



# *Elizabeth* *Area Plan*

**Mid-point Public Meeting**  
**May 12, 2011**  
**5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**St. John Baptist Church**  
**300 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, NC 28202**

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## **Meeting Notes**

The meeting began at 5:30 p.m.

Alan Goodwin began the meeting with introductions and general housekeeping items. He recognized Councilmember Patsy Kinsey, who attended as an Elizabeth resident, Citizen Advisory Group members and City staff.

Alan reviewed an outline of the presentation and the variety of ways to ask questions or provide input. He provided an overview of the plan area, described what an area plan is and what it is not, the plan development process and the variety of opportunities for involvement throughout the process.

The presentation then focused on the draft document. Alan reviewed the sections of the area plan – the Executive Summary, Part 1: Concept Plan, Part 2: Implementation Guide and the Appendix – and stressed that Part 1: Concept Plan is the only portion that is adopted by City Council. He then reviewed the plan vision statement and goals and the overall plan concept.

Alan then focused on the land use and design policies. He reviewed the overall Future Land Use Map and stressed that there were not widespread changes to previously adopted land uses, especially in the low density residential portion of the community. He then summarized the key policies for the Established Neighborhood Sub-area, East Seventh Street and the Transit Station Sub-area. There were questions about what Growth Corridor is, height limits in the Heights in Residential Districts (HIRD) text amendment and the date for construction in the Southeast Transit Corridor.

Brian Horton of the Charlotte Department of Transportation (CDOT) then reviewed the key Transportation policies. Brian showed a sample cross-section diagram and explained that an 80 foot right-of-way (ROW) is shown for East Seventh Street, as opposed to the current 60 foot ROW, but it allows repurposing of the ROW for planting strips, sidewalks and other pedestrian amenities. There were questions about what is allowed in the 80 foot ROW and how to slow traffic. There was also a comment about the need for protected crosswalks.

Alan then reviewed the key policies for the Infrastructure and Community Facilities. There was a question about removing the existing parking lot at Independence Park. Several attendees expressed concern about this and thought the parking lot was necessary to accommodate the elderly and young children, especially level parking. There was some discussion that the parking was not necessary and is often used by Kings College students. Alan mentioned that some of the parking could be shifted to on-street parking around the park, but not all of it. There

was a question as to if this would be diagonal or parallel. There were also questions about sidewalks on Vail Avenue.

Alan then reviewed key policies for the Natural Environment section and described the Implementation Guide. As part of Implementation, Alan described different scenarios or possibilities for implementing the recommended Streetscape. There were questions about the possibility of burying the power lines on East Seventh Street, additional requirements of the PED Overlay District, triggers for PED requirements and the observation that implementation of the streetscape is likely to be piecemeal. Alan then reviewed the recommended Corrective Rezoning.

Finally, Alan reviewed the next steps and opportunities for public comment, including the May 17<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee meeting and June 15<sup>th</sup> CAG meeting. There were no further questions, staff was available for specific questions and the meeting ended at approximately 7:00 p.m.

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