

<b>Part 3 - AIR QUALITY &amp; WATER QUALITY</b>			
<b>GOAL/STRATEGY</b>	<b>LEAD PARTY/ PARTIES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTATION STEPS</b>
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>			
<b>Goal I.</b> Promote and implement a Smart Growth development pattern.	<b>Planning and Development</b>	Ongoing	The newly developed and applied Urban Districts promote a higher density and smarter growth patterns.
<b>Goal II.</b> Promote a well-connected multi-modal transportation network that utilizes best available technology for operational effectiveness.	<b>Engineering</b> Public Works	Ongoing	Most agencies are no longer attempting just to widen streets but are looking to incorporate alternative improvements such as bike lanes. The Engineering Department realizes the importance of such a strategy and are looking for ways to make it a more attractive option.
<b>Goal III.</b> Implement an effective "green building" program.	<b>Building Safety</b> Planning and Development	Ongoing	reference "Development Tools" Green Building Goal I.
<b>Goal IV.</b> Support regional efforts and state and federal regulatory actions to continually improve air quality and to educate the public on the benefit of improved air quality.		Ongoing	
<b>Strategy 1.</b> Coordinate with other agencies, other local governments, and State and federal agencies to develop and promote programs to improve air quality.	<b>Engineering</b> Planning and Development	Ongoing	The Engineering Department has improved traffic signal coordination in order to reduce the time a car must wait for a green signal, thereby reducing the amount of time a car must idle at a light.
<b>Strategy 2.</b> Continue to support an independent local air quality board.	<b>City Council</b>	Ongoing	Yes, City Council continues to support an independent local air quality board.
<b>Strategy 3.</b> Support efforts to address the problem locally through such efforts as vehicle emissions testing and promotion of the use of zero emission vehicles.	<b>City Council</b>	Ongoing	City Council set a goal to reduce Municipal carbon emissions by 2% each year.
<b>Strategy 4.</b> Organize to effectively lobby State and federal lawmakers for better air quality legislation and enforcement such as the Clean Smokestacks Act.	<b>City Council</b>	Ongoing	City Council coordinated an effort to clean smokestacks. However, better air quality legislation has not been included in their legislative agenda.

<b>Goal V.</b> Continue and enhance City programs that promote improved air quality.		Ongoing	
<b>Strategy 1.</b> Work to convert City fleets to alternative fuels and consider all available or emerging clean air technologies for City operations.	<b>Public Works</b> Finance Engineering	Ongoing	The Public Works Department is seeking funding for program that would plot all points of a route in GIS to develop the most fuel efficient route. As of 2008 6.5% of the municipal fleet are alternative fuel vehicles.
<b>Strategy 2.</b> Continue the innovative and highly effective City recycling program.	<b>Public Works</b>	Ongoing	The recycling program is continuing with success.
<b>Strategy 3.</b> Enhance City landscaping regulations.	<b>Planning and Development</b>	2003-2004	The City redid the landscape standards to require higher quality regulations.
<b>Strategy 4.</b> Implement intelligent transportation systems on City streets and state roads.	<b>Public Works</b> Engineering	Ongoing	The Public Works Department is seeking funding for program that would plot all points of a route in GIS to develop the most fuel efficient route.
<b>Strategy 5.</b> Consider developing a municipal renewable energy program.	<b>Planning and Development</b> Finance Public Works	2003-2004	No plans are in development.
<b>WATER QUALITY</b>			
<b>Goal I.</b> Continue to coordinate with and support efforts by public agencies and private organizations to improve water quality and to educate the public on the benefit of improved water quality.	<b>City Council</b> Engineering Planning and Development	Ongoing	
<b>Goal II.</b> Implement stormwater management practices mandated by federal laws in an effective and timely fashion.	<b>Engineering</b>	Ongoing	The City is attempting to pass a stormwater ordinance that would implement the necessary practices, but this ordinance is still in the public comment phase.

<b>Goal III.</b> Develop and use best management practices to address the effect of development on stormwater runoff and water quality.	<b>Engineering</b> Planning and Development	Ongoing	
<b>Strategy 1.</b> Develop and implement drainage basin level stormwater management and erosion control plans in cooperation with private property owners, regional agencies, state and federal agencies.	<b>Engineering</b>	Ongoing	The Engineering Department has overseen the Ross and Dingle Creek plans which have implemented Best Management Practices to control the volume of water going down the streams as well as improve the quality of that water. These projects have required coordination with federal agencies. Another project, undertaken by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Department has been the development of the wetlands area at Carrier Park.
<b>Strategy 2.</b> Encourage the preservation of riparian zones and reclamation of developed properties in these areas to a more natural state.	<b>Engineering</b> Planning and Development	Ongoing	There is a clause in the ordinance which encourages the restoration of riparian zones. A modification to the ordinance would allow developers to pursue educational opportunities or restore streams in the same water basin.
<b>Strategy 3.</b> Encourage the use native plants to reduce non-point-source pollution from lawns and minimize water usage during periods of drought.	<b>Public Works</b> Planning and Development Water Resources	Ongoing	The Planning Department developed a list of acceptable and native plants, along with a list of forbidden plants for developers. Also, along Swannanoa River, the City has reclaimed land and restored it to natural wetlands.
<b>Strategy 4.</b> Reduce impervious surfaces by minimizing parking requirements.	<b>Planning and Development</b>	Ongoing	Have done this in urban districts.
<b>Strategy 5.</b> Require landscape retrofitting of existing parking lots to reduce impervious surface and stormwater runoff.	<b>Planning and Development</b>	2004-2005	Require this if the developers are re-doing over 75% of the area in the parking lot.
<b>Strategy 6.</b> Encourage the use of conservation easements to preserve riparian areas.	<b>Planning and Development</b>	Ongoing	<b>Do not do this.</b>
<b>Strategy 7.</b> Develop land management strategies to enhance the environmental function of streams, creeks and rivers.	<b>Planning and Development</b> Engineering	2004-2005	Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department have been implementing the Greenways Master Plan, which includes protection and preservation of streams and rivers.