



## Citizen Advisory Group Meeting

October 1, 2009

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### ***Draft Meeting Highlights***

***Citizen Advisory Group Attendees:*** James Baysinger, Madeline Campos, Martha Edwards, Michael Henderson, Linda McCaw, John Moore, Walter Neely, Maureen O'Conner, Orlanzo Ross, Shelley Schiff, Gina Storeholder, and David Wiggins

***Planning Commissioner:*** Eric Locher

***Planning Department Staff:*** Alberto Gonzalez, Crissy Huffstickler, Melony McCullough, Bryman Suttle, and Brent Wilkinson

***Other City and County Staff:*** Brian Beavers, Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County; Deputy Chief Rich Granger, Charlotte Fire Department; and Captain Allen Rutledge, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Ms. Melony McCullough, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department staff welcomed advisory group members, acknowledged Planning Commissioner Eric Locher, reviewed housekeeping items and discussed meeting materials and draft meeting highlights from the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Public Facilities Discussion**

Deputy Chief Rich Granger, Charlotte Fire Department, shared information about station locations, apparatus in stations, emergency response time goals and other information. Captain Allen Rutledge, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department provided information about changes in crime and safety in the area. He stated that the Steele Creek area has seen a decrease in crime over the past several months. Brian Beavers, Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, shared information on library facilities in the area and plans for the future Southwest Regional Library.

### **General Development Policies - Infrastructure**

Mr. Bryman Suttle with the Planning Department explained the *Centers, Corridors and Wedges Growth Framework* which is Charlotte's growth strategy. He also shared information on the *General Development Policies* (GDPs) for infrastructure. He explained that the GDPs are the City's Adopted policy framework for guiding future growth and development. The *Infrastructure GDPs* were adopted in 2007. The purpose of the *Infrastructure GDPs* is to more closely link land use and land development decisions to the availability of public infrastructure needed to support it.

The meeting presentation and the *Infrastructure General Development Policies* may be viewed online at [www.charlotteplanning.org](http://www.charlotteplanning.org).

## Public Facilities Plan Policies

Ms. McCullough explained and reviewed the public facilities draft plan policies. The CAG decided to review the draft policies as a whole providing feedback. Ms. McCullough stated that since the representative from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) would be at the next CAG meeting, that the CAG would review the draft policies related to schools at that time. Listed below are the public facilities draft plan policies with CAG suggestions in italics.

### **Goal #1: Provide water and sewer service consistent with the Centers, Corridors and Wedges growth framework to support future growth and development.**

- Ensure that water and sewer capacity is available to support the area's anticipated growth.
- Utilize the rezoning process to provide input on the impact of new development on current and planned infrastructure.

### **Goal #2: Provide efficient and environmentally sensitive storm drainage facilities.**

- Develop stormwater drainage systems to serve existing and future development.
- Use Best Management Practices (BMPs) as amenities such as ponds, fountains, and rain gardens.
- Encourage the use of natural storm water drainage systems to preserve and enhance the natural features of a site when possible.
- Preserve natural features along existing drainage patterns to encourage natural filtration.

### **Goal #3: Develop school facilities to meet the area's needs. (*not discussed at this meeting*)**

- Consider the land use guidance and growth projections in this plan as well as new development to determine school needs.
- Consider locating schools adjacent to parks, libraries and other public facilities to support joint use opportunities.
- Work with developers to reserve land for school sites when possible.
- Construct new schools to environmentally sensitive and sustainable design standards.

### **Goal #4: Provide additional park and open space facilities in the area.**

- Encourage co-locating greenways with other facilities.
- Continue to develop greenways and connect them to activity areas such as parks, open space, retail centers, schools, *and libraries.*
- Encourage the location of parks in visible locations.
- Provide pedestrian and bicycle access to recreational amenities as development occurs.

### **Goal #5: Provide public facilities to maintain and improve service levels to area residents.**

- Encourage development of public service facilities such as fire stations, police substations and libraries to support the area's growth.
- Promote joint use of facilities to reduce cost and make the best use of resources.

## Additional Questions/Comments

1. *Will Fire and Police continue to provide their high levels of service to the area, even with greater demand from increased growth and development?*
2. *What are the ramifications if the company contracted to provide solid waste services in the area, does not meet their obligations?*
3. *Will the diminishing tree canopy, due to increased development in the area, impact air quality?*

Information summarizing questions and answers asked throughout the meeting will be added to the list of Frequently Asked Questions on the website prior to the October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

## Wrap Up and Next Steps

Ms. McCullough wrapped up the meeting and explained that Public Facilities discussion will continue at the October 22<sup>nd</sup> CAG meeting with information on schools and the airport.