

## Attachment 4, 2012 Comprehensive Plan Implementation Highlights

### **City Budget and Management Services**

1. The City Budget department continues to work closely with the Planning Department to ensure capital improvements are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and keep pace with growth. Particular focus has been dedicated toward developing an asset management system and finding resources for implementation of the Durham Central Gateways Plan, adopted by City Council in 2008, through Goal Five of the City's Strategic Plan.
2. The City and County Budget departments began discussions on joint CIP project development in 2012. Further discussions will take place in 2013 to discuss the coordination of CIP projects.
3. The City Budget department worked on revisions to the scoring system to allow a more robust matrix in 2012.

### **City Department of Transportation**

1. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has developed the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). It is scheduled for adoption in April 2013. [Note: Federal guidelines have redefined the Long Range Transportation Plan as a Metropolitan Transportation Plan.]
2. MTP projects were prioritized and funding was sought through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) prioritization process, urban loop prioritization process, Mobility Fund prioritization process, and Surface Transportation Program Direct Allocation (STP-DA) and Congestion Management Air Quality (CMAQ) project selection processes.
3. "Bus on Shoulder" operations began in 2012. The Triangle Expressway opened in 2012. Hillandale Road and S. Miami Blvd. road widenings were completed in 2012.
4. The City is implementing complete street design standards through UDO design element requirements for new development and through the project planning, funding and design processes for new City and State Department of Transportation (NCDOT) road construction projects. Examples include the Hillandale Road, Alston Ave, East End Connector, and Carver Street Extension construction projects. Complete Street elements are also being included in City and NCDOT maintenance projects by evaluating each resurfacing project for bike lane pavement markings (i.e., "road diets") where feasible in addition to pedestrian and Americans with Disabilities (ADA) provisions. The City continues to upgrade existing traffic signals to include pedestrian signals and ADA ramps. Additionally, Triangle Transit (TTA) and the Durham Area Transit Authority (DATA) continue to identify and improve bus stops for improved accessibility and adding shelters where service volumes warrant. Coordination efforts with NCDOT continue into 2013 with NCDOT's "Complete Streets Planning and Design Guidelines" policy development and training initiatives.
5. Planning phases of a county-wide Collector Street Plan are currently underway, and are expected to be adopted in 2013.
6. Light Rail project implementation progressed in 2012 with the selection of a Locally Preferred Alternative and submission of a FTA New Starts application. In November 2012, the Durham Board of County Commissioners requested that Triangle Transit levy a ½ cent local sales tax for new and improved transit, including light rail service.
7. The City DOT partnered with NCDOT and Triangle Transit to develop a plan for improving access to transit and better transit features (shelters, sidewalks, etc) in three corridors (Holloway, Fayetteville, and Roxboro).
8. City DOT continues to review resurfacing maintenance schedules to identify and evaluate resurfacing projects for "road diets". Where excess-capacity travel lanes or pavement width exist, the newly resurfaced street is striped to designate bike lanes. There are now about 30 miles of bike lanes in Durham.
9. To improve public education about the benefits of walking and biking, City DOT, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO), Durham Police and the Durham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) participated in the "Watch for Me NC" campaign coordinated by a

group of partners including NCDOT, the University of North Carolina Highway Research Center, the Institute for Transportation Research and Education at North Carolina State University and others. In order to support alternative transportation and fuels, in 2012 the County installed 12 public electric vehicle charging stations at five locations and the City has installed two public and two private stations. The City has purchased four all-electric vehicles and the County has purchased two all-electric vehicles. The Sustainability Office developed an Electric Vehicle and Charging Station plan, which guides the implementation and evaluation of integrating electric cars and charging stations into operations.

#### **City-County Sustainability Office**

- 1) In order to support alternative transportation and fuels, in 2012 the County installed 12 public electric vehicle charging stations at five locations and the City has installed two public and two private stations. The City has purchased four all-electric vehicles and the County has purchased two all-electric vehicles. The Sustainability Office developed an Electric Vehicle and Charging Station plan, which guides the implementation and evaluation of integrating electric cars and charging stations into operations.
- 2) To promote cost-effective energy conservation in public buildings the County has:
  - a) Implemented energy and water saving upgrades at seven facilities. An estimated annual saving of 3.3 million kWh of electricity, 139,000 therms of natural gas and 5,000 kgals of water, and removal of 2400 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions is expected as a result of these projects. Money saved on energy bills is expected to cover the cost of the project over a 15 year period.
  - b) Completed energy saving upgrades to the County Administration building using ARRA funds including automating control of building temperature, replacing the chiller, and retrofitting the lighting. The upgrades have resulted in 22 percent less energy consumption.
  - c) County General Services continues to replace light bulbs in county facilities with bulbs that are 20 percent more efficient.

#### **City Public Works Department**

- 1) The City Stormwater division has advanced public educational programs by:
  - a) Preparing and distributing three *Waterways* newsletters, plus numerous briefs in City Manager's weekly reports.
  - b) Maintaining a pollution reporting hotline, promoting the hotline at public events, in articles and on giveaways.
  - c) Conducting three "Project WET" workshops to train educators; giving 11 presentations to civic organizations, business and neighborhood groups, reaching an audience of 222; and conducting outreach at nine community events, reaching 639 people.
  - d) Conducting four seminars for the development community to discuss ongoing development issues in the City.
  - e) Maintaining direct contact and communication with homeowners associations (HOAs), and general citizenry on a routine basis to help improve understanding of various City policies, protocols, and requirements regarding BMP maintenance.

#### **Durham Police Department**

- 1) The Durham Police Department achieved a response time of 6.0 minutes for FY 2011-2012, which met the goal of 6.5 minutes or less for Priority 1 calls.
- 2) In order to reduce criminal activity through engaging and partnering with community agencies, the Durham Police Department
  - a) Meets regularly with Durham Business Against Crime (DBAC) to discuss best practices to reduce crime;
  - b) Instituted the Trail Watch program. The Police purchased three Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) to enhance patrol operations within the City-center as well as on the American Tobacco Trail

- c) Produced television commercial to help increase awareness of Crime Prevention measures.
- 3) The Police Department helped to facilitate Neighborhood Watch and other volunteer programs. In 2012:
  - a) Over 30 Neighbor Watch units were formally created;
  - b) The Police Citizen Academy graduated 17 students;
  - c) In cooperation with Performance Bicycle, the Police Department passed out over 300 whistles to promote safety;
  - d) Durham Police Athletic/Activities League (PAL) was recognized as a formal chapter in the National PAL organization; and
  - e) The PAL received a \$25,000 grant to fund a community based program to promote the benefits of mentoring.

### **Parks and Recreation**

- 1) The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has completed upgrades to existing facilities, including the Holton Career Resource Center, which were funded by a 2005 bond.
- 2) New park maintenance standards have been established; DPR is currently meeting or exceeding industry standards for mowing a clean-up. Inspections of playgrounds occur no less than three times per year; safety surfacing of playgrounds now meets Consumer Product Safety Standards standards.
- 3) In addition to the Adopt-a-Park and Adopt-a-Trail citizen volunteer programs, a cross-departmental effort to engage citizens in greenway safety ("Our Trails, Our Town") has been launched.
- 4) DPR is coordinating a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan (expected adoption date is late spring, 2013). The Master Plan will establish revised service standards based on updated community input, will seek to prioritize community needs for facilities, and will recommend funding.
- 5) An interlocal agreement was approved by the Durham Public School Board and the City Council that promotes the shared use of recreational facilities. The new Lucas Middle School on Snow Hill Road is the first example where athletic fields are located on an adjacent park.
- 6) In 2012 DPR was awarded \$45,000 from the United States Tennis Association for tennis court resurfacing and \$15,000 from Sprite for basketball court repair.

### **Fire Department**

- 1) The Fire Department has developed a departmental operations plan in concert with the City of Durham operations plan, or *Strategic Plan*, which supports greater specificity regarding actions and intended results and promotes heightened accountability for maintaining a safe environment for Durham's residents.
- 2) Performance data for the most recent reporting quarter, CY 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr 2012, is as follows:
  - a) EMS (1st Arriver)Metro: 71.12%
  - b) EMS (1stArriver)Suburban: 69.14%
  - c) Fire (1st arriver) Metro: 87.50%
  - d) Fire (1st arriver) Suburban: 83.62%
- 3) Development of a redeployment plan based on an analysis of response data and the use of jurisdictional modeling software. The total effective response force times are already demonstrating significant improvement.
- 4) The Fire Department has identified the need for several additional fire stations. Within the capital improvement plan, the need for *Proposed Fire Station 17* is being addressed.

### **Emergency Medical Services**

- 1) Durham Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responded to new growth-related demand for services by hiring 14 new positions to staff existing ambulances and to staff new ambulances located at the Redwood Fire

Department and the Bethesda Fire Department.

- 2) Durham EMS has developed new methodology in order to improve total response time (from the time the 911 call is received to when EMS arrives on scene) and to improve safety while in route to scene (i.e. protocols for the use of lights/sirens/obeying traffic laws have changed to decrease motor vehicle crashes). The implementation of Automatic Vehicle Location, a GPS device identifying the closest EMS unit, has also contributed to improving response times over the past year.

### **Community Development**

- 1) In promotion of mixed-income housing, the Durham Housing Authority was awarded a Choice Neighborhood Planning grant for planning the redevelopment of McDougald Terrace.
- 2) The Department of Community Development updated the "Analysis of Impediments" section of the Fair Housing Plan, which was approved by the City Council in 2012.

### **Water Management**

- 1) The department continues to work with its Jordan Lake Partners (13 including Durham) to develop a sustainable and secure water supply for the Triangle Region. This collaborative effort will inform the request for additional allocation from Jordan Lake; request packages are due to the State mid-2013.
- 2) The Department of Water Management is continuing work to ensure sufficient water treatment plant capacity. Final comments on the Environmental Analysis for the Brown Water Treatment Plant capacity expansion will be submitted in early 2013.
- 3) During the FY 2103 Budget process, Department of Water Management designated 1 penny per tier towards land acquisition so that additional lands in the Little River Lake and Jordan Lake watersheds can be protected.
- 4) In order to improve efficiency and cost effectiveness, the Jordan Lake Partnership produced an expansive document cataloging the interconnections between water utilities in the region. As a follow-up project, these interconnections will be modeled hydraulically to determine maximum transfer of excess water capacities and reliability of the infrastructure.
- 5) The City Department of Water Management conducted an extensive pump station assessment which provided priorities for rehabilitation and replacement.
- 6) The Department of Water Management has expanded programs to commercial customers, such as the toilet rebate/credit program, in order to help defray higher water rates and the conserve water. This measure is tracked under Goal 3 of the City's Strategic Plan.
- 7) The City is developing a Master Plan for Reuse which will expand the existing bulk reclaimed water facilities as well as define opportunities for a reclaimed water distribution system.

### **General Services**

- 1) General Services, with the Planning Department and NC DOT, is exploring the Mangum and Roxboro interchanges with the Durham Freeway to implement the Central Durham Gateway Plan and City and County Strategic Plans.

### **City-County Planning**

- 1) The Village of Rougemont Plan is underway and will be brought to the Board of County Commissioners in 2013.
- 2) Planning staff, in conjunction with the Research Triangle Foundation, began the planning process for the North RTP Compact Neighborhood Plan in 2012.
- 3) The EAR-FLUM Procedural Changes Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) text amendment was adopted by the governing boards in Fall 2012.
- 4) The Station Area Strategic Infrastructure project (SASI), led by the Planning Department in conjunction with

many other City and County departments, began in 2012 and will continue into 2013.

- 5) The City-County Planning Department completed an update of the Durham Comprehensive Plan in Spring 2012.
- 6) The Durham Industrial Land Study, analyzing the potential need for industrial land and the appropriateness of existing industrially-designated land, was completed by the City-County Planning Department in 2012, in partnership with the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce and the City Office of Workforce and Economic Development.
- 7) City-County Planning staff has worked with the Research Triangle Foundation on review and analysis of their new master plan. A UDO text change to modify the requirements of the Science Research Park (SRP) zoning district, implementing principles of the Research Triangle Master Plan, was brought forth by the Planning Department and approved by the governing boards in 2012.
- 8) Recent development near NC147 has resulted in a resurgence of interest in the Central Durham Gateway Plan. City and County officials have been in discussions to implement the plan for certain sections of NC147, and the City-County Planning Department has identified staff resources to begin design development for the landscape improvements phase of the plan.
- 9) In 2012 Staff from the City-County Planning and City Neighborhood Improvement Services departments established regular meetings to discuss housing code enforcement actions in historic districts.
- 10) The City-County Planning department is in the process of expanding one local district (Holloway Street) and creating one new local district (Golden Belt). Completion is anticipated in 2013.
- 11) The City-County Planning department, in cooperation with the Historic Preservation Commission, has increased education and outreach efforts to ensure property owners of locally designated properties are familiar with the benefits and regulations that apply to their property. These efforts so far include mass mailings with informational brochures and updated web information.

#### **Neighborhood Improvement Services**

- 1) June of 2012 NIS updated Housing Code.
- 2) June of 2012 NIS updated weedy lot ordinance to include indoor furniture exposed to weather to be a violation.