## Smithfield City General Plan Update Survey Summary

An online survey was conducted to identify primary issues and concerns of Smithfield City residents. The survey was open June 1-16, 2024, and received 583 responses. This survey included nine questions covering topics of housing, development, recreation, and public facilities. Responses are summarized below. The survey received responses primarily from Smithfield City residents. Of all respondents, 96.1% live within Smithfield city limits, 2.8% live outside city limits but within the annexation boundary, and 1.1% live in "other".

## Housing

Survey respondents were asked which housing type they felt was most needed in Smithfield City. The options that received the most votes were:

- Small lot (less than 0.5 acres) single family homes 67.4%
- Large lot (more than 0.5 acres) single family homes 54.9%.
- Accessory Dwelling Units 25.5%
- Townhome/Townhouse-18%
- Senior/Assisted living communities 16.5%

Respondents also prefer to see new development as infill within the city rather than new development on bare land or agricultural land. Many respondents have expressed concern about the number of multifamily dwellings being built. While most residents want to see less apartments/townhomes/condos and more single-family residences, there are several respondents that expressed a need for a mix of housing types.

## **Growth and Community**

Concerns regarding growth centered around the feeling that growth is occurring too rapidly. Respondents expressed dissatisfaction with traffic and the city becoming too crowded. There is a common sentiment that infrastructure is not keeping up with the amount of housing developments being built and better planning needs to be done to ensure growth doesn't outpace updates to infrastructure. Water was a concern in regard to future development, and 80.8% responded that they would use water conserving devices if they were available at little or no cost. Respondents would, however, like to see improvements and revitalization to the downtown area as well as more parks and walking paths within Smithfield. When asked which words best describe Smithfield, respondents chose:

- Safe 69.6%
- Family-oriented 66.8%
- Friendly 61.6%
- Clean 53.1%
- Quiet 49.2%

## Recreation

The survey asked what type of parks are needed in Smithfield. The following options received the most votes:

- Medium-sized community parks 51.4%
- Smaller neighborhood parks: 45.9%
- Larger nature parks 36.9%
- Larger athletic complex (similar to Forrester Acres) 20.3%
- Dog park 19.1%

The number one improvement residents would like to see in city parks and open spaces is new/upgraded restrooms (45.1%) and drinking fountains (43.3%). Common sentiment among respondents was the desire for pickle ball courts, walking paths, and a swimming pool. Many respondents also mentioned the lack of shade at parks which makes it difficult for children to play during hot summer days.







































