

# BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. E(4)

## AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: April 22, 2003

**TITLE: Discussion of Southern Transition Advisory Board**

<b>DEPARTMENT: Planning</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEARING: NO</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b> <b>A. Ordinance Amending Town Code</b> <b>B. Resolution</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:</b> <b>Patricia McGuire, Planning Administrator,</b> <b>918-7327</b>

### PURPOSE

This item has been prepared in response to a request from Tom High, resident of the University Lake portion of Carrboro's Extra-territorial jurisdiction. A draft ordinance that specifies an extra-territorial jurisdiction seat on the Transportation Advisory Board has been prepared. A resolution that accepts this report is recommended for the Board's adoption.

### INFORMATION

Tom High, a resident of Ray Road, requested that an extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) seat be added to the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB). He also asked that the Board consider establishing a Southern Transition Area Committee and suggested that Carrboro work with the school system to plan for a neighborhood park on the site of the new high school.

It was the consensus of the Board to request that the town staff draft the necessary ordinance provisions to provide for an ETJ position on the Transportation Advisory Board. A draft ordinance that amends the Town Code to designate one seat on the TAB for an ETJ resident seat has been prepared (*Attachment A*). It is recommended that the Board advertise for applicants with the understanding that the newly designated seat would be filled when there is another TAB vacancy. The Board asked the town staff to schedule a Board discussion of establishing a Southern Transition Area Committee and a neighborhood park on the site of the new high school.

A discussion of the southern transition area and information on locating a neighborhood park on a new high school site is presented here.

### Background

Town advisory boards have been established at different times in response to particular needs in the community. These boards provide an opportunity for many citizens to participate in policy making for the community. Membership requirements for town advisory boards vary somewhat, as summarized below:

<b>Board/Commission</b>	<b># of members</b>	<b>In-town</b>	<b>ETJ</b>	<b>Other</b>
Board of Adjustment	9	8	1	-
Planning Board	11	7	2	Two Transition Area. Currently, both

Board/Commission	# of members	In-town	ETJ	Other
Appearance Commission	9			ETJ seats are filled by TA residents. There is one TA vacancy. There have been no ETJ applicants for some time. All must reside, own property or run a business in planning jurisdiction. There are currently four vacancies.
Environmental Advisory Board	7			Same as Appearance Commission
Transportation Advisory Board	8	7		One Board of Aldermen liaison.
Northern Transition Area Advisory Committee	5	0	0	All members must reside in unincorporated areas of Transition Areas.
Downtown Development Commission	8			All must reside, own property, or have a principal place of employment in town. Special efforts shall be made to appoint someone with a business or residence in the downtown.
Recreation and Parks Commission	11	7		One Board of Aldermen, one selected by local school system, two residents of Orange County.
Human Services Advisory Committee	7	7*		* One member may be a resident of the town or the ETJ.
Citizens Cemetery Advisory Committee	5	4		One member may be a non-resident.
Budget Review Committee	7	7*		* One member may be a resident of the ETJ. This committee is not currently active.

**Southern Transition Area Advisory Board.** A southern transition area board is not deemed necessary as the area south of the city limits that might experience urban development and be considered for annexation is very limited in size. Advisory Board representation from the Transition Areas and the Northern Transition Area Advisory Committee has been established in relation to the Joint Planning Land Use Plan and Agreement. The premise for Joint Planning was the desire to limit development in the University Lake watershed and to provide for additional urban development in a measured fashion by establishing areas that would “transition” from rural to urban development. Through the joint planning process, the County’s adoption by reference of the Town’s land use regulations, and the delegation of powers from the County government, the planning jurisdictions of Chapel Hill and Carrboro. As part of this process, opportunities for citizen participation were provided on the Board of Adjustment and Planning Board and, ultimately, a stand-alone committee was established to provide a specific Transition Area focus. Similar to ETJ participation, Transition Area residents are given an opportunity to participate as their neighborhoods go through a process of transition. Recognizing that TA residents cannot vote for elected officials in Carrboro, appointments to these seats are made by the Board of County Commissioners.

**Neighborhood Park on the New High School Site Under Consideration.** The Town’s Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan (1994) proposes a 65-acre “South Community Park” in the general area north of Ray Road and west of Smith Level Road in the vicinity of property that is currently under consideration for a new Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools high school. A combination of active and passive facilities are envisioned. A spur connection to the proposed Morgan Creek Greenway is also included in the plan. A neighborhood park would require approximately ten acres of land. The town may

wish to work with any developers of property in this vicinity to develop either or both of the facilities included in the Master Plan.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There are limited administrative costs associated with amending the Town Code. Should the Board wish to establish a southern transition area board, further evaluation of potential fiscal impact will be needed.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Administration recommends that the Board adopt the ordinance amending the Town Code to designate an ETJ seat on the TAB and adopt the resolution regarding the southern transition area board and neighborhood park