

GUILFORD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Transportation Element

GOAL #1: Support a functional countywide transportation network that is environmentally sound in design and promotes safety, efficiency, and choice for the residents and visitors of Guilford County.

Objective 1.1 Seek to maximize the functionality and efficiency of current and future network components.

Policy 1.1.1 Present for adoption the “Collector Street Plan” for unincorporated Guilford County. *[MPO/Planning staff, fall 2006]*

Policy 1.1.2 Encourage the adoption of the “Collector Street Plan” by other affected municipalities in Guilford County. *[MPO/Planning staff, fall 2006/winter 2007]*

Policy 1.1.3 Develop Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Guilford County Public Schools to require consultation of potential school sites/expansion projects to identify possible impacts to the local transportation network prior to acquisition. *[Planning staff/GCPS staff, initiate winter 2007]* (See Future Land Use policy 1.2.3)

Objective 1.2 Identify and overcome system “gaps” that inhibit the provision of a seamless transportation network throughout Guilford County, and beyond.

Policy 1.2.1 Obtain and/or compile maps of existing and proposed transportation network components; identify geographical and service area gaps. *[PART/MPO’s/Planning staff – On-going]*

Policy 1.2.2 Provide staff assistance, as requested, to support local and regional transportation planning efforts. *[Planning staff – On-going]*

Objective 1.3 Thoughtfully review existing development regulations and standards related to transportation, leading to prudent changes that support and encourage environmentally sound design and modal options.

Policy 1.3.1 Review and recommend changes to off-street parking requirements/standards in the Development Ordinance; provide credits/reductions for projects that incorporate pedestrian, bicycle, transit facilities, or which exhibit

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innovative design that advance adopted Plan goals, objectives and policies. *[Planning staff, fall 2006]*

Policy 1.3.2 Review and recommend changes to subdivision standards in the Development Ordinance that will enhance safety, “calm traffic”, improve efficiency, and promote connectivity. *[Planning/NCDOT staff, summer 2007]*

Policy 1.3.3 Review and recommend changes to landscape/buffering standards in the Development Ordinance that will address noise impacts, reduce air pollution, and promote safe, aesthetically pleasing design. *[Planning staff, fall 2007]*

Policy 1.3.4 Review and consider changes to the Development Ordinance related to Fire Apparatus Access Road standards contained in the 2000 International Fire Prevention Code Appendix D. *[Planning/Fire Marshall staff, TBD]*

Objective 1.4 Encourage transportation improvements that will respect and support the rural ambiance and character of Guilford County.

Policy 1.4.1 Investigate opportunities with NCDOT to establish or modify “context sensitive” roadway design standards, speed limits, signage, et cetera, for rural areas of Guilford County. *[NCDOT/Cooperative Extension/Planning staff, summer 2007]* (See Housing policy 1.1.1)

Objective 1.5 Support non-motorized modes of transportation and system linkages throughout Guilford County and adjoining areas.

Policy 1.5.1 Assist in public awareness efforts to advise citizens of Guilford County of existing and future trail systems. *[CED staff, On-going]*

Policy 1.5.2 Annually pursue funding sources to support the expansion and/or connectivity of trail systems throughout Guilford County. *[CED staff/MPO, each grant cycle]*

Objective 1.6 Encourage the use of clean fuels and clean fuel technologies.

Policy 1.6.1 Review contents of the “Early Action Compact” document, evaluate and seek continuation of successful strategies and initiatives to address air quality issues. *[PTCOG/PART/Planning staff, On-going]*

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Policy 1.6.2 Investigate public/private opportunities to promote the use and availability of clean and alternative fuels throughout Guilford County. *[CED staff, On-going]*

GOAL #2: Foster initiatives and innovations that will enhance and expand Guilford County's role as the mid-Atlantic transportation/distribution hub.

Objective 2.1 Actively partner with PART, MPO's, NCDOT, and the Airport Authority to advocate for necessary federal, state and local funding to support necessary enhancements to, and expansions of, Guilford County's transportation network.

Policy 2.1.1 Guilford County will seek and maintain active participation on all MPO's serving the County. *[Planning staff, On-going]*

Policy 2.1.2 Guilford County will actively participate in all regional transportation efforts (PART, Heart of the Triad, et cetera). *[Planning staff, On-going]*

Policy 2.1.3: Guilford County will request quarterly meetings between planning and Airport Authority staff to exchange information of mutual interest. *[Planning staff/Airport Authority staff, beginning winter 2006]*

Objective 2.2 Support efforts that promote Guilford County as the mid-Atlantic transportation/distribution hub.

Policy 2.2.1 Guilford County will work with, and support, promotional efforts which advocate, and advance, the County's position as the Mid-Atlantic transportation/distribution hub. *[Chamber of Commerce, Partnership Organizations, On-going]*

Policy 2.2.2 Incorporation of "Mid-Atlantic transportation/distribution" language in County economic development outreach efforts/publications. *[CED, On-going]*

Objective 2.3 Identify existing development regulations or standards related to transportation/distribution that require change to better position Guilford County to compete in a national and global economy.

Policy 2.3.1 Investigate development standards in competitive locations. *[Planning staff, beginning fall, 2006]*

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Policy 2.3.2 Propose changes to existing development regulations or standards related to transportation/distribution in the Development Ordinance to better position Guilford County to compete in a national and global economy. *[Planning staff, spring 2006]*

Objective 2.4 Advocate the importance of existing and future transit services within and adjacent to Guilford County, and seek funding sources and opportunities to support on-going maintenance and system expansions (Guilford County Transportation Department, PART, High Point and Greensboro Transit Systems).

Policy 2.4.1 Endorse funding proposals that will expand transit services to unincorporated areas of Guilford County. *[PART/Planning staff, On-going]*

Policy 2.4.2 Support budget requests and funding proposals that will enhance and expand transportation services for seniors, the disabled, and others seeking access to County programs and services (e.g., Public Health, Social Services, etc.).*[Guilford County Transportation Dept., On-going]*

Policy 2.4.3 Assist PART in locating remote parking sites throughout Guilford County to advance expansion of transit services. *[PART/Planning staff, as requested]*

Policy 2.4.4 Support, when necessary, Development Ordinance amendments that will allow T.O.D. (transit oriented development) development activities and land uses to complement innovative transportation/transit advancements. *[Planning staff, fall 2008]*

Objective 2.5 Acknowledge and advocate the importance of existing and future railway resources and facilities throughout Guilford County and North Carolina.

Policy 2.5.1 Educate elected officials, and the public at large, on the important role rail provides to Guilford County in terms of freight movements and passenger services. *[MPO Staff/Planning staff, TBD]*

Policy 2.5.1.1 Guilford County will participate in any railway study, including high speed rail, envisioned to traverse through the county. *[Planning staff, when deemed appropriate]*

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- Policy 2.5.2 Thoughtfully consider public/private ventures to enhance and expand rail service (including high-speed rail) serving Guilford County. *[MPO/Planning staff, when opportunities arise]*