



# YOU SPOKE. WE LISTENED.

What We Heard From Tappahannock Residents.

*2026 Resident Survey Results*



155 Residents Participated

Helping shape the future of Tappahannock through community feedback.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Thank you to the 155 residents who took the time to complete the Town of Tappahannock Resident Survey.

Your feedback provided valuable insight into what residents appreciate about our community, what challenges they face, and where they would like to see future investments and improvements.

While responses covered a wide range of topics, several common themes emerged throughout the survey. Residents expressed pride in Tappahannock's sense of community, location along the Rappahannock River, and recent improvements, while also identifying opportunities for growth in communication, infrastructure, recreation, and economic development.

## Survey Snapshot



155

Responses



65%

Rate Overall  
Town Performance  
as **Good or Excellent**



52%

Rate Quality of Life  
as **Good or Excellent**



61

Residents Interested  
in Citizen Academy



69

Residents Have Lived  
in Town More Than  
**10 Years**

# WHAT RESIDENTS LOVE ABOUT TAPPAHANNOCK

## What We Heard

Residents consistently described Tappahannock as:

- A close-knit community
- Beautifully situated on the Rappahannock River
- Home to valued community events
- Rich in history and character
- A comfortable place to live and raise a family

Many residents also recognized recent improvements and expressed optimism about the Town's future.



# COMMUNICATION & TRANSPARENCY

## What We Heard

Residents told us they want:

- More proactive updates
- Better communication during service disruptions
- More transparency in decision-making
- More opportunities to stay informed
- Additional communication channels beyond social media

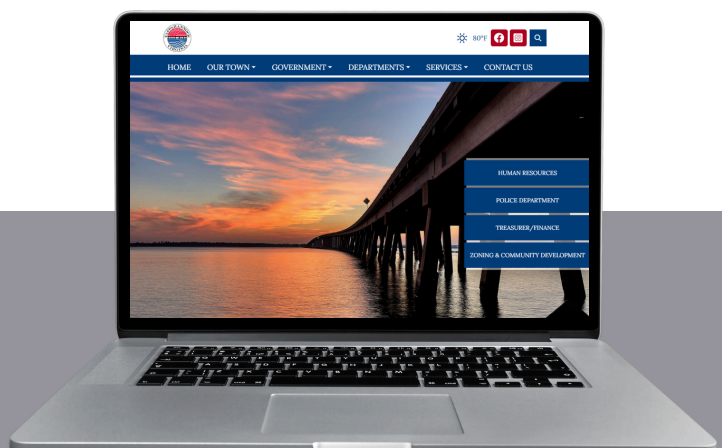
**71% of residents rated communication as Average or Poor.**

## What We're Doing

- ✓ Launched a new Town website with an improved user experience, making it easier to navigate, with more visible news and notice sections.
- ✓ Introducing the ability for residents to subscribe to updates via email and/or text message for news, alerts, and important Town notices.
- ✓ Expanding digital communication tools, including electronic billing (e-billing) options for increased convenience.
- ✓ Continuing efforts to strengthen transparency, communication, and public engagement across all Town platforms.

## Future Opportunities

- Development of a comprehensive resident email subscription list for ongoing updates
- More frequent newsletters to improve consistent communication
- Citizen Academy program to increase resident understanding of Town operations and services



# INFRASTRUCTURE & SERVICES

## What We Heard

Residents frequently mentioned:

- Road conditions and potholes
- Sidewalk maintenance
- Speeding and traffic concerns
- Long-term infrastructure improvements

Residents recognize the importance of maintaining the systems and infrastructure that support daily life.

## What We're Doing

- ✓ Working with VDOT on solutions to the traffic concerns in Town
- ✓ Seeking grant opportunities to support major projects
- ✓ Investing in utility and infrastructure systems

## Looking Ahead

Infrastructure improvements remain a key priority within the Town's Strategic Plan.



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & DOWNTOWN

## What We Heard

**Economic development was the highest-ranked priority identified by residents.**

Residents would like to see:

- More retail options
- More restaurant choices
- New business investment
- Downtown revitalization
- Support for local businesses

Many residents shared a desire for **"more reasons to shop, dine, gather, and spend time in Tappahannock."**

## What We're Doing

- ✓ Collaborating with community stakeholders to align goals and advance the downtown revitalization plan
- ✓ Supporting existing businesses through partnerships and promotion
- ✓ Working with regional and state economic development partners



# WATERFRONT, RECREATION & QUALITY OF LIFE

## What We Heard

One of the strongest themes throughout the survey was a desire for greater access to the Town's waterfront and more recreational opportunities generally. Residents expressed interest in:

- Waterfront recreation
- Public river access
- Parks and gathering spaces
- Walking trails
- Community events and activities
- Recreation opportunities for all ages

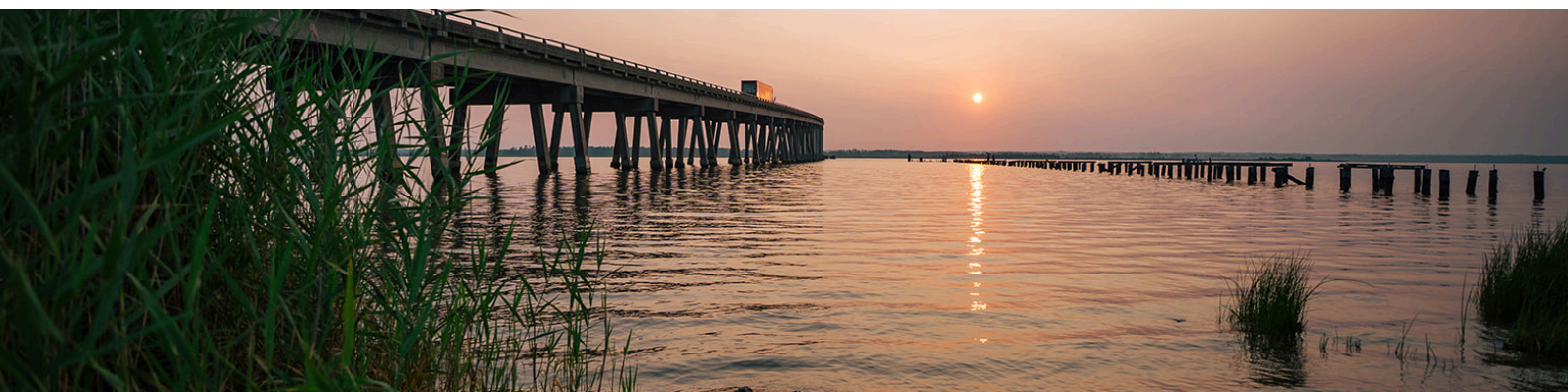
## What We're Doing

- ✓ Completed Central Park in April 2026
- ✓ Hoskins Creek Project
- ✓ Received a grant to improve and protect the Rappahannock River Park and its associated shoreline

## Community Programming

Residents also expressed strong interest in:

- Musical festivals
- Arts and cultural events
- Educational programming
- Family activities
- Senior programming



# WHAT COMES NEXT?

## Our Commitment

**This survey is not the end of the conversation—it is the beginning.**

Your feedback will help guide:

- Strategic planning efforts
- Future capital investments
- Economic development initiatives
- Community engagement efforts
- Recreation and quality-of-life improvements

## Thank You

Thank you for helping shape the future of Tappahannock.

Together, we can continue building a community that residents are proud to call home.

