

Buncombe County Agenda Item Information Sheet

AGENDA ITEM:

2013 Buncombe County Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update

MEETING DATE:

September 17, 2013

REQUESTED BY:

County Planning Department

Background information

Buncombe County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan was initially issued in 1998, and subsequently adopted by the Board of Commissioners in 1999. The Land Use Plan is an important tool which can be used to both better understand and manage current and future growth. During the Land Use Planning process, studies were made of existing growth patterns, infrastructure, and uses, and areas within the County were catalogued with existing and potential development uses and factors in mind. In 2006, the Land Use Plan was updated to reflect the dramatic changes which have occurred within the County over the past decade. The 2006 update set forth specific land use recommendations regarding rapidly urbanizing areas, environmentally sensitive portions of the County, and a number of strategies for future planning. One of these recommendations was the adoption of a County-wide Zoning Ordinance, which was subsequently enacted in December 2009. The Land Use Plan is a living document, and is subject to change over the years as both Buncombe County and North Carolina adapt to constant changes in the population, environment, infrastructure, and economy.

The Planning Board discussed updating the Comprehensive Land Use Plan at a number of regular meetings in 2013. At the June 3, 2013 Planning Board meeting, the board unanimously recommended that the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners adopt the 2013 Plan Update in order to facilitate ongoing planning efforts to define and mold our constantly changing community to reflect our diverse heritage and values and engender a high quality of life for all our citizens.

Pros

The Comprehensive Land Use Plan should be regularly updated to reflect changes in our community as well as changes in regional and national trends.

Cons

None

Funds required

No funds are required

Alternatives

N/A

Action recommended:

The Planning Board has reviewed the draft Plan Update in depth and has recommended the adoption of this Plan Update.