



# Albemarle County **COMMUNITY REPORT**

2024



## **OUR MISSION**

To enhance the well-being and quality of life for all community members through the provision of the highest level of public service consistent with the prudent use of public funds.

# A Message from the County Executive

In 2024, Albemarle County continued to make meaningful progress in strengthening our community by implementing the priorities set forth in our Strategic Plan. Every initiative, investment, and service improvement was guided by our commitment to enhancing quality of life, fostering economic vitality, and delivering responsive, customer-focused services.

The launch of SPEAR (Strategic Plan Execution Analysis Report) this year demonstrates our unwavering focus on measuring progress and using data to drive decision-making. Through this framework, we are ensuring that County resources are allocated effectively to deliver the best outcomes for our community.

Our work has created tangible benefits. Biscuit Run Park opened as a major recreational destination, offering over eight miles of trails while preserving 80% of the land as natural space. To drive economic growth, the Board of Supervisors approved a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreement supporting the redevelopment of Fashion Square Mall.

On our roadways, new automated school zone speed cameras are improving safety for students and pedestrians, while a roadway litter collection program is keeping streets cleaner and more welcoming.

We are also preparing for the future. The Rivanna Futures project is laying the groundwork for the Intelligence & National Security Innovation and Acceleration Campus (INSIAC), positioning Albemarle as a national security hub. And our Artificial Intelligence policy reinforces our commitment to innovation and digital security.

Albemarle County's success is built on strategic planning, partnerships, and a dedicated workforce. Whether improving infrastructure, enhancing public safety, or fostering economic opportunity, we remain committed to delivering high-quality services. Looking ahead, we will continue implementing our Strategic Plan with a focus on innovation, accountability, and excellence.

Thank you for your partnership in making Albemarle County a great place to live, work, and thrive.

*- Jeff Richardson*

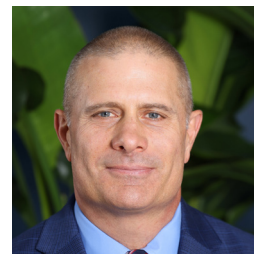
## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM



**JEFF RICHARDSON**  
County Executive



**ANN WALL**  
Deputy County Executive



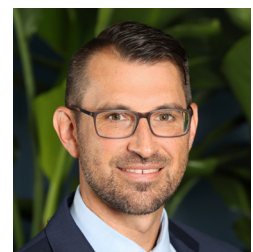
**TREVOR HENRY**  
Deputy County Executive



**KRISTY SHIFFLETT**  
Chief Operating Officer



**KAKI DIMOCK**  
Chief Human  
Services Officer



**JACOB SUMNER**  
Chief Financial Officer

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Code of Virginia provides that each county be governed by a board of supervisors, which is elected by qualified voters. The Board of Supervisors of Albemarle County is comprised of six members, one from each magisterial district. Supervisors are elected to four-year terms that are staggered at two-year intervals.

Stay involved with the Board by visiting [www.albemarle.org/bos](http://www.albemarle.org/bos) or by emailing [bos@albemarle.org](mailto:bos@albemarle.org).



**BEA LAPISTO-KIRTLEY**  
Rivanna



**NED GALLAWAY**  
Rio



**ANN MALLEK**  
White Hall



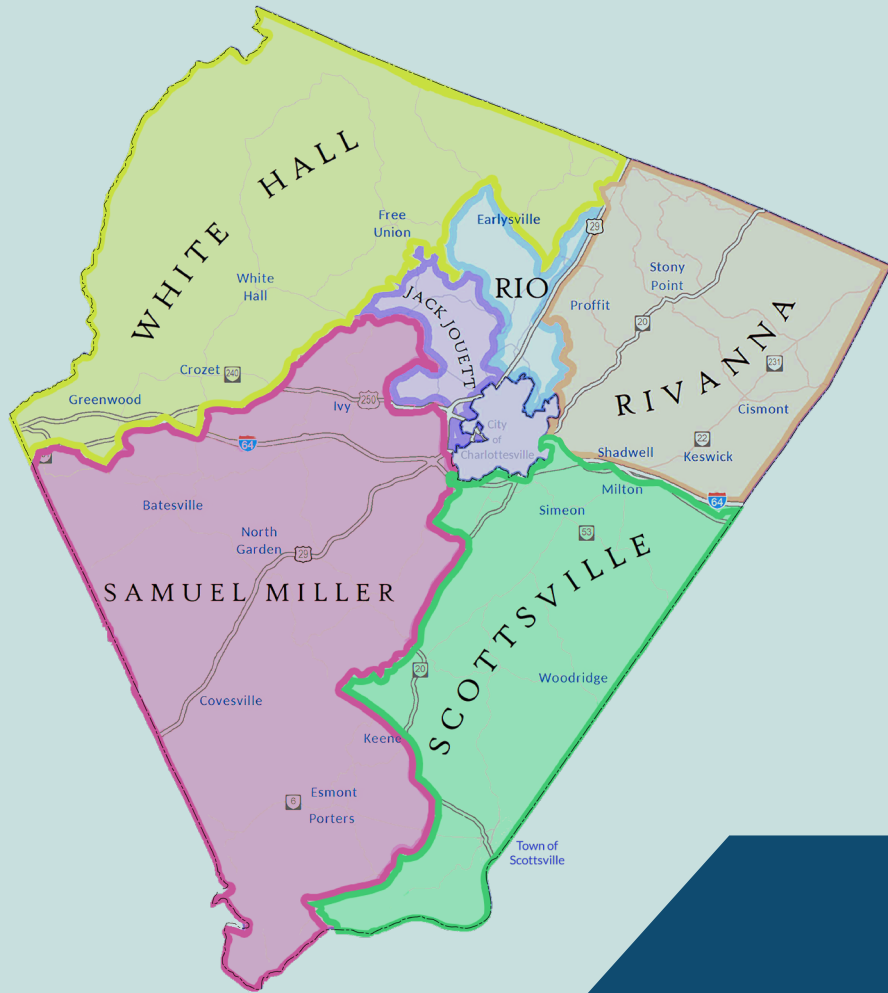
**DIANTHA MCKEEL**  
Jack Jouett

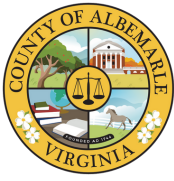


**JIM ANDREWS**  
Samuel Miller



**MIKE PRUITT**  
Scottsville





# 2024 COMMUNITY IMPACT: AT-A-GLANCE

## ENCOURAGING A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

**51,643** Rides on MicroCAT

**300+**

**511**

**MicroCAT**

Families served by the Family Support & Bright Stars programs

Families served by the Housing Choice Voucher program

**666** Total Visitors



**219** 1st Time Visitors



Career Center Visits



**279**

Jobs announced through public-private partnerships with Home Depot and Afton Scientific



**62**

Grants and incentives managed and administered by Economic Development

**\$470K**

Funds distributed by Human Services for emergency relief

**300+**

Responses to our "Question of the Day" at community pop-ups

**38,570**

Building Permit Inspections

## INSIDE ALBEMARLE'S OPERATIONS

**40,000+**

Calls answered from taxpayers needing support by the Office of Revenue Administration

**27**

New wellness programs rolled out by Human Resources to support employees

**3,105**

Calls received by IT Help Desk line

**9,779**

Support tickets submitted to IT Service Desk

Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from buildings owned/operated by the County as compared to last year

**6.4%**

# SUPPORTING A RESILIENT, EQUITABLE, AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY



**4,941,478**

People reached who saw our content on social media



**273**

Public meetings



**1000+**

Snow cones served at various Let's Talk Albemarle pop-ups

**491,000**

Visitors to Albemarle.org

**853**

Qualified property owners assisted by the Office of Revenue Administration to obtain elderly and disabled tax relief

**118**

Albemarle County Newsletter (ACN) emails sent



**631+**

Streetsweeper miles cleaned & 145 TONS of debris picked up in roadways



**1713**

Visitors to the Let's Talk Albemarle van and 61 community events

# NURTURING A SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY

**\$219,916,626**

Social Service funds utilized to support benefits & services for families in the county

**75,402**

Police calls for service

**18,820**

Fire Rescue calls for service

**6,964**

Participants in Parks & Recreation programs

**1,400+**

Pounds of medication collected at Drug Take Back Days



**255**

Car seats installed

**32,100**

Swimmers swam at county lakes



**2,163,703**

Visitors to county parks



**1058**

Smoke alarms installed

## Biscuit Run Park



Biscuit Run Park officially opened on December 14, 2024, welcoming over 10,000 visitors in its first month. The opening marked the completion of an initial phase of amenities, which includes eight miles of multi-use trails for hiking, running, biking, birding, restroom facilities, and a 75-space trail head parking lot. Located south of Avon Street on Route 20, at 2020 Scottsville Road, the park provides a much-needed recreational space in Albemarle's Southern development area while preserving 80% of its natural landscape.

Developed through a partnership with the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the County secured a 99-year lease to develop and manage the park. Future phases will expand the park's offerings with additional facilities and recreational opportunities, ensuring it remains a long-term asset for outdoor enthusiasts. Biscuit Run Park represents a significant milestone in the County's efforts to balance public recreation with environmental conservation.

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## SPEAR



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SPEAR provides a data-driven assessment of County operations, offering insights that inform decision-making and enhance transparency. With the launch of SPEAR, Albemarle County is committed to continuous improvement, leveraging performance data to optimize resources and better serve the community. This report represents an important step in strengthening transparency, enhancing service delivery, and ensuring that County operations align with long-term strategic goals.

## Rivanna Futures

In 2024, Albemarle County made substantial progress in advancing the Rivanna Futures site toward its envisioned future state as a hub for intelligence and national security agencies, academic institutions, and private-sector entities, leveraging its proximity to Rivanna Station.

Since acquiring the property in December 2023, Albemarle County has focused on site readiness efforts through zoning, environmental assessment, and infrastructure planning. Initially ranked as a Tier 1 site under the Virginia Economic Development Partnership's ranking system, Rivanna Futures has progressed to Tier 3 of 5. Strategic partnerships remain essential, and the County is actively pursuing state and federal funding to ensure infrastructure improvements position the site for future economic opportunities.

A key milestone was the Intelligence and National Security Alliance hosting their Common Threads event here in Albemarle County, which brought together over 300 government, industry, and academia professionals. This reinforced Albemarle County's role as an emerging intelligence and national security innovation hub.

## AI Policy



In 2024, Albemarle County implemented policies and training programs to ensure the responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI). The initiative focused on security, ethical considerations, and expanding efficiencies while protecting County data. To ensure compliance, the County established clear guidelines for AI usage, including approval for AI-generated content creation and ongoing monitoring for risks. The initiative also included staff training on AI best practices and risk mitigation to ensure responsible use.

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The County's approach was recognized at the 2024 Commonwealth of Virginia Information Technology Symposium, where it received the Commonwealth Technology Award for Cybersecurity and Privacy Initiatives. This acknowledgment highlights Albemarle's commitment to innovation while maintaining security and compliance.



## Climate Action Grants



The Community Climate Action Grant program continued in 2024, supporting projects that advance the County's Climate Action Plan. The first round of grantees completed their initiatives, while a second round introduced new projects focused on emissions reduction and sustainability.

Projects included expanding bike repair programs, transitioning community farms to electric equipment, and launching composting initiatives. The County also supported workforce training programs in green industries and a grassland restoration project in a public park. By funding innovative community-led solutions, the program has strengthened environmental stewardship and community resilience.

These grants reflect Albemarle County's commitment to climate action. By investing in local initiatives, the County empowers residents and organizations to drive meaningful change, ensuring a sustainable future for all.

## Citizens Police Academy

In 2024, the Albemarle County Police Department (ACPD) successfully relaunched the Citizens Police Academy, providing community members with an immersive experience into the world of law enforcement. The academy welcomed 15 participants, offering hands-on activities, direct engagement with officers, and a deeper understanding of police operations.

Over the course of three Saturdays, participants learned more about crime scene investigations, traffic enforcement exercises, K-9 unit functions, and police training programs like the virtual reality simulator. The academy fostered strong relationships between ACPD and the community by providing firsthand insight into the challenges and responsibilities of law enforcement.

While this program is designed to educate the community and not specifically a recruitment effort, one participant who attended ultimately pursued a career in law enforcement and became an officer with ACPD. The success of the 2024 academy highlights its role in strengthening community-police relations and providing a transparent look into modern policing. With its relaunch, ACPD is excited to continue offering this valuable experience in the years to come.

## Pharmacy Project



In response to new regulations requiring hospitals to transition out of EMS pharmaceutical supply, Albemarle County took on a greater role in the procurement, management, and oversight of pharmaceuticals for Albemarle County Fire Rescue (ACFR) paramedics. To meet these requirements, the County developed and implemented a comprehensive system designed to enhance security, tracking, and regulatory compliance in managing the medical drug supply.

Through strong collaboration between Fire Rescue, Finance and Budget, and IT, the project was successfully completed ahead of schedule. The new system not only streamlines the procurement process but also enhances drug monitoring and security, ensuring safe, efficient, and compliant emergency medical care.

## Roadway Litter Collection Program

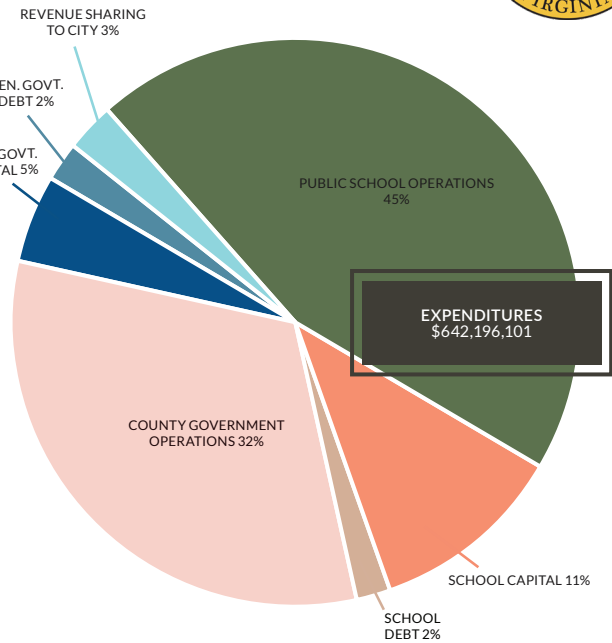
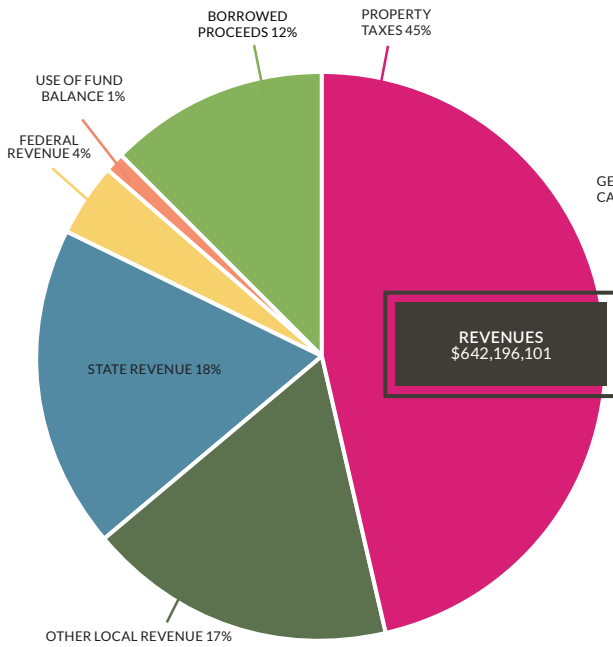


Albemarle County launched its Roadway Litter Collection Program in 2024 as part of its commitment to maintaining clean and safe roadways. Using funds from the Disposable Plastic Bag Tax, the County launched the program in 2024, targeting high-traffic areas and clearing over 100 miles of roadway during its first phase. This initiative works in coordination with routine street sweeping, drainage maintenance, and roadside vegetation management, along with the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) road maintenance efforts to create a cleaner and more resilient roadway system.

Removing roadway litter also played a critical role in protecting local waterways by preventing debris from entering storm drains and streams. By integrating this program into the County's broader street maintenance efforts, Albemarle ensured that roadways remain safe and visually appealing for residents and visitors alike.



# FY25 BUDGET AT-A-GLANCE



## Where the Money Comes From

### **BORROWED PROCEEDS: \$79M**

Includes revenues from bond issues to be used to finance designated capital improvements.

### **PROPERTY TAXES: \$288M**

Includes revenues from taxes based on the assessed value of real and personal property owned by businesses, individuals, and public service corporations.

### **OTHER LOCAL REVENUE: \$112M**

Includes revenues from such sources as other taxes, permits, fees, fines, and charges for services.

### **STATE REVENUE: \$112M**

Includes revenues received and designated by the Commonwealth for a specific use by the County.

### **FEDERAL REVENUE: \$27M**

Includes revenues received and designated by the Federal Government for a specific use by the County.

### **USE OF FUND BALANCE: \$23M**

Reflects the use of County savings for one-time expenditures or emergency needs.

## How the Money is Spent

### **CITY REVENUE SHARING: \$18M**

Payment to the City of Charlottesville based on the 1982 Revenue Sharing Agreement.

### **SCHOOL OPERATIONS: \$287M**

### **SCHOOL CAPITAL: \$70M**

### **SCHOOL DEBT: \$17M**

Includes expenditures for School operations, capital improvements, and debt service payments.

### **COUNTY GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS: \$206M**

### **COUNTY GOVERNMENT DEBT: \$12M**

### **COUNTY GOVERNMENT CAPITAL: \$33M**

Includes expenditures for General Government operations, capital improvements and debt service payments.



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