responsive to the different needs of residents and varying circumstances across the county.
 - Mitigate the impacts of poverty among individuals and households in the county through programs and services that promote stabilization and resiliency.
- **Ensure public safety** through adequate resources, plans, and partnerships to keep people and property safe.
- **Strengthen relationships** with other boards, municipalities, and regional entities to address common challenges and opportunities.

Commissioner's Areas of Focus

At the 2023 Board of Commissioners retreat, the Board of Commissioners indicated several key areas of focus for the County to prioritize in fiscal year 2024 and beyond:

- Local Economic Development Initiatives
- Partnerships
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Affordable Housing
- Unified Development Ordinance (UDO)
- Health Initiatives

- Broadband Access
- Organizational Excellence
- Transportation
- Natural Resources

Departments and Commissioner Goals

County departments with similar missions formed teams to provide better focus on achievement of these goals. To make the numerous goals, objectives, and strategies of Plan Chatham easier to track and address, high-level themes were identified and adopted by each team:

- Safe, Vibrant, Healthy Community
- Demand Driven Public Services
- Growth and Resource Management
- Organizational Excellence and Resiliency
- Data and Technology Gaps.