

Buncombe County Agenda Item Information Sheet

AGENDA ITEM:

Text amendments to Chapter 58, Article III, Farmland Preservation Program

MEETING DATE:

November 1, 2016

REQUESTED BY:

Soil & Water Conservation District and Planning Department

Background information

Soil & Water Conservation District initiated text amendments to Article III of Chapter 58 of the Buncombe County Code of Ordinances to provide clarification on Farmland Preservation Program procedures and to be consistent with North Carolina General Statutes. The Agricultural Advisory Board recommended approval of the text amendments on October 18, 2016 by a vote of 6 to 0.

Pros

Clarification of procedures and policies in the Farmland Preservation Ordinance will make Buncombe County eligible for USDA Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) funding to acquire conservation easements.

Cons

None.

Funds required

No funds are required

Alternatives

If the Board of Commissioners denies the request, portions of the above listed chapter will not be consistent with state statutes.

Action recommended:

Staff has recommended approval of the text amendments.

The Agricultural Advisory Board recommended approval of the amendments at their October 18, 2016 meeting by a vote of 6 to 0.