

Draft Vision: Oak Grove is an attractive and vibrant village center. The area boasts thriving businesses, places to gather, housing options, extensive parks and trails, and safe, accessible travel options for all ages and abilities that are connected to adjacent neighborhoods, greenways and surrounding areas.

Draft Principles to achieve the Vision:

1. Create a place where people and businesses want to be.
2. Improve and expand outdoor amenities.
3. Increase mobility and connectivity.
4. Expand housing options.
5. Upgrade existing facilities, services and utilities.



Route 419 Intersection at Carriage Lane and Grandin Road, SW



Route 419 Intersection at Keagy Road

These conceptual renderings are based on Development Pattern #3, which is part of the Development Patterns exercise.

Principle #1: Create a place where people and businesses want to be.

Oak Grove transitions from a place for cars to pass through to a place for people to stop and stay.

Core Concepts	Examples of Supporting Initiatives
Create welcoming gathering spaces.	Create spaces that are accessible for all users.
	Incorporate public art and water features.
	Create flexible spaces for indoor and outdoor use.
	Encourage public and private outdoor seating.
Upgrade existing commercial facades.	Expand the Commercial Matching Grant Program to Route 419.
	Consider extending Enterprise Zone-like benefits to facilitate a Façade Grant program.
	Consider joint City/County Design Guidelines for new development and redevelopment.
Improve streetscape to enhance the natural beauty of the area.	Add large street trees between the sidewalk and street.
	Add trees and landscaping along roadways and in medians.
	Add decorative pedestrian and roadway lighting.
	Add unique street furniture and accessories.
Create a community identity.	Consider gateway signage.
	Encourage public art.
	Develop a unique brand.
Encourage mixed-use development and a vibrant mix of businesses.	Evaluate City and County zoning ordinances to support desired uses and development patterns.
	Consider joint City/County zoning designations for the study area.
	Consider joint City/County future land use designations for the study area.
Encourage event programming.	Collaborate on events with private property owners and County and City Parks and Recreation Departments.

Principle #2. Improve and expand outdoor amenities.

Oak Grove becomes an excellent place to enjoy the outdoors and to play.

Core Concepts	Examples of Supporting Initiatives
Improve existing parks and create new parks and recreation facilities.	Explore accessible alternatives for improving Oak Grove Park.
	Consider locating a dog park in the area.
Expand and develop new spaces to play.	Evaluate public use of the Oak Grove Elementary School playground.
	Consider new accessible play spaces for all ages and abilities.
Build a trail network and connect to greenways.	Expand walking trails from Oak Grove Park onto the vacant County-owned parcel and beyond, in collaboration with private property owners.
	Connect trails to the Roanoke River Greenway in Salem.
	Construct the Barnhardt Creek Greenway.

Principle #3. Increase mobility and connectivity.

Oak Grove is much easier to move around with improved roads and new transportation options.

Core Concepts	Examples of Supporting Initiatives
Improve intersections.	Improve pedestrian safety with crosswalks and pedestrian signals, where feasible.
	Improve traffic flow.
	Improve safety.
Improve the road network.	Consider reducing the speed limit on Route 419.
	Assess cut-through traffic and speeding.
	Consider additional routes to 419.
Provide accessible, multimodal connectivity throughout the study area.	Construct bicycle accommodations along 419 to Salem and into the neighborhoods.
	Provide pedestrian accommodations in the commercial core along 419 to Salem and into the neighborhoods.
Extend transit service to the study area.	Consider extending Valley Metro service along 419.
	Consider coordinating and expanding RADAR and CORTAN services.

Principle #4. Expand housing options.

Oak Grove provides a greater variety of housing options and prices.

Core Concepts	Examples of Supporting Initiatives
Locate mixed-use development in the village center to preserve surrounding residential neighborhood patterns.	Concentrate multi-story, compact development patterns along 419 with smaller residential unit sizes.
	Establish a transition area between development along 419 and the existing residential neighborhoods.
Encourage multiple housing types for all ages, incomes and abilities in the study area.	Encourage homes where people can age in place.
	Encourage a range of housing price points.
	Encourage universal design in new housing.

Principle #5. Upgrade existing facilities, services and utilities.

Oak Grove benefits from improved public services, storm water infrastructure and water quality.

Core Concepts	Examples of Supporting Initiatives
Increase library services in the study area.	Consider adding Little Free Libraries.
	Consider adding a library book drop box.
Evaluate future Fire and Rescue needs to determine potential changes needed.	
Evaluate and improve stormwater infrastructure.	Consider drainage on and around Carriage Lane.
	Consider drainage around the intersection of Route 419 at Grandin Road Ext.
	Consider drainage near Grandin Road at Fairington Apartments.
Evaluate Mud Lick Creek and Barnhardt Creek.	Improve water quality.
	Create sustainable landscapes that would clean and slow stormwater runoff.
Consider undergrounding utilities.	