

Pender County Planning and Community Development

Planning Division

805 S. Walker Street
PO Box 1519
Burgaw, NC 28425



Phone: 910-259-1202
Fax: 910-259-1295
www.pendercountync.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Pender County Planning Board

From: Planning Staff

Date: February 2, 2016

RE: Collector Street Plan and Comprehensive Plan Updates

Staff will continue to provide you with an update at each Planning Board meeting regarding the Collector Street Plan and Comprehensive Land Use Plan update process. Below is a summary of the status of each plan update since our last discussion.

Pender County Collector Street Plan

Planning Staff continues to work in coordination with the Wilmington MPO and Stantec on the Collector Street Plan. The Collector Street Plan is in the final stages of draft form. A draft document has been provided to all Steering Committee members and is being reviewed by both Staff and the Committee. All comments for this document are due January 29, 2016 and input is requested at this time.

A public meeting was held on January 21, 2016 with nearly forty people in attendance for the drop in session. Presented to the public were; draft collector roadway maps, cross sections, as well as, bicycle and pedestrian recommended routes. There were many discussions and recommendations to incorporate into the planning documents including; amending the proposed roadway alignments in several locations and the interest to include bicycle and pedestrian elements in the Coastal Pender region cross sections on proposed new collectors.

Steps for adoption include:

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|----------------------------|---|-------------|
| • <i>February 16, 2016</i> | Public Hearing at the Board of County Commissioners | 7PM Meeting |
| • <i>March 1, 2016</i> | Planning Board for Recommended Adoption | 7PM Meeting |
| • <i>March 7, 2016</i> | Final Adoption for Board of County Commissioners | 4PM Meeting |

Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Planning Staff continues to work on preliminary planning and information inventory in preparation for a consultant beginning work on the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. This information includes:

- Definition of small area plan boundaries
- Existing plan inventory
- Goals and policies matrix
- Existing land use survey

At this time, Pender County is working on a contract and scope of agreed upon work with Stantec, who is anticipated to begin work once these documents can be finalized and the Board of Commissioners approves the contract. It is anticipated that this will be up for approval on the Board's meeting agenda for **March 7, 2016**.

On August 17, 2015 Planning Staff learned that Pender County has been selected to receive \$10,000 in Partners for Green Growth funding from NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to use towards incorporation of conservation methods into the update of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. A finalized contract for funding agreement with NCWRC has been executed.

A brief summary of the Partners for Green Growth funding is as follows:

- The purpose is to fund land use planning projects that address conservation of priority wildlife habitats. Our proposal is to use funding to develop and incorporate a conservation component into the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (in conjunction with the Plan update).
- The funding amount is \$10,000.
- Invited full applications are due September 10 (non-competitive).
- 50% non-federal in-kind match is required. Our proposal is to calculate match using:
 - Staff time calculated at approximately \$20.00 per hour: \$2,500 (125 hours) for existing conditions inventory, site visits, conservation data analysis, coordination with consultant and NC Wildlife Resources Commission for integration of final conservation product within Comp Plan
 - 7.5 percent of County payment to consultant (total contract will be \$100,000): \$7,500 for conservation data analysis and conservation policy recommendation for inclusion into Comprehensive Land Use Plan
- Work must be completed within a year.
- Funds will be distributed as reimbursement (by September 16, 2016).
- Pender County is eligible for 40 hours of technical assistance from NC Wildlife Resources Commission as part of the funding.

Planning Staff appreciates your input throughout the process for these plan updates.