

Recommended Revisions to August 2007 draft document

At their meeting on October 23, 2007, the Environment Committee of the Charlotte City Council unanimously recommended adoption of the draft GDP-E document with the following changes:

1. **Definition and Purpose Page 1: Replace the first sentence** with the following: Charlotte is the center of one of the fastest growing regions in the country. While growth contributes to our economic vitality, it also presents challenges for achieving and maintaining a healthy environment and a sustainable regional economy.
2. **Existing Conditions and Trends, page 5: Replace the data from 2003-2004** with the following excerpt from the 2006 State of the Environment Report: Unfortunately, our streams are currently degraded to the point where 73.5% of the monitored stream miles are not meeting their designated use.
3. **Policy 1.a., page 7, 2nd paragraph: Change “natural resources” to “natural features”** to be consistent with term used throughout the draft document.
4. **Policy 3.a., page 11: Clarify the wording** as follows: Enable site designs and construction projects that: 1) facilitate the use of alternative modes of transportation; ~~and the reduction of~~ 2) reduce ground level temperatures; 3) minimize impacts to natural environment; 4) reduce the amount and improve the quality of stormwater run-off; and 5) use water efficiently.
5. **Implementation Tools, page 14: Add another a bullet** under Research, Data and Analysis that reads: As part of the City's Connectivity Program, the City will continue to develop and refine a list of roads/walkways/ pedestrian ways that could be extended to provide additional connectivity between land uses either by extension of the pavement or by providing pedestrian or bicycle connections. This is a dynamic list that will continue to be prioritized and incorporated into the capital needs assessment process to complement the new connections being provided through the development process.
6. **Implementation Tools, page 14, under Information and Education: Change bullet 2** as follows: Seek opportunities to educate staff and elected/appointed officials on environmental impacts and benefits related to land development and redevelopment.
7. **Implementation Tools, page 15, under Ordinances Changes: Change the 3rd bullet** as follows: Review the zoning ordinance to enable “small-scale” mixed-use development and to enhance the ability to implement area plan recommendations (particularly recommendations for mixed use land uses) and to enable mixed / multi-use development on adjacent parcels in appropriate locations.
8. **Throughout the document: Clarify the wording of guiding principle #4** as follows: Consider the environmental impacts of land use and development comprehensively and strive to reconcile the various environmental concerns with each other and balance them with ~~the~~ other land and economic development considerations.
9. **Implementation Tools, page 15, under Rezoning and Subdivision Process: Change the second bullet** as follows: Fully consider the environmental impacts, consistent with adopted City ordinances and policies, when assessing development proposals. In particular, consider the existing environmental opportunities and constraints when evaluating the type, intensity and form of the land uses in a development proposal.