

Background

During the master planning process and in more recent public meetings, Crozet residents have expressed a strong desire that the County find acceptable and productive alternative uses for the school. A valued institution in the Crozet community since 1924, the Old Crozet School served as a combined elementary and high school until the completion of Albemarle High School in 1954. After the high school students were moved, the school was renamed Crozet Elementary and used by the County for another 35+ years, until studies finally determined that a new school building was needed. Completed in 1990, the new Crozet Elementary stands across the street from the old school building. From 1991-2007, the Charlottesville Waldorf School leased the now vacant Old Crozet School.

Highlights

The Crozet Master Plan identified the reuse of the Old Crozet School as a community priority.

Community input will be solicited regarding best potential future uses of the building.

Current Status

The Albemarle County General Services Department has formed an Old Crozet School Reuse Committee to select a qualified architecture firm with significant and specific experience in converting historic buildings to other uses, and who are also creative, sensitive to community input, and capable of working within budget constraints.

In preparation, General Services Staff has contacted other communities who have converted schools or other old buildings into useful government offices, community buildings, or private developments. Like Crozet, many places around the country are working hard to find viable alternative uses for their historic buildings, to preserve the sense of place in their communities.

Next Steps

The Old Crozet School Reuse Committee will go through the County's formal selection process to choose a qualified architectural firm to work on the Old School Reuse project. The selection committee will include citizen representation, and the project will involve significant public input regarding potential future uses of the building.

Contact Information

The Albemarle County Department of General Services staff contact person for this project is George Shadman, Director of General Services, who can be reached at (434) 296-5816 or by email at gshadman@albemarle.org.