

C3's Virtual Forum on Climate Action Responses

Bellamy Brown, Independent, City Council Candidate

Climate Planning

How should the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County approach their climate action planning process?

I believe the Local Climate Action Planning Process Report of August 2011 lays out an excellent model for approaching the climate action process for the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County.

Do you have specific strategies that you would like to see implemented?

Specific strategies I would like to see implemented are: increase energy performance of new buildings; focus land use and transportation planning on density and improved travel efficiency; and promote cleaner sources of energy for heating and cooling.

Should cities contribute to climate solutions, and, if so, how?

Yes, cities should contribute to climate solutions by adopting strategies such as those stated in the answer provided above.

If elected, would you promote strategies to reduce our climate emissions, and, if so, where do the greatest opportunities exist for reducing them?

If elected, yes, I will promote strategies to reduce our climate emissions. I see the greatest opportunity in using LED lighting in our community; and developing in a healthy manner that encompasses reducing our carbon emissions from our transportation challenges; and building in an energy efficient manner.

Climate Strategies and Implementation

How would you approach sustainable materials management solutions like composting and recycling in this region?

I would approach sustainable materials management by encouraging utilization of the EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy; and promote education of the "Food: Too Good To Waste Strategies & Tools."

What role do you see for renewable energy in our community? How would you approach implementing its use, if at all, or increasing it?

Having previously worked for a nonprofit engaged in the solar space, I see great value in incentivizing the usage of solar for residential and commercial use.

How would you describe the relationship between climate action, poverty, and justice in Charlottesville and Albemarle County?

I would describe the relationship between climate action, poverty, and justice as interconnected; and must be given adequate attention given its impact on the most vulnerable in our communities.

Transportation makes up a significant portion of local climate emissions. What strategies would you suggest to address transportation needs in Charlottesville and Albemarle County?

A regional transit partnership including the University of Virginia transit system is a primary strategy I would seek.

How would you propose to overcome barriers to energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy in the residential sector?

I would propose to overcome barriers to energy efficiency by creating incentives for, and educating the residential sector on the benefits of energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy usage.

Tell us what inspires you personally to act on climate, or why action is unnecessary.

I'm inspired personally to act on climate by the health and economic benefits of reducing carbon emissions in our community.