



Date: April 9, 2019

To: Members of the Durham Planning Commission
From: Patrick O. Young, AICP, City-County Planning Director
Subject: City-County Planning Department FY20 Work Program

Executive Summary

The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City and County for merged planning functions charges the Planning Director with preparing and submitting to the Joint City-County Planning Committee, the Planning Commission and both Managers a work program and annual budget that must be forwarded to both governing bodies for approval. The proposed work program is structured on the Department receiving sufficient resources for 49 full-time employees and operational overhead. Staff resources have been fully allocated for the tasks reflected in the proposed work program with no capacity to take on additional tasks without either revising the work program.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission review and recommend approval of the proposed FY20 Work Program.

Background

The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City and County for merged planning functions charges the Planning Director with preparing and submitting to the Joint City-County Planning Committee, the Planning Commission and both Managers a work program and annual budget that must be forwarded to both governing bodies for approval.

Attached please find a revised draft of the proposed FY20 Planning Department Work Program. The work program constitutes a catalogue of the various processes and projects that the Department will work on over the coming fiscal year. They can be categorized as one of three types:

- Ongoing projects and processes that reflect legal requirements to respond to proposed site plans, zoning map changes, use permits, certificates of appropriateness, zoning enforcement actions, etc.
- Ongoing projects and processes that relate to City and County policies for providing timely public information support for boards and commissions, and Department management, etc.

- Projects and process that are somewhat discretionary, reflecting City and County desire to engage in long range planning activities, such as the Patterson Place Compact Design District, and various Ordinance text amendments.

Issues

Since a large portion of the Planning Department's work is dictated by state or local law, the main area of variability in the work program is in the Policy and Urban Design section. This year, no new policy-related projects are proposed. The main policy planning emphasis and resource allocation will be on the new Comprehensive Plan, which was added to the FY19 Work Program last year. The department also received a budget allocation in FY19 for a consultant to partner with staff to manage the community engagement components of the Plan. This approach will allow limited staff resources to focus on technical Plan development.

As a result of JCCPC feedback in February that professional consultant review and advisement on the technical drafting of the Plan was encouraged, staff has negotiated with the selected consultant to expand the amount of "technical planning consultation" in their contract. These consultation services are now approximately nine percent of the overall contract, and can be expanded in the coming years if needed, and if funds are available.

On August 1, 2018 the Joint City-County Planning Committee (JCCPC) considered a request from the Forest Hills neighborhood to initiate a Neighborhood Protection Overlay (NPO). The JCCPC voted 5-1 to prioritize the NPO, keeping the application active so that Planning staff could evaluate the feasibility of incorporating the project into the FY20 Work Program. Due to limited staff resources and the multi-year, staff-intensive nature of the new Comprehensive Plan project, the Forest Hills NPO was not able to be included in the proposed FY20 Work Program. As an alternative to deferring the NPO further, staff submitted a budget request for FY20 to fund a consultant to manage the NPO project. If that budget request is approved, the Work Program will be modified to include a description of the project and account for a modest amount of staff time for consultant management.

The proposed work program is structured on the Department receiving sufficient resources for 49 full time employees and operational overhead. Staff resources have been fully allocated for the tasks reflected in the proposed work program with no capacity to take on additional tasks without either revising the work program to modify tasks by deleting existing tasks or changing expected outcomes and/or timelines.

Attachments

Attachment 1, Proposed Work Program, FY20, Part A, Programs

Attachment 2, Proposed Work Program, FY20, Part B, Programs and Descriptions

Attachment 3, Proposed Work Program, FY20, Part C, Future Projects.

Durham City-County Planning Department
FY20 Work Program
Part A, Programs
Draft: April 2019

Planning Department Staffing is 49.0 Full Time Equivalent (FTEs)

1 Land Use

- 1.1 Planning Commission Support
- 1.2 Zoning Map Changes
- 1.3 Comprehensive Plan Amendments
- 1.4 Annexation Petitions
- 1.5 Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
 - 1.5.1 HPC Support
 - 1.5.2 Certified Local Government Management
 - 1.5.3 Certificates of Appropriateness
 - 1.5.4 Historic Landmarks and Landmark Signs
 - 1.5.5 Demolition by Neglect Investigations (City Only)
- 1.6 Street Closings
- 1.7 Street Renaming
- 1.8 Statutory Vested Rights Determinations
- 1.9 Watershed Determinations

2 Zoning Administration

- 2.1 Site Compliance
- 2.2 Zoning Enforcement
 - 2.2.1 Response to Complaints
 - 2.2.2 Proactive Enforcement
 - 2.2.3 Patrol Program

3 Policy and Urban Design

- 3.1 Unified Development Ordinance Text Amendments
 - 3.1.1 Respond to Legislative Mandates
 - 3.1.2 City- and County-Initiated Text Amendments
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 - 3.1.6 Compact Design District Update for Suburban Stations
 - 3.1.7 Expanding Housing Choices
- 3.2 Transportation Planning
 - 3.2.1 Regional and State Transportation Planning
 - 3.2.2 County Transportation Planning
 - 3.2.3 City Transportation Planning
 - 3.2.4 Patterson Place Compact Design District
- 3.3 Historic Preservation Planning
 - 3.3.1 Historic Preservation Fund Grant Administration

- 3.4 Environmental Planning
 - 3.4.1 NFIP Community Rating System (County Only)
- 3.5 Comprehensive Plan Annual Evaluation and Assessment Report
- 3.6 Demographic Support
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 - 3.7.2 Planning Academy Program
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 - 3.7.4 Educational Institution Partnerships
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 - 3.8.1 Durham Open Space and Trails Commission
 - 3.8.2 Environmental Affairs Board
 - 3.8.3 Appearance Commission
- 3.9 Inter-Agency Coordination
 - 3.9.1 Durham-Chapel Hill-Orange Work Group
 - 3.9.2 Center of the Region Enterprise
 - 3.9.3 Regional Appearance Committee
 - 3.9.4 Durham Appearance Advocacy Group
- 3.10 Comprehensive Plan
- 3.11 Industrial Land Study Update

4 Development Services Center

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 - 4.1.1 Public Education and Outreach
 - 4.1.2 Public Information Requests
 - 4.1.3 Pre-Submittal Meetings
 - 4.1.4 Development Review Support
- 4.2 Minor Development Review
 - 4.2.1 Common Signage and Way-Finding Signage Plans
 - 4.2.2 Sign Permits
 - 4.2.3 Temporary Use Permits
 - 4.2.4 Limited Agriculture Permits (City Only)
 - 4.2.5 Home Occupation Permits and Inspections
 - 4.2.6 Family Care and Group Home Monitoring/Compliance
 - 4.2.7 Outdoor Seating Permits (City Only)
 - 4.2.8 Street Vendor Registration (City Only)
 - 4.2.9 Selective Vegetation Removal Permit Review
 - 4.2.10 Planning Review of Building Permits
 - 4.2.11 Small Cell Wireless Permits
 - 4.2.12 Temporary Right-of-Way Closure Permits
- 4.3 Major Development Review
 - 4.3.1 Subdivisions
 - 4.3.2 Site Plans
 - 4.3.3 Street Withdrawals
 - 4.3.4 UDO Administrative Interpretations
 - 4.3.5 Board of Adjustment (BOA)
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 - 4.3.5.2 Special Use Permits

- 4.3.5.3 Variances
- 4.3.5.4 Appeals of Administrative Decisions
- 4.3.6 Floodplain Reviews
- 4.4 Development Coordination
 - 4.4.1 Development Management Team
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- 4.5 Partner Work Unit Development Services Center Functions
 - 4.5.1 Construction Drawing Triage (City-Only)
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5 Department Management

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- 5.8 Website and CODI
- 5.9 Computer, GIS, and Data Support
- 5.10 Customer Satisfaction Feedback
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 - 5.11.1 Digital Records Conversion Project

**Durham City-County Planning Department
FY20 Work Program**

Part B, Program Descriptions

Draft: April 2019

1 Land Use

Process legislative and quasi-judicial applications for public and private land development, and make timely recommendations to advisory and elected boards. Manage physical and digital records and public notification in accordance with State statutes and UDO requirements.

1.1 Planning Commission Support (Ongoing)

Description: The Planning Commission reviews and makes recommendations to the governing boards on the following types of items: *Comprehensive Plan* amendments, UDO text amendments, zoning map changes, historic districts, redevelopment plans, and other long-range plans.

Responsibility: Provide ongoing support for the Planning Commission. Prepare agendas, prepare meeting notices and advertisements, arrange and attend meetings, prepare meeting minutes or notes, maintain records, and provide public information.

Authority: UDO Section 2.3, Planning Commission, and the latest version of the “State of North Carolina, County of Durham Interlocal Cooperation Agreement” between the City and County for planning.

1.2 Zoning Map Changes (Ongoing)

Description: Zoning is the process of legally establishing allowable uses of land pursuant to State statutes and the Durham UDO. A zoning map change occurs when a petitioner wishes to change the allowable uses of land as established by the adopted City-County zoning map. An initial zoning is applied when the City Council annexes property into the City’s corporate area.

State statute enables the City and County to require and authorize zoning with a development plan. A development plan specifies commitments that are beyond minimum UDO requirements. Commitments can include density and intensity, tree coverage, setbacks, or any other site development characteristic. The development plan becomes part of the zoning of a property and is reviewed concurrently with the zoning map change request. Subsequent site plans or plats may not deviate from the plan unless otherwise allowed or required by the UDO. The deviation may require a zoning map change. A development plan may be used by the petitioner in any zoning district, but is required in the PDR, CC, MU, and IP districts. A development plan is also required in the RS-M District if the applicant proposes to develop a building greater than 35 feet in height or proposes a density greater than eight units per acre, and in the RU-M District if the applicant proposes a density greater than 12 units per acre. Petitioners may request an administratively approved deviation from an approved development plan under certain conditions.

Responsibility: Process applications for a Zoning Map Change in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-

submittal conferences, application intake, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing Planning Commission review and recommendation, managing governing board consideration, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.5, Zoning Map Change.

1.3 Comprehensive Plan Amendments (Ongoing)

Description: The current *Durham Comprehensive Plan* was adopted by the City and County in 2005 to guide the physical growth and development of the City. The Plan's Future Land Use Map provides guidance on desired patterns of land use. When proposed zoning map changes are in significant conflict with the Future Land Use Map, as determined by the Planning Director, the petitioner is required to submit a petition for a plan amendment. The UDO establishes required procedures for neighborhood meetings, application submittal, and review and consideration by advisory and governing bodies.

Responsibility: Process applications for Plan Amendments in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, preparing summary reports for the Joint City-County Planning Committee (JCCPC), preparing staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing Planning Commission review and recommendation, managing governing board review and decision, and maintaining public records. City- or County-initiated Plan Amendments also include conducting neighborhood meetings.

Authority: UDO Section 3.4, Comprehensive Plan Adoption/Amendment.

1.4 Annexation Petitions (Ongoing)

Description: Coordinate multi-departmental review of voluntary annexation petitions.

Responsibility: Serve as the lead agency for consolidated annexation agenda items, including processing applications for voluntary annexation in a timely manner and accordance with State statute and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing governing board consideration, and maintaining public records. It also includes incorporating Utility Impact Analysis (UIA) information from Public Works, Fiscal Impact Analysis (FIA), and initial zoning information into the coordinated recommendation to City Council.

Authority: NGGS § 160A-31 and Coordinated Annexation Strategy resolution, adopted by City Council in October 2012.

1.5 Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)

1.5.1 HPC Support (Ongoing)

Description: The HPC is the quasi-judicial approving authority for Certificates of Appropriateness and appeals of Demolition by Neglect findings, and reviews and makes recommendations to the governing boards about historic districts and historic landmarks.

Responsibilities: Provide ongoing support for the HPC. Prepare agendas, prepare meeting notices and advertisements, arrange and attend meetings,

prepare meeting minutes or notes, maintain records, and provide public information.

Authority: UDO Section 2.5, Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), and the “Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Between Durham County and the City of Durham” establishing a joint historic planning effort.

1.5.2 Certified Local Government Management (Ongoing)

Description: Certified Local Government (CLG) status allows a jurisdiction with a qualifying historic preservation program access to technical assistance from the State Historic Preservation Office, participation in the National Register nomination process, and eligibility to apply for Historic Preservation Fund matching grants.

Responsibilities: Continue to maintain CLG status. Prepare annual reports for the State Historic Preservation Office; apply for and administer grants for historic preservation studies; review nominations for the National Register of Historic Places; review Section 106 inquiries; and participate in training for staff and Historic Preservation Commission members.

Authority: National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended and 36 CFR Part 61.

1.5.3 Certificates of Appropriateness (COAs) (Ongoing)

Description: The City Council and the Board of County Commissioners are authorized to establish local historic districts and local landmarks. Proposed exterior changes in the appearance of properties in local historic districts and local landmarks require the approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness from the HPC. For local historic districts, the HPC uses the review criteria in the adopted historic preservation plan to guide their quasi-judicial determination of COAs. For local historic landmarks, the HPC uses the Secretary of Interior’s Standards to guide their determination of COAs. The HPC delegates administrative approval to staff for certain activities with insignificant impact on the exterior appearance of the historic structures.

Responsibilities: Process applications for COAs in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing HPC review and issuance of the decision, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.17, Certificate of Appropriateness, and adopted Historic District Preservation Plans.

1.5.4 Historic Landmarks and Landmark Signs (Ongoing)

Description: The City Council and the Board of County Commissioners are authorized to establish local historic landmarks and landmark signs. Local landmarks are designated with the consent of the property owner and subject the property to Certificate of Appropriateness requirements. Local landmarks are eligible for a deferral of local property taxes equal to one-half of their appraised value.

Responsibilities: Process application for Historic Landmarks and Landmark Signs in a timely manner and keeping with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, submission of the application to the NC State Historic Preservation Office for comment, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing Historic Preservation Commission review and recommendation. It also includes managing governing board review and notice of the decision, maintaining public records, and follow-up with the County Tax Administrator's Office.

Authority: UDO Section 3.16, Historic District or Landmark Designation.

1.5.5 Demolition by Neglect Investigations (City Only) (Ongoing)

Description: Owners of certain historic properties within the City limits are required to maintain their properties and not allow them to fall into disrepair. The UDO in paragraph 3.18.1A, Conditions of Neglect Defined and Prohibited, describes the conditions of neglect that must be remedied within the time set by an administrative determination. Property owners and staff may formally request the Planning Director's determination that a property is being demolished by neglect.

Responsibilities: Respond to petitions for a Demolition by Neglect determination in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures.

Authority: UDO Section 3.18, Demolition by Neglect (City Only).

1.6 Street Closings (Ongoing)

Description: The Planning Department coordinates the review and approval of the petitioned closure of publicly-dedicated streets in the City and County, except those under the jurisdiction of the NC Department of Transportation, pursuant to State law. Street closings require public hearings and approval by the governing board.

Responsibility: Process applications for street closings in a timely manner and accordance with State statute and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, managing review by multiple departments and agencies, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, and ongoing applicant contact and information. It also includes managing public notice, managing governing board consideration and notice of the decision, recordation of the street closing plat, maintaining public records, and notification of appropriate local, State, and federal agencies after the street closing plat is recorded.

Authority: UDO paragraph 12.3, Streets; NCGS § 160A-299 (City); and NCGS § 153A-241 (County).

1.7 Street Renamings (Ongoing)

Description: The Planning Department coordinates the review and approval of the petitioned renaming of streets in the City and County pursuant to State statute and the UDO. Street renaming requires public hearings and approval by the governing board.

Responsibility: Process applications for street renamings in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, managing review by multiple departments and agencies, the holding of neighborhood information meetings, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information. It also includes managing public notice, managing governing board consideration and notice of the decision, recordation of the street renaming plat, maintaining public records, and notification of surrounding property owners and appropriate local, State, and federal agencies after approval of the street name change.

Authority: UDO paragraph 12.3.2, Street Names.

1.8 Statutory Vested Rights Determinations (Ongoing)

Description: The UDO establishes a procedure for obtaining a statutory vested right in conformance with NCGS § 153A-344.1 and NCGS § 160A-385.1. A vested right may be established upon approval of a "site specific development plan" After a public hearing by the governing board. New or amended zoning regulations shall not apply to a property with an established vested right until the vested right expires or is terminated.

Responsibility: Process applications for Statutory Vested Rights Determinations in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing governing board consideration and notification of the decision, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO paragraph 3.20, Statutory Vested Rights Determination.

1.9 Watershed Determinations (Ongoing)

Description: When the precise location of a water supply watershed boundary is unclear, a formal determination by the Planning Director with the concurrence of the relevant governing board and the State of North Carolina is required. The North Carolina Administrative Code requires that the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission (EMC) approve all expansions and deletions to protected and critical watershed area boundaries before adoption by the local government.

Responsibility: Process private requests for watershed determinations in accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes preparation of staff reports and recommendations, routing the request to the EMC for approval, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing Planning Commission review and recommendation, managing governing board consideration, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO paragraph 4.11.3, Rules for Interpretation of Overlay Boundaries, and the North Carolina Administrative Code.

2 Zoning Administration

Ensure compliance with adopted regulations and in conformance with granted approvals.
Manage physical and digital records in accordance with State statutes and UDO requirements.

2.1 Site Compliance (Ongoing)

Description: Each development in Durham that has an associated site plan must receive a sign-off on the Certificate of Compliance from the City-County Inspections Department and other City and County Departments before occupancy. The UDO requires that new development must be built in accordance with approved site plans to remain valid. Planning staff enforces these provisions by performing site evaluations. Planning sign-offs on Certificates of Compliance are based on site visits (and follow-up visits) conducted by Planning Department staff.

The Planning Department also responds to citizen complaints regarding non-compliance with approved site plans through site investigations and follow-up reports and, when violations are found, enforcement actions.

Responsibility: Perform site visits to evaluate whether building and site construction comply with the adopted site plan, in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures.

Authority: UDO Article 15, Enforcement; paragraph 3.7.9, Inspections of Required Improvements; and paragraph 3.7.10, Issuance of Certificate of Compliance.

2.2 Zoning Enforcement

Enforce provisions of the Unified Development Ordinance proactively and on a complaint basis. Track all enforcement actions taken by updating the database and hard copy files.

2.2.1 Response to Complaints (Ongoing)

Description: In response to complaints, work with citizens and staff to ensure compliance with development ordinances.

Responsibility: Investigate complaints in accordance with the Planning Director's Guidelines for Enforcement. Issue Notices of Violation, as appropriate. Maintain records in the database, referencing specific complaints and any enforcement actions taken. Communicate with the complainant and violator regarding case status. Issue fines, as appropriate, and provide testimony in court as needed.

Authority: UDO Article 15, Enforcement.

2.2.2 Proactive Enforcement (Ongoing)

Description: In response to observations from patrol, work with citizens and other staff to ensure compliance with the UDO and other ordinances.

Responsibility: Patrol assigned area and enforce UDO provisions as necessary. Follow the Planning Director's guidelines for enforcement. Issue Notices of Violation, as appropriate. Maintain records in the database referencing specific complaints and any enforcement actions taken. Communicate with the complainant and violator regarding case status. Remove and dispose of illegally-placed signs. Issue fines, as appropriate, and provide testimony in court as needed.

Authority: UDO Article 15, Enforcement.

2.2.3 Patrol Program (Ongoing)

Description: In response to a rising number of complaints, the Department has implemented an explicit program of proactive patrol throughout the City and County, to ensure that each property is visually observed at least once a year for any potential violation of the UDO. The specific level of patrol is currently under evaluation and is dependent on resources.

Responsibility: Visually evaluate properties (from public right-of-ways) to determine whether or not there are any observable violations of the UDO.

Authority: UDO Article 15, Enforcement.

3 Policy and Urban Design

Prepare plans, policies, programs, and recommendations about land use, historic preservation, urban design, environmental protection, trails and greenways, and open spaces to preserve Durham's natural and cultural resources.

3.1 Unified Development Ordinance Text Amendments

Description: Development issues give rise to changes in Durham's development regulations. Citizens may apply for zoning text amendments, or the City or County may initiate zoning text amendments.

Responsibility: Propose and process amendments to the *Unified Development Ordinance* (UDO) as necessary to respond to development and regulatory issues in a timely manner and accordance with the UDO. This includes pre-submittal conferences as needed; application intake; ongoing applicant contact and information as applicable; coordination of review by other Planning staff, other City, County, and State agencies, and the public. It also includes preparation of policy guidance documents for review by the Joint City-County Planning Committee (JCCPC); preparation of staff reports and recommendations; managing public notice and holding public informational meetings as needed; managing Planning Commission review and recommendation; managing governing board reviews and notice of decisions, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.19, Text Amendments.

3.1.1 Respond to Legislative Mandates (Ongoing)

Description: Propose amendments to the UDO to comply with changes to local, State, and federal regulations.

3.1.2 City- and County-Initiated Text Amendments (Ongoing)

Description: Process City and County requests for zoning text amendments in a timely manner and keeping with the UDO.

3.1.3 Privately-Initiated Text Amendments (Ongoing)

Description: Process private applications for zoning text amendments in a timely manner and keeping with the UDO.

3.1.4 Omnibus Changes (Ongoing)

Description: Process technical and minor changes to the UDO in keeping with direction from the City and County Managers and the Joint City-County Planning Committee.

3.1.5 Signs (Multi-Year Project)

Description: Propose amendments to the UDO to revise sign regulations to be in compliance with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Reed v. Town of Gilbert.

Deliverable: Ordinance presented to governing bodies for action by the end of calendar year 2019.

3.1.6 Compact Design District Update for Suburban Stations (Multi-Year Project)

Description: Propose amendments to the UDO to adapt the design district standards to Compact Neighborhoods located in suburban areas (Leigh Village, Patterson Place, and South Square/MLK).

Deliverable: Ordinance presented to governing bodies for action in the first quarter of FY20.

3.1.7 Expanding Housing Choice (Multi-Year Project)

Description: Explore a menu of regulatory changes to the Unified Development Ordinance that could make it easier and more affordable to build a wider variety of context-sensitive housing types (i.e. “missing middle”), with the goal overall goal of increasing the housing supply. The project will entail engagement with small-scale housing developers, neighborhood groups and multiple City departments.

Deliverable: Ordinance presented to governing bodies for action in the first quarter of FY20.

3.2 Transportation Planning

Provide transportation planning services to the City, the County, and the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO). This includes representing Durham County on the DCHC MPO Technical Coordinating Committee and preparing socioeconomic projections for the long range transportation plan.

3.2.1 Regional and State Transportation Planning (Ongoing)

Description: Participate in regional transportation planning with the DCHC MPO. Participate with GoTriangle and other jurisdictions in the region to plan a regional transit system, including locating transit-oriented neighborhoods around proposed transit stations.

3.2.2 County Transportation Planning (Ongoing)

Description: Represent Durham County on the DCHC MPO Technical Coordinating Committee and various subcommittees, including but not limited to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Oversight Committee, and Comprehensive Transportation Plan and Metropolitan Transportation Plan committees. Assist the DCHC MPO on behalf of the County with analyses of various land use, demographic, and transportation models and scenarios to better inform land use and transportation policy, and assist in the development of policies that improve transportation choices and regional mobility. Submit annual budgets and quarterly reports for the UPWP.

3.2.3 City Transportation Planning (Ongoing)

Description: Represent the City of Durham on the DCHC MPO Technical Coordinating Committee. Assist the DCHC MPO with analyses of various land use, demographic, and transportation models and scenarios to better inform land use and transportation policy. Assist with development of policies that improve transportation choices and regional mobility.

3.2.4 Patterson Place Compact Design District (Multi-Year Project)

Description: Analyze and receive stakeholder input on a comprehensive rezoning of the Patterson Place Compact Neighborhood to a Compact Design (CD) zoning district, including the delineation of the Core, Support-1, and Support-2 subdistricts.

Deliverable: Zoning Map Change presented to governing bodies for action in the first quarter of FY20.

3.3 Historic Preservation Planning

Prepare plans and develop draft policies for the protection of Durham's historic resources as directed by the governing boards.

3.3.1 Historic Preservation Fund Grant Administration (Ongoing)

Description: Administer any awarded Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grants issued by the National Park Service, through the State Historic Preservation office, for partner non-profit groups.

Responsibility: Administer HPF grants in accordance with federal, state, and local standards.

Authority: Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 (P. L. 96-515), Durham County Certification Agreement for Local Governments (1987), and City of Durham Certification Agreement for Local Governments (1989).

3.4 Environmental Planning

Prepare plans and develop draft policies for the protection of Durham's environmental resources as directed by the governing boards.

3.4.1 NFIP Community Rating System (County Only) (Ongoing)

Description: The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from community actions. The goals of the CRS program are to reduce flood losses, facilitate accurate insurance rating, and promote the awareness of flood insurance. The objective of the CRS is to reward communities that are doing more than meeting the minimum NFIP requirements to help their citizens prevent or reduce flood losses. The CRS also provides an incentive for communities to initiate new flood protection strategies.

Responsibility: Process annual application for certification of Durham County's National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (NFIP CRS) program. Implement public outreach and education related to floodplain issues; enforce applicable floodplain regulations; and develop and implement enhancements to open space acquisition, repetitive loss reduction strategy, and maintenance of streams and other waterways.

Authority: Direction from the County Manager.

3.5 Comprehensive Plan Annual Evaluation and Assessment Report (Ongoing)

Description: Prepare an annual evaluation and assessment report (EAR) to the JCCPC, the Planning Commission, and the governing boards, in accordance with the *Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policy 1.1.4a, Evaluation and Assessment, to evaluate the status and effectiveness in implementing the Plan's goals, objectives, and policies.

Deliverable: Draft the EAR for JCCPC and Planning Commission consideration by May 2020.

3.6 Demographic Support (Ongoing)

Description: File annual annexation and boundary surveys with the State and federal governments. Provide technical support for identifying new Census Tract boundaries. Staff the U.S. Census Complete Count Committee. Manage and maintain population estimates for the City and the County of Durham. Provide demographic information to citizens and project future population growth.

Deliverable: State report submitted in August 2019; federal report submitted in March 2020.

3.7 Community Engagement

Engage the community in planning issues on an ongoing basis and through a variety of methods.

3.7.1 Urban Design Studios (Ongoing)

Description: Plan, organize, and facilitate design-focused, public outreach events such as workshops, charrettes, and presentations for special projects. Due to the scope of the new Comprehensive Plan Urban Design Studios will be limited to city or county projects only during the duration of Plan development.

3.7.2 Planning Academy Program (Ongoing)

Description: Continue to offer a follow-up course to City College and Neighborhood College for community members and local government employees to explore planning issues in greater detail. Graduates of the Planning Academy may serve as community ambassadors to their respective neighborhoods and as points of contact for the Planning Department.

3.7.3 Community Listening Sessions (Ongoing)

Description: Attend neighborhood group or other organization meetings upon request to hear feedback on specific planning-related community concerns or ideas. Feedback from these meetings will be evaluated for consideration in the Department's annual Work Program, if appropriate.

3.7.4 Educational Institution Partnerships (Ongoing)

Description: Develop a plan to more effectively interact with nearby universities, including North Carolina Central University, Durham Technical College, Duke University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Develop a more formal internship and mentoring program to strengthen the bond between the Department and the University community. Identify and publicize opportunities for student volunteers in partnership with local schools.

3.8 Advisory Body Support

Provide ongoing support for advisory bodies appointed by the Durham City Council and Board of County Commissioners.

3.8.1 Durham Open Space and Trails Commission (DOST) (Ongoing)

Description: The DOST provides advice to the City Council and Board of County Commissioners on matters relating to open space preservation and trail development. To provide recreational and environmental benefits for the citizens of Durham County, the DOST promotes the preservation of valuable open spaces, natural vegetation, and stream valleys within the urban and rural environment, and the development of trails and other appropriate recreational and transportation facilities for pedestrians and bicycles.

Responsibility: Provide ongoing support for the DOST. Prepare agendas, prepare meeting notices and advertisements, arrange and attend meetings, maintain records of meeting minutes or notes, and provide public information.

Authority: City of Durham and County of Durham Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Open Space and Trails Planning.

3.8.2 Environmental Affairs Board (EAB) (Ongoing)

Description: The EAB advises and assists the City and County on matters related to the maintenance and improvement of the quality and safety of the environment.

Responsibility: Provide ongoing support for the EAB. Prepare agendas, prepare meeting notices and advertisements, arrange and attend meetings, maintain records of meeting minutes or notes, and provide public information.

Authority: City of Durham and County of Durham Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the Durham Environmental Affairs Board.

3.8.3 Appearance Commission (Ongoing)

Description: The Appearance Commission's mission is to enhance and improve the visual quality and aesthetic character of Durham City and County. They provide advice to the City and County on matters of community beautification.

Responsibility: Provide ongoing support for the Appearance Commission. Prepare agendas, prepare meeting notices and advertisements, arrange and attend meetings, maintain records including meeting minutes or notes, and provide public information.

Authority: The Interlocal Agreement between the City of Durham and Durham County Creating a Durham City-County Appearance Commission.

3.9 Inter-Agency Coordination

Provide support and share information with a variety of inter-agency and inter-governmental bodies.

3.9.1 Durham-Chapel Hill-Orange Work Group (Ongoing)

Description: Update elected and appointed officials of this intergovernmental work group at quarterly meetings. Provide liaison services on behalf of Durham County and the City of Durham.

3.9.2 Center of the Region Enterprise (Ongoing)

Description: Represent the City and County of Durham from a land use planning perspective for this intergovernmental work group.

3.9.3 Regional Appearance Committee (Ongoing)

Description: Represent the City and County of Durham from a land use planning perspective for this intergovernmental work group operated by the Triangle J Council of Governments.

3.9.4 Durham Appearance Advocacy Group (Ongoing)

Description: Represent the Planning Department and provide information on land use planning and regulation for this intergovernmental and citizen work group.

3.10 Comprehensive Plan (Multi-Year Project)

Description: Develop a new Comprehensive Plan to replace the one from 2005. The Plan will guide development in Durham and accommodate future growth with a focus on infrastructure and service delivery planning, implementation steps and costs, and equity and access. The Plan will set a cohesive vision for the community with a plan to provide the necessary infrastructure to support new development.

Deliverable: Complete Phase I by the end of calendar year 2019.

3.11 Industrial Land Study Update (Multi-Year Project)

Description: Update the 2013 Industrial Land Study based on changing market conditions and newly available data.

Deliverable: Study presented to governing bodies for action in the first quarter of FY20.

4 Development Services Center

The Development Services Center (DSC) provides a one-stop-shop for development services, including application intake, in-person customer service, and quick turn-around for minor building projects and planning approvals. The mission of the DSC is to improve the coordination, predictability, timeliness, and quality of customer service delivery and the development review process. The DSC is staffed by employees from City-County Planning, City-County Inspections, and Public Works Departments. The DSC staff coordinates with over 20 City and County Departments to administer over 70 different permits and/or review types.

4.1 Customer Service

Customer service functions include receiving permits and development applications, routing materials for review, tracking the status of permit and development applications, cashiering services, coordinating interdepartmental meetings, and helping

customers navigate the development process and answer minor questions that do not involve substantial staff research or analysis.

4.1.1 Public Education and Outreach (Ongoing)

Description: Help customers navigate the development process and engage with stakeholders. This includes helping customers define what they are trying to accomplish, helping customers understand which development application or permit they will need, and assisting with the completion of an application or permit. This also includes notifying customers of operational changes, providing customer self-help information online, and periodically meeting with customers or stakeholder groups to receive feedback related to any aspect of Durham's development process.

4.1.2 Public Information Requests (Ongoing)

Description: Provide customers with information on property zoning and applicable development regulations (ranging from high-level summaries to more in-depth analyses) prior to initiating a formal application. Information may be provided as due diligence letters that verify zoning district, current land use, Certificate of Occupancy, and/or pending or prior zoning code enforcement actions. Also includes fulfilling public records requests, either by directing customers to information online or retrieving and scanning documents.

4.1.3 Pre-Submittal Meetings (Ongoing)

Description: Pre-submittal meetings are required for certain development applications, and are available as optional meetings for all other applications. Meetings are attended by representatives from the DSC's partner work groups, the applicant, and the applicant's representatives. Pre-submittal meetings are intended to ensure the applicant understands applicable development regulations prior to submitting a formal application, and to provide a comprehensive summary of applicable UDO and transportation requirements, stormwater and development engineering regulations, and infrastructure capacity.

4.1.4 Development Review Support (Ongoing)

Description: This includes receiving permits and development applications, routing materials for review, tracking the status of permit and development applications, scheduling pre-submittal and zoning and property analysis meetings, and cashiering services.

4.2 Minor Development Review

Provide high quality and timely (within three business days) review of administratively approvable development permits of limited scope and complexity.

4.2.1 Common and Way-Finding Signage Plans (Ongoing)

Description: A Common Signage Plan is required when multiple signs are associated with a project that consists of several buildings in a single development. The common signage plan includes all signs within the development, including out parcels. Way-finding signs are solely for the purpose of providing directional information along rights-of-way from sub-sections, tenants, or areas of the development to other sub-sections, tenants, or areas of the development.

Responsibilities: Process applications for Common Signage Plans and Way-Finding Signage Plans in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes application intake, managing review by multiple departments and agencies, ongoing applicant contact and information, and maintaining public records. The Planning Director or designee is the approving authority for common and way-finding signage plans. The Planning Director or designee may approve modifications to the lettering style of a common signage plan to accommodate State and federally registered trademarks (logos) if the intent of the common signage plan requirements is maintained.

Authority: UDO Section 3.11, Common and Way-Finding Signage Plans; paragraph 11.6.2A.9, Way-Finding Signs; Section 11.8, Elements of Common and Way-Finding Signage Plans; and Section 11.2, General Requirements for Signs.

4.2.2 Sign Permits (Ongoing)

Description: Sign permits are required for a variety of different sign types and ensure that signs comply with established regulations in terms of size, location, number, and lighting.

Responsibility: Process applications for sign permits in a timely manner and in accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes application intake, issuance of the permit, inspection of the sign(s) upon installation, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.10, Sign Permit; and Section 11.6, Signs Requiring Permits.

4.2.3 Temporary Use Permits (Ongoing)

Description: Temporary uses occurring on property outside of the public right-of-way are allowed upon the issuance of a temporary use permit, with some exceptions. The Planning Department coordinates the review and approval of temporary use permits.

Responsibility: Process applications for Temporary Use Permits in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes a pre-submittal conference as needed, application intake, soliciting comments from other departments and agencies, issuance of the permit, monitoring compliance, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.12, Temporary Use Permit; and Section 5.5, Temporary Uses.

4.2.4 Limited Agriculture Permits (City Only) (Ongoing)

Description: Maintaining domestic chickens for non-commercial uses within the City limits requires a Limited Agriculture Permit per the UDO.

Responsibility: Process applications for Limited Agriculture Permits in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, verifying that the notification requirements have been met, conducting administrative reviews as needed, conducting site compliance investigations, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.22, Limited Agriculture Permit (City Only), and paragraph 5.4.12, Limited Agriculture (City Only).

4.2.5 Home Occupation Permits and Inspections (Ongoing)

Description: Commercial enterprises undertaken from residential structures must meet City-County standards and require a home occupation permit from the Planning Director or designee.

Responsibility: Process applications for Home Occupation Permits in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences as needed, application intake, review of proposals for home occupation permits, conducting site visits as necessary, issuing required permits, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.13, Home Occupation Permit, and paragraph 5.4.4, Home Occupations.

4.2.6 Family Care Homes and Group Homes Monitoring and Compliance (Ongoing)

Description: Family care homes are dwellings defined in NCGS § 168-21; group homes are dwellings that are operated under State regulations, that provide room and board for more than six, but less than 13 individuals who as a result of age, illness, handicap or some specialized program, require personalized services or a supervised living arrangement in order to assure their safety and comfort.

Responsibility: The Planning Department: a) maintains a database of family care homes and group homes; b) coordinates the database with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Service Regulation (NCDHSR) listings, and the County Health Department on a regular basis; c) works with the County Health Department to require verification of zoning and compliance with UDO separation standards for family care and group homes. Additionally, the Planning Department processes requests for business verification letters for new family care and group homes, including pre-submittal conferences as needed, application intake, verifying the proposed location meets the UDO separation requirements, investigating complaints and performing enforcement actions as needed, and maintaining public records.

Authority: Directives from the City and County Managers, and UDO paragraph 5.3.2C, Family Care Homes and Group Homes.

4.2.7 Outdoor Seating Permits (City Only) (Ongoing)

Description: Outdoor dining areas located in the public right-of-way require a permit that must be renewed annually.

Responsibility: Process applications for Outdoor Seating Permits in a timely manner and in accordance with City Code and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences as needed, providing background information to applicants, application intake, conducting administrative reviews for compliance with standards, installing outdoor dining area markers, issuing required permits, conducting site compliance investigations including at the time of annual renewal, and maintaining public records.

Authority: City Code, Section 54-110, Outdoor Dining Area.

4.2.8 Street Vendor Registration and Compliance (City Only) (Ongoing)

Description: Durham City Code establishes standards for street vendors operating in the public rights-of-way and requires that they be registered annually with the City. The Planning Department has been delegated the tasks related to street vendor registration and compliance by the City Manager.

Responsibility: Process applications for Street Vendor Registration in a timely manner and in accordance with City code requirements and Department procedures. These include informing the street vendors of the requirements, processing Street Vendor Registration initial requests and annual renewals, conducting pre-submittal conferences as needed, application intake, coordination with the County Health Department as needed, investigating complaints, performing enforcement actions as needed, maintaining public records, and maintaining a database of street vendors.

Authority: City Code, Section 54-91, Right of Way Sales Activities; designated to administer the program by the City Manager.

4.2.9 Selective Vegetation Removal Permit Review (Ongoing)

Description: A property owner may submit a request to the N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) for a selective vegetation removal permit to open up views to a building or a legally-erected billboard located directly adjacent to limited- or controlled-access State or federal highway right-of-way that is also within City limits. In addition, all beautification and replanting plans within a State or federal highway right-of-way, except mitigation plans, must be submitted to either the City or County of Durham, as appropriate. The Planning Department coordinates the reviews of these requests and responses to NCDOT.

Responsibility: Review Selective Vegetation Removal Permits and Beautification and Replanting Plans in a timely manner and in accordance with State law. This includes maintaining registration with the NCDOT for the City and County, receipt of requests, soliciting comments from other departments and agencies, issuance of a response letter to NCDOT, maintaining public records, and keeping the elected officials informed when new requests are received.

Authority: NCGS § 19A NCAC 02E.0600.

4.2.10 Planning Review of Building Permits (Ongoing)

Description: Building permits are reviewed by Planning staff to verify compliance with applicable standards established in the UDO or approved site plan, development plan, or Certificate of Appropriateness.

Responsibility: Review building permits in a timely manner and in accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures.

Authority: Durham Unified Development Ordinance, sections as applicable.

4.2.11 Small Cell Wireless Permits (Ongoing)

Description: Small cell wireless facilities are allowed by state law to be installed and operated within the public right-of-way. Activities associated with the small cell wireless program include permit review, field inspection, and enforcement.

Responsibility: The DSC will perform primary intake, review, and inspections functions for this program.

Authority: Durham City Code Section 62-58, NCGS § 160A-400.54 through 400.57, and NCGS § 136-18.3A.

4.2.12 Temporary Right-of-Way Closure Permits (Ongoing)

Description: Temporary closures of rights-of-way associated with construction, or other temporary activities, require review, approval, and monitoring.

Responsibility: The DSC will perform primary intake, review, and inspections functions for this program.

Authority: Durham City Code Sections 66-429- to 66-437.

4.3 Major Development Review

Development review includes administrative review and approval of proposals for public and private land development for consistency with adopted plans, policies, and ordinances, including managing physical and digital records.

4.3.1 Subdivisions (Ongoing)

Description: Plats include all divisions of a tract or parcel of land into two or more lots, building sites, or other divisions for sale or building development, pursuant to State statutes and the Durham UDO. Subdivision of land occurs through the submittal and approval of a map called a “plat” and the recordation of that plat with the Office of the Durham County Register of Deeds.

A preliminary plat is a map indicating the proposed layout of a development and related information that is submitted for preliminary review. A final plat is the map of all or a portion of a subdivision, presented for final approval.

Responsibility: Process applications for Subdivision plat approval in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, managing review by multiple departments and agencies, preparation of staff reports and recommendations if applicable, ongoing applicant contact and information, site plan extension requests, managing public notice, managing governing board review and decision if applicable, and maintaining public records. These may include conservation subdivisions.

Authority: UDO Section 3.6, Subdivision Review, and Article 13, Additional Requirements for Subdivisions.

4.3.2 Site Plans (Ongoing)

Description: A site plan is an approval that ensures that any future development will occur in a planned and orderly manner. All proposed development in Durham requires review and approval of a site plan, except single-family and two-family development on single lots or improvements that are solely interior to an existing building and not associated with proposed or potential change of use. Architectural Review is required for changes to building elevations where compliance with architectural standards is required, but no site plan approval or certificate of appropriateness is otherwise required. The requirements of

Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) paragraph 3.23.2B, General Requirements, also apply where architectural drawings are required for site plan approval.

Responsibility: Process applications for Site Plan and Architectural Review approval in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake and triage, managing review by multiple departments and agencies, preparation of staff reports and recommendations if applicable, ongoing applicant contact and information, site plan extension requests, managing public notice, managing governing board consideration if applicable, and maintaining public records. This project covers initial submittals, re-submittals, and amendments. It also covers coordination of reviews of related Floodplain Development Permits.

Authority: UDO Section 3.7, Site Plan Review; Section 3.21, Floodplain Development Permit; and Section 3.23, Architectural Review.

4.3.3 Street Withdrawals (Ongoing)

Description: Under State statute, a dedicated right-of-way that was never actually opened, or used by the public within 15 years after the dedication, may be withdrawn from dedication under certain circumstances:

1. The property owner on both sides of the right-of-way is the same.
2. The continued use of the strip of land dedicated for street or highway purposes shall not be necessary to afford convenient ingress or egress to any lot or parcel of land sold and conveyed by the dedicator of such street or highway.
3. The owner files notice with the City or County having jurisdiction over that right-of-way of the intent to withdraw.
4. The owner files a plat showing the withdrawal of the right-of-way and recombination into the adjacent tracts.

Responsibilities: The Planning Department reviews the information provided by the property owner, verifies that the right-of-way has not been opened or used by consulting aerial photos and that the street is not shown on the adopted future street plan. Once this has been verified, the Planning Department reviews the recombination plat for compliance with NCGS § 47-30, as amended.

Authority: NCGS § 136-96.

4.3.4 UDO Administrative Interpretations (Ongoing)

Description: The requirements of the UDO cannot anticipate the variety of real-world, on-the-ground conditions. On numerous occasions, an interpretation of UDO requirements is necessary to achieve the regulatory objectives while accommodating unorthodox situations.

Responsibility: According to the UDO, the Planning Director is authorized to interpret the Ordinance and make an administrative adjustment to the specified development standards in the UDO.

Authority: UDO paragraph 2.7.4, Powers and Duties.

4.3.5 Board of Adjustment (BOA)

4.3.5.1 BOA Support (Ongoing)

Description: The BOA is the quasi-judicial approving authority for variances, minor special use permits, design special use permits, and appeals of administrative decisions.

Responsibility: Provide ongoing support for the BOA. Prepare agendas, prepare meeting notices and advertisements, arrange and attend meetings, prepare meeting minutes or notes, maintain records, and provide public information.

Authority: UDO Section 2.4, Board of Adjustment (BOA), and the latest version of the “State of North Carolina, County of Durham Interlocal Cooperation Agreement” between the City and County for planning.

4.3.5.2 Special Use Permits (Ongoing)

Description: A Special Use Permit is required for certain uses within certain zoning districts that have significant potential for incompatibility with adjacent and nearby uses and, therefore, require individual, quasi-judicial review. A Special Use Permit must be obtained when a property owner wishes to undertake one of the specified uses.

Minor Special Use Permits (mSUPs) are required for all uses identified as minor special uses within UDO Section 5.1, Use Table; paragraph 8.4.4C, Development Requiring a Minor Special Use Permit; and other provisions of the Ordinance. Minor Special Use Permits are issued by the Durham City-County Board of Adjustment based on a quasi-judicial hearing as specified in UDO paragraph 3.9.6, Approval of a Minor or Design Special Use Permit.

Design Special Use Permits (DSUPs) are required for site plans and architectural reviews where alternative forms of compliance are sought in Design Districts, in accordance with UDO Section 3.9, Special Use Permit, and paragraph 6.12.2, All Design Districts. Design Special Use Permits are issued by the Durham City-County Board of Adjustment based on a quasi-judicial hearing as specified in UDO paragraph 3.9.6, Approval of a Minor Special Use Permit, and the findings in paragraph 3.9.9, Criteria for Approval of Design Special Use Permits.

Major Special Use Permits (MSUPs) are required for all uses identified as major special uses within UDO Section 5.1, Use Table; and paragraph 3.3.8, Transportation Special Use Permit. The governing board issues Major Special Use Permits based on a quasi-judicial hearing as specified in UDO paragraph 3.9.7, Approval of a Major or Transportation Special Use Permit.

Transportation Special Use Permits are required for development projects with corresponding site plans and preliminary plats that are

expected to generate vehicle trips that meet the thresholds in paragraph 3.9.10, Transportation Special Use Permit. the governing board issues Transportation Special Use Permits based on a quasi-judicial hearing as specified in UDO paragraph 3.9.7, Approval of a Major or Transportation Special Use Permit, and the criteria in paragraph 3.9.10C, Criteria for Approval.

Responsibility: Process applications for Special Use Permits in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, managing review by multiple departments and agencies, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, on-going applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing Board of Adjustment review and decision if applicable, managing governing board review and issuance of the decision if applicable, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.9, Special Use Permit.

4.3.5.3 Variances (Ongoing)

Description: The Board of Adjustment may vary certain requirements of the UDO, in harmony with the general purpose of these regulations, where special conditions applicable to the property in question would make the strict enforcement of the regulations impractical or result in hardship in making reasonable use of the property. Per State law, a use variance is not allowed.

Responsibilities: Process applications for Variances in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, managing review by multiple departments and agencies, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing Board of Adjustment review and issuance of the decision, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.14, Variances.

4.3.5.4 Appeal of Administrative Decision (Ongoing)

Description: Any person aggrieved by a final order, interpretation, or decision of any administrative official authorized to make decisions under the UDO may appeal those decisions to the Board of Adjustment.

Responsibilities: Process applications for Appeals of Administrative Decision in a timely manner and accordance with UDO requirements and Department procedures. This includes pre-submittal conferences, application intake, managing review by multiple departments and agencies, preparation of staff reports and recommendations, ongoing applicant contact and information, managing public notice, managing Board of Adjustment review and issuance of the decision, and maintaining public records.

Authority: UDO Section 3.15, Appeal of Administrative Decision.

4.3.6 Floodplain Reviews (Ongoing)

Description: Pursuant to the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Durham UDO, development activities in the 100-year floodplain and floodway are restricted. Permissible development in the floodplain requires additional review and approval to ensure that there is no substantial, negative impact on flooding of adjacent properties. Reviews include: Floodplain Development Permits, Floodplain Administrator's (MT-2) compliance signoff of Conditional Letters of Map Revision (CLOMR), floodplain review determination letters, no-impact certifications and calculations, No Practical Alternative Applications (NPAA), and floodplain as-builts, and tracking of floodplain inquiries.

Responsibility: Process reviews in a timely manner and in accordance with UDO requirements, FEMA regulations, and Department procedures.

Authority: Section 8.4 of the Durham UDO. Please note that the City-County Director of Inspections is the Floodplain Administrator and retains final authority regarding floodplain development pursuant to the UDO.

4.4 Development Coordination

Development coordination services include coordinating and improving the development process and answering, routing, and tracking development-related inquiries.

4.4.1 Development Management Team (Ongoing)

Description: The Development Management Team is an interdepartmental working group whose purpose is to share information about the development process, identify and facilitate development review process improvements, and implement the Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) between the Development Services Center and its Partner Work Units.

4.4.2 Development Process Management and Improvements (Ongoing)

Description: The development review processes mandated by law are complex and involve a variety of reviewers and decision makers in numerous City and County departments. Staff from Planning and other departments administer Durham's development review process, and continually evaluate the process for opportunities to educate applicants, reduce unnecessary procedural steps, and improve the process for the applicant and the City and County. This task also involves participation in a City- and County-wide effort to implement a full digital submittal, review, and approval option.

4.5 Partner Work Unit Development Services Center Functions

The DSC, as part of its mission to provide a one-stop-shop for development services, houses employees and functions from two other departments in addition to City-County Planning: City-County Inspections and Public Works. Both of these partner departments (referred to as "partner work units") operate several key development services through the DSC, as listed below.

4.5.1 Construction Drawing Triage (City-Only) (Ongoing)

Description: Construction Drawings (CDs) are infrastructure plans required for all multifamily and nonresidential development. Construction drawings are received and triaged by the DSC, then reviewed by the DSC's Partner Work Units.

Responsibility: DSC staff provides intake, cashiering, triage (completeness review), routing, tracking, and records management for CDs. Review and approval is performed by Partner Work Unit staff.

Authority: City of Durham Reference Guide for Development; Durham Municipal Code Chapter 62, Streets and Sidewalks and Chapter 70, Utilities.

4.5.2 Right-of-Way Permits (City-Only) (Ongoing)

Description: A permit is required within Durham City limits to connect a driveway to a City street. This is done to ensure that there is no negative impact on the City street, and that ingress and egress from the property are safe for motorists and pedestrians.

Responsibility: Process applications for driveway permits in a timely manner and in accordance with Public Works requirements and procedures. This includes application intake, issuance of the permit, inspection of the driveway upon installation, and maintaining public records.

Authority: Durham City Code. Please note that the City Public Works Department retains final authority regarding driveway permit issuance.

5 Department Management (Ongoing)

5.1 Department Management and Administration

- Prepare the annual Department budget for the City and County.
- Monitor and report on performance measures.
- Monitor Department spending and accounts. Monitor timely deposit of receipts, including development application fees. Maintain fiscal records for audit and review. Serve as departmental liaison to the Finance Department.
- Prepare the annual work program and monthly reports on work program progress. Secure review and approval of annual work program from the Planning Commission, the Joint City-County Planning Committee, the City and County Managers, and the governing boards.
- Develop scope of services, prepare requests for proposals, evaluate proposals, prepare contracts, and secure governing board approval, as needed, to enter into a contract. Develop and execute contracts and manage consultant projects.
- Monitor Interlocal cooperation agreements.
- Work with Risk Management Division to improve employee safety. Educate staff on OSHA requirements.
- Maintain planning-related documents to meet State requirements, including document filing and scanning.
- General office management, including handling mail and ordering supplies.
- Serve as liaison to the Human Resources Department to keep departmental staff informed about City policy and benefits changes.

- Consult with the City and County Attorney's Offices as needed on matters related to City and County codes and litigation.
- Engage in quality assurance activities, including review of staff reports, agendas, advertisements and notices, and progress reports; respond to management inquiries from the City and County Managers, members of governing and advisory boards, customers, and citizens.

5.2 Performance and Personnel Management

Prepare and maintain performance standards for each employee, conduct and participate in annual coaching sessions, and conduct and participate in annual performance evaluations in a timely manner. Conduct and attend Section, Division, and Department staff meetings. Conduct regular staff meetings to facilitate the flow of management information and monitor work performance.

5.3 Professional Development

Provide opportunities and funding for the professional development, professional certification, and certification maintenance of Department staff, such as State and national professional conferences and web seminars. Coordinate training programs for departmental staff.

5.4 Intergovernmental Coordination

Provide ongoing support/planning coordination among neighboring jurisdictions. This includes the Durham-Chapel Hill-Work Group, the Center of the Region Enterprise (CORE), and Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG) Committees.

5.5 City, County, and Planning Department Strategic Plans

Implement the Planning Department Strategic Plan for the next two to three years. Participate in staff initiatives to implement the adopted City Strategic Plan. Participate in staff initiatives to implement the adopted County Strategic Plan.

5.6 Culture of Service Initiatives

Conduct staff initiatives to implement the City's Culture of Service goals and respond to concerns raised by the Employee Opinion Survey.

5.7 Governing Board Support

Provide ongoing support for the governing boards, including preparing agendas or agenda items, arranging and attending meetings, preparing meeting minutes or notes as applicable, maintaining records, and providing public information.

5.7.1 Board of County Commissioners

5.7.2 City Council

5.7.3 Joint City-County Planning Committee

5.8 Website and CODI Support

- Develop and maintain the Planning Department's website to provide information to citizens about planning and development activities. Continue to expand the Department's website to be as complete and as interactive as possible. Serve as Web Content Administrator for the Department.
- Develop and maintain the Department's City of Durham Intranet (CODI) site to provide inter- and intra-departmental staff resources related to planning and departmental activities. Serve as CODI Content Administrator for the Department.

5.9 Computer, GIS, and Data Support

Manage and maintain geospatial databases of planning-related information. Provide mapping support and research for staff. Create and manage databases of planning-related topics. Manage the Land Development Office (LDO) database used by multiple City and County departments to coordinate the review of development proposals. Manage updates to the Durham Zoning Atlas. Provide basic hardware and software support for Planning staff, including input and quotes for new technology. Serve as liaison to the Technology Solutions Department.

5.10 Customer Satisfaction Feedback

Solicit feedback on the Planning Department's performance in serving its numerous and diverse customers, including elected boards, advisory boards, development review applicants and consultants, comprehensive and neighborhood planning stakeholders, and citizens.

5.11 Internship Program

Provide internship opportunities for students to engage in a variety of planning and administrative projects and experiences. Additional projects not listed below may also be considered based on mutual benefit to the Planning Department and the student.

5.11.1 Digital Records Conversion Project (Ongoing)

Description: Assist in the ongoing effort to convert paper files to digital records by scanning file contents, indexing them according to a standard protocol, uploading them to the Land Development Office, and purging paper files of extraneous materials in preparation for offsite storage.

Durham City-County Planning Department
FY20 Work Program
Part C, Future Projects

Draft: April 2019

High Priority Projects

- 1. Ninth Street West Compact Design District Addition**
Amend the existing Ninth Street Compact Design District to add an adjacent area of what was formerly considered part of the Erwin Road Compact Neighborhood (north of the Durham Freeway).
- 2. Alston Avenue Compact Design District**
Analyze and receive stakeholder input on a comprehensive rezoning of the Alston Avenue Compact Neighborhood to a Compact Design (CD) zoning district, including the delineation of the Core, Support-1, and Support-2 subdistricts (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policies 2.2.4b and c, Compact Neighborhood Zoning).
- 3. Erwin Road Compact Design District**
Analyze and receive stakeholder input on a comprehensive rezoning of the Erwin Road Compact Neighborhood to a Compact Design (CD) zoning district, including the delineation of the Core, Support-1, and Support-2 subdistricts. This project includes amending the existing Ninth Street Compact Design District to add an adjacent area of what was formerly considered part of the Erwin Road Compact Neighborhood, north of the Durham Freeway (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policies 2.2.4b and c, Compact Neighborhood Zoning).
- 4. South Square/MLK Compact Design District**
Analyze and receive stakeholder input on a comprehensive rezoning of the South Square/MLK Compact Neighborhood to a Compact Design (CD) zoning district, including the delineation of the Core, Support-1, and Support-2 subdistricts (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policies 2.2.4b and c, Compact Neighborhood Zoning).
- 5. Leigh Village Compact Design District**
Analyze and receive stakeholder input on a comprehensive rezoning of the Leigh Village Compact Neighborhood to a Compact Design (CD) zoning district, including the delineation of the Core, Support-1, and Support-2 subdistricts (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policies 2.2.4b and c, Compact Neighborhood Zoning).
- 6. Compact Neighborhood Future Land Use Map Update - Part 2**
Analyze and recommend necessary updates to the Compact Neighborhood Tiers adopted in the 2005 Comprehensive Plan for the commuter rail station locations, and the proposed light rail station at North Carolina Central University. Recommendations for adjustments to existing, or creation of new, tier boundaries, and changes to future land use designations will be developed.
- 7. Land Use Plan Update, US 70 Corridor**
Prepare detailed land use plan updates for the US 70 corridor area, considering the conversion of US 70 to a limited access freeway, and the resulting impacts to access, land use, and economic development.

- 8. Land Use Plan Update, Burdens Creek/NC-55/South Alston Avenue**
Prepare detailed land use plan updates for Burdens Creek, NC 55 and South Alston Avenue area, considering the capacity of infrastructure and the demand for specific land uses (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policy 2.5.2b, Land Use Plan Updates).
- 9. Land Use Plan Update, Durham Technical Community College Area**
Prepare detailed land use plan updates for Durham Technical Community College area, considering the capacity of infrastructure and the demand for specific land uses. Investigate a zoning map change to a University and College District for the Durham Technical Community College campus (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policy 2.5.2b, Land Use Updates).
- 10. Land Use Plan Update, East Durham**
Prepare detailed land use plan updates for East Durham, considering economic development goals, the conditions of aging infrastructure, and environmental justice concerns.
- 11. Land Use Plan Update, South Central Durham**
Prepare detailed land use plan updates for and South Central Durham, considering economic development goals, the conditions of aging infrastructure, and environmental justice concerns.
- 12. Bahama Rural Village Plan**
Prepare a land use plan for the rural village of Bahama. Explore design guidelines to protect its character, and encourage appropriate and compatible infill development. Investigate establishment of a historic district (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policy 2.2.1e, Rural Villages and Policy 2.5.3c, Rural Village Plans).
- 13. Miscellaneous Revisions to the UDO**
 - Use Table Revisions
 - Limited Agriculture Permit/Urban Agriculture Revisions
 - Article 7 and Design Commitment Revisions
 - Infill Development Standards Revisions
 - Parking Revisions

Medium Priority Projects

- 14. Fiscal Impact Assessment Tool**
Create a mechanism with which to measure fiscal and economic impacts of proposed changes to the Future Land Use Map and/or Zoning Atlas (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policy 2.3.2b, Fiscal Impact Assessment).
- 15. Durham Inventory Update**
Coordinate an update of the “Durham County Inventory of Natural Areas, Plants, and Wildlife” with the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policy 7.1.6d, Regular Inventory Updates).
- 16. Flat River Open Space Plan**
Prepare an open space plan for the Flat River basin area of Durham County, basing the plan on the integrated open space objectives of continuous open space corridors, water quality, wildlife habitat protection, scenic and aesthetic considerations, recreation, and preservation of significant historic and cultural features (*Durham Comprehensive Plan*, Policy 7.2.2e, Flat River Open Space Plan).