Chapter VIII E. Northeast Area Land Use Plan

Acknowledgements

Thanks to these study-area residents and landowners. Many suggested improvements to the plan or planning process. All reviewed plandrafts, sometimes even involving neighbors in reviews. Special thanks to Riley Hill residents for hosting meetings at Riley Hill Family Life Center.

Staff accepts final responsibility for plan proposals and any errors.

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And thanks to the Wake County Planning Board for volunteering time on this and other planning matters to improve our community.

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1. Introduction

a. Why a Plan for Northeast Wake?

The plan is part of Phase Two of the County's Land Use Plan.

Phase One, adopted in 1997, included a map (also a vision, goals, and strategies). But, the map was incomplete: It showed unincorporated areas where municipalities expected to grow (Urban Services Areas). And it showed unincorporated areas where municipalities expected to never grow (Non-Urban Areas). But in most of these areas, the map didn't show future parks, business areas, and residential densities.

The County Commissioners decided the map should be completed, through citizen participation, as Phase Two of the Plan. The map should reflect the goals of the Phase One Plan and should suggest places for future parks, businesses, and residences. The Commissioners also decided, because of the County's size, the best way to make the map would be one geographic area at a time, working with each area's residents and other interested parties.

So far, the County, working with residents and others, has developed and adopted plans for four areas: Southwest Wake Area, Interstate 540\Strickland Road Area, East Raleigh/Knightdale Area, and Wendell/Zebulon Area. This plan is fifth in a series of six. Taken together, they'll give the County a complete map, suggesting places for parks, businesses, and residences.

Wave Simmons

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b. Main Uses of the Plan

A map suggesting places for parks, businesses, and residences, can help the County (and municipalities that grow into parts of the study area) do at least three things:

- Decide Rezoning Petitions: The map will not rezone land, but is a source of advice to Commissioners when they consider a rezoning proposal.
- Estimate Money Needed for Parks: The map suggests places suited for parks, so it can help in projecting money needed to buy parkland from willing sellers.
- Project Needs for Public Buildings and Services: The map suggests a range of future land uses. This can help in projecting public buildings and services needed to complement those uses.

2. The Plan a. The Map

The Land Use Classifications Map suggesting places for parks, businesses, and residences is attached. The next section explains its main features.

b. Main Features Explained

- i. Citizen Participation
 - Had six steps:
 - A public forum, with 69 attending.
 - Advice from a group of studyarea residents\landowners and some of their neighbors.
 - Advice from a group of nonresidents, from at least 20 organizations.
 - A second public forum, so people could ask questions and make more suggestions. About 48 people came.
 - o The Planning Board's hearing.
 - The Commissioners' public hearing.

ii. Open Space and Recreation

- The map suggests 17 places suited for parks. (see description of each in 4.c)
- There's also an estimated 59 miles of trails suggested: including a 27-mile

trail around the proposed Little River Reservoir. Benefits: Residents could walk, bike, etc., around the reservoir, into neighboring towns, along the Little River, and to trails leading to the Neuse.

 Another "open space and recreation" feature is the proposed Little River Reservoir. The project is envisioned at 2,000 public acres - with forests, 4 parks, and a trail around a lake. Several years ago, the County (and east Wake towns) began buying land for the reservoir.

iii. Opportunity for Public/Private Partnership to Enhance A Historic "Community Center"

- This plan suggests: When the County funds a park, library, daycare or other facility in the Riley Hill area, it should collaborate with residents on locating it at or near the Riley Hill Family Life Center.
- Benefits: Co-locating would:
 - Save money if the County and community share land, buildings, parking, etc.
 - Strengthen the existing community center.
 - Help preserve the historic building.
 - Mix uses so folks will combine trips to the Family Life Center, park, library, etc.

iv. Mixed Uses and More CompactDevelopment - Including pedestrian trails and bus or other transit stops

- The map continues the "Neighborhood Activity Center" concept from the County's Phase One Plan.
- This concept includes mixing complementary uses in a core, surrounded by lower density residences. Pedestrian paths and possible bus or other transit stops are part of the concept. Generally, it's deemed transit friendly, an alternative to strip commercial, and conducive to walking and a sense of neighborhood.
- Locations: Shown at twelve places.
 Eight places already have businesses or other non-residential uses there.

Four don't but residents suggested them as appropriate places for future businesses or other nonresidential use(s). the water supply watershed) since they are where mixed uses are envisioned.

v. Smart Growth Principles

- Appendix 4.b lists principles as a guide for public and private developments.
- The Triangle Smart Growth Coalition people from public and private sectors, including Triangle universities, homebuilder groups, environmental organizations, and more - drafted the principles.
- So far, the Coalition has not agreed on strategies or implementation devices for the principles.

vi. Housing

- There's variety planned from lowdensity single family to multi-family.
- Lower densities are in the Little River Water Supply Watershed to protect water quality. (Standard County practice: The "Critical Area" is up to 1dwelling per 2 acres; the "Non-critical" is up to 1 dwelling per acre. Similar to what's done in other water supply watersheds: Falls Lake, Wake Forest Reservoir, and Jordan Lake.)
- "Middle densities" are in two main places: Wake Forest Urban Services Area and Rolesville Urban Services Area.
 - o Since these areas are expected ultimately to be within towns, they are expected ultimately to have town-like densities: In Wake Forest's Urban Services Area an average of 3 dwellings per acre; in Rolesville's up to 2 dwellings per acre. The map shows ultimate densities so there will be full disclosure to residents and others on what is ultimately expected. It may take many years, and infrastructure improvements, to see these densities in some areas.
- Highest density (multi-family) is at the Neighborhood Activity Centers, (outside

vii. Compatibility with Surroundings

- The map suggests some ultimate densities higher than now exist in certain areas and suggests some nonresidential uses too.
- This plan assumes the County will review future rezoning and special use applications to assure proposed developments will be compatible with surrounding land uses, roads, schools, and other infrastructure.

viii. Opportunity for Town Services in Part of Robertson's Pond Watershed

- This refers to about 2.9 square miles (or 1,830 acres) bounded by Mitchell Mill Road, Fowler Road, Broughton Road, Riley Hill Road, and Rolesville Road.
- In the 1997 Phase One Plan, no towns expressed interest in ever serving this area. Since then, some residents suggested the area should, at some point, get town services. (Since the area is not in a water supply watershed, getting town services - and some townlike densities - won't conflict with County watershed policy.)

Staff of the closest town (Rolesville) agreed their town might ultimately serve this area. So this plan designates the area as part of Rolesville's Long-Range Urban Services Area. Water and sewer could come from Rolesville or from merged municipal systems as recommended in the Wake County Water/Sewer Plan.

ix. Cluster and Other Innovative Designs

 The plan assumes some cluster subdivisions, neo-traditional subdivisions, planned unit developments, and other innovative designs. Some density incentives may apply for clustering. The plan is not so specific as to designate particular parcels for one type design.

In cluster design, lot size may be reduced if overall density of the tract stays about the same. The area saved from each lot is pooled as common open space. This means less linear feet (and cost) in streets and utilities and less impact on natural areas. The common open space is for residents' recreation/enjoyment.

Source: Moskowitz and Lindbloom. *The New Illustrated Book of Development Definitions*. Rutgers, State University of New Jersey. 1993

- x. Significant Historic and Natural Features
 - The Land Use Classifications Map shows 13 historic sites and 14 Natural Heritage Sites (rare plants, animals, rock formations, etc.). These were identified in past studies, but are shown so people may know of them while preparing or reviewing development proposals.

xi. Flexibility

- Quarterly, the County considers requested changes to its land use plan.
 So there is a built-in-way to make changes, add ideas, and so on for this plan.
- Any change to the plan should be accompanied by public notice and opportunity for public input.

c. Little River Watershed Activity Center Profiles

Activity Centers are focal points where people gather for the purpose of shopping, eating, work, spiritual and social activity, learning, and recreation. A goal of the Land Use Plan is to focus compact development in mixed-use centers. The non-urban water supply watershed activity centers are designed to help protect water quality by limiting non-residential land uses to only within activity centers and to those with characteristics less likely to adversely affect water quality.

An activity center is primarily an area that provides for convenience retail goods and personal services, and small-scale land uses that may include farm-serving uses. The types of uses that are allowed are those that focus on serving the day-to-day needs and activities of the sparsely populated neighborhoods in the immediately surrounding area.

There are 6 parcel-based activity center designations (5 neighborhoods and 1 community) within the non-urban Little River Reservoir Water Supply Watershed, which are as follows: (1) NC 97 Hwy / Lizard Lick Rd, (2) Riley Hill Rd / NC 96 Hwy, (3) Fowler Rd / Hopkins Chapel Rd, (4) NC 96 Hwy / US 401 Hwy, (5) NC 96 Hwy / NC 98 Hwy (6) Mitchell Mill Rd / Fowler Rd (LUPA 04-07 adopted 4-20-09).

Activity Center Sites:

NC 97 Hwy / Lizard Lick Rd

Type: Neighborhood Activity Center

Size: 17 acres

Area: Non-critical watershed/Wendell LRUSA

The neighborhood activity center is located at the intersection of NC 97 Highway and Lizard Lick Road within the Lizard Lick Community (see map below). This neighborhood activity center is to provide for small-scale mixed-uses including office & institutional and commercial land uses in order to meet expected demands in this area of the county.

A summary of the existing land use characteristics in the activity center is presented in the following table.

ACTIVITY CENTER LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS							
	E	xisting Development					
Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Residential Units							
Residential	2	5	R-40W	2			
Commercial	4	6	CU-GB & HC				
		Vacant Lands					
Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Approved Project							
Undeveloped	2	6	CU-GB & HC				
Historical, Cultural or Environmental Significance: No designated significant sites in activity center.							

Future development at this location should be in accordance with the recommendations of the Activity Centers Design Guidelines within the Wake County Land Use Plan. These guidelines address issues of compatibility between commercial and residential buildings, connections between residential areas and commercial areas, open space, buffers, and transitional development.

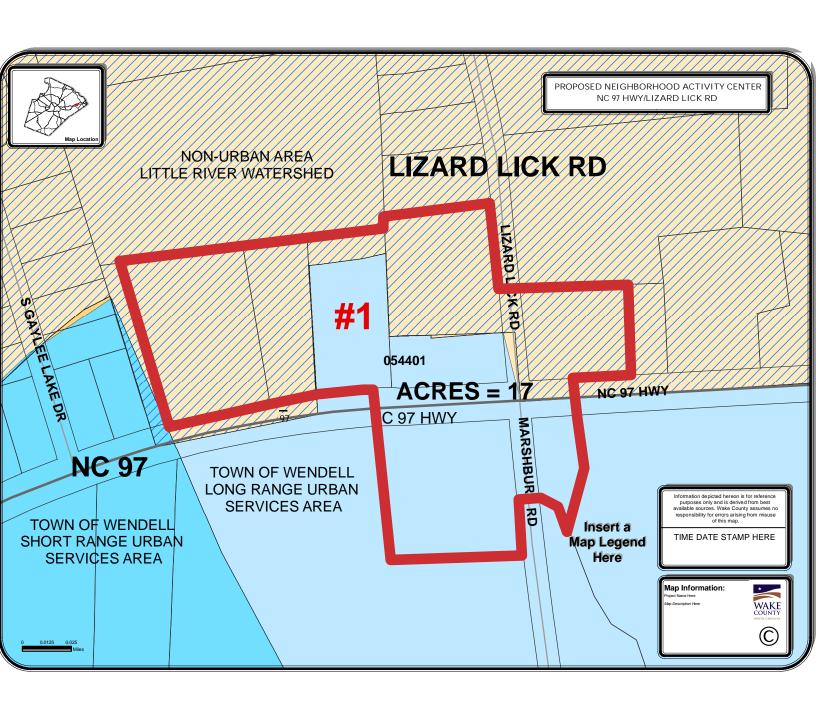
Recommendations:

• This area, which consists of mixed-use development, includes an office building, convenience store, auto towing business, and a church. A portion of the activity center lies within the Town of Wendell's Long Range Urban Services Area. Wendell's Future Land Use Map designates this area as a



neighborhood activity center. Also, the Town's Plan designates the area around the intersection of NC 97 and Edgemont Road approximately 1.7 miles to the southwest as a neighborhood activity center.

This activity center is limited to 17 acres given that neighborhood convenience retail and office uses are located to the west along NC 97 within a half mile and on the north side of the intersection of NC 97 and Siemens Drive approximately 0.8 mile. Intense non-residential development should be encouraged in and around Wendell.



Riley Hill Rd / NC 96 Hwy

Type: Neighborhood Activity Center

Size: 21.5 acres

Area: Non-critical watershed

The neighborhood activity center is located at the northwestern quadrant of the intersection of Riley Hill Road and NC 96 Highway (see map below). NC 96 is a major route that provides connections between the rural communities in the northeastern area of the county and Zebulon, Wake Forest, and Franklin County. The activity center is intended as a support area that provides transition between the residential area north of Riley Hill Road and area designated as a Community Commercial Center, which is shown on Zebulon's Land Use Plan on the south side of the intersection of Riley Hill Road and NC 96. Zebulon expects this area to develop. The area south of Riley Hill Road within Zebulon's corporate limits consists of mixed-use development including several office and retail service establishments (Friendly Corner Shopping Center) that are within walking distance (one half mile) of this activity center.

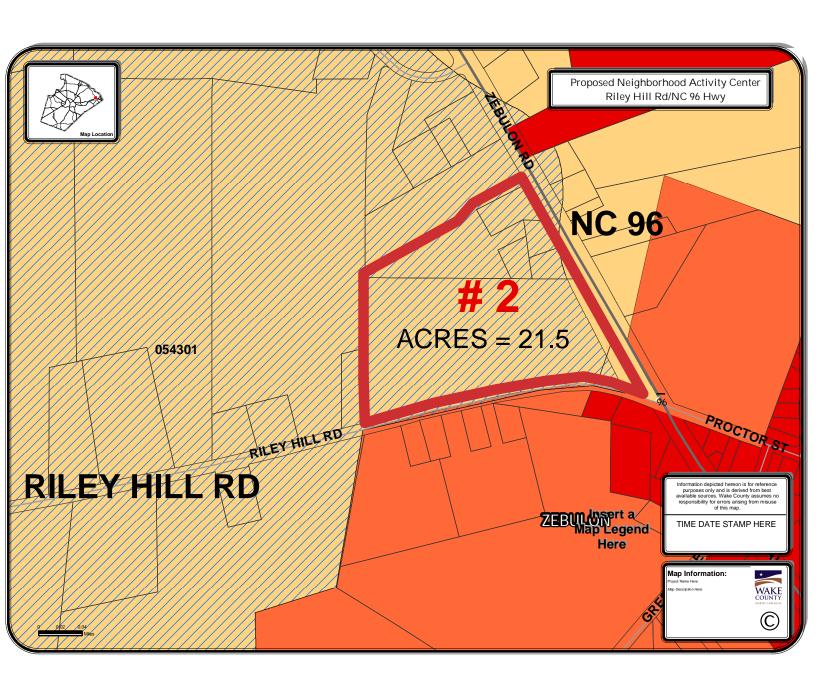
Zebulon's Land Use Plan designates the NC 96 corridor from Riley Hill Road to the US 64 interchange as Highway Business. This area includes offices, personal service shops, cleaners, convenience stores, restaurants, banks and credit union. In addition, the Triangle East Shopping Center, which totals 138,000 square feet, is located on the south side of the US 64/NC 96 interchange in Zebulon. This center includes department stores, a super market, restaurants, bank, personal services, and several retail service establishments. The Town of Zebulon is in the beginning stages of establishing an overlay district, which may be applied to the US 64 interchange. The Town's future plans are to have a transportation study done for the portion of the NC 96 corridor from US 64 to Riley Hill Road.

A summary of the existing land use characteristics in the activity center is presented in the following table.

ACTIVITY CENTER LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS								
	E	xisting Development						
Land Use	Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Residential Units							
Residential	3	2	R-40W	3				
Agricultural	1	15.5	R-40W	-				
	Vacant Lands							
Land Use	Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning							
Undeveloped 2 4 R-40W								
Historical, Cultural or Env	Historical, Cultural or Environmental Significance: No designated significant sites in activity center.							

Recommendations:

• This activity center consists primarily of residential and agricultural land uses. The activity center, which only occupies one quadrant of the intersection, is intended to provide for residential and institutional land uses as a transition to a significant amount of commercial development to the south within Zebulon's jurisdiction, which serves the surrounding area.



Type: Neighborhood Activity Center

Fowler Rd / Hopkins Chapel Rd

Size: 29 Acres

Area: Non-critical watershed

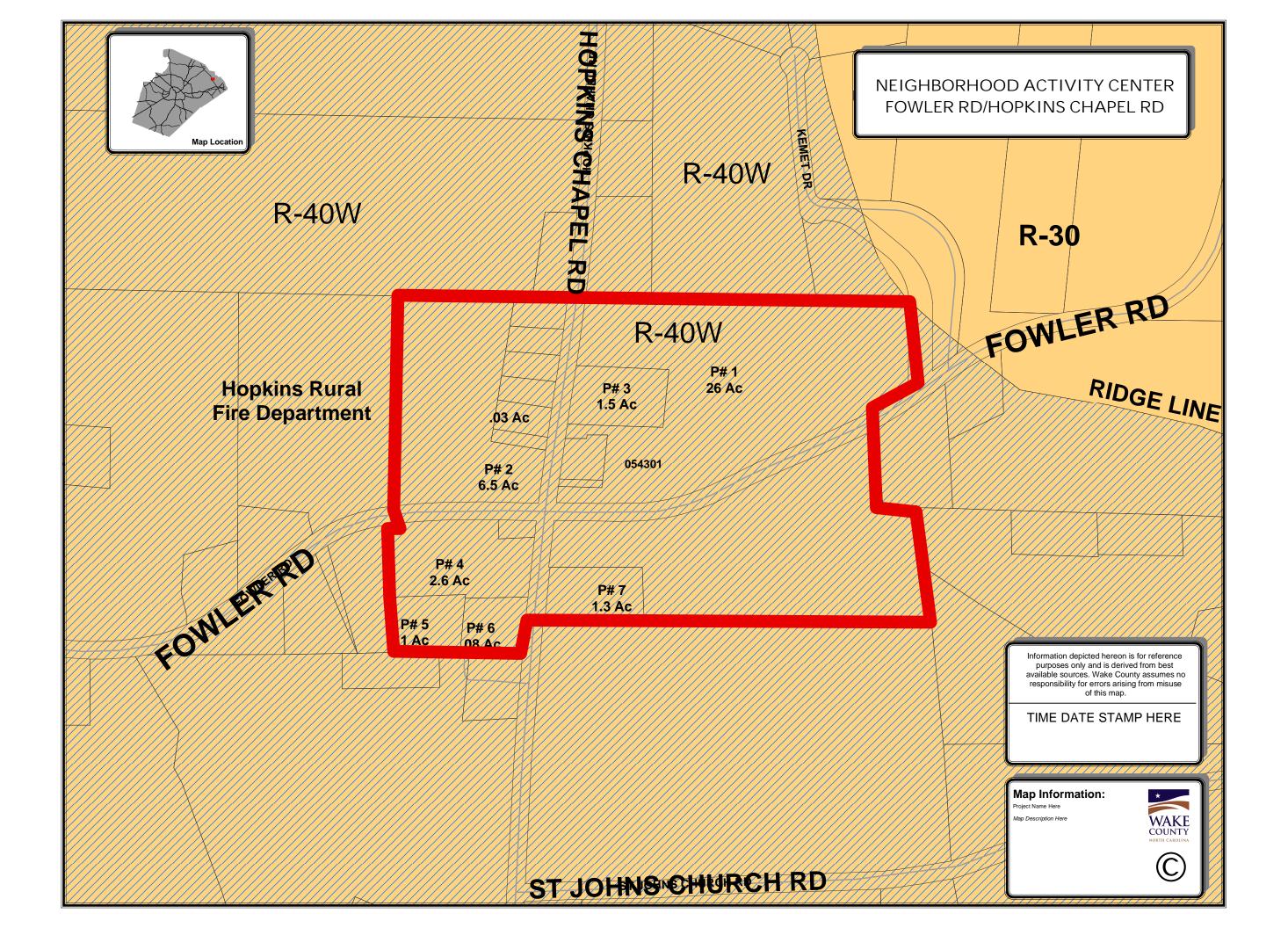
The neighborhood activity center encompasses all of the quadrants of the intersection of Fowler Road and Hopkins Chapel Road. This neighborhood activity center, which is within the Hopkins Community, is to provide for residential and small-scale non-residential land uses (mixed use development) in order to meet expected demands in this area of the county. This activity center includes some non-functional commercial buildings. The nearest activity center to this area is approximately six miles to the southwest at the intersection of NC 96 and Riley Hill Road.

A summary of the existing land use characteristics in the activity center is presented in the following table.

ACTIVITY CENTER LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS								
	Existing Development							
Land Use	Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Residential Units							
Residential	15	21	R-40W	4				
Commercial	2	6	GB					
		Vacant Lands		•				
Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Approved Project								
Undeveloped 5 2 R-40W								
Historical, Cultural or Environmental Significance: No designated significant sites in activity center.								

Recommendation:

• The proposed parcel-based center is currently generally designated as a neighborhood activity center that is identified by a circle on the Northeast Area Plan.



NC 96 Hwy / US 401 Hwy

Type: Neighborhood Activity Center

Size: 40 acres Area: Non-critical

• The neighborhood activity center is located at the northern and eastern quadrants of the intersection of NC 96 Highway and US 401 Highway. This proposed neighborhood activity center is to provide for small-scale non-urban retail land uses in order to meet expected demands in this area of the county. The activity center is includes an existing convenience store and residences.

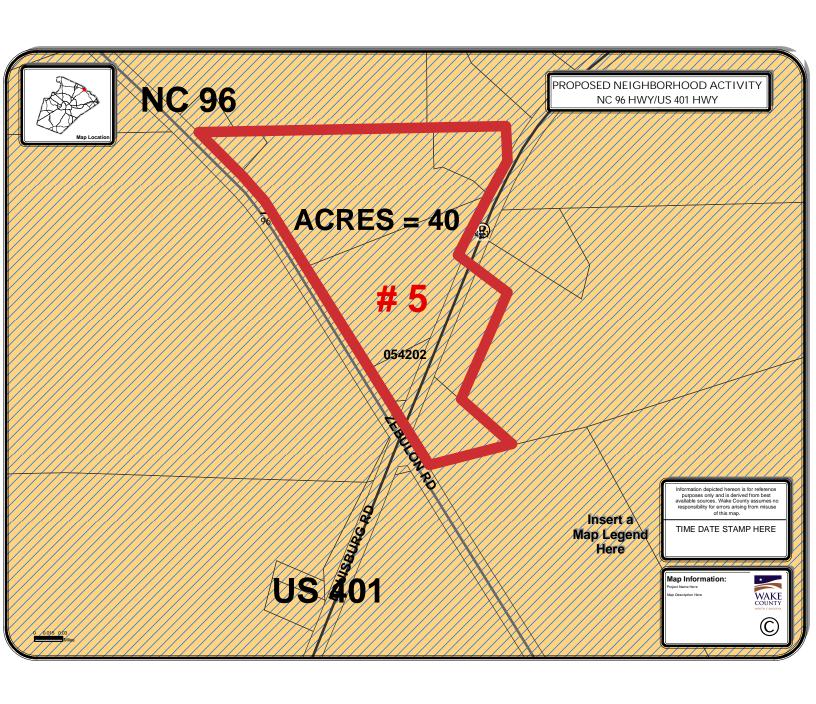
A summary of the existing land use characteristics in the activity center is presented in the following table.

ACTIVITY CENTER LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS								
	E	xisting Development						
Land Use	Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Residential Units							
Residential	4	10.7	R-40W	4				
Commercial	1	1.3	R-40W					
		Vacant Lands						
Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Approved Project								
Undeveloped	2	28	R-40W					
Historical, Cultural or Environmental Significance: No designated significant sites in activity center.								

Future development at this location should be in accordance with the recommendations of the Activity Centers Design Guidelines within the Wake County Land Use Plan. These guidelines address issues of compatibility between commercial and residential buildings, connections between residential areas and commercial areas, open space, buffers, and transitional development.

Recommendations:

• This activity center, which is located at the intersection of major thoroughfares, will serve traffic on these heavily traveled routes. This location, which includes an existing convenience store, provides the opportunity for future non-residential development.



NC 96 Hwy / NC 98 Hwy

Type: Neighborhood Activity Center

Size: 30 acres Area: Non-critical

• The neighborhood activity center is located at the intersection of NC 96 Highway and NC 98 Highway and encompasses portions of all of the quadrants of the intersection. This neighborhood activity center is to provide for residential and small-scale non-urban commercial land uses in order to meet expected demands in this area of the county.

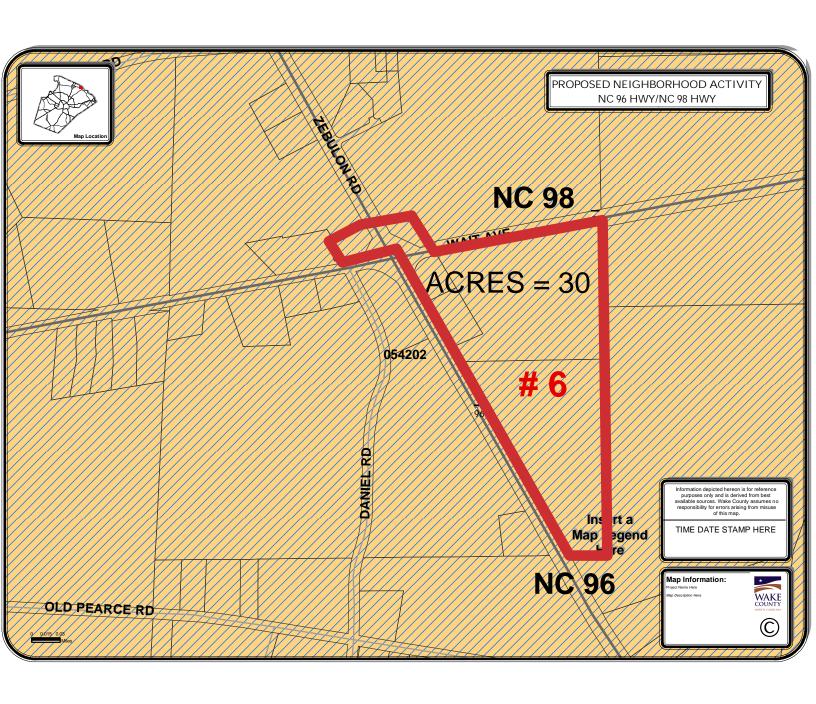
A summary of the existing land use characteristics in the activity center is presented in the following table.

ACTIVITY CENTER LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS									
	Existing Development								
Land Use	Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Residential Units								
Residential	3	2	R-40W	3					
Agricultural	3	25	R-40W	-					
Commercial	2	2	GB & R-40W						
		Vacant Lands							
Land Use	Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Approved Project								
Vacant 1 1 R-40W									
Historical, Cultural or En	Historical, Cultural or Environmental Significance: No designated significant sites in activity center.								

Future development at this location should be in accordance with the recommendations of the Activity Centers Design Guidelines within the Wake County Land Use Plan. These guidelines address issues of compatibility between non-residential and residential buildings, connections between residential areas and non-residential areas, open space, buffers, and transitional development.

Recommendations:

• Currently this area is generally designated as a neighborhood activity center that is identified by a circle on the Northeast Area Plan. The proposed parcel-based activity center provides for a mix of small-scale retail and residential land uses.



Mitchell Mill Rd / Fowler Rd

Type: Community Activity Center

Size: 99 acres

Area: Non-critical watershed/

Rolesville LRUSA

The community activity center is located at the northern, eastern, southern, and western quadrants of the intersection of Mitchell Mill Road and Fowler Road within the Fowler Crossroads Community. The activity center is to provide for mixed-use development with moderate scale non-urban commercial land uses in order to meet expected demands in this area of the county.

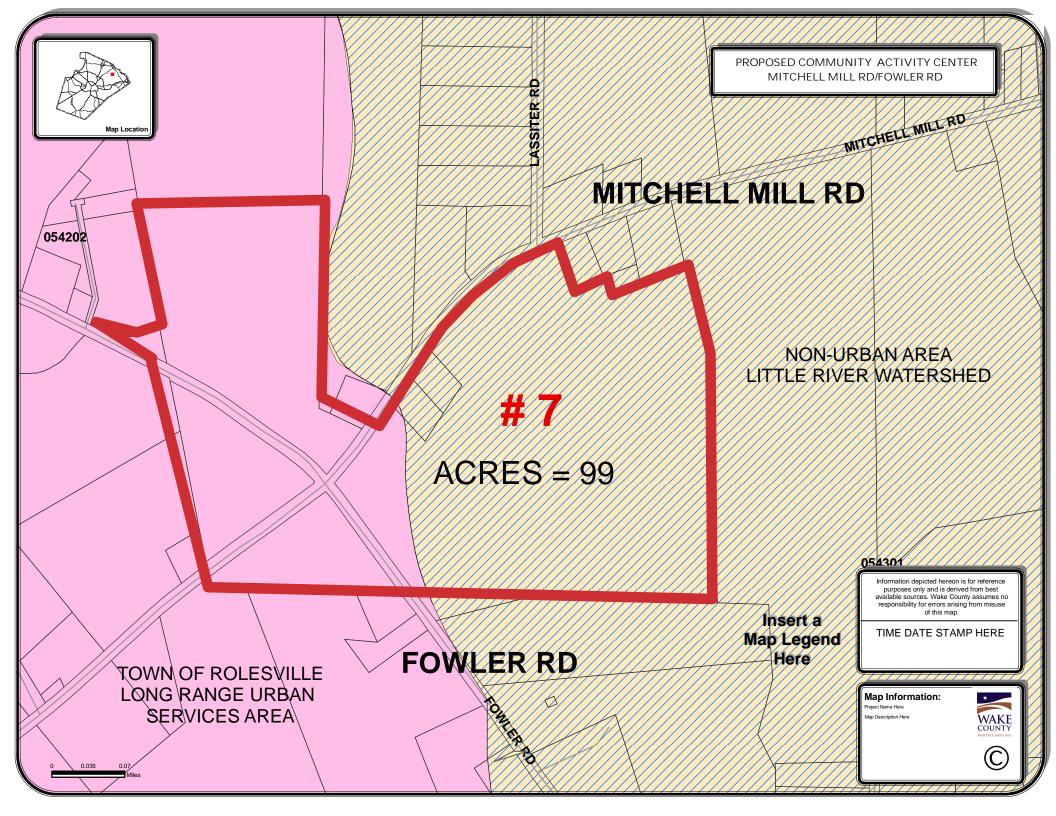
A summary of the existing land use characteristics in the activity center is presented in the following table.

ACTIVITY CENTER LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS								
	E	xisting Developmen	t					
Land Use	Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Residential Units							
Residential	2	2	R-40W	2				
Commercial	1	27	R-30					
		Vacant Lands						
Land Use	Parcels	Acreage	Zoning	Approved Project				
Undeveloped	1	70	R-40W & R-30					
Historical, Cultural or Environmental Significance: No designated significant sites in activity center.								

Future development at this location should be in accordance with the recommendations of the Activity Centers Design Guidelines within the Wake County Land Use Plan. These guidelines address issues of compatibility between commercial and residential buildings, connections between residential areas and commercial areas, open space, buffers, and transitional development.

Recommendations:

• The northern quadrant of this intersection, which is located within Rolesville's Long Range Urban Services Area, is occupied by a convenience store. The Community Activity Center is intended to accommodate medium-scale mixed land uses that serve the surrounding neighborhoods. A portion of the activity center lies within the non-critical area of the watershed, which is to be limited to residential and institutional uses. The portion of the activity center, which lies within Rolesville's USA, is intended to accommodate more intense land uses that are potentially served by public utilities in the future.



Burlington Mills Rd/Forestville Rd Neighborhood Activity Center

(NEALUP)

Type: Neighborhood Activity Center

Size: 30 acres

Background:

This activity center will provide for mixed-use development including small-scale commercial land uses in order to meet expected demands in this area.

The parcel-based activity center is located on the southwestern quadrant of the intersection of Burlington Mills Road and Forestville Road within the Long Range Urban Services Area of the Town of Wake Forest. Wake Forest's Community Plan designates this area for neighborhood services, which allows for a small shopping center including uses such as convenience stores and flex space.

A summary of the existing land use characteristics in the activity center is presented in the following table.

ACTIVITY CENTER LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS

Existing Development							
Land Use Parcels Acreage Zoning Res Units							
Residential	7	30	R-30	2			
Historical, Cultural or Environmental Significance: No designated significant sites in activity center.							

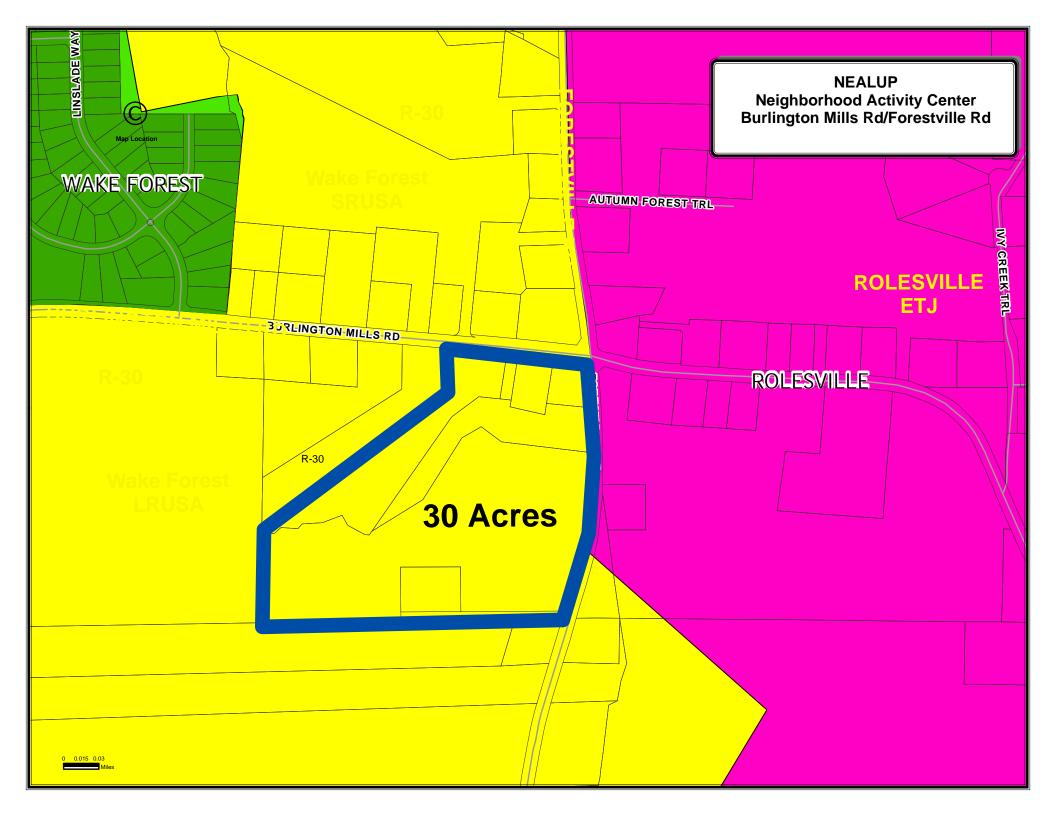
Future development at this location should be in accordance with the recommendations of the Activity Centers Design Guidelines within the Wake County Land Use Plan. These guidelines address issues of compatibility between commercial and residential buildings, connections between residential areas and commercial areas, open space, buffers, and transitional development.

THOROUGHFARES

(Wake County Transportation Plan)

	Pavement width Current/Planned	Right-of-way Current/Planned	Lanes	Road Classification	Level of Service, (NCDOT)
Birlington Mills Road	24 ft/36 ft	60 ft / 80 ft	2	Major	Unavailable
Forestville Road	20 ft / 70 ft	60 ft / 120 ft	4	Major	D*

^{*} Level of Service (LOS) pertains to operating conditions of facility in terms of traffic performance measures, on a scale of A-F. LOS = C: More congestion than B, with some impingement of maneuverability of traffic. Roads remain safely below but efficiently close to capacity. LOS D: LOS of a busy shopping corridor in the middle of a weekday or a functional urban highway during commuting hours. Speeds are somewhat reduced.



3. Other Considerations

In September 2000, several Riley Hill residents suggested their community should have a fire station and the option of municipal water and sewer services. Both suggestions seem suited for future study.

Fire Station

The attached Land Use Classifications Map partly addresses this suggestion: The legend (please see "Community Center") suggests there is opportunity to plan a fire station or other public facility at or near Riley Hill Family Life Center. There may also be other places suited for a station.

It's beyond this plan's scope to propose a fire station. The County Public Safety Department works with local Fire Departments and municipalities to plan station locations. We've shared this suggestion with that Department. This plan anticipates that when the County, and Fire Departments, next plan station location(s) in this general area, they'll evaluate the suggestion for a station in Riley Hill.

Option of Municipal Water and Sewer
The County does not have a water or sewer system. So this suggestion is for town (not County) facilities and services.

By its nature, the suggestion poses an exception to County policy: Generally, County policy is water supply watersheds should develop at low density. The reason is low density development will have fewer roads, roof tops, parking lots, and other impervious surfaces to pollute run-off as it flows to the drinking supply.

The suggestion for town water and sewer implies an exception to low-density development. This is because it's so expensive for towns to extend water and sewer, the services typically can't be supported by low-density development. Typically, a dense customer base (higher density) is needed to make water and sewer extensions affordable.

As a precaution against higher density (and more pollution) the County anticipates towns will not extend water and sewer services to properties in water supply watersheds. (Unless there is a significant health or environmental problem.)

In discussing this issue, some residents suggested that town water and sewer service won't necessarily lead to higher density (and more pollution). They suggested town water and sewer could be supplied and low density zoning stay in place. To them, the option of town water and sewer seemed a better long-term solution for the community than individual wells and septic tanks.

Residents didn't seem interested in annexation, but would like the option of town water and sewer at the best price. Their suggestion is "grant funds" (Federal, State, and/or County) could be used to off-set a town's higher cost of extending water and sewer services to low density development.

The above suggestion is explained (according to staff's understanding) so towns and County may be aware of it. If it's decided to explore extending town water and sewer services to properties in this water supply watershed, then people with a critical interest in the suggestion should be involved: The town(s) that would be asked to provide water\sewer, Riley Hill and other residents, State watershed regulators and water quality experts, agencies that may dispense grant funds, the County, and more. The suggestion could be studied and recommendations offered to the town(s) and County.

4. Appendix

a. How the Plan Was Developed

[This section has two parts: Citizen Participation and Developing The Map. Actually, they were part of the same process. But they seem easier to understand if explained separately.]

i. Citizen Participation

Had six main steps:

(1) Public Forum

In December 1999, Staff used newspaper articles, radio broadcasts, flyers, the WEB, and word of mouth to publicize a forum at Riley Hill Family Life Center. People could drop in anytime between 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. on a Saturday to make suggestions for the plan. Sixty-nine people attended. Later 27 sent in individual or group suggestions.

(2) Study-Area Resident/Landowner Group Soon after the forum, staff talked with everyone who submitted a suggestion to get a clear understanding. Then staff marked all suggestions including staff's on a map and began working with "suggesters" to consolidate suggestions and make refinements. This process of mapping suggestions then working with suggesters (and others) on refinements continued through four successive drafts of the map.

These residents/landowners varied in age, gender, race, occupation, amount of land owned, and where they live within the study area.

(3) Non-Resident/Landowner Group While working with residents, staff also worked with "non-residents" - folks from at least 20 organizations. They too were asked to review draft plans and offer opinions during various stages of plan development.

- Wake County Planning Board
- Towns expected to grow into the study area (Wake Forest and Rolesville.)
- Franklin County Planning Department
- Riley Hill Family Life Center Board of Directors
- Home Builders Association
- Triangle Land Conservancy (in conjunction with the Sierra Club and Audubon Society)
- Wake County Farm Bureau
- Wake County Farmers and Landowners Association
- State Department of Transportation
- Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Wake County Public Schools
- Triangle J Council of Governments
- Wake County Open Space Task Force
- Wake County Parks and Recreation Department
- League of Women Voters
- State Division of Water Quality
- Some folks were also members of the Wake County 1998 Water/Sewer Task Force, the Wake County 1996 Land Use Task Force, and the Wake County 1996 Land Use Advisory Group.

(4) Open House

With help from those mentioned above, a draft plan was developed with enough substance to hold another community meeting: an "open house", publicized through newspaper articles, radio, the WEB, and word of mouth. In September 2000, copies of the Draft Four plan were hung at a local building (the Riley Hill Family Life Center) and people walked through, asking questions and making suggestions. About 48 people attended from 10:00 A.M till 2:00 P.M. on a Saturday. Staff handed out about 70 plans, asking people to take them home, share with neighbors and get back in touch within two weeks with any suggestions.

(5) Planning Board's Hearing

After the open house, Staff adjusted the Draft Four Plan into Draft Five. Then submitted it to the Planning Board for its public hearing and recommendation.

(6) Board of Commissioner Hearing The last step: The Board of Commissioners hears from anyone still wishing to comment then considers the plan.

Those were six main steps in citizen participation.

ii. Developing the Map

Land uses were grouped into categories. Then the categories were arranged and rearranged on the map until the plan was complete.

The main categories are listed in the map's legend: park or recreation facility, community center, neighborhood activity center, etc.

Below are brief comments on the locations of main categories.

Park or Recreation Facility:

To plan locations, Staff overlaid citizen and staff suggestions on existing park and recreation plans. Then, Staff made adjustments by conferring with County parks planners, municipal planning departments, residents, and others. Adjustments continued through multiple drafts.

In general, folks suggested parks at places with rare traits - water bodies, caves, rare rocks/plants, etc. or near schools. Residents suggested nine parks, Rolesville's and Wake Forest's adopted plans recommended four, and County Staff suggested four.

Locations are general not parcel specific.

Community Center:

This applies to an existing community center: the Riley Hill Family Life Center.
Residents suggested the County put a park, library, daycare or other public facility next to or at the Center, with community input on specifics. This suggestion is reflected on the map and map legend.

Neighborhood Activity Center:

These are usually planned at main intersections, since activity centers' cores are usually nonresidential uses.

First, staff did a field survey, mapping nonresidential uses - to see where activity centers seem to already exist or have been started.

Then staff overlaid suggestions for new activity centers. These came from citizens, staff, and adopted town and county plans.

Staff reviewed suggestions for new activity centers in relation to the area's main features: historic or environmentally significant sites, existing centers, current zoning, road classifications, water and sewer plans, etc. In this review, staff also visited sites of suggested centers.

Where a suggested center seemed out of character with an area, too close to another center, or otherwise raised an issue, staff worked with citizens on making adjustments.

The result was activity centers suggested at 12 places: 8 places already have nonresidential uses there; 4 don't, but residents suggested them as good places for future businesses or other non-residential use(s). One place, the Riley Hill Baptist Church area, was suggested for mixed use that may include church expansion, home for the aged, classrooms, and the like.

Notes: This plan assumes an activity center's core generally will be 25 or fewer acres. (Consistent with the size in the adopted Southeast Wake Area Land Use Plan). Also, it assumes there may be some legally existing nonresidential uses (church, school, home occupation, small business, etc.) not at one of the twelve suggested activity centers. Nothing in this plan suggests those legally existing uses can't remain - or expand, subject to necessary permits.

Residential Areas:

The study area can be divided into two main parts:

(1) Little River Water Supply Watershed Area Rain falling on this area will drain to the Little River and the future Little River Reservoir - drinking supplies. The County's standard practice is to plan these areas at low density to minimize pollution in run-off.

In keeping with that, this area is shown at low density: the Critical Area at up to 1dwelling per 2 acres; the Non-critical at up to 1 dwelling per acre.

(2) Wake Forest and Rolesville Urban Service

Areas

Basically this is unincorporated area where towns are expected to ultimately grow. Since areas are expected to ultimately be in town jurisdictions, they are expected to ultimately have some town-like densities.

Staff viewed the towns' plans and interviewed their planners as to average densities in the towns and densities foreseen for areas where they expect towns to grow. Based on that, the area expected to be ultimately in Wake Forest's jurisdiction is shown as ultimately having an average of 3 dwellings per acre.

The area expected to be in Rolesville is shown as ultimately up to 2 dwellings per acre.

b. Smart Growth Principles

The Triangle Smart Growth Coalition drafted these principles.

This plan offers them as a guide for public or private developments in the study area. So far, the Coalition has not agreed on strategies or implementation devices for the principles.

Walkable Communities

Design new and preserve existing neighborhoods and communities to foster walkability, safety and a sense of place.

- Establish or retrofit street networks to emphasize lower auto speeds and encourage bicycling and walking.
- Communities and neighborhoods, both urban and rural, should have public spaces, interconnected streets and homes, shops and workplaces integrated with one another to create or preserve their existing character and identity.

Mixed-Use Activity Centers

Promote different, mixed-use centers of various scales for each city, town and crossroads in the Triangle to serve as centers of civic, social, educational, cultural and economic life, and as transportation hubs.

- Revitalize the heart of every city, town, and rural crossroads.
- Activity centers throughout the region should have a mix of uses and multimodal transportation connections.

Affordable Living

Ensure the costs associated with living in the region are affordable for all.

- Affordable housing (purchased or rented), transportation, goods, entertainment, etc., should be available to everyone, including those of limited means.
- Housing choices of different costs should be integrated within communities.
- Access to public transportation, jobs, goods and services should be promoted and protected as critical aspects of affordable living.

Smart Pattern of Development

Clearly define land areas that are appropriate for development, as well as environmentally sensitive, historic, natural or recreational land areas that need protection. Pursue policies and strategies that are both equitable and consistent with these identifications.

- Intensify development in areas appropriate for development and appropriately limit it in other areas in order to realize efficiencies from our infrastructure and service investments, and to protect valued resources.
- In areas identified as appropriate for development, communities should plan and act to assure that infrastructure and public facilities keep pace with development.
- Development in rural areas should strive to preserve the rural character of those areas.
- Use technologies that are environmentally sound and match the scale of development.

Integrated Transportation

Create a seamless, regional, multimodal transportation system which interlinks new and existing residential, employment, commercial and recreational areas.

- Promote development patterns and designs, and street systems that take advantage of and support regional and neighborhood transit systems.
- Provide more transportation choices with walking, biking, bus and rail transit

- integrated with automobiles to meet growing transportation needs.
- Promote and support existing urban areas becoming transit-accessible centers of housing, jobs, shopping, culture and entertainment.
- Identify and encourage other appropriate areas for locating high intensity development and transit lines.

Green Space

Preserve more natural areas and open space, and provide for their local and regional interconnection.

- Create a network of natural areas and open spaces that are interconnected with greenways and that allow for expanded recreational opportunities and safe wildlife migration.
- Land with irreplaceable ecological values should be given a high priority in developing a green space network.

Shared Benefits

Share the region's resources to improve the quality of life for all Triangle citizens.

- Invest first in our region's people, existing communities, and local businesses in order to sustain and expand employment opportunities.
- Provide incentives for public and private investments in our established residential, commercial and industrial areas.
- Do not abandon investments in existing neighborhoods, and particularly in economically distressed areas, as we invest in future neighborhoods.

Enhanced Civic Realm

The civic realm should be viewed as a legacy to future generations.

- Site new public facilities as integral parts of walkable communities and urban centers, and design them to be architecturally compatible with their environs and sufficiently distinctive to be sources of community pride.
- Rehabilitate and maintain in good condition existing schools, libraries, cultural buildings and entertainment facilities, especially when they have architectural or historic distinction or have become community landmarks.

 Provide regional and local transit service directly to major facilities.

c. Description of Parks

For each park's location, please see its number as circled on the map.

Notes: This plan assumes all County parklands will be voluntary sales (or donations) to the County. (That was citizen input in the adopted Phase One Plan). It also assumes that after the County appropriates funds, it will work with residents to prioritize park funding and refine details on size, location, and facilities. Locations are general, not parcel-specific.

- (1) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. The proposal for a park came from area residents.
- (2) Wake Forest planned, in the town's 1996 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update. School park with one playground and one multiuse court.
- (3) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. The park should include the caves known as "Wildcat Hollow". The proposal for a park, north of NC 98, came from area residents.
- (4) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. The park should be along one of the creeks and/or ponds in the area.
- (5) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. It should be an "easy walk" from the park to commercial or office and institutional uses planned at N.C. 96 and U.S. 401. The County should also explore with property owners the possibility of a greenway along the Little River, linking this park with the proposed reservoir and with Moores Pond in Franklin County. The

proposal for a park came from area residents.

- (6) Rolesville planned, in the town's 1999 Community Plan. Acreage, exact location, and type of facilities are unspecified.
- (7) Rolesville planned in the town's 1999 Community Plan. Acreage, exact location, and type of facilities are unspecified.
- (8a) Rolesville planned in the town's 1999 Community Plan. Acreage, exact location, and type of facilities are unspecified.

On January 10, 2000, eleven members of the Upchurch Lane Gated Community Association sent a letter to Rolesville, protesting the location of this planned park and of the town planned Harris Creek Greenway. A representative of the Association has suggested alternative locations to Rolesville. (See Park 8b as a suggested alternative.) As of this writing the matter is unresolved.

- (8b) Suggested alternative to Park 8a: please see above paragraph.
- (9) Existing private lake and recreation facilities: "Fantasy Lake."
- (10) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents.
- (11) Mitchell's Millpond Natural Area State Park. Contains circa 1800 granite dam and millpond. Because of the dam and rare animals, plants, and rocks, this park has unique characteristics that differentiate it from other parkland.
- (12) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. The park should include the Little River, about five miles south, which is home to rare mollusks and fish.

- (13) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. The park should be along Buffaloe Creek, probably at Perry Pond. The proposal for a park came from area residents.
- (14) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. One possibility is to site the park next to the playground or similar area at or near Riley Hill Family Life Center. The proposal for a park came from area residents.
- (15) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. The proposal for a park came, independently, from area residents and County Staff.
- (16) Regional Park, usually a minimum of 100 acres. The park may have some picnic shelters, open play fields, and a special use facility such as boat rental facility or environmental education center. Adjacent to this park may be an athletic complex with ball fields and associated facilities. The proposal for a park came, independently, from area residents and County Staff.
- (17) The crossroads has five early to midtwentieth century store buildings and storage
 structures, which are no longer open for
 business but are historically significant. There is
 opportunity for someone to reopen commercial
 uses, so the structures will be maintained.
 There is also opportunity for a County park near
 (or even including some of) the historic
 structures and near the existing Hopkins Fire
 Station. The park could range from a
 neighborhood park of a few acres to a district
 park of about 50 acres. Details on size,
 facilities, and location should be specified in a
 future study involving residents.
- (18) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents.

The proposal for a park came from area residents.

- (19) May range from a neighborhood park of a few acres to a district park of about 50 acres. Details on size, facilities, and location should be specified in a future study involving residents. The proposal for a park came, independently, from area residents and County Staff.
- (20) Existing private park (Little River Park) with some Town of Zebulon funds used for maintenance.

d. Description of Historic Sites

<u>Historic Sites</u> (For site's location, please see its number as indicated by purple stars on the map.)

Descriptions are summarized from The Historic Architecture of Wake County, North Carolina, by Kelly A. Lally. Note that the map and list below pertain to only those sites eligible for the National Register. This plan is not meant to list every site or structure that may have historical significance.

- (1) Dempsey Powell House. Federal-style house, said to have been built in several stages beginning in the late 1700s. Nineteenth century outbuildings include a smokehouse, wellhouse, and double-crib barn.
- (2) Jeffreys-Ellington House. Built in 1858 on a corner of a 4,000 acre estate straddling the Wake-Franklin County line. Outbuildings include tobacco-curing barns, packhouses, a strip room, and carriage house.
- (3) Hartsfield-Price-Perry Farm. The house was built in 1835. One of the outbuildings is a midnineteenth century office of Dr. Wesley Hartsfield. The office is one of only a few rural professional offices still standing in the County. The property featured a circa 1800 granite dam and mill; purchased by the Mitchell Family in 1883 the site became "Mitchell's Mill". Today the dam and millpond are part of Mitchell's Mill Natural Area State Park.
- (4) Hartsfield-Mitchell Mill Dam. Circa 1800 granite dam and millpond. In decades following the Civil War, a community grew up around the

dam and gristmill. It supported a post office, saw mill, cotton gin, blacksmith shop, and several stores. Today the dam and millpond remain on the 23-acre mill-tract, which is now Mitchell's Millpond Natural Area State Park.

- (5) Green-Hartsfield House. Example of increasingly rare vernacular Georgian/Federal farmhouse built in the first decade of the 1800s.
- (6) Stickland-Dunn Broughton Farm. Good example of a moderately sized Wake County farm complex. The house is believed to have been built in 1818, with an enlargement in 1907. Surrounding the house are a detached kitchen, smokehouse, and several barns and sheds.
- (7) E.C. Fowler Sr. House. Vernacular Greek Revival-style house believed built in 1872. A smokehouse is behind the house.
- (8) Walter A. Perry Complex. Early 1900s complex including house built around 1919, a full complement of farm buildings, and a 1920s or 1930s gable-front country store.
- (9) Hopkins Crossroads. Known in the late 1800s as Young's Crossroads, based on the general store there. Later a small village formed around the store, with businesses, and some churches. The community retains five early to mid-twentieth century store buildings and storage structures.
- (10) Riley Hill Elementary School (now Riley Hill Family Life Center). Built around 1927, with the help of a grant from the Julius Rosenwald fund, this brick building served the children of Riley Hill. Members of Riley Hill community have acquired the property for use as a neighborhood center.

- (11) Charles and Lucy Marriott House. Well-detailed Craftsman-style house built in the mid 1920s. Behind the house are a barn and two pyramidal outbuildings, one of which likely served as a smoke house.
- (12) Perry Farm. Dates from the late 1700s; the house was acquired by John and Nancy Perry in 1835. Outbuildings include a smokehouse and a double-crib log barn. Especially significant because it has been owned since 1914 by a prominent Wake County African-American Family, Guyon and Eliza Perry Family, whose progenitors were slaves on the property prior to emancipation.
- (13) John and Nancy Perry House. One of only a handful of substantial early 1800s dwellings still in rural Wake County. Nearby are a smokehouse, covered well, and several barns and farm buildings.
- (14) Aspen Grove. Owned since the later 1700s by generations of the Marriott and Proctor Families. Buildings reflect architecture from about 1800 through early 1900s. Surrounding the house are several farm buildings, some dating before the Civil War.

e. Description of Natural Heritage Sites

<u>Natural Heritage Sites</u> (For a site's location, please see its number as indicated by tan stars on the map.)

Natural Resources Inventory, Northeast Wake County Study Area

#	Scientific Name	Common Name	Status Rank - NC	Status Rank - US	Description
1	(Natural Area)	Mesic Mixed Hardwood			Common; moist, moderate to steep slopes.
2	(Natural Area)	Wildcat Hollow			Contains small caves in openings of weathered granite boulders; such caves are extremely rare in eastern NC. Site size about 35 acres. Regional significance.
3	Necturus lewisi	Neuse River Waterdog	SC, S3		Salamander endemic to Neuse and Tar River drainages. Rusty brown with black spots or splotches. Streams with severe pollution problems yield no specimens.
4&5	(Natural Area)	Southwest Rolesville Granitic Flatrock			8-10 granitic flatrocks in this area (some up to one acre apiece in size), make it one of the largest clusters of outcrops in the eastern Piedmont. Large colony of rare shrub nestronia present. Site size about 115 acres. Regional significance.
6	(Natural Area)	Harris Creek Granitic			Site size about 10 acres. A fairly large (over 1 acre) granitic flatrock. Local significance.
7	(Natural Area)	Little River Aquatic Habitat			Presence of many rare mollusks, Least brook lamprey (fish noted at only five sites in NC) and Neuse River waterdog (salamander endemic to the Neuse and Tar River drainages). Site size about five river miles. Regional significance.
8*	(Natural Area)	Mitchell's Millpond			Largest extent of granitic flatrocks in NC. Virtually all of the typical flatrock flora of the eastern Piedmont is present, including the rare Small's portulaca, Piedmont quillwort, nestronia, and Oersted's campylopus. Rare animal, the Neuse River waterdog also present, Site about 75 acres. State significance.
			SC, S3		

*	Necturus lewisi	Neuse River Waterdog			Salamander endemic to
	inecturus iewisi	Neuse River Waterdog			Neuse and Tar River drainages. Rusty brown with black spots or splotches. Streams with severe pollution problems yield no specimens.
*	Fusconaia masoni	Atlantic Pigtoe	T (PE)	FSC	Smooth shelled mussel. Couldn't find additional info.
*	Lasmigona subviridis	Green Floater	E, S1	FSC	Mussel that may grow to more than 60 mm long.
*	Isoetes piedmontana	Piedmont Quillwort	T, S1		Endemic to granitic flatrocks and relatively rare throughout its range. Long, thin, grass- like leaves grow from a corm.
*	Portulaca smallii	Small's Portulaca	T, S2		Annual succulent herb with pink petals. Endemic to granitic flatrocks and relatively rare throughout its range.
*	Campylopus oerstedianus	Oersted's Campylopus	C, S1	FSC	Mossy flowering perennial that grows at granitic flatrock sites.
*	Desmodium ochroleucum	Creamy Tick-trefoil	C, S1		Small perennial shrub with white flowers. Grows in clearings or open woods.
*	Cyperus granitophilus	Granite Flatsedge	SR, S1		Rare moss that grows at granitic flatrock sites.
9	(Natural Area)	Flowers Mill Granitic Flatrock			Several acres of flatrocks with little disturbance. County significance.
10	(Natural Area)	Little River Aquatic Habitat			Presence of many rare mollusks, Least brook lamprey (fish noted at only five sites in NC) and Neuse River waterdog (salamander endemic to the Neuse and Tar River drainages). Site size about five river miles. Regional significance.
11	Alasmidonta heterodon	Dwarf wedge mussel	E, S1	E	Mussel's shell rarely exceeds 1.5 inches in length. It's also the only N. American freshwater mussel that has two lateral teeth on the right

					valve, but only one on the left. Four of the 12 total known sites for the mussel are in NC.
12	Lasmigona	Green Floater	E, S1	FSC	Mussel that may grow to more
	subviridis				than 60 mm long.
			SR, S1		
13	Cyperus granitophilus	Granite Flatsedge			Rare moss that grows at granitic flatrock sites.
	(Natural Area)	The Rocks			Large extent of granitic
14					flatrocks; good granitic flora, including large population of
17					Small's portulaca. Site size 22
					acres. Regional significance.

Codes:

SC Special Concern. Species which requires monitoring

C Candidate. Species that are rare, with 1-20 pops in the state.

SR Significantly rare.

S1 Critically imperiled in NC b/c of extreme rarity or some other factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation (local extinction) from the state.

S2 Imperiled in NC b/c of rarity or another factor making it vulnerable to extirpation.

S3 Rare or uncommon in NC.

T Threatened.

E Endangered.

FSC Federal species of concern.

f. Previously adopted Water and Sewer Plans, Years 1998 through 2030

Note: The County is not a utility owner or provider. So all facilities shown on the West Wake County Water Facilities map and West Wake County Wastewater Facilities map (see Section X) are municipal, not County, facilities.

5. Northeast Area Land Use Classifications Map. see "Land Use Plan Maps".