

# COUNTY OF CHATHAM



## COMMISSIONERS

GARY PHILLIPS  
Chairman

MARGARET BRYANT POLLARD  
Vice Chair

BOB ATWATER  
RICK GIVENS  
CARL OUTZ

CHARLIE HORNE  
County Manager

ROBERT L. GUNN  
County Attorney

Phone (919) 542-8200  
Fax (919) 542-8272

P. O. BOX 87  
PITTSBORO, N. C. 27312-0087

ORGANIZED 1770

707 SQUARE MILES

## RESOLUTION

PASSED BY THE CHATHAM COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD 3-20-02

WHEREAS, open space provides critical benefits to Chatham County residents including parks, greenways, historic and scenic landscapes, habitat for wildlife and native plants, water and air quality protection, and agricultural and timber products; and

WHEREAS, important open space will continue to be lost in the absence of comprehensive open space planning; and

WHEREAS, continued loss of important open space is detrimental to the quality of life of Chatham County residents; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly passed a law making it the State's goal to permanently protect an additional one million acres of open space (G.S. 113A-241); and

WHEREAS, the Triangle J Council of Governments, Triangle Land Conservancy, and N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation have formed the Triangle GreenPrint Project and have released a *Regional Open Space Assessment*; and

WHEREAS, the *Regional Open Space Assessment* documents important open space areas in the six-county Triangle region that were identified by 140 professional and citizen open space experts, and

WHEREAS, the *Regional Open Space Assessment* identifies many open space areas that can only be fully enjoyed by Chatham County citizens if Chatham County cooperates with other government jurisdictions to protect them; and

WHEREAS, the likelihood of protection of these open space areas will be enhanced through awareness of their significance and adoption of formal plans for their protection;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE CHATHAM COUNTY RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD:

Recognizes the efforts of the 140 technical experts who provided their expertise to develop the Triangle GreenPrint *Regional Open Space Assessment* as an overview of Triangle open spaces that are worthy of some level of protection; and

Requests that the County study the report and its database and then propose amendments, as appropriate, to the County's open space and land use plans; and

Requests that the County charge the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Planning Board to form a joint subcommittee, including some of their own members as well as other interested community members, to further study this issue and advise the county; and

Requests that the County share with the GreenPrint project information about any important open space that may have been overlooked in the *Regional Open Space Assessment* so that it may be incorporated in future documents; and

Requests the County to engage in meetings with neighboring counties to discuss how the jurisdictions may cooperate to protect cross-jurisdictional open space; and

Requests the County to provide updates to the Triangle GreenPrint project regarding the County's newly protected open spaces so that this information can be added to the regional and statewide databases; and

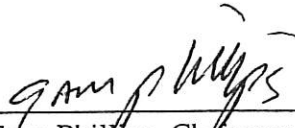
Requests the County to investigate ways to increase the funding available to open space protection; and

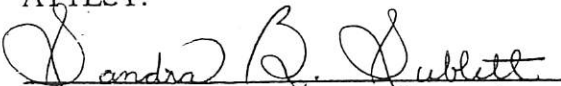
Commits itself to supporting the concept of regional cooperation on land protection projects, and to taking a leadership role in helping to protect a regional network of open spaces; and

Agrees to be an active partner in future steps towards creating a vision and plan for a protected network of regional open space; and

Requests the County to identify for inclusion in an initial implementation map, several open space sites that the County has already targeted for protection efforts over the next two years.

Adopted this, the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2002.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Phillips, Chairman

ATTEST:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra B. Sublett, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners