

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(3)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: May 18, 2010

SUBJECT: Discussion of Water and Sewer Management, Planning and Boundary Agreement

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING	PUBLIC HEARING: YES _ NO _X_
ATTACHMENTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. ResolutionB. Water & Sewer Boundary AgreementC. Resolution supporting changes requested by the Town of HillsboroughD. Water & Sewer Agreement Map Amendment and supporting documents	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia McGuire, AICP 918-7327 Perdita Holtz, AICP 245-2578

PURPOSE

The Board of Aldermen invited a representative of the Efland-Mebane Small Area Plan Implementation Focus Group to attend a meeting to discuss proposed changes to the Water and Sewer Management Planning and Boundary Agreement. Pete Hallenbeck, who served on the original small area plan task force and is currently a member of the implementation focus group, has accepted the Board's invitation.

INFORMATION

The Water and Sewer Management, Planning and Boundary Agreement (WASMPBA) is an agreement signed in 2001 between Orange County, the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), and the Towns of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Hillsborough. The agreement (*Attachment B*) provides a comprehensive county-wide system of utility service areas upon which signatory entities could rely when making decisions related to issues such as planning, land use, annexation, zoning, and growth management. In order to implement adopted plans, the staffs of Orange County and Hillsborough are proposing changes to the Agreement.

Proposals to amend the WASMPBA in accordance with adopted plans in Hillsborough and central Orange County were discussed by staff in January 2010. Staff proposed that the changes be presented to all elected officials of the signatory parties to the agreement, with the addition of OWASA officials as well, at the Spring 2010 Assembly of Governments. The changes were presented at the March 25, 2010 Assembly of Governments. These proposals were reviewed by the Board of Aldermen on April 6, 2010 and are described in more detail below (See also Item D. 3 at http://www.townofcarrboro.org/BoA/Agendas/2010/04_06_2010.htm).

Hillsborough and Orange County. In 2006, a Hillsborough-Orange County Strategic Growth Plan was developed jointly through a Steering Committee and with the assistance of planning consultants to provide

direction and guidance to the Town of Hillsborough and Orange County. The plan identifies the desired type, rate, timing, and location for future growth occurring over the next 20 years within and around Hillsborough and builds on previous planning efforts, including the WASMPBA, the Hillsborough Vision 2010 Plan, and the Orange County/Hillsborough Urban Transition Area Task Force. The plan was endorsed in 2007.

The following changes to the WASMPBA were proposed to further implement the Hillsborough-Orange County Strategic Growth Plan:

- Create a category of "Hillsborough Long-Term Interest Area"
- Change approximately 12,869 acres from Hillsborough Primary Service Area to Hillsborough Long-Term Interest Area (i.e., remove acreage from potential water and sewer service areas)
- Change approximately 240 acres from Orange County Long-Term Interest Area to Hillsborough Primary Service Area (i.e., add acreage to potential water and sewer service areas)

The Board of Aldermen considered these requests on April 6th and adopted a resolution in support of the changes (*Attachment C*).

Orange County. The Board of County Commissioners created the Efland-Mebane Small Area Plan Task Force in 2004 to develop a small area plan to address conditions in the area and to update the goals and objectives included in a 1991 study. The resulting Plan was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on June 27, 2006; the implementation task force was created soon after to assist staff with implementing the Plan's many recommendations. The Plan's recommendations included changes to the WASMPBA as follows:

- Change approximately 1,941 acres (includes Interstate right-of-way) from Orange County Long Term Interest Area to Orange County Primary Service Area (i.e., add acreage to potential water and sewer service areas). As a result of discussion at the AOG meeting, additional information from the Orange County Planning Staff on the Bowman Road Area south of the city of Mebane is provided in Attachment D.
- Change approximately 100 acres from Orange County Primary Service area to Orange County Long Term Interest Area (i.e., remove acreage from potential water and sewer service areas). As a result of discussion at the AOG meeting, the acreage proposed for removal from the Orange County Primary Service Area was amended from 170 to 100.

These changes are illustrated on Appendix A to the WASMPBA (*Attachment D-1*). Additional information and detailed maps regarding the amendment are included as *Attachments D-2 to D-6*.

The Board of Aldermen also reviewed these proposed changes on April 6 and invited a representative of the implementation task force to a later meeting to discuss the changes associated with the Efland-Mebane Small Area Plan further before taking any action.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen consider the resolution (*Attachment A*) amending the Water and Sewer Boundary Agreement.