



CITY OF DURHAM | DURHAM COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA



**Date:** March 12, 2015  
**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
Wendell Davis, County Manager  
**Through:** Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager  
Lee Worsley, Deputy County Manager  
**From:** Steven L. Medlin, AICP, Planning Director  
**Subject:** Renewal of the Durham City/County Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Planning

**Executive Summary.** This memorandum is to request that the Board of Commissioners and City Council approve the renewal of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City of Durham and the County of Durham that provides for the coordination of comprehensive planning and plan implementation. This will be the seventh renewal of the agreement since its original approval in June of 1988.

The changes from previous interlocal agreements is limited to correction of the Durham City-County Planning Department's name to reflect common usage, to clarify that the department is the administrative body for the Durham Board of Adjustment, to require both the Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustment to include in their annual reports to the elected bodies any changes to their rules of procedures, and to add standard continuation language to the validity period of the agreement. All changes are shown in the attachment as underlined text. Otherwise, no other changes are being included with this renewal.

**Recommendation.** Staff recommends the approval of the renewal of the Durham City/County Interlocal Cooperation Agreement.

**Background.** Durham County and the City of Durham established a joint planning agency in June of 1988 through the adoption of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. The current agreement was approved in 2009 and includes a provision that the governing boards must review and renew the agreement at least once every five years. The attached interlocal agreement is substantially consistent with the current approved interlocal agreement.

**Issues and Analysis.** This agreement is necessary for the continuation of the coordination of both jurisdictions to allow more orderly and coordinated growth, provide a mechanism for consistent analysis of planning issues across political boundaries and give a more sound basis for policy decisions which affect both political entities.

**Alternatives.** The governing boards may elect to modify the interlocal agreement or to terminate the agreement.

**Financial Impact.** This Inter-local agreement maintains the provision that all net expenses are apportioned equally between the City and County. Net expenses are determined after all revenues are subtracted.

**Attachments.**

- 1) Draft 2015 Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Planning