

**Piedmont Group of the Sierra Club Candidate Questionnaire  
Albemarle County BOS 2011**

Name Ann Mallek

1. Explain your position on the water supply plan.

One reason I support the currently approved WSP is that it will finally give appropriate standing to our county's rivers and prevent future degradation. The human community uses and abuses the Moorman's and the Rivanna below SF during the summer months, especially as climate change has brought us long periods of dry weather. This cannot continue. It is not just macroinvertebrates, but also people whose lives have been changed by lack of river flow.

I support the currently approved WSP and prefer the construction of the Ragged Mountain Dam to accommodate the 42 foot depth now. I believe that now is the time for us to prepare for water supplies for the future, as my parents' generation did when I was nine and the SFRR was constructed next to our farm. The SFRR will continue to be an essential part of the system, as a collector of high water, as the input source for water treatment, and separate from the WSP, as an important scenic and recreational asset for the County and City. The forebay will help to prevent further shrinking of the reservoir by removing historic sediment. Our improved land use and zoning rules will reduce the sedimentation rates of the past.

I am sure that the most environmentally sensitive construction plan is to carefully and with mitigation harvest the timber and do the whole construction now, even if we only fill the reservoir to the 30 foot level. Once the water is in place, it will be even more expensive in dollars and environmental cost to timber the second phase, lower the water and dry out the base to excavate the clay needed to raise the dam in a separate action. How would one protect the water quality along that extended shoreline during the second phase of construction?

I have long been concerned about the safety of residents below the RMD. A telephone tree is not a plan to protect their lives and property. As an owner of a narrow high dam holding back only 5 million gallons, I am aware of the concerns of the dam safety department. They asked our family to make repairs and being a private holding, it took us ten years to save up the tens of thousands of dollars and get the work done. The public water system cannot take chances with people's lives. On our farm we are protecting Chris Greene Lake, not hundreds of homes. During the earthquake, the engineers immediately sought reassurance that the dam had not been damaged, an indication of their concern for its condition. I know of no rush to check on SF.

I am glad for all the new information on the water needs and am most supportive of the earthen dam rather than the concrete one, but the time is now to get the work done.

2. How can the opportunities for recycling be improved for Albemarle County residents?

I do not think we are getting sufficient recycling by the single stream. It is convenient and easy for residents and businesses alike, but it cannot achieve the same recovery as separated recycling. I want to learn how our recovery could be improved by requiring one separation, for trash and for all combined recyclables. Many communities do this with separate trucks, but the distances in Albemarle make that difficult now. The hauler we use on the farm does keep the combined recyclables separate from trash and takes them to the recycled-only line at VDL. I just put the recyclables in a clear bag. I am investigating the option of requiring that of all licensees in the county. As an example, the paper or Al or glass would not be covered with tomato sauce, thus increasing its value.

3. Do you support county membership in the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI; <http://www.icleiusa.org/>) and the Cool Counties program? Please explain. (These commit to reductions of Greenhouse Gases in our community.)

Yes. I voted to stay with ICLEI and to retain our membership in Cool Counties. This week the majority voted to rescind our support for Cool Counties. This is a poor message to send to future investors and businesses, many of whom desire their business to be associated with a community that is in the forefront of environmental efforts. I am working to re-craft the cool county accords to get them readopted by the Board of Supervisors.

One small bright spot has been the adoption this week of the LCAPP report and its recommendations. I was a part of that effort, along with John Cruickshank, for two years and appreciate the work of our 50 technical experts who supported the advisory committee. It is an exciting statement to make and needs to be proudly shared.

4. Do you support the current plans to build the Rt. 29 Western Bypass?

No. It is not a good investment of coin or environment with little effectiveness in reducing traffic. The design build process is being used to get the contract signed before any change of leadership could stop it, to override the wishes of our community in favor of others. Withholding funding for our local projects to create this sense of desperation locally is extortion. These plans have been underway for years and we are the last to know.

5. What is your vision for the future of transportation in the Charlottesville/Albemarle area?

After 8 years on CHART I am committed to the multimodal approach, to the connections of parallel road network to provide our residents with choices of movement . This will

reduce our use of the through road, Rt 29. The way to help our section of 29 N is to complete Hillsdale to allow access to businesses from the east side, to connect western projects and make sure people have flexibility.

A well funded and frequently scheduled transit system of buses will attract riders as gas prices rise. Just as the bottom fell out of the funding stream three years ago, we were about to start commuter JAUNT service to Crozet with pre paid ridership. It did not happen but the interest to ride is still present and growing.

6. Do you believe the Board of Supervisors should support the determination of an optimum sustainable population size (OSPS), such as the one proposed by Advocates for a Sustainable Albemarle Population (<http://www.asapnow.org/>) and use this information for future planning?

I have been interested in the capacity of our environment to sustain people and to learn about how population increases affect the ecosystem. The downzoning adopted in the County in 1980 protected the watershed and also reduced the impact of thousands of homes on two acre lots.

I am not in favor of closing the door, as critics claim, since I hope that someday my own two daughters might return here to live and bring my grandchildren with them. It would be hypocritical to say mine can come, while someone else's cannot.

7. Do you support funding of at least one million dollars a year for the Albemarle County Acquisition of Conservation Easements program (ACE; <http://www.albemarle.org/department.asp?department=cdd&relpage=4227>) ?

Yes. As a member of the ACE committee since its inception in 2000 I have been a supporter of line item funding for ACE. The tourism funds were stripped last year during the budget cycle to support the operations of the Parks and Rec department, but I support returning full tourism and county funding to the program. The ACE program is the backbone of our rural protection. We will regret it if we fall behind in our incremental increases of these conserved lands.