

MANDATORY REFERRAL REPORT NO. 99-21
CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG PLANNING COMMISSION
PROPOSED NEW SCHOOL SITE
SOUTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL SITE - STEELE CREEK ROAD

PROJECT LOCATION

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education proposes to purchase 41 acres of land located at 13624 Steele Creek Road for a new southwest middle school (in the northwest quadrant of the York Road and Steele Creek Road intersection).

The site consists of two parcels: 199-061-02 and 199-061-03. The proposed school site is zoned R-3 (single-family). The site has access to both water and sewer services and road access is provided by frontage along Steele Creek Road (see attached maps).

PROJECT PROPOSAL

This proposed project calls for the purchase of 41 acres of land by the Board of Education to serve as a site for a new middle school. The new middle school will house approximately 1000 (6-8 grades) students living in the general vicinity of the school. The school is anticipated to be complete and opened for the 2004-2005 school year.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

The site is located to address future enrollment growth in this region of the district in grades 6-8 and to relieve present and/or anticipated crowding in nearby middle schools, most notably Kennedy Middle School. This region of the district is expected to have significant growth in student enrollment over the next five years.

PROJECT IMPACT

The proposed school at this location will provide relief from overcrowding at the nearby middle schools and will allow for future enrollment growth in grades 6-8 in this region of the school district, which is expected to increase in future school-age population.

The proposed location serves to balance the value of Proximity, Diversity, Utilization, and Stability as described as critical factors in the siting of future schools by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Future School Planning Task Force (Committee of 33). The location is in general proximity to crowded school attendance areas, to areas of anticipated growth, to areas of concentrated black and non-black populations. Significant segments of this region also have areas of fairly integrated student populations.

A new school at this location would be in concert with the Southwest District Plan and support of a residential future which is recommended for this area.

PROJECT COST

Estimated cost, developed in conjunction with the CMS Capital Needs Assessment process, is approximately \$20 million including land, construction, furnishings and equipment, design, and project management.

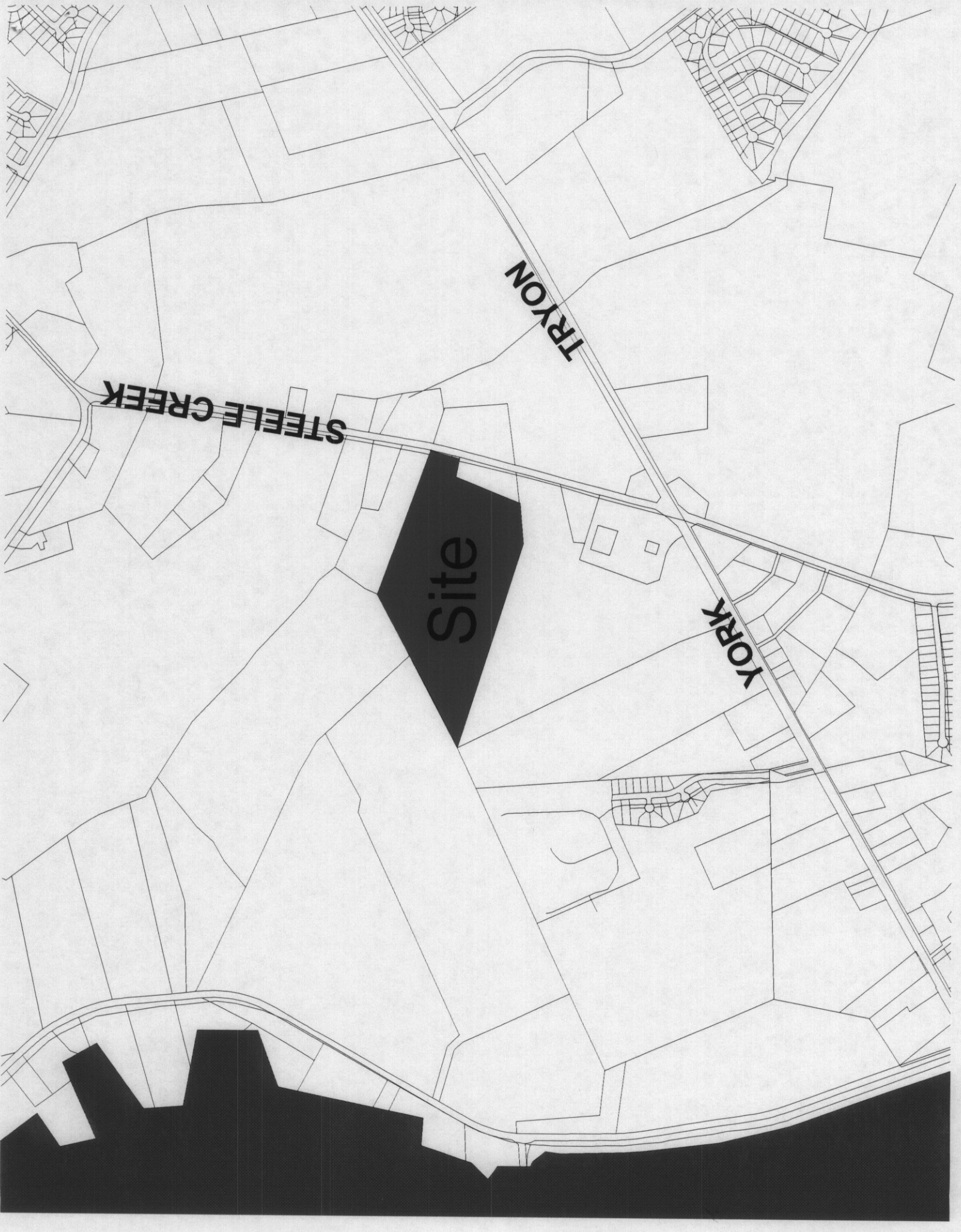
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the land be purchased to build a new Southwest Middle School.

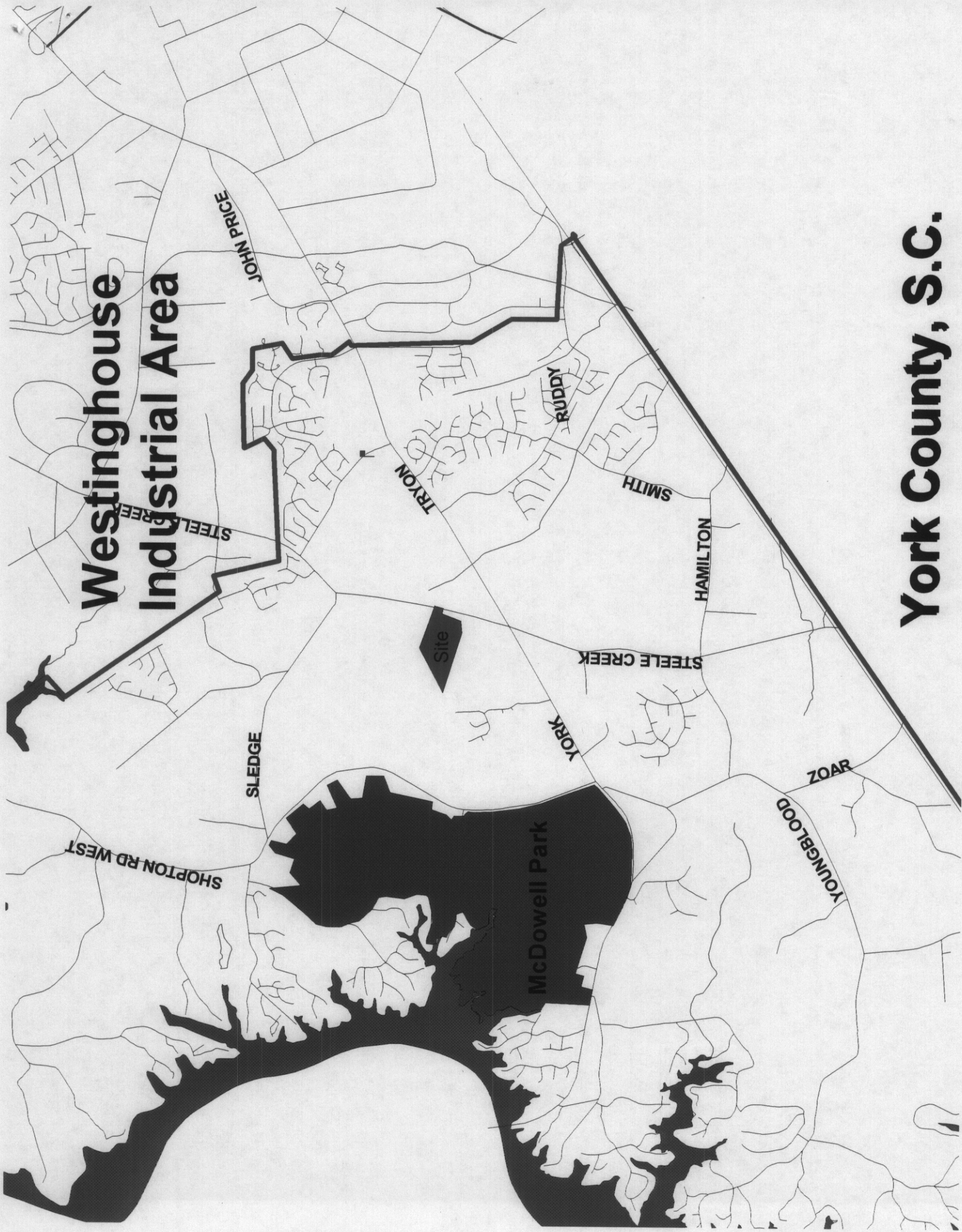
PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

At the July 20 meeting, Planning Committee unanimously approved the purchase of 41 acres of land by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education for a new Southwest Middle School.

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Westinghouse Industrial Area



York County, S.C.