



2015 Albemarle Board of Supervisors Candidate Interview

Candidate: Richard Lloyd (R)

On November 3, 2015, voters in the Rivanna Magisterial District go to the polls to elect their representative on the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors. This recording is Brian Wheeler's September 1, 2015 interview with Richard Lloyd (R). The other candidates in this race are Norman Dill (D) and Lawrence Gaughan (I).

The audio recording of this interview and complete election coverage is available on Charlottesville Tomorrow's website:

http://www.cvilletomorrow.org/topics/county_elections/

INTERVIEW

Mr. Lloyd, thank you for participating in this interview with Charlottesville Tomorrow. The complete audio recording and written transcript for this interview will be available online.

Information from this interview will be used in the compilation of the non-partisan voter guide being co-produced by Charlottesville Tomorrow, The Daily Progress, and the League of Women Voters. Charlottesville Tomorrow does not endorse any candidates and our goal is to provide information to the public so they can make an informed vote on issues primarily related to land use, transportation, public education and community design.

As you are aware, the first two questions you will be asked have been provided in advance, for the others you have been provided only the topic in advance. All Albemarle Supervisor candidates will be asked the same questions. We ask that you keep these questions confidential until all candidates have been interviewed.

Each candidate will be provided an opportunity to review the excerpts selected for the voter guide before its publication. Are you ready to start?

1. QUALIFICATIONS: Please describe your past experience that qualifies you to be on the Albemarle Board of Supervisors.

I was born in Albemarle County, went to Virginia schools and I went to Virginia Tech where I received a Civil and Mechanical Engineering degree graduating in 1975. I worked for Fortune 500 and Fortune 100 companies right out of college. I think I worked with some of the best people in their fields on the planet. I worked with Ingersoll Rand and was selected to be in their "Six Pack" program. There were six of us in the \$4 billion company that went to all the divisions' manufacturing facilities and worked in their marketing departments and in their engineering departments and I was passed by all five plants and was one of the six that graduated from that [program]. As such, I have worked with major companies and small companies. I have been responsible for receiving huge orders from Fortune 500 companies. I worked with the vice-presidential level of many large Fortune 100 companies. I think that gives me the ability to discern what are the important points, to ask the questions [about things] I do not understand and know where to go to get the answers and to stand the wind against people that will not listen to my point of view. I don't expect everyone to agree with it, but I do hope that they will listen to [my] point of view and consider it.

2. PRIORITIES: What is your top priority for action by the board of supervisors if you are elected?

Well I think the top priority of course is to maintain a bipartisan Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors is currently made up of six seats. Five of those seats are held by a very liberal group and one seat is held by a very conservative individual who's retiring. That's the seat I am running for. I think it is important that the Board of Supervisors have a bipartisan attitude so that they can deal with the needs of all of the citizens of the county. To go all on one frame of reference or all on one perspective you lose the ability to discuss issues from both sides and invariably you will lose and create more controversies than...before the decision was made.

So I look to have some kind of balance there, I look to have visibility of what's going on on the board from the conservative perspective and offer some pushback when it's appropriate. We can't have paralysis by consensus. I'm not looking for paralysis by consensus, but I am looking for both sides of the debates to be represented, and to have a reasonable debate before decisions are made. I think that's the number one priority on the board.

The second priority of course is to contain our taxes, our cost of living. When we raise the cost of living we push people over the edge and they can't afford it anymore. And where do those people go? They either go to surrounding counties or they go on social services. If they go to the surrounding counties, who are they? A lot of them are our police force, a lot of them are our hospital workers, our teachers, the auto mechanics and so forth. I ask the people that I encounter day by day, "Where do you live?" And that class of people live predominantly in the surrounding counties. Now take that police officer for instance, every nickel that we pay that man to do his job ends up going into the economy of the surrounding

counties, not into our economy. It's a complete outflow from our economy and a complete inflow into the others. Plus he becomes a mercenary. He comes here to work and then he goes home to his society or his community.

So I'd like for my children to go to school with the police officer's children, I'd like for my wife to go shopping with the police officer, and I'd like to go to church with his wife and I'd like to go to church with the officer himself. That to me builds community and to drive these people out of our community destroys community. We talk about police officers encountering people on the main mall, but they are not people that they live with. That's a city problem, I know that the main mall is a city pedestrian mall but it happens in the county also.

So that's a priority, somehow we have to contain our cost of living and the biggest portion of that that is containable is the budget, is the tax rate. So they're the top two that I would go after. There are many, many other issues that come up, and have come up, some of them are resolved, some are not resolved, and some of them we don't even know about yet. We will have to work as a board to hear them out, air them out, see what the unintended consequences are, and make decisions from an informed perspective.

3. BUDGET: Name one specific area of the county budget that you are concerned about and tell us why.

The process, the budgetary process. When you look at a multi-billion dollar company, in the budget, even in a division, you are looking at a very complex document that's larger than the County of Albemarle's. The way we could get our hands around it is that we had fixed expenses and we had discretionary expenses. So the fixed expenses are the things that you can't change. We have got to pay our taxes. What are the taxes? We don't need to discuss it, they are what they are and the corporation is not going to be able to change them. Yes there are tax attorneys there, yes they are trying to, but from a board perspective you can't do anything about it, you've got to pay it. But there are discretionary items. Should we go into this business, work on this profit center?

So we have got the fixed and the discretionary, but in Albemarle County we look at the budget by line items and nobody knows. Here's the school budget – the school budget is 60 percent of the entire budget – but what portion of the school budget is fixed? If we can take that and move it aside, and then look at the increment that's discretionary, we can start to prioritize these discretionary items, we can start to look at them one by one by one because they are manageable. You can get your hands around them. You can see them and you can anticipate the unintended consequences of making these decisions. But to take them on their whole and try to deal with them to me obfuscates the entire line item. It's too complex, it's too laborious. Staff can do a great job of saying this is fixed, this is discretionary, let's negotiate the discretionary and find out what we want to do as a board. Then we give the budget back to the school board and then they can massage it again, but they only have to look at the discretionary items and then the staff will take care of

the fixed items. Say we are paying too high a rent on a particular building, or whatever, they can take that issue up without having to bring it to the board level.

4. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION: Business leaders and social service agencies have told local government that new investments are sorely needed in the area of early childhood education. Will you make pre-K education and quality childcare a priority and if so how?

You know I was born in Greenwood -- I had to go to the hospital in Richmond for a pyloric stenosis -- but my parents lived in Greenwood and they got divorced. I went to live with my mother and my grandparents. They provided the childhood education, and I had one of the best childhoods and best childhood educations possible. I believe we need to support the families to pick up as much of the load as they can because it instill family values, but it also is the most tender, concerned, loving situation you can have for pre-K care and education. A lot of it is care, it's not just education, and it's to get them socially ready for kindergarten and first grade. But there are people who through disabilities, they're the disadvantaged people, that don't get that, it isn't available, and it can't be had. They have no family around them or they have physical or mental disabilities that exceed the capacity of the family, and I think that's where government has to step in and help. Education is, what I often refer to as, a magical enabler. Education enables people to go on and live their lives in a very productive manner, and a lack of education is a disabler. This early childhood education is the beginning of it all.

So we've got these programs that are out there -- we've got Title I, we've got Bright Stars, we've got [another] readiness program that's really well run -- We've got all kinds of social programs but they overlap. Are they being properly coordinated? Who is responsible for coordinating them? Is it the teacher in the classroom? Because she's already got her goals set out to educate the children not prepare for this. So I think that we need to make sure that people going in know who they can go to for coordination of all of these service programs and what the programs are good at doing, at accomplishing, what their targets are, and does this child fit those targets. And is he in the right program or should he be in all the programs or one of them or two of them? It's just an outpouring of aid but aid without some organization behind it becomes very complex especially for people who are just entering our society and don't even speak the language.

So early childhood education is fundamental and I hope that the families are encouraged and supported in giving it themselves and where they can't we need a very good coordinated system to pick up the slack.

5. STORMWATER: How should Albemarle County fund water resource programs to clean up local streams and comply with state mandates for protection of the Chesapeake Bay watershed? [And a follow up] Would you support creation of a stormwater utility fee, similar to the one enacted by the City of Charlottesville, which is based on the amount of impervious surface on a property?

That's almost a political question beyond a stormwater question. You know the EPA was sued by 13 states over their [Total Maximum Daily Loads] -- and Virginia wasn't one of them -- and a federal judge put a stay on the EPA.... They took the "navigable waters of the United States" and took the word "navigable" out and called it "the waters of the United States." [The EPA was] trying to regulate the streams and the farm ponds and even the seasonal streams on people's properties, giving them the right to come on their property and inspect and make their recommendations and enact fines on them. Well the federal court [put in place an] injunction and just said they can't do that and it will go to court and be litigated. Virginia is not one of the 13 states. So we've got this problem. What is the power of the EPA? Will the suit, the injunction, be taken to a national level or will it stay with these 13 states? But it shows there is an overreach within the EPA, an overreach that the federal court has addressed, at least is beginning to address.

The TMDLs bother me because they say here is the TMDL that we are looking for, the Total Maximum Daily Load, and they are looking at only three pollutants (which is a problem in and of itself because there are many pollutants that are not in the TMDLs which are very, very toxic). I grew up sailing on the Chesapeake Bay with my uncles and we sailed almost every weekend almost every summer, and I have sailed a lot since then recently. I love the Chesapeake Bay. When we were kids we could jump off a dock and our feet would hit the sand bottom and the crabs were all over the pilings and we had a blast. I could go down and feed myself off the crabs on the pilings, and they are not there anymore. When I jump off the dock I don't go to the sand bottom I go to muck. So what is the muck? You get buckets of it and pull it up, and I have looked at them and had people that I know that are far more capable than I look at them and the muck is coming from the algae blooms. Where is the algae bloom happening? It's happening everywhere. It's largely because of the runoff of the fields, our own fields at the farm are fertilized, it rains, and before the fertilizer can sink in it runs into the Chesapeake Bay. And the algae starts and the muck is created when the algae dies in the winter, year after year after year. So there are problems there.

The TMDLs that we are looking at up here in Albemarle are inconsequential compared to some of the things that I have seen happen close up on the bay itself. They say here is the TMDL target. Well in the spring in Albemarle as most people who have lived here for a while know we have large rains. The large rains come down in the mountains and they purge the mountains. The mountains have, through the freeze and the snows in the winter, the organics, the leaves and the branches and so forth rot, and they stain the water very dark. And then there are more deer in Albemarle County than there are humans and I haven't seen a deer on a toilet yet. In the spring all of that fecal material is purged out of the forest and it goes into the streams and the rivers and it ends up concentrating itself in the South Fork [Rivanna] Reservoir, that's a good place to witness it. In fact the Rivanna Water and Sewer [Authority] puts out warnings, "Do not let your dog swim or drink the water." I mean that's pretty putrid water and the nutrient level is going through the roof, sky high.

And then all of that purges itself and goes downstream. It floods the flood plains, it fertilizes them. The farmers during a drought take their cattle to the flood plains

because that's where it is green [from] the fertilizer. We've got to let the flood plains flood. Plus they retain a lot of that water. They turn into sponges. So when we have a drought, the sponges drain and support the rivers, and the streams and the creeks. But if we don't let them flood they don't get the nutrients and they also don't get the recharge of the water. So when we have a drought we have a terrible time with the drought. It is flood plain management and the flood plain management practices that I was taught back in school are entirely different from the flood plain management that's coming out of the Rivanna Water and Sewer [Authority].

When we have a flood you will just see people go nuts and it's a natural occurrence. So all that happens and then we get into the summer and the rains get more moderate and the waters clear up and the South Fork Rivanna Reservoir becomes very pleasant again. But you have to realize that the nutrient level is going up and down, up and down, and that's just seasonal. And year by year sometimes we have huge rains and sometimes we just have large rains so these nutrient levels are going all over the place.

So what is normal? We can't establish a normal level for our rivers and streams until we get to the Chesapeake Bay. And at the Chesapeake Bay the James River comes across Lynnhaven and goes to sea. The prevailing flow of the Chesapeake Bay is southward, [the James River flow] doesn't go north, it doesn't get up to the Rappahannock, it doesn't even get up to the York River, it can't. The Susquehanna, and the Potomac, and the Rappahannock and the York, they are all going south. So whatever we do is really effecting Lynnhaven which happens to be seeing a resurgence in the crabs and oysters right now. So I think we need to get some reality. They say we want to have normalcy, well what is normal? And then Albemarle County says they want to go beyond that. Well how do you get more normal than normal?

You can make [the TMDL's] extremely low, but just think of the cost of trying to upgrade an entire watershed. We haven't got enough money to do that. So there needs to be some real thought given to this. They say we need to look at the critters in the river, what's alive, we studied that back in school too. But some of these have natural patterns to their population growth and death. Right now if you look at the last thing that came out from [Albemarle's Water Resources Management staff] on how to pay for the stormwater, they have a map and it shows the impaired streams. The North Fork of the Moormans River has no development on it, there's not anything on it, and it is shown to be impaired. I don't understand that. I'd like to know more data behind it and quite frankly running as a political candidate the door to door knocking is keeping me from doing the research that I would like to do in that area. But we will get that all under control and investigated.

The follow up [question] was what?

Would you support creation of a stormwater utility fee?

Now we are getting into the continual battle between the development areas and the farms. Who is going to pay whatever these fees are? I think right now we've got a

\$1.8 million fee that we are paying annually to the state. The way it works is the EPA gave a license to the federal government, and the federal government gave licenses to the states. And the states have come out and said here are the normal numbers that we want to attain and you can either adopt those or you can go beyond them.

And Albemarle County has decided they are going to go way beyond them and I think all of that has yet to be completely solidified or codified. I hope that they consider what's more normal than normal and how do you arrive at normalcy? But will that burden fall upon the development areas – houses, schools, and hospitals, gas stations, and churches – or will it fall upon the rural areas because one of the biggest creators of nitrogen and phosphorus in the water are the forests. How do we sort this out? Who is going to pay the freight?

If the current law that is being established is codified, then you can go onto a farmer's land and say, "Your farm pond is polluted, fix it." Well quite frankly have you ever swam in a farm pond? They are nasty! It's the lowest place on the farm, everything drains to the farm pond. They say don't let the cows in the river, but that means it drains somewhere else. So I don't want to swim in a farm pond. But if you are going to look at the farm pond and say that's the standard, clean it up, you just put the farmer out of business. We need the farmers. We don't need to put these obstacles on them especially when they are based in questionable determinations. So who is going to pay for them? Well that's going to be a hard one because is it a real requirement or is it a fictitious requirement to start with?

I want to see the Chesapeake Bay get back to where it was when I was a child, so we have to do something. One of the biggest culprits I see is that I see oils floating on the water from time to time. It is a shipping channel, but there is an awful lot of oil and pollutants coming down the Susquehanna River and there are an awful lot of factories on the Susquehanna....

6. DESIGNATED GROWTH AREAS: In the remainder of 2015, or during your first term if you are elected, should the board make boundary adjustments for Albemarle County's designated growth areas to create new locations for business on land that today is in the rural area? Why or why not?

That's a good question. Why do we need growth areas? What's the purpose of a growth area? I think everybody agrees that we need them. Why do we need business development? Why do we need any business at all? Some people in the community say, and I think it was [County Executive Tom] Foley who said that we had 5 acres of developable area. Other people say, I think the Sierra Club, that we have hundreds of acres of undevelopable area and we have untold numbers of buildings that are not in full use. And the topic of course now is the brewery that is coming in on [U.S. Route] 29 and [Interstate] 64. Why do we need to put it outside the growth area? Why don't we put it inside the growth area?

Like most of these topics you get the red herrings coming out where people that don't want to see it happen come up with their reasons why they don't want to see it happen -- some of them are kind of legitimate and some are kind of odd. One of them is that [the development will contribute] about 5,000 [vehicle] trips a day. VDOT is said to have come up with that number. So I called some breweries on the west coast where they are very sensitive to traffic. I found that a brewery that [produces] about 350,000 barrels a year generates maybe they thought 150 trips a day. It's a long way from 5,000. That generated some other questions. I hung up and [thought] what else could be going on here? Do they have a tap room where the public comes and sits down and how much traffic would that [generate]? So I called some tap rooms and they are talking about 200 or 300, hundreds of trips a day for their success. Well how about a bottling plant?

None of these questions have been brought up or answered by the way. So you make the beer. Do you sell it by the keg or do you bottle it up and put it in bottles and does that generate truck traffic? So I called a bottling plant for one of the major breweries and asked, "How many trips? How many trucks?" Well we have like 10-12 trucks a day. So I said well maybe it's the yeast, the hops, the barley and all the grains coming in? Nope, that's one or two trucks every week. I couldn't make the 5,000 [vehicle trips a day] number. I would ask if I was on the board for some resolution. I have a call in to the county [economic] development officer now to ask where that number came from, because I look at that and say, "Until I can understand it better, I classify it as a red herring."

Then they [point to] the bridge on [Interstate] 64 going over [U.S. Route] 29. Well we all have known for years that the exit ramp and the entrance ramp are substandard, and they are the same ramp. So everybody's been having trouble with that forever and if you are going to put more truck traffic on it it's going to have to be redone. I maintain that if you didn't do anything with the brewery, if you didn't do anything with the growth area, that's got to get redone. It's going to cost the county, well the state, some money. VDOT's going to have to come up with the cash for that. The interstate highway system designed it improperly to begin with. It's been a problem for decades. So I look at that as another red herring. It's a problem that has to be fixed and has nothing to do with the growth area, its safety.

So then they come up and they start talking about the [reasons] we need this and [they say] it's going to bring 100 jobs to Albemarle County. The blue collar workers are not going to come from Albemarle County...they are going to come from Nelson County because it's a little bit south or they are going to come from Augusta over the mountain from Waynesboro. Even if they were new to the area, they would go to work in the brewery and then they would go find a place to live that they could afford. They are not going to pay the wages that are required to live a normal life inside the county. It's an expensive place to live. It's an expensive place to buy a house. It's an expensive place to have your children do their after school activities. So that's not going to provide a reason to build it.

So then I pulled out a map and I started looking for the breweries. You know where the breweries are clustered? They are clustered in Seattle, they are clustered in

Portland, they are based in Colorado because the biggest component of brewing beer is water. They have to have good water to brew good beer and they need calcium and gypsum and all these other minerals that are endemic in the water for different types of beer whether it is a pilsner, a stout, an IPA or what have you.

So why Albemarle County? If you look at beer coming out of this county right now, it's pretty darned good. We have good water in this county. That land backs up to the Ragged Mountain Reservoir, because the Ragged Mountain Reservoir has been extended under I-64, and it comes right on the back, and there is some surrounding land owned by Rivanna Water and Sewer [Authority] and the Nature Conservancy. And then the basic water in the town is filtered with activated carbon. So we've got water. We've got proven water. It has to be reliable – summer and winter, year after year – because you can't have a beer taste one way one day and then something else another day. And our water so far -- unless we build this uphill pipeline, the uphill river you know from the South Fork [Rivanna] Reservoir to Ragged Mountain [Reservoir] where we are going to take this putrid water we were talking about earlier and pump it up and put it in the pristine water in Ragged Mountain -- it's pretty good for brewing beer. So I say that if we don't do that, then we have a pretty good location [for a brewery], and not just because of 64 and 29....And we've got a labor force – it might not be our labor force – but it's going to be coming from other areas, and we'll receive the tax dollars off of it.

Why do we have the property tax and the business taxes? Why do we have the development area? We have the development area because we have to pay our bills. Two years ago we had a penny and a half increase on the [real estate] tax, last year we had two cents. The Board of Supervisors now says, "We have substantial and growing deficits for the next five years." Why five years? That's the end of the study. Somehow we have got to either come up with more revenue or we are going to have to live a trimmer life. I'm kind of in favor of coming up with more revenue. So if we have to put it south of 64 on 29 it's not a belching... well let's talk about that. One of the byproducts of producing beer is carbon dioxide. I don't think it's a problem but I am sure there are some people that will have overlooked that it makes one heck of a lot of carbon dioxide. They'll mitigate it. They'll take it, compress it and sell it.

So I am kind of for it. I am for it because I don't want to trim away some of the quality of life that we have established in the county to make the budget work out. I don't want the budget people to come back and say, "Well we can do it with increased debt load." That's just moving it to our children. Somebody's got to pay the bill sometime.

And if we raise the taxes on the brewery itself they'll go somewhere else. This poor gal, I say poor gal, she's a very fine gal that's running the economic development for the county, needs to create a story where Albemarle County welcomes business and encourages business to consider us. We need to attract businesses to this county. If we come forth with all of these problems that are real, and some of these problems that are not so real, and this intransient nature where we are not going to expand things or make it accommodating, we won't get their time of day.

And it's been so awful [with] that last meeting of the Planning Commission where they went from all for [the growth area adjustment] to all against it without even asking the questions of the client. That doesn't build that good will. At Ingersoll Rand we used to go out and [look for where to build] and expand plants. There was a team that goes out and makes [an evaluation] and if you are not on the list, you get scratched off the list, they are not coming back. After listening to that Planning Commission meeting, I am surprised they are still in the hunt. Maybe they are gone and we don't know it...We need to be a lot more receiving and accommodating to the businesses that are good for this county and we need to generate the revenue or we are going to have to trim back our standards of living.

7. CITY-COUNTY-UVA RELATIONS: Describe a part of local government that would benefit from increased cooperation by the city, county and / or the University of Virginia and that you would make a priority.

I think in recent years, the problems between the city and the University of Virginia and the county, have been based upon the abuse of women. We have women missing from the community entirely. We have murder, we have rape. We have all kinds of mayhem going on in this community and I know that members of my family look at UVA and they look at other options for their children. They say UVA has been in the news so much, that's what their mindset is. It's probably a very emotional and highly charged topic entirely, but I think we need to take these on as a community and realize that we have a Commonwealth's Attorney Office. That Commonwealth's Attorney Office is responsible for everything in the Commonwealth, in the county, in the city and in the university. The focal point of where it all comes together, I don't know but your rights as a citizen are protected by the Commonwealth's Attorney. And if a girl is raped on the campus of UVA she is still under the purview of the Commonwealth's Attorney. If a girl, or a guy, is abducted or mistreated or whatever, that's the person that to me that needs to come to the front, that's the person that we rely upon. And I haven't seen that happen.

So I think that that right now is one of the biggest sources of absolute disgust. You can't have murder in a community the size – Charlottesville is what 42,000, 45,000 people, the county is 100,000, 110,000 people – these are not large populations but look at what's happening here. It's in the news year after year after year and we go through all this agony and angst. Why can't we just get our hands around what is a good law enforcement policy and can't we get these cases resolved quickly and efficiently and why do we have to have so much pain and suffering? So to me that's number one on the city, county and UVA relations. You get into the tax base, you get into the utilities and all that, these are negotiations that can be handled by good men of good intent. But this whole thing about the criminality is just to me over the top. I don't want it in my community and I don't think anybody does, and the Commonwealth's Attorney is where I hold the accountability.

8. PLACEMAKING: What improvements could be made to our community's placemaking efforts?

Placemaking. I think it was three years ago that a friend of a friend invited me to [Charlottesville Tomorrow's community conversation]. I sat behind Michael Bills who is your [former Chairman] and I think it was a young lady from the Knight [Foundation] that gave a presentation on placemaking and it was the first time I had really thought about that. My thoughts as I reflect back on that, Charlottesville had a time when placemaking -- building places in the community that identified it -- was kind of a standard affair. I mean look at the library. It wasn't built out of frame construction. It was built out of brick and mortar and granite and limestone. It's solid. It's been there for generations, it's going to be there for generations. Look at the Historical Society.

[Paul Goodloe] McIntire gave us McIntire Park, and he gave us Lee Park and he gave us the park with Stonewall Jackson in it. We have Lane Auditorium which was built to endure the ages. The Jefferson School is still there. It's not going anywhere, it's solid. It was recently rehabilitated using its original support, its original shell. But now when we build these new buildings -- a lot of people deride the expense of the new buildings -- and I am thinking of the fire department that the city built in the Fry's Spring area, I have no problem with that. That fire department is going to be there, I have walked through it, it's going to be there for generations to come and that's placemaking to me. And we've got to get from these places, we have to have an infrastructure, we have to get from A to B. And I think there was at one time even a trolley in Charlottesville, and now we have a wheeled trolley on rubber tires. So times move along but the placemaking that's in place is the product of several generations. Well the country is eight generations old so it can't be but so many.

But now we are entering this era where placemaking -- we are making this place on West Main St. called The Flats -- quite frankly I don't think that construction is going to endure the ages. Some people absolutely loved it and staked their reputations on it and as soon as it was complete they said, "Oh what a mistake, that should have never been built." The reframe of that whole deal was kind of a mystery unto itself.

So placemaking is building upon what we already have, the place that I was born, that place that has been Charlottesville for years. Do we need to enhance it? Always. Each generation has to leave their additions on it.

There is some talk now, I think [Charlottesville City Councilor Kristin] Szakos wants to take down the [Lee and Stonewall Jackson] statues. They are part of the place. Are we to erase the history and then be destined to relive it again, or do we keep the history in place and look at the people who fought it, the Civil War is what I am speaking of, and say there was good and there was bad, they were human beings. They had some good qualities and they had some bad qualities. But we need the real history. We don't need history to be re-written to suit somebody's dream of what the place is. The place is what it is and I admire those historians who can go back and back up their work in historical fact. I hate these historians who want to

rewrite history and interpret the facts that they can hang around a narrative that has nothing to do with the reality of the situation and redirect your thinking.

So I think placemaking is very important. And I think that placemaking needs to be expensive, it doesn't need to be expensive, but I think it is expensive by the nature of it. I think that building good public structures that endure the ages is part of the placemaking effort.

9. RURAL AREAS: How would you describe the challenges and opportunities facing Albemarle County's rural farms, fields and forests?

We are blessed to live in a drop dead gorgeous place. This place is the product of many families, and in many cases generations of those families, taking care of the rural area. If you drive out Route 22, 231, if you drive out Barracks Road, you are going to see some of the most beautiful scenery in America. I love for my extended family from Oklahoma and Seattle to come and visit because they look around and they say, "This is just drop dead gorgeous."

Environmentally we need to do the right thing and we need to create a model community that our founders would be very pleased with, very proud of. And it is a heck of a job to come up with [a way] to preserve the past and build for the next generation.

There are people that want to keep the population fixed. Well the population of Americans is reproducing at less than 2.0. That means that we are not replacing ourselves. A husband and a wife need two children to replace themselves and on the average we are producing 1.95 [children] or slightly under 2.0.

But we are bringing people into this area from other countries and quite frankly it's the kindest population you will ever encounter. Going door to door I have met so many wonderful people. The world is in turmoil, and there are disasters and horrible things happening – people being beheaded and killed and populations immigrating to their neighbors -- It's just a horrible world that we live in. Many of them look to the U.S. to come here.

The [International Rescue Committee] is bringing in to the city of Charlottesville 200 families every year, the county is getting 188 families every year. That [creates] a load. How do those people live, how do we support them? It costs a fortune to take a family that is brand new -- they could be wonderful people, but they don't speak the language, they don't share the culture, they haven't had the health care benefits that we've had, they haven't had the educational benefits that we have -- and to make them comfortable in this community requires that the community receive them and really put out a lot of blood, sweat, tears and money to make it happen. And we do it. And that's admirable, it's admirable and I have no problems with that at all. It comes with a cost and we really need to come up with [a number of] how many people we can absorb, because quite frankly you really could empty our Dakar and Charlottesville is 40,000, 45,000 people and the county is 100,000, 120,000 people in total, that's men, women and children. There's a limit as to what our good will can

handle and I really think that the Board of Supervisors on the county side needs to say, "This is what we can afford to do."

Now how does that get back to the rural areas in the county? Well when you fill up the development areas you have to invade the rural areas. You've also got to pay for these families. Your family doesn't cost as much per year as taking a family from zero up to subsistence level where they can support themselves. We have to take them through the health care system, we have to take them through the educational system, we have to teach them the language, we have to teach them the culture, we have to provide housing for them until they can get the income to where they can afford their own housing. We have to provide them food until they have income to where they can provide their own food. All these things are very expensive and how do we pay for it? We have to have taxes.

The schools pick up their load, they can't do it on air, they need money to pick up that load, and that unfortunately is falling more and more toward the rural areas who have lived with very low taxes. I think taxes are a threat [causing the] break up of these large tracts of land that families have been able to preserve for years. I'd like to see these families have the same rights for the next generation that their parents that own the farms now have. There are parks, they are our treasure. They are preserving the beauty of this beautiful place. So that's one issue.

Water is another one. We talked about it earlier – the right for the government to come onto a farm and say that seasonal stream is under our control and it's substandard and you Mr. Farmer are going to fix it. He'll say, "I sold my land into a conservation easement." Guess what, he's not making any money. The farmers in Albemarle County are not profitable if profitable at all. A lot of them have family money that they can use to live a lifestyle, but many of them are farmers, they have cattle, they raise crops, and they try and make ends meet off of this. Well you can't look at these remediation methods and put them on top of a money losing farm and expect the farmer not to say, "Well I need to sell off the land." Well he can't because it is in a conservation easement.

You know who is making money off that farm? The guys that own the conservation easements are selling the [carbon credits]. [Mark Tercek], the President of The Nature Conservancy went in front of Detroit Economic Forum and said the big three automakers need to partner with The Nature Conservancy because they need to buy tax credits. And we've got more tax credits because we own more land than any other entity, we own more land than the National park Service, and we've got carbon credits for sale, they need to partner with us. Well if they are making the money, why don't they pay some of the mitigation? Why don't they pay to keep the farmers farming? Because the farmers are now limited in what they can do to pay the credits. So they have no cost. I use The Nature Conservancy as a model, but they didn't pay their money, in large part, for the land, it was either given to them or it was bought with tax credits which the people of Virginia paid. So they have got this land that they are selling carbon credits off of with a zero investment. That's pure income.

And the last of course is the control issue. When these families have controlled and kept their 400 acres together, then why do we need to come onto their land to say that the state has a right to control its use and sale, that the state has a right to control mandates that are put upon it for stormwater or for anything else? There needs to be some ownership of private land. There needs to be some private control of your land, the right to quietly and peacefully enjoy your land.

So that's the way I feel about the rural area. I think we need to keep the taxes down. We need to keep the government out of the control of it, not entirely, but largely. And I think that we need to make sure that we all continue to enjoy this beautiful place that we live in.

10. TRANSPORTATION: What is your top transportation priority and how will it be funded?

We grew up in an era when the car became prevalent. I think more and more the car companies are finding out that you have this spending wave. You know when you are very young you don't spend much money, you don't have a car. I'm going to take the money as one issue because people can relate to it, but look at how many cars you control. A friend of mine told me once that, "Success is how many pots you control." You are young, you are born, you don't spend very much. You get into grammar school and you spend a little bit more, and you've got clothing and shoes and so forth. You get into high school and you spend more because now you have style and all these things going on. The end of high school you get your car. You go off to college and you spend even more. And your parents now have gone through their family creation. Their houses have gotten bigger and bigger, and then you go off to college and their houses get smaller and smaller. And instead of having three cars in the family they go down to two cars. Then you get married and you spending hits its all-time maximum. What is that age, 39 or so, it's when you have your children and they are all going to school. And your parents spending wave is way behind because now they are now going through the downsizing of their houses and they are down to one car and so forth. Well the Baby Boomers are all on the down side right now so the demand for cars is down and there is no doubt that GM, Ford and Chrysler are not seeing the successes that they saw in the past. It's because the Baby Boomer generation is so much larger, multiples, than their children, the Echo Boomers.

So I look at transportation and I just hope we are not using the numbers of the past to plan future transportation because it is different these days. Cars are not as big to begin with, and they don't burn as much fuel, there are not as many of them largely, but we still have these pinch points. What is Charlottesville? Charlottesville is a transportation hub for central Virginia. We have the airport, we have the train station, we have I-64 we have [Route] 29 and we can't move any of them, they are fixed, and we need to get to all of them. We have the medical center, we have the hospitals for central Virginia, we are the medical center for central Virginia. We've got to get people in and out, not just on an emergency basis, but to see their doctors. We need a good solid transportation plan. We moved Martha Jefferson [Hospital] but nobody thought about changing a single road. I live in Pantops. I can

tell you if I am downtown and want to get to Pantops at 5 p.m. I am in for a wait. What happens is we look at these intersections and they do traffic plans for intersections for God's sake. Why don't we get a regional transportation plan together, a really good current one and then take that regional plan and just zero in on different draws. We can see what the important ones are. We need to get people to the hospital. You have this traffic conflagration at a particular intersection. We've got through traffic, and we've got local traffic. How are we going to handle that locally? We can't do that intersection by intersection, we've got to do it regionally and then come inward. I have not seen a regional traffic plan put forward.

Number one, I don't know that you can prioritize anything until you have the regional study done, and done by very good people. You know you can get a cut rate plan or study, or you can go hire a couple graduate students from Virginia Tech and they will give you a pretty dam good plan. Or you can go out and find people who have experience, who have a track record, who have education, and get them to put together, they'll have a company that does it, and we'll get a very good plan. This fellow Ian Lockwood is very talented, very experienced, and he carries the credentials that no city councilor, that no supervisor could possibly come close to.

11. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: What areas of the current Comprehensive Plan will you concentrate on for implementation, improvement and/ or monitoring?

The Comprehensive Plan. I recently made a big tragic mistake. I pulled up the Comprehensive Plan on my computer and I set the computer to print it all out -- all chapters. Now the mistake was I didn't print it two-sided, single sided. Do you know how many pages are in the Comprehensive Plan? On the desk beside me is a ream of paper. It took a ream and a half to print it out in a small font. It is extremely comprehensive. It's detailed to a fault and it seems to have the basis of it being the global warming initiatives, the ICLEI initiatives, and that third thing, Agenda 21 built within it. It's all of those reinstated in the Comprehensive Plan. I don't know if that was intentional or that was happenstance, as the way it worked out because of the people that were behind the creation of the Comprehensive Plan.

I look at other counties Comprehensive Plans, Goochland for instance, it's a fraction as thick. It's something a citizen can pick up and read and understand. But to give them 700 and something pages of Comprehensive Plan is just not fair. It is way over the top in my opinion. So I would encourage us to sit down and say, "What is it that gives us a plan?"

And then there was this talk about "It's only a guide, it's only a guide." All through these torturous years of going through it chapter by chapter by chapter. It was referred to as "only a guide, pass that, let it go, it's only a guide." Now we've got people on the Planning Commission saying it is "sacrosanct." Well you can't treat it like a law, it hasn't been codified. And when the Planning Commission says it is "sacrosanct" that just offends me. Now the Planning Commission seems to be the ones that come up with "Yea" or "Nay" or "We can go" or "We can't go," but they are supposed to look at the development of the county and comment and oversee, not have "Yea" or "Nay" capabilities. They are supposed to be advisers, but they seem

to see themselves as the gatekeepers and they use the Comprehensive Plan as their body of law, not their guide. So I think the Comprehensive Plan needs to be something that's reworked yet again more in line as something that's an advisory plan for an advisory body.

To comment on any portion of the 700 and some pages to me is -- I have read maybe 300 pages of it, and I'll get through all 750 or 760 whatever it turned out to be -- but I am only up to 300, so I'll reserve any comment on any section for later. I noticed that it took the Board of Supervisors over a year to get through it. How many years, were we three years in the manufacturing and review of the Comprehensive Plan? I can't do you justice today.