

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Monday, October 12, 1998

7:00 P.M. Regular Session

AGENDA

1. **Opening of Regular Session**—Pledge of Allegiance

2. **Agenda Adjustments**

3. **Minutes**

- a. August 3, 1998 Worksession
- b. August 24, 1998 Regular Session
- c. September 9, 1998 Worksession
- d. September 14, 1998 Regular Session

4. **Consent Agenda**

- a. Durham City-County Planning Department Work Program (adopt the FY 1998-1999 Work Program).

Note: The purpose of a consent agenda is to handle consensus items with one motion to save time on meeting agendas. Any item a Board member pulls for discussion should be placed at the end of the agenda so public hearings can be concluded as early as possible. This will provide for the least inconvenience to the general public attending the public hearings.

5. **Street Closing - Crystal Lake Road (SC98-1): Public Hearing**

To hold a public hearing to consider permanently closing a 24,763± square foot portion of Crystal Lake Road west of Guess Road.

Vonda Frantz, Senior Planner with the Durham City-County Planning Department, will be present to answer questions of staff regarding the request to close this street.

The County Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners approve the request to permanently close 24, 763± square feet of Crystal Lake Road.

6. **City of Durham's Leasing of the Abandoned Norfolk Southern RR Corridor From Fayetteville Rd. to the Durham/Chatham County Line as a Part of the American Tobacco Trail**

On August 13, 1998, the Rail Division of the North Carolina Department of Transportation purchased from Norfolk Southern a portion of an abandoned railroad corridor that runs from Fayetteville Road in southern Durham County through the northeastern corner of Chatham County to the Wake County line. The Durham Open Space and Trails Commission has asked the City to lease the section of corridor in Durham County—as it already has leased the corridor beginning at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park and ending at NC54—for a continuation of the American Tobacco Trail.

Since that portion of the corridor is in Durham County, the Durham Open Space and Trails Commission is requesting that the County (1) support its request for the City to lease the corridor from NCDOT for a continuation of the American Tobacco Trail; and (2) support its request that the subsequent required public meeting be a joint one held with Chatham County. Neither of these items will be an expense to the County.

Beth Timson, Senior Planner, Durham City-County Planning Department, will be present to answer any questions of staff regarding the request.

7. Approval of the Grant Agreement for \$750,000 from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund

Last fall, Durham County was awarded up to \$750,000 for the New Hope Creek corridor acquisition effort from the State of N.C.'s Clean Water Management Trust Fund. Durham County was one of 13 recipients to be awarded funds out of 141 applications in the first round of this new statewide program. The funds would supplement the County's remaining \$150,000 to be used for this project, bringing the total to \$900,000 available for land acquisition. The grant agreement would formalize this relationship between Durham County and the State.

The funds would be provided to the County as parcels are acquired and would provide an 83 percent reimbursement match for acquisition costs. The grant requires that the County provide a permanent conservation easement to the state for those lands acquired with grant funds.

Jane Korest from the City-County Planning Department will be available to answer any questions.

County Manager's Recommendation: Authorize the County Manager to execute the grant agreement.

8. Employee Health Insurance

Following an extensive Request for Proposal (RFP) process to solicit proposals for the health insurance carriers for the next three years, the following recommendations are made: (1) authorize the County Manager to enter into a contract with WellPath Select Inc. to become a Point-of-Service (POS) plan provider for County employees; (2) authorize the County Manager to enter into a contract with Healthsource North Carolina Inc., a CIGNA Healthcare Company, to continue as a Point-of-Service (POS) plan provider for County employees; and (3) authorize the County Manager to enter into a contract with Doctors Health Plan Inc. to continue as the HMO plan provider for County employees.

Resource Persons: Jackye Knight, Director of Human Resources, and Donald Sherrod, Benefits Administrator.

County Manager's Recommendation: Pursuant to a question raised by Commissioner Ellen Reckhow on the possibility of offering more than one POS option, and the Board of Commissioners' unanimously expressed concern for the best possible benefits offerings for County employees, Human Resources negotiated an agreement between all three carriers for a simultaneous offering. Employees will now have the ability to choose the level of coverage that best suits their individual needs from the plans selected as the best offering by the Employee Benefits Committee. The County Manager recommends that the Board agree to HR's request for the authority to enter into a contract with these three carriers.

9. Request to Set a Public Hearing for the Consideration of Providing Parking Spaces for the West Village Development

Staff requests that the Board of County Commissioners set a public hearing for October 26, 1998 to consider approving a shared parking lease agreement between Durham County and Trackside Group LLC, developers of West Village.

The developers of West Village propose to adaptively reuse five vacant Liggett & Myers buildings adjacent to the Carmichael facility (300 North Duke Street) into a mix of apartments, retail shops, and office space. The proposed development requires additional parking facilities for residents during the evening and weekend hours. The lease agreement between Durham County and Trackside Group LLC would provide West Village with 75 parking spaces at no cost during the hours of 6:00 pm to 8:00 am, Monday through Friday, and whenever County operations are closed, such as weekends and holidays.

The County will retain the right to use the parking spaces during the times mentioned above if the County requires the spaces for a special event or function. Trackside Group LLC will bare the sole responsibility to regulate the use of the parking spaces by residents of West Village during the specified hours and will be

required to issue parking decals and install a gated entrance with restricted card access. The lease agreement can be terminated by the County upon 30 days written notice if the County considers that the shared parking arrangement limits or impairs County operations or if the County decides to sale the property.

Resource Person--David M. Powell