



## Chatham County Comprehensive Plan Steering Meeting

**May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Meeting Notes**

### Attendees:

Jim Elza, Chair  
Andy Bailey, Vice Chair  
Esta Cohen, Ag Advisory Alternate  
Sharon Garbutt, BOC At-large  
Linda Harris, Chatham Economic Development Corporation  
George Pauly, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Caroline Siverson, Planning Board  
James Fogelman, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Amanda Robertson, Climate Change Advisory Committee

### Staff:

Jason Sullivan, Planning Director  
Hillary Pace, Planner II  
Dylan Paul, Planner I  
Jake Petrosky, LandDesign  
Meg Nealon, LandDesign  
Tim Abernathy, Economic Leadership  
Greg Payne, Economic Leadership

### **1. Introductions and Welcome**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6pm and asked the Committee to introduce themselves and relate their first impressions of Phase 1 of the Comprehensive Plan. Chair Elza reflected a positive presentation to the Board of Commissioners; however mentioned the Climate Change Advisory Committee felt they needed to be better represented in the plan.

Esta Cohen mentioned the mechanics of the plan (i.e. minutes, audio) are hard to understand. She also expressed concern regarding the protocol of email correspondence and Open Meetings Law. Ms. Robertson concurred and said that we can email documents to all committee members; we just can't have a conversation about them over email. She also added that the committee needed to have greater responsibilities and involvement in meeting planning. Other members echoed the concern about committee communication.

Jake Petrosky informed the Committee that future meetings will make time for needed open discussions. Amanda Robertson commented that the Public Engagement Plan was one-sided.

Jake Petrosky asked the Committee to offer other ways to communicate than those outlined in the Public Engagement Plan. Andy Bailey echoed the need to communicate to the western side of the county, Siler City in particular.

Commissioner Crawford stated the Affordable Housing component of the plan is coming, as a Taskforce is being assembled through the Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG). He further stated that comprehensive outreach is critical for all input.

## **2. Phase 2 Schedule/ Meetings and Milestones**

Jake Petrosky outlined the Phase 2 of the Plan and indicated the Committee will have homework to identify preliminary goals of the plan. He communicated that the Stakeholder meetings were critical to help adjust the scope of the plan. He also stated that the comments of the Committee were important to the presentation of the scope to the Board of Commissioners.

Jake Petrosky also went through the augmentations to the scope as a result of Phase 1; highlighting energy efficient development, the various types of agriculture within the county, transportation access and accommodation for the aging population. He went over the schedule as it stands and how comments have been incorporated from the committee and stakeholder input to date. He then passed out a meetings and milestones schedule for the plan's development.

The staff indicated the June public outreach events at three local schools across the county are being arranged and due to the heavy involvement of the committee, Jake Petrosky stated that no Steering Committee meeting will be held in July. He outlined the process for addressing plan goals.

## **3. Research and Analysis**

During the kick off of the plan, Jake Petrosky stated that the plan will result in a future land use map, along with memos to describe the recommended changes and/or recommended implementation steps for achieving the comprehensive plan vision.

The Community Profile will reflect housing analysis and economic development statistics, among others, with the strategy of engaging the public to understand an issue better and facilitate goal development. He asked the Committee to provide any comments as to how to provide any pertinent information to the public during the input meetings. He then went on to explain how the future land use map will be developed. The Committee reflected how trails will be developed to incorporate all users and provide connectedness to existing landmarks/destination. He indicated he would provide future level of service for certain uses at the next committee meeting.

## **4. Public Engagement Plan/ Survey**

Jake Petrosky communicated that the Public Engagement Plan was in draft form and still open for comment until the June meeting. He mentioned the Health Alliance and the input

provided by the group in terms of reaching underserved populations. He indicated that this may be shared with the committee during the June meeting.

Amanda Robertson questioned how long the survey will run. Jake Petrosky stated the survey will run from mid-June to mid-July. She also asked about the format of the survey. He stated that the survey will incorporate fill-in answers so that citizens have the ability to fully express their thoughts and concerns.

#### **5. Speakers Bureau / Ambassadors**

Jake Petrosky stated that there is a need for a Speakers Bureau and Ambassadorship for the program. More information will be delivered at the next Committee meeting.

#### **6. Logo**

Discussion began among the Committee about the three logo choices. Comments ranged from typeface, tag lines and the impression of the Courthouse for the Plan. The group settled on the tag line, "working together to preserve and progress." The Committee chose the rural house/farm logo with a typeface tagline, in color.

#### **7. Discussion (Emphasis Areas and Engagement Contacts)**

The Committee discussed in detail representatives across the county that would be helpful to reach out to for plan development. Staff recorded many organizations to contact such as the Cattlemen's Association, the Hispanic Liaison, and the church community. Also the Agri-business Council and Young Farmers and Ranchers were mentioned as community contacts.

#### **8. Homework: Review existing goals (to be provided) and pick 3 priorities**