

MINUTES
TOWN OF FORT MILL
TOWN COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION JOINT MEETING
October 9, 2014
2233 Deerfield Drive
7:00 PM

Present: Town Council – Mayor Danny Funderburk, Councilmembers Guynn Savage, Larry Huntley, Ronnie Helms, and Tom Adams.

Planning Commission: Chairman James Traynor, Commission Members Chris Wolfe, Ben Hudgins, John Garver, Hynek Lettang, Tony White and Tom Petty.

Absent: Town Council: Councilman Tom Spratt

Also Present: Town Manager Dennis Pieper, Planning Director Joe Cronin, Public Works Director Davy Broom, Assistant Planner Chris Pettit, Councilman-Elect James Shirey, Phil Leazer (York County), David Hooper (RFATS), and Vic Edwards (SCDOT)

Mayor Funderburk called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. Those in attendance were asked to introduce themselves to the group. Mayor Funderburk stated that transportation is a top concern in the Fort Mill area, and he thanked members of town council, the planning commission, and staff for participating in this joint meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

- York County Pennies for Progress Program Update**: Phil Leazer, the Program Manager for York County Pennies for Progress, provided an update on the sales tax program. Mr. Leazer gave an overview of completed projects, including Phase 1 of the Fort Mill Southern Bypass, as well as active and planned projects in the Fort Mill area, such as the Gold Hill Road interchange, the intersection of Gold Hill & SC 160, and widening projects on SC 160, US 21, and SC 51. Mr. Leazer added that should the county choose to move forward with a fourth Pennies program, a referendum would likely be held in 2017.
- Rock Hill-Fort Mill Area Transportation Study (RFATS)**: David Hooper, the RFATS Coordinator for the City of Rock Hill, provided an overview of the primary functions of RFATS in the metropolitan planning area. Mr. Hooper discussed various planning efforts undertaken by RFATS, such as developing the region's long-range transportation plan (LRTP), managing the regional transportation improvement plan (TIP) as well as various other transportation planning efforts. Mr. Hooper added that RFATS is responsible for administering federally funded programs, such as federal guideshare funds, congestion mitigation and air quality grants (CMAQ), and transportation alternative grants (TAP). Mr. Hooper stated that York County was the only county in the state that receives CMAQ funds due to the county's non-attainment status with federal air quality standards. Ms. Savage stated that the county itself was not in non-attainment, but was pulled in as a result of being

a part of the Charlotte metro area. Mr. Adams asked why the majority of the CMAQ funds sent to the State of South Carolina (\$12-\$14 million per year) were used by the state, and only a small fraction (\$2.5-\$3 million per year) actually made their way to the non-attainment area of York County. Mr. Edwards with SCDOT stated that this was a budgetary decision of the state, and that a portion of the dollars were used for programs such as emergency assistance. Mr. Adams stated that since the state was receiving the dollars as a result of York County's non-attainment status, then those dollars should be spent on projects in York County. A discussion also took place regarding level of service (LOS), as well as state-mandated project ranking as a result of Act 114.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. **Population Growth Projections:** Planning Director Cronin provided an overview of planned growth and development, both residential and commercial, in the Town of Fort Mill. It is anticipated that more than 5,000 residences and more than a million square feet of commercial will be developed within the town limits in the next 10-12 years, essentially doubling the population of the town. Planning Director Cronin also shared some regional growth projections, which had been compiled by Susan Britt, the Planning Manager for the City of Tega Cay. Planning Director Cronin added that the unincorporated areas of York County generated the majority of growth over the last 15-20 years; however, as those areas reach build out, it is anticipated that new development in the town limits, primarily east of I-77, will drive regional growth over the next 10-15 years.
2. **Transportation Strategies:** Planning Director Cronin stated that staff had begun preparing a list of strategies which may be considered by council and the planning commission in an effort to better plan for and respond to roadway and transportation issues. Mayor Funderburk stated that it was getting late, and perhaps the council and planning commission should schedule a follow up meeting to further discuss strategies and next steps.
3. **Roadway Maintenance:** Discussion of this item was deferred to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Cronin
Planning Director