

**ATTACHMENT A**

**A RESOLUTION RECEIVING A NEW HORIZONS TASK FORCE UPDATE ON  
TRANSITION ISSUES AND REQUESTING ADDITIONAL UPDATES**

**Resolution No. 124/2006-07**

WHEREAS the Board of Aldermen commissioned the New Horizons Task Force to study and help with transition issues relating to the newly annexed areas; and

WHEREAS, the New Horizons Task Force has met the second Monday of each month since being created;


NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen receive the update and survey report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen request one more update in June of 2007.




## New Horizons Task Force

Presentation to the Carrboro  
Board of Aldermen  
February 20, 2007



## Since Last Presentation September 19, 2006

- 1. discussed the Greenways Summit
- 2. discussed SAPFO
- 3. discussed the proposed development moratorium; received feedback from neighbors; gave to BOA
- 4. discussed the annexation process and received feedback from neighbors; will discuss tonight
- 5. made appointment to the Rogers Road Committee
- 6. discussed Elementary School #10
- 7. received suggestions to ease the tax burden; will discuss tonight
- 8. discussed the transfer station



## Recommendations Regarding Annexation




## Annexation

- In order to provide an open, inclusive and welcoming process, exceed what is required by statute in terms of neighborhood input




## Annexation: Improve Communication

- Form a neighborhood transition group *prior* to annexation
- Inform residents of upcoming hearings and votes starting with the intent to annex
- Post signs and notices in affected areas when preliminary annexation procedures start




## Annexation: Provide Complete & Accurate Information

- Provide realistic numbers for tax increases (for example, base examples on average home value)
- Include all extra fees, such as pet fees, trash bins, vehicle tax, etc.
- Use the public meetings to provide information rather than to try to sell the idea.



### Annexation: Improve Timing

- Time annexations to be effective July 1: closer to elections, and consistent with the County property tax schedule
- (The tax bill for new residents due January 5<sup>th</sup> was for 17 months of taxes)




### Annexation: Improve Transparency

- Have Town staff provide a yearly report to the BOA of all areas that could be annexed
- Have this report flag areas that are expected to be considered for annexation in the coming two years
- Identify Town staff person as a point of contact for the public to give an educated assessment about the possibility of annexation



### Annexation: Provide Services

- Do not annex until services are in place or scheduled to be in place (i.e., fire station built, roads transferred from state to Town, etc.)



### Annexation: Revise Philosophy

- Carrboro should do away with involuntary annexation except in limited circumstances (47 other states have this policy)
- Because Carrboro has the highest density of any municipality in the state, consider that the Town should have stricter annexation standards in place than those called for in state law



### Comments Regarding Taxation



### Taxes: Explore Merging Services

- Town merger initially explored, but ultimately, not a "good idea"
- "There is an opportunity here for Carrboro to develop taxation restraint as a politically progressive goal"
- "However, seriously consider merging select departments (fire, police, public works) to achieve "economies of scale"



### Taxes:

#### Commercial Development

- "Orange County, Chapel Hill, Hillsborough and Carrboro would be better off joining forces and developing a county wide commercial development plan"
- "As the greatest sales tax producer, a location or locations for 'Big Box' development should be identified, such as on Highway 54"



### Comments Regarding Transfer Station



### Transfer Station: Concerns

- Negative sentiment for the transfer station
- Reflects lingering mistrust from annexation
- Important PR opportunity for BOA -- work with the Board of Commissioners to understand and address the concerns of the residents neighboring the transfer station
- Gather and provide accurate information, solicit feedback, implement recommendations



### Summary

- March – May: NHTF examining transfer station issue and topics remaining from survey
- BOA – continue to identify any additional items for NHTF to examine
- NHTF final report to BOA will be in June 2007