

Northlake

Northlake Area Plan Summary Notes

December 12, 2006
Advisory Group Meeting
Assurance United Methodist Church
5:30 pm

Advisory Group Attendees: Juanita Merritt, John Corrigan, Cheri Dennis, Phil Morosco, Peg Robarchek, Bonnie Sampson, Robert Keziah, Chris Westmoreland, Bronnie Barfield, Walter Fields, Bonnie Jackson, Tim Turon, Paul H. Gale, III, Ron Withrow, Delores Childress, Robbie Lowrance, Ellen Serra, Russ Kakaley, Donna Miner, and John Jones.

Staff: Kathy Cornett, Melony McCullough, and Tricia Rudisill (Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department); Alysia Davis and Jim Kimbler (Charlotte Department of Transportation)

1. Welcome and Introductions/Advisory Group Purpose and Roles

Melony McCullough, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department staff provided the welcome and introduction, went over housekeeping items and explained the advisory group purpose and role. She also went over the upcoming January workshop schedule and key times for advisory group participation.

2. Opportunity, Issue and Compass Confirmation

Tricia Rudisill, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department staff provided a summary of the comments received to day, reviewed the identified opportunities and issues and the results of the Compass survey that was administered at the kick-off meeting. Tricia also introduced a new piece of the area plan, the Eastfield Station Area Concept that will be completed as part of the area plan process. The Eastfield Station is one of 12 stations proposed along the North Corridor. The proposed North Corridor commuter rail project will operate along 30 miles of the existing Norfolk Southern rail line (the "O" line) from Center City Charlotte to Mooresville in southern Iredell County. The alignment parallels Graham Street in the south and Old Statesville Road (NC-115) in the north.

3. Northlake Area Plan Vision Statement

The bulk of the meeting was spent using a "sticky wall" exercise to begin to develop a vision statement for the Northlake Area Plan. During the visioning exercise, the advisory group was asked to determine what the vision of the Northlake Area was. The group then worked over the next hour to assemble and categorize their individual visions for the area. The following items came out of this exercise.

- ***Edge City – the overarching theme for the Northlake Area.***
- ***Park and Recreation***
 - Park and recreation; trails
- ***Environmental Preservation***

- An area that protects wildlife and wooded areas
- More green space
- Farm, rural area
- Rural heritage allowing organic development
- ***Planned/Enhanced Public Services***
 - Adequate public facilities
 - Public services
 - Larger schools to meet the growth of the surrounding area
 - Safety
 - Police presence
 - Involve law enforcement in planning
- ***Quality Urban Design***
 - High quality development and design
 - Urban density and design
 - Upscale Retail Pedestrian-friendly
 - Village look
- ***Balanced Mixture of Land Use***
 - Two-story business and medical
 - Attracts unique retail, restaurants and recreation
 - Focus services
 - Balance interests
 - Mixed use
 - Variety of restaurants
- ***Quality Amenities and Opportunities***
 - Environmentally avant garde
 - High quality jobs
 - Better housing
 - Cultural facilities (arts, museums, libraries)
 - Create choices (housing, transportation)
- ***Multi-modal Transportation***
 - Transportation (bus) availability
 - Traffic (pedestrian, bicycle facilities)
 - Traffic flow to create convenience and eliminate congestion
 - Roads that accommodate growth
 - Infrastructure before residential/business development
- ***Historic Preservation***
 - Historic preservation
 - Retention of history
- ***Diverse Community***
 - Family-friendly
 - Protect sense of community
 - Considering all ages of residents

These points will be used to draft a vision statement that the advisory group will further refine.

4. Wrap Up and Next Steps

Melony McCullough wrapped up the meeting by explaining the next steps, which include staff working to draft a preliminary vision statement and the upcoming January workshop. The location will be determined soon and the group will be notified.