

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(1)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2006

TITLE: Review of a Request from the Friends of Bolin Creek Regarding Dedication of Public Open Space

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING	PUBLIC HEARING: YES _ NO <u>X</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. FOBC Memorandum on Dedication of Open Space	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie McClintock– 541-5339

PURPOSE

Town staff has met with representatives of the Friends of Bolin Creek (FOBC) to discuss the public dedication of open space areas along Bolin Creek. The FOBC has prepared a memorandum on this topic and would like to speak with the Board on this matter. A resolution accepting this report and referring the request to staff for analysis has been prepared for the Board's adoption.

INFORMATION

Following approval of the conditional use permit application for the Claremont architecturally integrated subdivision in November 2005, members of the FOBC met with staff to discuss the desirability of public dedication and eventual acceptance of the open space areas adjacent to Bolin Creek. As has been customary in the ongoing implementation of greenway planning, staff discussed such a scenario with the applicant during the development review process and the applicant had, by the time of conditional use permit approval, been willing to offer dedication to the public of a trail along Bolin Creek. It should be noted that whenever the request or offer of public dedication is made, staff weighs the benefits and limitations of an expanded area over which the town will have maintenance responsibilities and liability so that this information may be considered by the Board of Aldermen in deciding on the possible dedication.

FOBC members have also met with the developers of Claremont to request that, when the final plat is submitted for approval, the open space areas around Bolin Creek be offered for dedication in addition to the trail itself.

The FOBC has prepared a memorandum on this topic (*Attachment B*) and has requested the opportunity to discuss this matter with the Board of Aldermen. The request notes that policy and regulatory changes should be implemented. A change to the Carrboro Vision2020 policy document would not require a public hearing. Public hearings would be needed to proceed with changes to the Facilitated Small Area Plan for Carrboro's Northern Study Area, Joint Planning Land Use Plan or Agreement, or the Carrboro Land Use Ordinance.

FISCAL IMPACT

In general, amending policy and regulatory documents require staff analysis and administration of the proposed amendment, advisory board review, and associated advertising costs. The particular costs vary based on the complexity of the possible change.

RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen adopt the attached resolution accepting the report and referring the request to staff for analysis (*Attachment A*).