



Town of Pittsboro, North Carolina

Department of Planning

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TO: Planning Board
FROM: Roger Waldon, Interim Staff, Planning Department
DATE: August 3, 2015
SUBJECT: Presentation by Conservation Ordinance Review Committee

Tonight the Planning Board will hear a presentation focusing on possible policy and ordinance strategies to help achieve the Town's natural resource conservation objectives. Following the presentation will be an opportunity for Planning Board discussion of the ideas presented. No formal action by the Planning Board is expected at tonight's meeting

Discussion

The presentation and related materials come tonight from Pittsboro's Conservation Ordinance Review Committee. In December of 2012, the Pittsboro Board of Commissioners signed a resolution of support for the Planning Tools for Pittsboro project, with interest in the development of information and recommendations about strategies to protect natural resources. A Conservation Ordinance Review Committee was assembled (CORC), and has been meeting twice per month over the last six months to prepare these materials and recommendations.

A report was made to the Pittsboro Board of Commissioners on July 27, 2015. Included in that agenda item was a presentation summarizing key recommendations being offered by the Committee. It was stated that a more detailed presentation would be made to the Planning Board on August 3 (tonight). During Board of Commissioners discussion, Commissioners expressed interest in exploring whether these recommendations should be folded into the separate, ongoing initiative to completely re-organize Pittsboro's regulations into a Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), or whether consideration and possible adoption of new rules should be considered independently (and earlier). The Board agreed that, following the Planning Board's review and discussion of these ideas, it would be desirable to schedule a work session to provide an opportunity for detailed discussions.

Tonight the Planning Board is being asked to receive the presentation, offer preliminary feedback to the recommendations, and begin identifying key issues and questions that might be addressed in a subsequent work session.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Planning Board receive the presentation and discuss the Committee's recommendations.

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Attachments:

- Cover letter from CORC to Board of Commissioners, dated July 27, 2015.
- CORC Recommendations for implementing a Tree Protection Ordinance
- CORC Recommendations for Implementing a Natural Resource Conservation Ordinance
- Summary of the Natural Resource Conservation Ordinance for Pittsboro
- Summary of the Biodiversity and Wildlife Habitat Assessment for Pittsboro
- Regulatory Strategies to Incorporate Green Infrastructure for NC
- Summary Report: Land Cover Change Analysis and Urban Tree Canopy Assessment for the Town of Pittsboro