



# Citizen Advisory Group

Land Use, Transportation and Community Design Meeting #7

December 10, 2009



### **Tonight's Agenda**

- **1.** Welcome and Introductions
- **2.** Discussion of Area Plan Process
- **3. Existing Conditions**
- **4.** Concept Map Exercise
- **5.** Wrap-Up and Next Steps



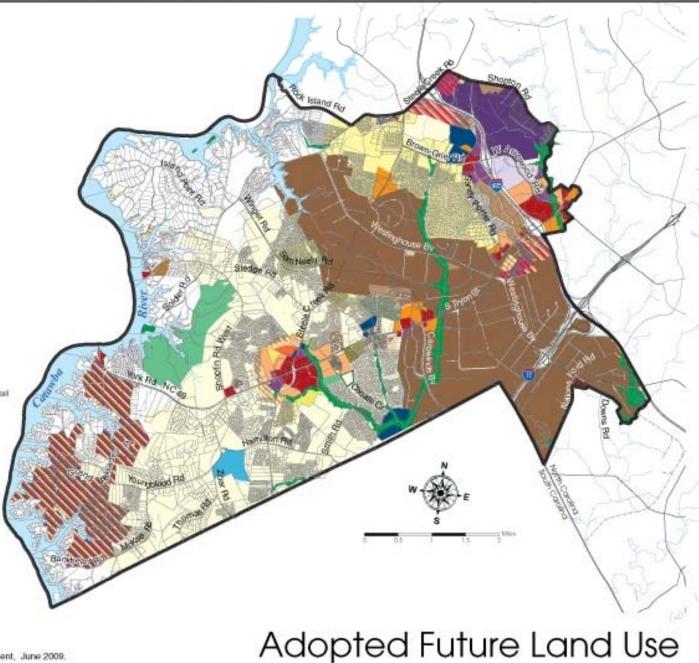


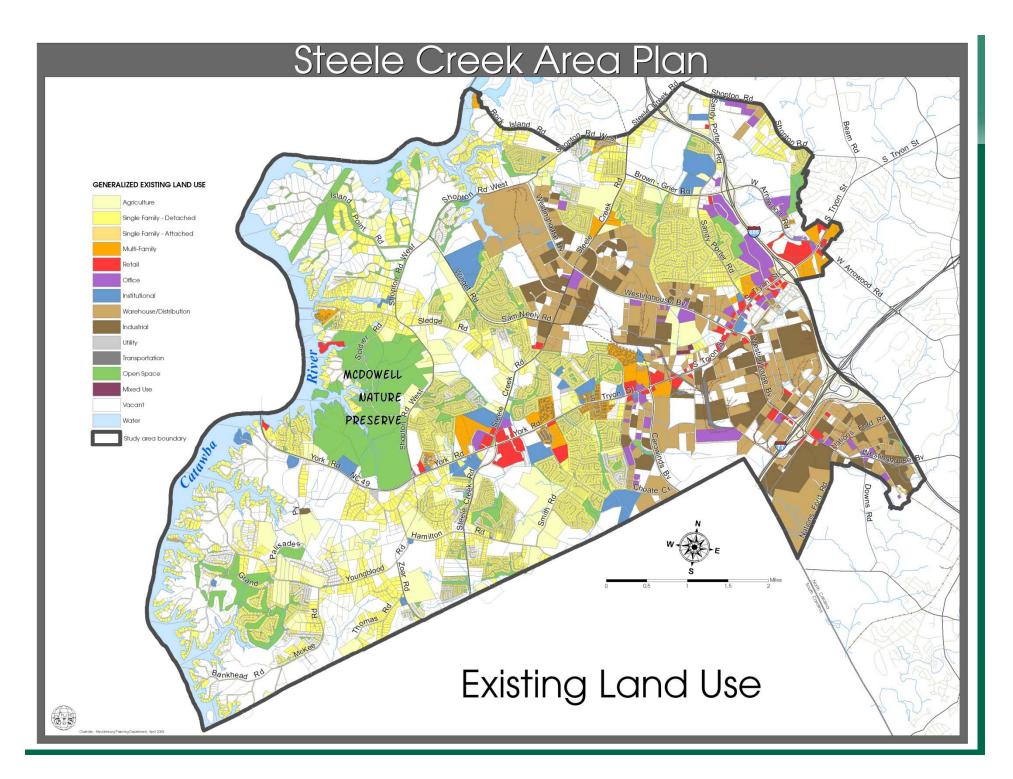
## LAND USE

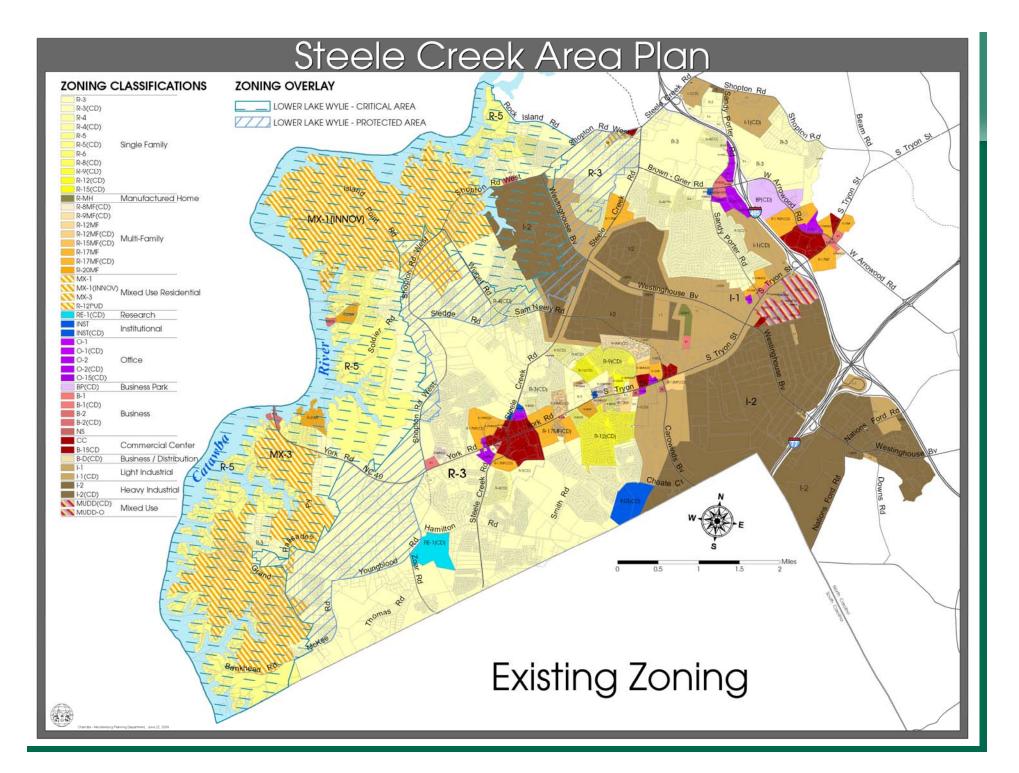
#### Steele Creek Area Plan

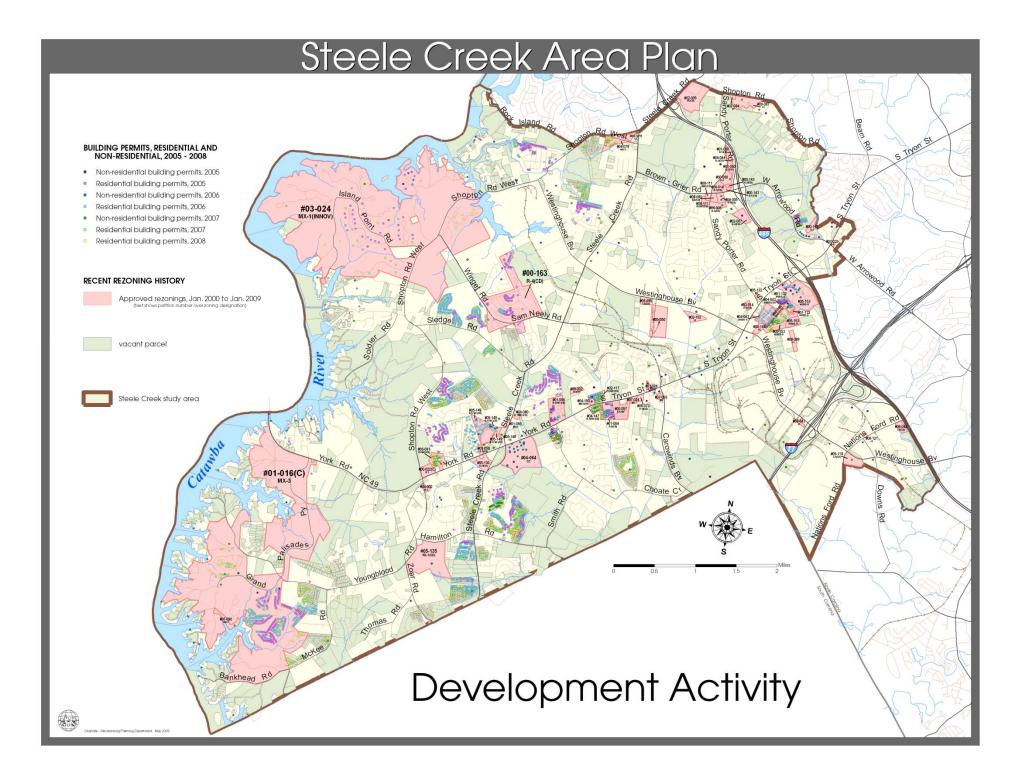


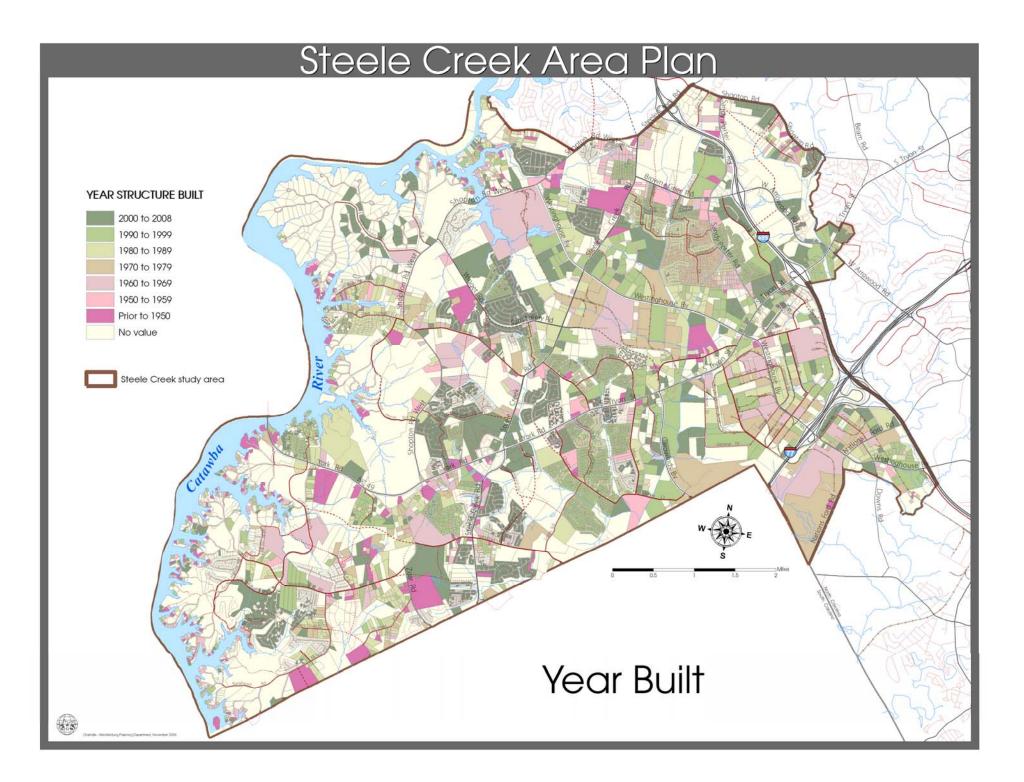












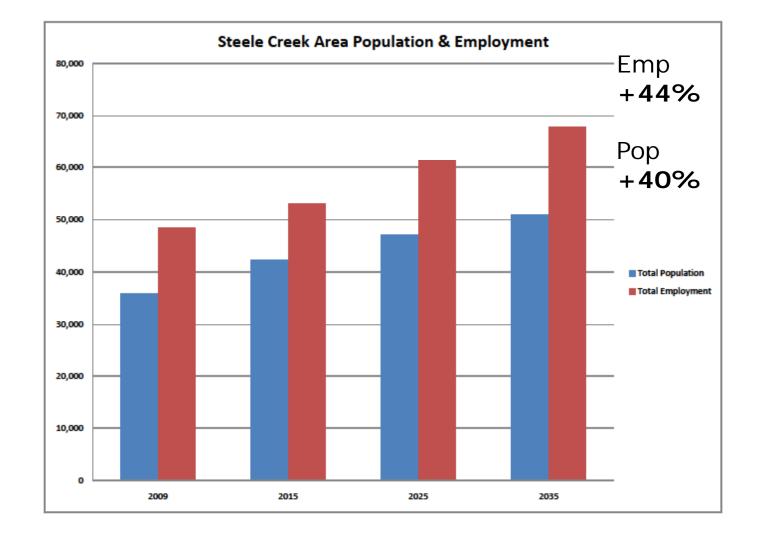




## TRANSPORTATION

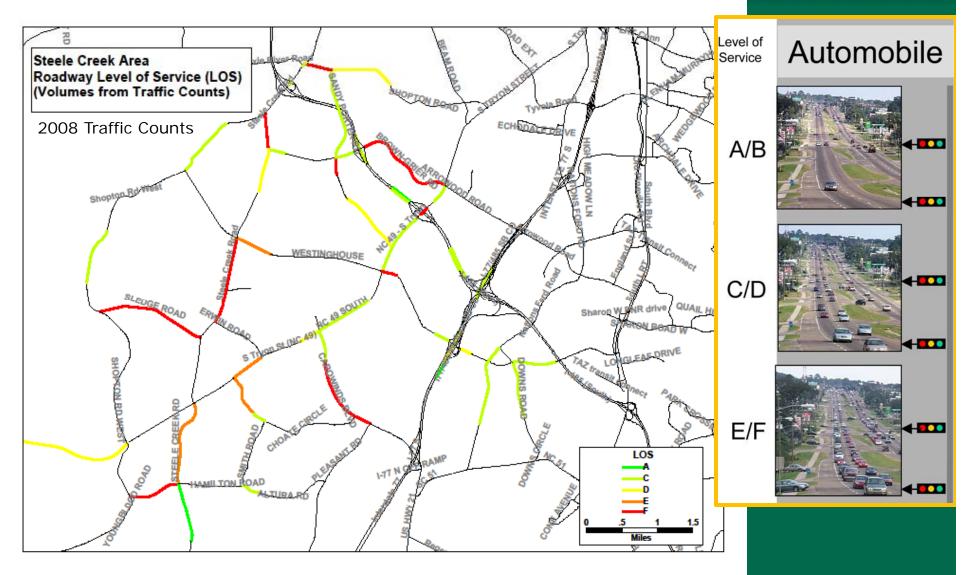


### **Area Growth**



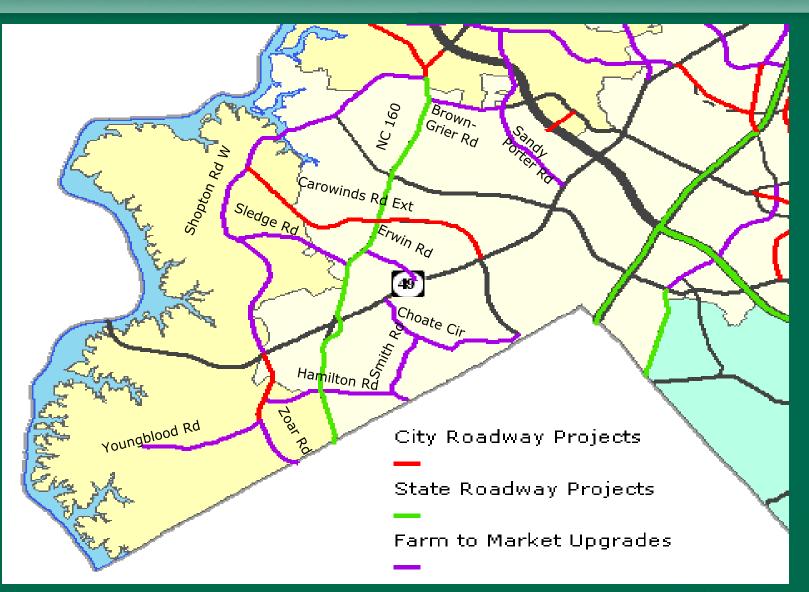


### **Area Congestion**





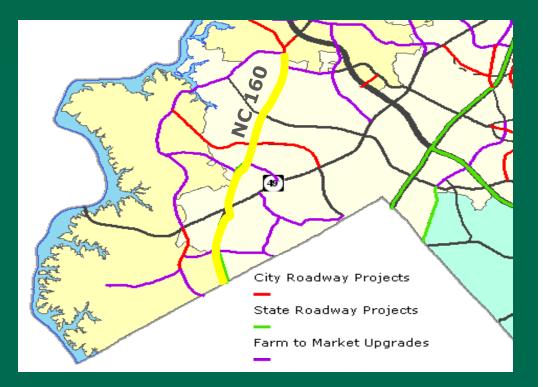
#### **Identified Needs**





### Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

- NC 160 widening south of Shopton Road West previously anticipated to be constructed 2021-2030
- Draft LRTP update now excludes project through 2035



#### No NCDOT projects in the Study Area through 2035.

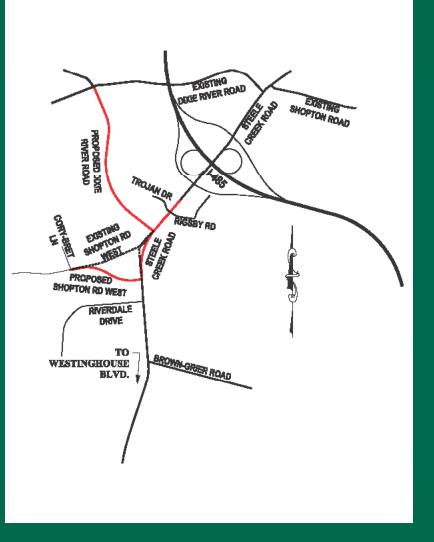


#### **City-Funded Projects**

#### 2006 Property Tax Levy

#### ✤ 2006, 2008, 2010 Bonds

- Shopton Road West realignment
- Steele Creek Road
   widening to Shopton Rd W
- Dixie River Road realignment
- Capital Investment Plan (CIP) Updates



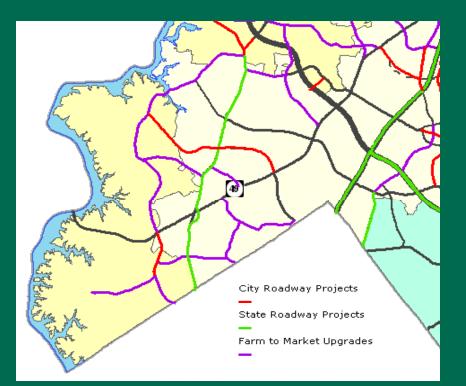


### **City Roadway Projects**

- City-Funded Thoroughfares
  - Carowinds Extension
  - Youngblood Realignment

### • Farm-to-Market Upgrades

- Brown-Grier Road
- Choate Circle
- Erwin Road
- Hamilton Road
- Sandy Porter Road
- Shopton Road West
- Sledge Road
- Smith Road
- Youngblood Road
- Zoar Road





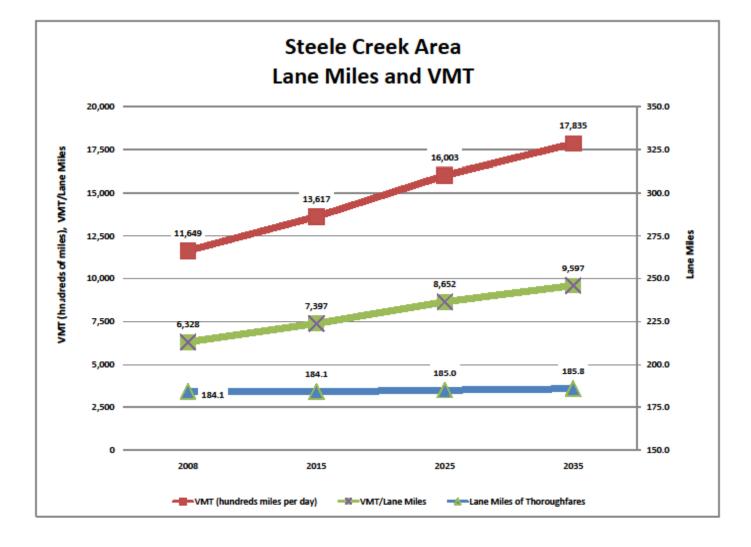
#### Farm-to-Market Roads

# PossibleImprovements

- Turn Lanes
- Curb and Gutter
- Sidewalks
- Planting Strip
- Street Trees
- ✤ Bike Lanes
- ✤ Medians



**Thoroughfares & Travel** 



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#### **Transportation Options**

### **Supply Options**

- ✓ Advance capacity projects
- ✓ Create more connections
- Build more multi-modal connections
- ✓ Improve traffic flow efficiency
- ✓ Upgrade rural roads to City street standards

## Demand Options

- ✓ Integrate land use with transportation
- ✓ Encourage mixed use
- Create better pedestrian network
- Create better bicycle network
- ✓ Design and implement streets for all users
- ✓ Enhance quality of life features of transportation projects

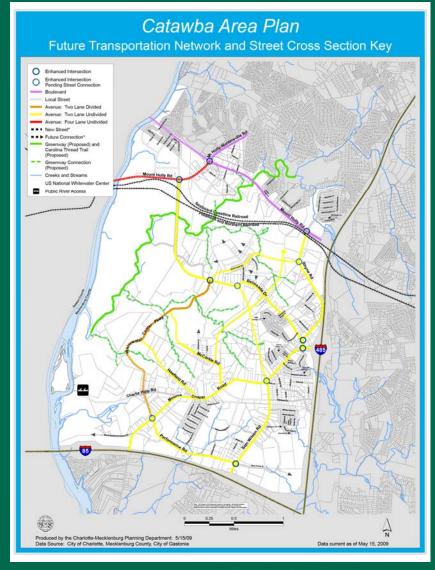


### **Strategic Connections**

### Function of "Connectors"

- Major collector street by past convention
- Updated collector map
- Local streets with fairly direct connectivity



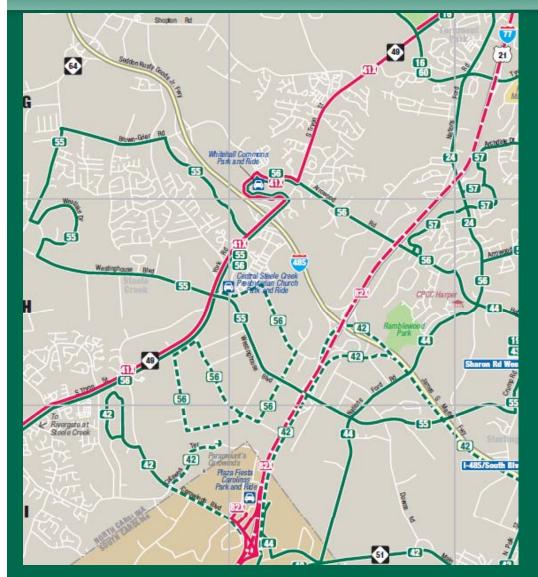






## TRANSIT

## OF CHARLOTTE Steele Creek Area Plan



#### **Current Service**

#### **Bus Routes:**

- Route 55 Westinghouse
- Route 56 Arrowood
- Route 41X Steele Creek Express

#### Park & Ride Locations:

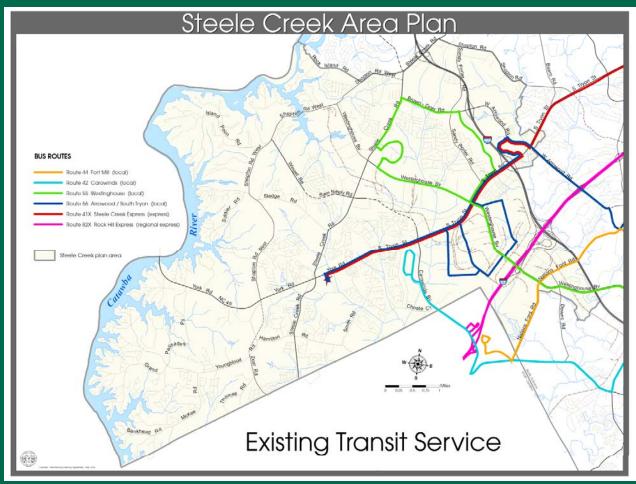
- Whitehall Commons Park & Ride
- Central Steele Creek Presbyterian
- Church Park & Ride

## OF CHARLOTTE Steele Creek Area Plan

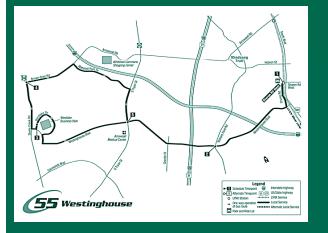
#### Countywide Transit Service Plan

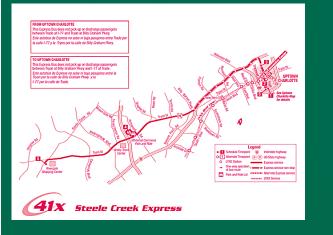
- Plan Years 2007 2012
- No new major fixed route transit services
  - Close proximity to Lynx
     Blue Line
- Bus route extensions and modifications
- NC 49 Park & Ride planned
  - Rivergate Shopping

Center potential



## OF CHARLOTTE Steele Creek Area Plan





#### **Future Service Planning**

- CATS Operations routinely evaluates bus routing and service frequency
  - Relatively low impact to adjust bus routes and bus stop locations
  - Based on service cost, budgetary considerations, and ridership potential (cost v. benefit)
  - Need significant origin(s) and/or destination(s)
- Plan can recommend new routes and park & ride locations for future consideration in CATS planning documents





## COMMUNITY DESIGN



### What We Heard: Community Design



Signage •Limits site distance •Distracts from building •Visual Clutter

Screening and Landscaping •Sometimes unnecessary •Buffers along roadway





### What We Heard: Community Design



Pedestrian Connectivity
Asphalt instead of concrete
Work with topography
Internal site connectivity
Creative Pedestrian Connect
Bus Stops with no waiting ar





## **Others?**

Massing and ScaleSetbacks and YardsSense of Entry

## CITY OF CHARLOTTE Community Design

The City's General Development Policies (2003) provide guidelines for urban design policies for both residential and non-residential development:

Character
Building Orientation/Massing/Articulation
Site Design
Parking
Connectivity and Accessibility
Natural Environment
Freestanding Single Tenant Buildings (Outparcels)





### Residential Design Policies: Single Family

#### **Design to Encourage Pedestrian Activity**

- ✓ Blend Scale/Setbacks of infill
- ✓ Building orientation
- ✓ Bicycle Parking
- ✓ Discourage teardown of historic /significant structures

#### Provide a Good Circulation System (for Pedestrians, Cyclists, Automobiles)

- ✓ Connections to parks, greenways, trails, etc.
- ✓ Connections between developments
- ✓ Design streets with pedestrian safety
- ✓ Align streets at intersections
- ✓ Encourage Shared Alleys
- ✓ Traffic Calming

#### **Respect the Natural Environment**

- Reserve meaningful common open space
- ✓ Incorporate natural and/or historical elements
- ✓ Preserve steep slopes



### Residential Design Policies: Multi-Family

#### **Design to Encourage Pedestrian Activity**

- ✓ Provide pedestrian amenities
- ✓ Blend scale and setbacks with existing development
- ✓ Building Orientation
- ✓ Avoid blank walls along pedestrian circulation areas
- ✓ Discourage teardown of historic /significant structures
- Encourage on-street parking
- ✓ Bicycle parking

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#### Provide a Good Circulation System

- ✓ Connections between developments
- ✓ Design streets with pedestrian safety
- ✓ Align streets at intersections
- ✓ Encourage Shared Driveways
- ✓ Traffic Calming
- ✓ Multiple vehicular entry points to a development
- ✓ Connections to parks, greenways, trails, etc.
- Design developments around an internal street system including sidewalks, street trees, parallel parking, etc.

#### **Respect the Natural Environment**

- ✓ Reserve meaningful common open space
- ✓ Incorporate natural and/or historical elements
- ✓ Preserve steep slopes
- ✓ Preserve at least 10% of the site as a "tree save area"





### Non-Residential Design Policies: Retail/Mixed Use

#### Transportation/Connectivity

- ✓ Interconnected Sidewalk System
- ✓ Short Block Lengths
- ✓ Organized Street Pattern

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- ✓ Pedestrian/Bicycle Connections
- ✓ Street Design for Pedestrian Safety
- ✓ Pedestrian Pathways
- ✓ Ample Sidewalk Width
- ✓ Clear Way-Finding Signage
- ✓ No Blank Walls
- ✓ Pedestrian Circulation in Parking Lot
- ✓ Bike Parking
- ✓ Transit Access
- Central Vehicular Access
- ✓ Clear Way-Finding Signage
- ✓ Parking Designed on Block Patterns
- ✓ Minimized and/or Structured Parking
- ✓ Active Uses in Parking Decks
- ✓ "Low Key" Neighborhood Access

#### Site and Building Design

- $\checkmark$  Connections to
- Surrounding Uses
- Building Orientation
- ✓ Block Pattern
- ✓ Historic Significance
- ✓ Landscaping
- ✓ Building Massing
- ✓ Dumpster Location

#### **Natural Environment**

- ✓ Preservation of Steep Slopes
- ✓ Open Space
- (useable/accessible)
- ✓ Bridge vs. Culvert
- ✓ Pervious Pavement for
- Overflow Pkg.
- Existing Landscaping Retained
- ✓ Tree Canopy

#### Non-Residential Design Policies: Outparcels

- ✓ Connections to Surrounding Uses
- ✓ Building Orientation
- ✓ Block Pattern

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- ✓ Historic Significance
- ✓ Landscaping
- ✓ Building Massing
- ✓ Dumpster Location







## DEVELOPING THE VISION

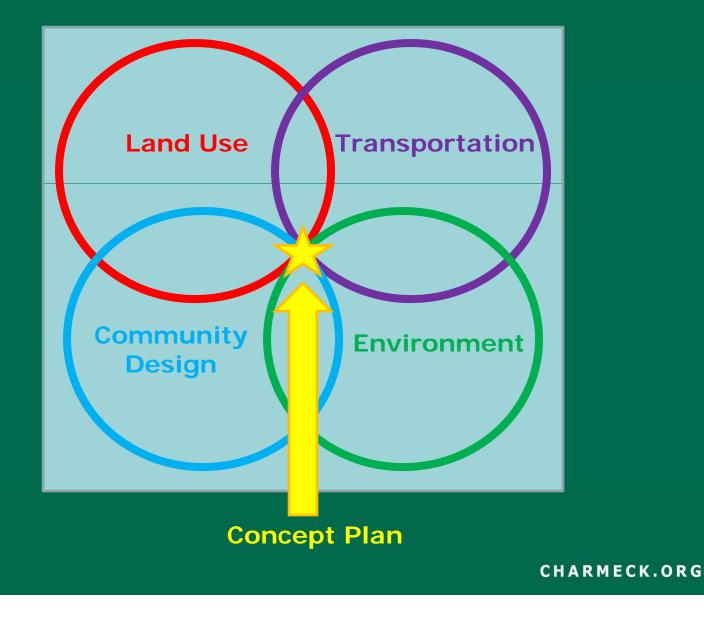


#### **Draft Vision Statement**

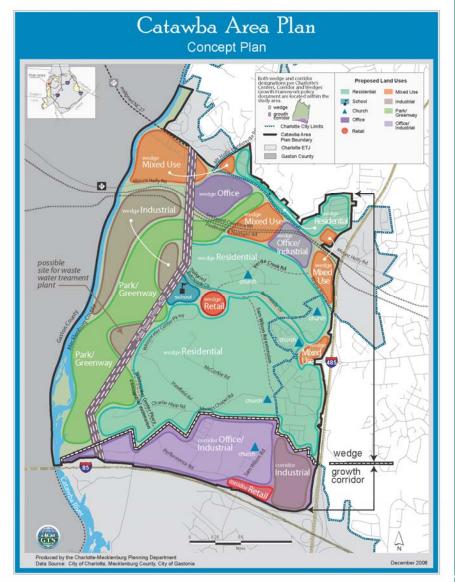
The vision for the **Steele Creek Area** is to create a unique and sustainable community that is a great place to live, work, and recreate, while preserving the community's character by incorporating natural and historic features into new development. The community will implement this vision through the following actions:

- •Protecting the Catawba River, McDowell Nature Preserve, natural features, and historic places;
- •Providing a balance mixture of land uses with enhanced public facilities that include quality schools;
- •Enhanced public facilities and services;
- •Developing a safe, accessible and efficient transportation for pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, and motorists;
- •Encouraging community design that recognizes the natural environment; and
- •Creating an interconnected network of parks, greenways, and open space amenities. снаямеск.окg

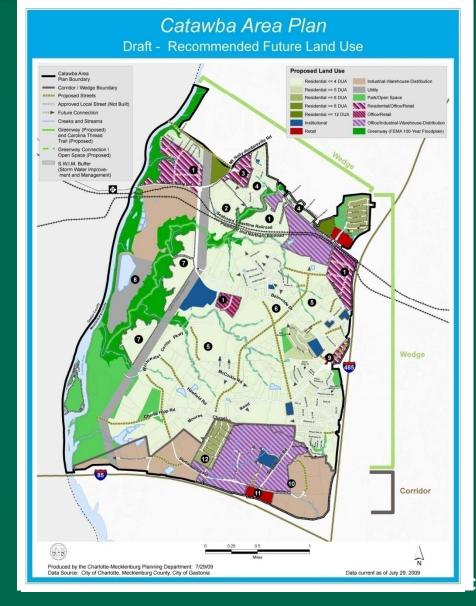














### Instructions

- Verify existing concentrations of nonresidential development (retail, office, industrial).
- Discuss pending retail/mixed use nodes (Berewick, Palisades)
- Identify other transitioning areas (S. Tryon/Westinghouse, etc.)

#### Time

• 30 minutes





#### Wrap Up and Next Steps

## Next meeting: January Topic: Concept Map Refinement



# Thank You

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