

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Board of Commissioners

FROM: Bryan Gruesbeck, Town Manager

**SUBJECT: Riparian Buffer Width Comparisons and Planning and Engineering Department Recommendations**

DATE: May 12, 2014

**Background:** During recent discussions related to the proposed revised Chatham Park Planned Development District Master Plan, concepts related to riparian buffers have been proposed by community interests and the Applicant. Board members have also expressed an interest in the interpretation of the information presented during the discussions. As a result, Staff assembled a comparison and preliminary recommendations related to the buffer widths for Board review and possible future discussion.

Attached please find a table prepared by the Town's Planning and Engineering that compares different current and proposed riparian buffer widths for perennial streams, intermittent streams, ephemeral streams as well as jurisdictional wetlands and perennial waters.

As you can see, the current "Jurisdictions" (see the left column) include current buffer widths identified in existing Town of Pittsboro and Chatham County regulations. The proposed recommendations in the Jurisdiction column include the Southwest Shore recommendations (SSCA), the proposed Chatham Park Master Plan and the Town of Pittsboro "Better Site Design Ordinance Review" from January 2010.

Staff offers recommendations at the bottom of the table for discussion purposes and can provide additional explanation, if requested.

**Action Requested:** Receive the information.