



## City of Durham Durham County

### Joint News Release

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**Share!** #Durham Planning Academy seeks applicants by September 1 for Fall 2017 session: <http://bit.ly/2w3EIKa>

## Durham Planning Academy Seeks Applicants

*Free Program to Help Residents Understand Planning Concepts & Procedures;*

*Applications Due September 1*

DURHAM, N.C. – Durham residents who want a better understanding of planning issues and how they impact current and future development should register now for the next [Durham Planning Academy](#).

Hosted by the [Durham City-County Planning Department](#), this four-week course will introduce residents to planning concepts and procedures, explore the responsibilities of the department, explain the development process, and share typical procedures that various types of planning cases undergo. Participants will also learn about the legal framework in which planners must operate, and be able to participate in a mock Planning Commission meeting.

According to Senior Planner Matthew Filter with the Durham City-County Planning Department, the Academy aims to educate residents about the development process and teach both the theoretical and practical aspects of planning in Durham. “October is National Community Planning Month and we are excited to launch a new semester of Planning Academy,” Filter said. “Our goal is to help shed light on how planning works in this community, explain the different rules and roles that shape development, and have Academy graduates empowered to become more informed and involved in planning Durham’s future.”

The academy will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on four Thursdays in October and November 2017: October 19, October 26, November 2, and November 9. An online application must be submitted by Friday, September 1, and space is limited. Participants are required to attend all four sessions. The academy is free for attendees and dinner will be provided at each session.

For more information, visit the Durham Planning Academy [webpage](#) or contact Filter at (919) 560-4137, ext. 28271 or [Matthew.Filter@DurhamNC.gov](mailto:Matthew.Filter@DurhamNC.gov).

### **About the Durham City-County Planning Department**

The [Durham City-County Planning Department](#) is the planning agency for the City and County of Durham. The department works with the community to develop long-range and special area plans containing policies to direct growth. Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the department helps to make Durham a great place to live, work, and play by working to create a strong and diverse economy, and thriving and livable neighborhoods.

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