AGENDA

Catawba County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Monday, March 7, 2016, 9:30 a.m.
Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room, 1924 Courthouse
30 North College Avenue, Newton, NC

1. Call to Order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Invocation.

4. Approval of the Minutes from the Board's Regular and Closed Session of Meetings of February 1, 2016.

5. Recognition of Special Guests.

6. Public Comments.

7. Public Hearings:
   a. Rezoning Request – Tara Fox – Approx. 3.87 acres from PD Planned Development to R-20 Residential District. *Presented by Planning and Parks Director Jacky Eubanks.*
   b. Rezoning Request – Catawba Management LLC – 3.55 acres from R-30 Residential to General Industrial (GI) District. *Presented by Planning and Parks Director Jacky Eubanks.*

8. Appointments.

9. Consent Agenda:
   a. Delinquent 2015 Real Estate Property Tax.
   b. Two Tax Refund Requests.

10. Departmental Reports.
    A. Planning and Parks/Western Piedmont Council of Governments.
       Resolution for Adoption of the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan. *Presented by Planning and Parks Director Jacky Eubanks and Western Piedmont Council of Governments Director of Planning and Transportation John Marshall and GIS Technician Todd Stroupe.*
    B. Library.
       Revision to Catawba County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 24: Libraries. *Presented by Library Director Suzanne White.*
    C. Utilities and Engineering.
       Authority to Request from NCDOT the Installation of Two Sleeves and Approximately 5000 Feet of Dry Sewer Line during HWY 16 Construction. *Presented by Utilities and Engineering Director Barry Edwards.*
    D. Elections.
       State of the County – Board of Elections. *Presented by Elections Director Amanda Duncan.*

11. Other Items of Business.

12. Attorneys' Report.

13. Manager's Report.

14. Adjournment.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: Individuals needing assistance should contact the County Clerk at 828-465-8990 within a reasonable time prior to the meeting. Access to the 1924 Courthouse for individuals with disabilities is at the south side ("A" Street). The elevator is located at the north end of the building. Participation in public meetings is without regard to race, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, color, or disability**.**
INFOTALK/INTERNET: The Catawba County Telephone Information System will allow you to use your touch tone telephone to obtain current information on Catawba County 24 hours a day. Information is updated on a regular basis. Dial 465-8468 and INFOTALK will direct your questions with easy to understand instructions. Reach Catawba County on the Internet at http://www.catawbacountync.gov.

CALENDAR: The next Board of Commissioners Meeting will take place on Monday, March 21, 2016, 7:00 p.m. in the Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room, 1924 Courthouse, 30 North College Avenue, Newton.

PREVIEW OF COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016, 9:30 A.M.
ROBERT E. HIBBITTS MEETING ROOM
1924 COURTHOUSE, NEWTON, N.C.

The Catawba County Board of Commissioners will hold public hearings on 1) a request to rezone two parcels at 3040 and 3062 Keller Street in the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Planning District from R-30 Residential to G-I General Industrial and 2) a request to rezone 3.87 acres located on Charlotte Street in Conover in the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Planning District from PD-Planned Development to R-20 Residential, when the Board meets at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, March 7, 2016, at the 1924 Courthouse at 30 North College Avenue in Newton.

The Board will also consider adopting a 2016 regional bike plan for the four-county area of Catawba, Alexander, Burke and Caldwell Counties, which will offer a framework for development of bike facilities, programs and policies that will support safe and efficient bicycling within the region. The Board will consider amendments to the County Code pertaining to Library Services to revise the duties and powers of the Library Board of Trustees and broaden representation on the Board of Trustees to include all municipalities and areas where library branches are located. The Board will consider a recommendation to give the County Manager authority to request from the North Carolina Department of Transportation the installation of two sleeves and approximately 5,000 feet of dry sewer lines during Highway 16 construction.

The Board will consider authorizing the County Tax Collector to officially advertise delinquent 2015 tax liens as prescribed by North Carolina General Statutes and two tax refund requests. And the Board will receive another in a series of State of the County reports on the Catawba County Elections Office.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. The Board will hold a public hearing to receive citizen comments and consider an application to rezone approximately 3.87 acres located on Charlotte Street in Conover in the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Planning District from PD Planned Development to R-20 Residential District. The current PD Planned Development district requires a minimum lot size of 80,000 square feet (2 acres) and is considered a high intensity "special use" district. Predominant uses in this district include multifamily residential, large scale non-residential, high density subdivisions, and mixed use housing types. The R-20 residential district requires a minimum lot size of 20,000 square feet (1/2 acre) and is considered a "general use" district. The district provides for single-family residential and agriculture.

The property to be rezoned is vacant. Properties to the north, south, east and west are all zoned R-20 Residential, and contain stick-built single-family homes, a single family modular home, a doublewide manufactured home and a vacant parcel.

In 1985, applicant David T. Fredell petitioned to have the subject parcel rezoned from R-2 (medium density residential) to Group Development in order to accommodate 28 apartment (multi-family) home units. The Catawba County Planning Board considered the request at its October 28, 1985 meeting. The Board of Commissioners approved this rezoning request on January 20, 1986. The subject property, along with properties located on Charlotte Street, is not located within a zoning overlay. Residential development standards (e.g. setbacks, building height) within the Unified Development Ordinance will regulate development of the property if it is rezoned to R-20 Residential.

Public water and sewer are not currently available to the site; however, water lines have been extended approximately 215 feet north of the subject parcel. Charlotte Street is considered a local residential street and is State-maintained from its intersection with Springs Road to its intersection with Thomasville Road, but is not State-maintained south of its intersection with Thomasville Road. There are no recommended improvements for Charlotte Street in the 2035 Greater Hickory Urban Area Long Range Transportation Plan. No traffic counts were available for Charlotte Street. Rezoning the property from PD to R-20 residential would reduce the opportunity for increased traffic on the roadway.

The St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, accepted on April 21, 2003, serves as the current land use plan for this area. Future Land Use Recommendations depict the property as being located in an area recommended to remain residential. Proposed Density Districts would leave the area as High Density Residential (1/2 acre lots). The Planned Development district exceeds the density recommendations for residential area recognized in the Plan.

Staff recommends the 3.87 acres owned by John Chrisley Fox, Jr. be rezoned from PD Planned Development to R-20

Residential District based upon the property's proximity to other R-20 Residential properties located along Charlotte Street and the request being consistent with the accepted St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, future land use recommendations. The Planning Board held a public hearing on January 25, 2016, to consider the request. No one spoke in favor of or in opposition to the request. The Board shared no comments or concerns about the request. The Planning Board voted 8-0 to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that this property be rezoned from PD Planned Development to R-20 Residential District based upon the reasons stated above for staff's recommendation.

B. The Board will hold a public hearing to receive citizen comments and consider an application to rezone two parcels totaling 3.55 acres at 3040 and 3062 Keller Street in the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Planning District from R-30 Residential to General Industrial (GI) district. The R-30 Residential District is a medium-density district allowing one home per 30,000 square feet (approximately 3/4 acre). General uses of the R-30 Residential district include single family housing and agricultural production. The GI district provides for intensive manufacturing, processing, and assembly uses.

The subject parcels are within the WS-IV Watershed Protected Area established to offer protection of surface water from pollutants. This Protected Area allows 36% built upon area if a curb and gutter system is not constructed. Both parcels are located within the Doublewide Manufactured Home-Overlay district which allows for manufactured housing. The parcels are zoned R-30 Residential and there is a single-wide manufactured home located on each parcel. A parcel to the west is also zoned R-30 Residential and contains an older single-wide manufactured home, which appears unoccupied. A parcel to the south is zoned M-1 (Industrial) by the City of Claremont and is the location of Cargo Transporters. Parcels to the north and east are zoned GI General Industrial and contain an unoccupied single-family home, and are undeveloped, respectively.

A public sewer line and sewer pump station exists near Mull Creek to the east of the properties. Public water exists along North Oxford Street, which is designated as a minor thoroughfare in the 2035 Greater Hickory Urban Area Transportation Plan. It extends from US 70 in Claremont to Rock Barn Road. No road improvements are recommended for the road north of I-40. Traffic counts taken in 2011 on North Oxford Street just south of Keller Street measured 4,400. Based on design and construction, the road should handle at least 8,000 cars per day without any loss to traffic service. Development of the property should not overburden the existing roadway. Keller Street is a local residential gravel road. If the rezoning is approved, Keller Street would not be used to access nonresidential development.

The St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, adopted on April 21, 2003, serves as the current land use plan for this area. Future Land Use Recommendations do not depict the properties as located in an area for future industrial use. The properties are, however, directly adjacent to and bordered on three sides by property zoned for General Industrial use as well as property zoned M-1 (industrial, manufacturing, and warehousing district) within Claremont's planning and zoning jurisdiction.

Staff recommends the two parcels totaling 3.55 acres be rezoned from R-30 Residential to GI General Industrial based upon the request being in harmony with the existing adjacent industrial land use and the property being in close proximity to Interstate 40, a major transportation facility. The Planning Board held a public hearing on January 25, 2016, to consider the request. No one spoke in favor of or in opposition to the request. The Planning Board had no comments and shared no concerns with respect to the request. The Planning Board voted 8-0 to submit a favorable recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to rezone the two parcels totaling 3.55 acres from R-30 Residential to General Industrial (GI) based upon the reasons stated above for staff's recommendation.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, the Board will consider accepting a report from the Catawba County Tax Collector setting forth the total amount of unpaid taxes for the current year and consider adopting a resolution ordering the Tax Collector to advertise the delinquent tax liens as prescribed by the Statutes. As of January 31, 2016, delinquent real property taxes in Catawba County totaled $4,498,664, which represents 6.30% of the 2015 real property levy.

B. The Board will consider two refund requests totaling $8,112.93 that have been made to the Tax Office. The records have been checked and these refunds verified; therefore, the Tax Collector is asking for approval of the refund requests. According to North Carolina General Statute 105-381, a Taxpayer who has paid his or her taxes may request a refund (in writing) for the amount that was paid through error.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. PLANNING AND PARKS/WESTERN PIEDMONT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Board will consider the adoption of the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan. The Western Piedmont Council of Governments received a planning grant in 2013 from the North Carolina Department of Transportation to prepare a regional bike plan for the four-county region of Catawba, Alexander, Burke, and Caldwell Counties. The purpose of the bicycle plan is to offer a framework for development of bike facilities, programs and policies that will support safe and efficient bicycling within the region. The goal of the Plan focuses on safety and engineering, transportation, recreation, health and education, and economic vitality.

Through the planning process sixteen bicycle routes were identified in Catawba County. Five are recognized as high priority, five are medium priority, and six are low priority. Recommendations for each of the routes vary from adding signage identifying it as a bicycle route, widening road shoulders, striping bike lanes, or recognizing lanes as sharrows (widened lanes shared by both vehicles and bicycles).

Mr. Todd Stroupe with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments presented the Western Piedmont Bike Plan to the Planning Board on January 25, 2016. One board member asked if the identified routes currently provided enough right-of-way for improvements. Overall, the Planning Board felt bicycle safety was a concern, especially on rural roads, and the plan is a good start toward improving bicycle transportation and safety. The Planning Board voted 8-0 to favorably recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt the resolution supporting the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan. The Board's Policy and Public Works Subcommittee recommends adoption of this Plan.

B. LIBRARY

The Board will consider amending the Catawba County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 24: Libraries. In June 2015, the Board of Commissioners adopted the Library's recently completed Strategic Plan, developed to serve as a compass guiding the Library's programs and services through 2019. This Strategic Plan incorporates several objectives aimed at moving the Library forward as the community's place to connect, explore and grow. The adoption of this plan signifies a call to action for Library staff, members of the Library Board of Trustees, Friends of the Library, the Board of Commissioners, and other community advocates and champions who recognize the value of library services. In order to ensure alignment between the Library Board of Trustees' efforts and the objectives embedded in the Strategic Plan, staff initiated a review of Article II of the Catawba County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 24: Libraries, which deals specifically with the composition, powers and duties of the Library Board of Trustees. Staff's review of the entire Chapter 24 identified several other areas that require updates to reflect how the advisory board currently operates.

The proposed revision to board powers and duties, Section 24-37, allows for alignment with standard advisory roles, including the board role of assisting in the development and implementation of a Strategic Plan for Library Services, supporting library adherence to state and national standards for Library Services, promoting the vision and mission of the public library in the community and advocating for equal and unrestricted access, and making recommendations on library services, policies, and facilities in consultation with the library director. Staff engaged the Library Board of Trustees in the development of this proposed revision of Article 2, taking their feedback into consideration and integrating their input. The Library Board of Trustees unanimously supports these revisions and took formal action to recommend them to the Board of Commissioners.

Upon review of Section 24-36 establishing the Library Board of Trustees and determining composition, the need to revise board composition to allow for more equal representation from municipalities with a library branch presence was identified. At the time the Library Board of Trustees was created, Newton was the only municipality in which the Library had a branch presence. Now, however, there are also County branch libraries in Claremont, Conover, and Maiden, and all of these municipalities (including Newton) contribute either financial or in-kind support to library branch operations.

The proposed revision to this section allows for two of the board positions to be filled by representatives nominated by the respective governing bodies of the four municipalities on a rotating basis. The governing bodies may nominate a council member or a citizen, with final appointment authority resting with the Board of Commissioners. After serving one four-year term, the municipal representative rotates off the board and the next municipality nominates a member for consideration by the Board of Commissioners for final appointment.

An additional change not specifically discussed with the Library Board of Trustees (which serves in an advisory capacity), but consistent with the changes recommended by the Trustees, includes revision of Section 24-5, Library Director, to remove reference to trustees' participation in the selection process of the library director, as this has not been followed for the hiring of at least the last two library directors and the County Manager's Office has full hiring authority for this position.

Last, the code review identified that Article 3, Law Library, be stricken in its entirety, as the Justice Center Law Library was disbanded some 12-15 years ago with the advent of online legal resources providing more cost efficient and timely legal information for both legal staff and the public. The Board's Policy and Public Works Subcommittee recommends the proposed amendments to the Catawba County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 24: Libraries.

C. UTILITIES AND ENGINEERING

The Board will consider authorizing the County Manager to work with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to accomplish the installation of approximately 350 feet of steel encasement pipes and approximately 5,000 linear feet of dry sewer line as part of NCDOT's project for the widening of NC Highway 16, and the inclusion of the funding for this project in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016/2017 County Budget.

In similar fashion to the future use sleeves that were installed during the construction of the new US Highway 321, the County has a unique opportunity to capitalize on the impending NCDOT project of widening NC Highway 16. In analyzing the proposed road widening project, with specific regard to providing sewer service to the area in the future, staff recommends the County take advantage of the NCDOT project and requests that future use sleeves and dry sewer lines be installed as part of the road widening project.

Staff believes the installation of future use sleeves under the widened NC Highway 16 is a prudent decision as this will allow for simplified and more cost effective future access, via gravity sewer, to the west side of the widened highway (acreage affronting South Oliver Cross Road, Buffalo Shoals Road, Anderson Mountain Road and NC Highway 16). If approved, these proposed future use sleeves will be installed as part of the NCDOT widening project at the tributaries on the Burke property. The cost for the future use sleeves is estimated to be $80,000.

In addition to the future use sleeves, staff believes working with NCDOT to have the proposed dry sewer lines installed as part of the widening project is also a sensible action that will save hundreds of thousands of dollars in the future. The proposed dry sewer lines will be installed along the widened highway between a tributary located on the Burke property and the high point near Airport Road. Providing sewer service along this portion of NC Highway 16 is best achieved during NCDOT's highway widening project because the proposed roadway alignment negates the future ability of utilizing the natural drainage features in this area, as the tributary will be within the proposed new right-of-way and most likely will be piped along this portion of the NCDOT project. The cost for the installation of the dry sewer lines is estimated to be $450,000 if installed by NCDOT during the highway widening project. Cost to construct said lines after highway widening will be more expensive due to proximity of new NC Highway 16 right-of-way, elevation and tributary. Exact increase in cost cannot be determined as new roadway elevations are unknown at this time. However, given the anticipated new roadway elevation, staff anticipates cost to approximately double to roughly $900,000. When placed into service (made wet) this 5,000 linear feet of sewer line will serve approximately 880 acres.

In analyzing the remaining area around the widening project, within the Southeastern Catawba County (SECC) Service Area, staff recommends that instead of installing additional dry sewer lines along the limited access highway, a more feasible approach to providing sewer service to the area around the Highway 16/Buffalo Shoals Road intersection will be best accomplished by following the natural drainage features and tributaries in the area that are not impacted by the highway widening project. The Board's Policy and Public Works Subcommittee passed the item on to the full Board of Commissioners for a decision without a recommendation.

D. BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The Board will receive a report on the "State of the County" from a Board of Elections perspective from Elections Director Amanda Duncan.

CONTACT: DAVE HARDIN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER 465-8464

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Chris Timberlake, Planner

DATE: March 7, 2016

IN RE: Rezoning Request – Tara Fox

REQUEST

Consider an application to rezone approximately 3.87 acres from PD Planned Development to R-20 Residential District.

Purpose of Zoning District

The current PD Planned Development district, requires a minimum lot size of 80,000 square feet (2 acres), and is considered a high intensity "special use" district. Predominate uses in this district include multifamily residential, large scale non-residential, high density subdivisions, and mixed use housing types. The R-20 residential district requires a minimum lot size of 20,000 square feet (1/2 acre) and is considered a "general use" district. The district provides for single-family residential and agriculture.

REVIEW/BACKGROUND

Location/Zoning

The property for which the rezoning request is being considered is located in the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Planning District, Clines Township, and further identified by Parcel Identification Number 3733-05-09-2370.

The property depicted as Parcel 1, on the attached map, is zoned PD Planned Development Residential and is currently vacant. The surrounding parcels contain the zoning districts and uses described below.

- *North* – Parcels 3 and 4 are zoned R-20 Residential (1/2 acre minimum). Parcel 3 is occupied with a single-family modular home, while parcel 4 is vacant.

- *South* – Parcels 6 and 7 are zoned R-20 Residential (1/2 acre). Both parcels are occupied by stick-built single-family homes.

- *East* – Parcel 2 is zoned R-20 Residential (1/2 acre) and is occupied with a stick-built single-family home.

- *West*- Parcel 5 is zoned R-20 Residential (1/2 acre) and is occupied with a doublewide manufactured home.

Zoning History

In 1985, applicant David T. Fredell petitioned to have the subject parcel (Parcel 1), rezoned from R-2 (medium density residential) to Group Development in order to accommodate 28 apartment (multi-family) home units. The Catawba County Planning Board considered the request at its October 28, 1985 meeting. The Board of Commissioners voted to rezone the property from R-2 (medium density residential) to Group Development at its meeting held on January 20, 1986.

Land Use

The subject property along with the properties located on Charlotte Street, are not located within a zoning overlay. Residential development standards (e.g. setbacks, building height) within the Unified Development Ordinance will regulate development of the property if it is rezoned to R-20 Residential.

Utilities

Public water and sewer are not currently available to the site; however, water lines have been extended approximately 215 feet north of the subject parcel.

Transportation

Charlotte Street is considered a local residential street and is state maintained from its intersection with Springs Road to its intersection with Thomasville Road. Charlotte Street is not state maintained south of its intersection with Thomasville Road. There are no recommended improvements for Charlotte Street in the 2035 Greater Hickory Urban Area Long Range Transportation Plan. No traffic counts were available for Charlotte Street. Rezoning the property from PD to R-20 residential would reduce the opportunity for increased traffic on the roadway.

Land Use Plan

The St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, accepted on April 21, 2003, serves as the current land use plan for this area. Map 6, titled “Future Land Use Recommendations," depicts the property as being located in an area recommended to remain residential. Map 5, titled “Proposed Density Districts” proposes that the area remain High Density Residential (1/2 acre lots). The Planned Development district exceeds the density recommendations for residential area recognized in the Plan.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the 3.87 acres owned by John Chrisley Fox, Jr. be rezoned from PD Planned Development to R-20 Residential District based upon:

1) The property's proximity to other R-20 Residential properties located along Charlotte Street; and
2) The request being consistent with the accepted St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, future land use recommendations.

Planning Board Public Hearing Discussion

The Planning Board held a public hearing on January 25, 2016 to consider the request. No one spoke in favor or in opposition to the request. The board shared no comments or concerns about the request.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Board voted 8-0 to recommend to the Catawba County Board of Commissioners the 3.87 acres owned by John Chrisley Fox, Jr. be rezoned from PD Planned Development to R-20 Residential District based upon:

1) The property's proximity to other R-20 Residential properties located along Charlotte Street; and
2) The request being consistent with the accepted St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, future land use recommendations.

Applicant

Tara Fox

Request

Rezone 3.87 acres from PD Planned Development (28 multi-family apartments) to R-20 Residential (20,000 square feet, .46 acres)

Location

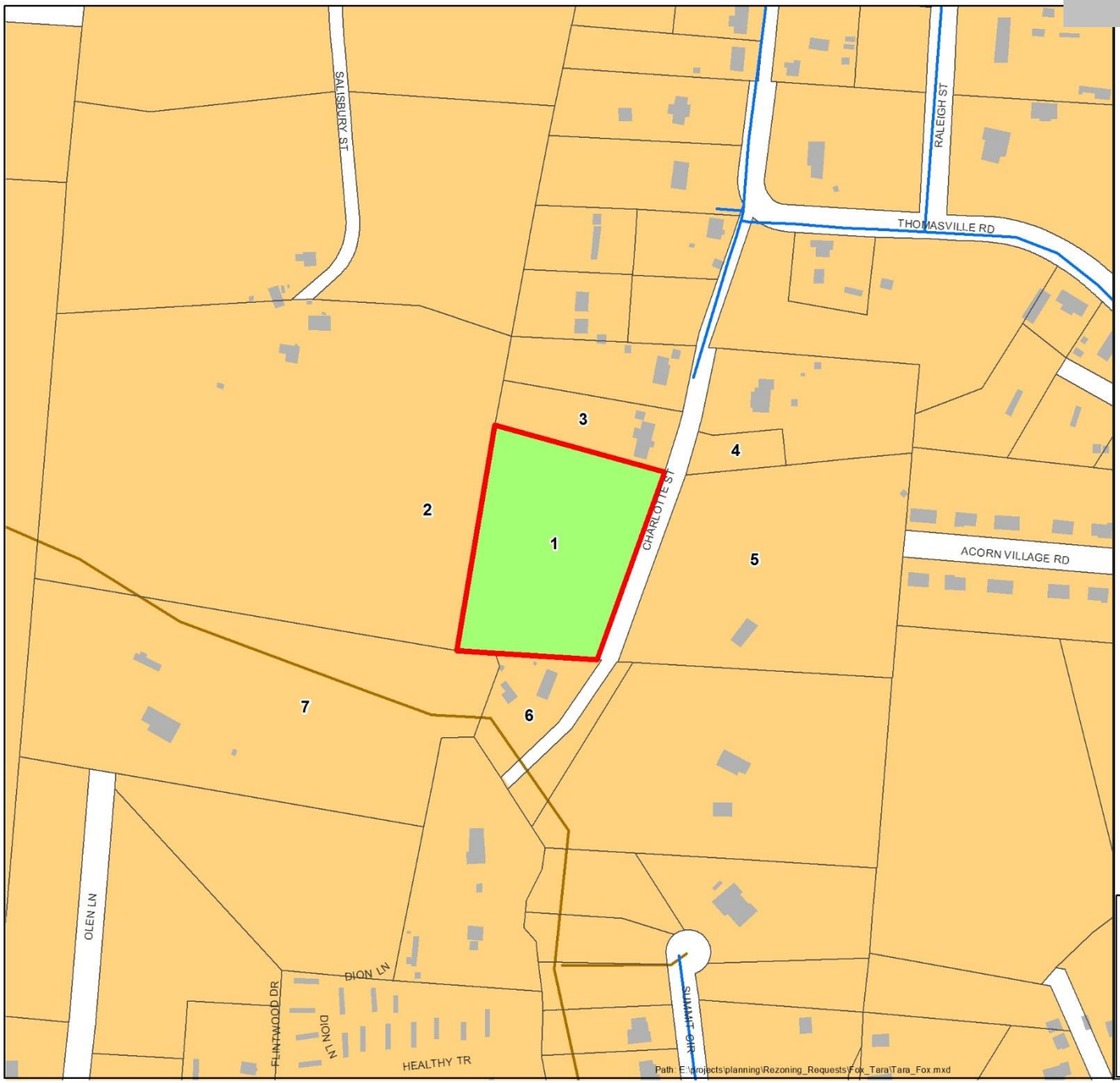
Charlotte Street, Parcel Identification 3733-05-09-2370

Date

March 7, 2016

REZONING REQUEST MAP

Applicant: Tara Fox
PIN - 373305092370
PD Planned Development to
R-20 Residential



Subject Parcel
Water Lines
Sewer Lines
Structures

County Zoning

PD
R-20

No Overlay Districts

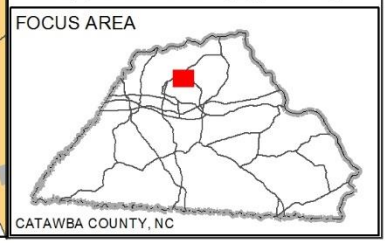
1 Through 7 - See Adjacent Property Owner List

N

1 inch = 300 feet

This map product was prepared from the Catawba County, NC, Geographic Information System. Catawba County has made substantial efforts to ensure the accuracy of location and labeling information contained on this map. Catawba County promotes and recommends the independent verification of any data contained on this map product by the user. The County of Catawba, its employees and agents disclaim, and shall not be held liable for any and all damages, loss or liability, whether direct, indirect or consequential which arises or may arise from this map product or the use thereof by any person or entity.

FOCUS AREA



REZONING REQUEST MAP

Applicant: Tara Fox
PIN - 373305092370
PD Planned Development to
R-20 Residential

Water Lines
Sewer Lines
Subject Parcel
Creeks & Streams
Parcels

1 Through 7 - See Adjacent Property Owner List

N

1 inch = 300 feet

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FOCUS AREA

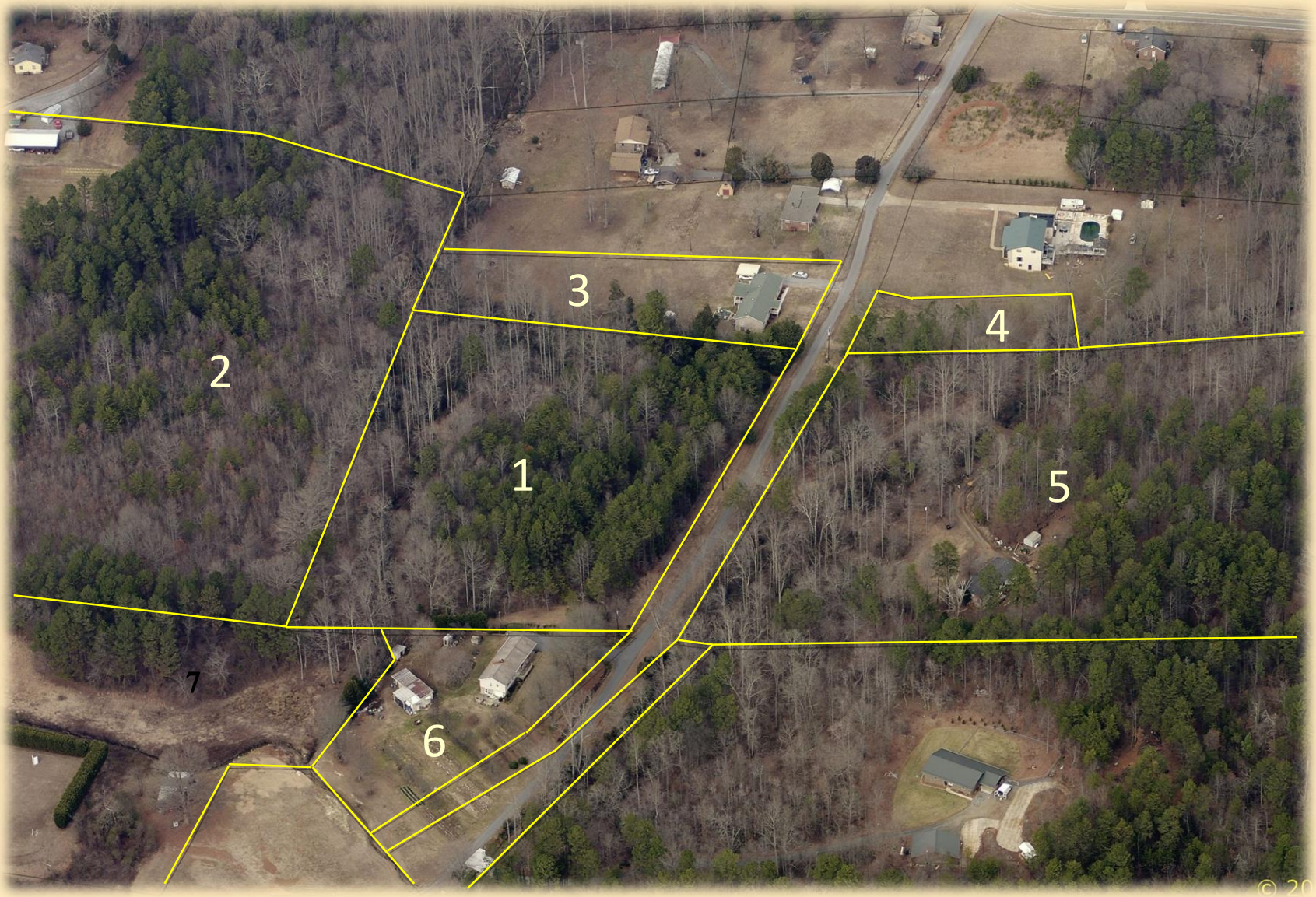
CATAWBA COUNTY, NC

Path: E:\projects\planning\Rezoning_Requests\Fox_Tara\Tara_Fox_3.mxd

Subject Property

Adjacent Properties

Subject & Adjacent Properties – North View



Purpose - Review

- The PD Planned Development district, considered a "special district," encourages the master planning of large scale, multiple or mixed use development patterns.

- The R-20 Residential district requires a minimum lot size of 20,000 square feet (.46 acres per dwelling) and is considered a high density "general use" district. Predominate uses are single-family houses and agriculture.

Utilities

- Public water and sewer are not available at the site.
- A water line exists approximately 215 feet north of the subject parcel.
- A sewer line exists approximately 300 feet south of the subject parcel.

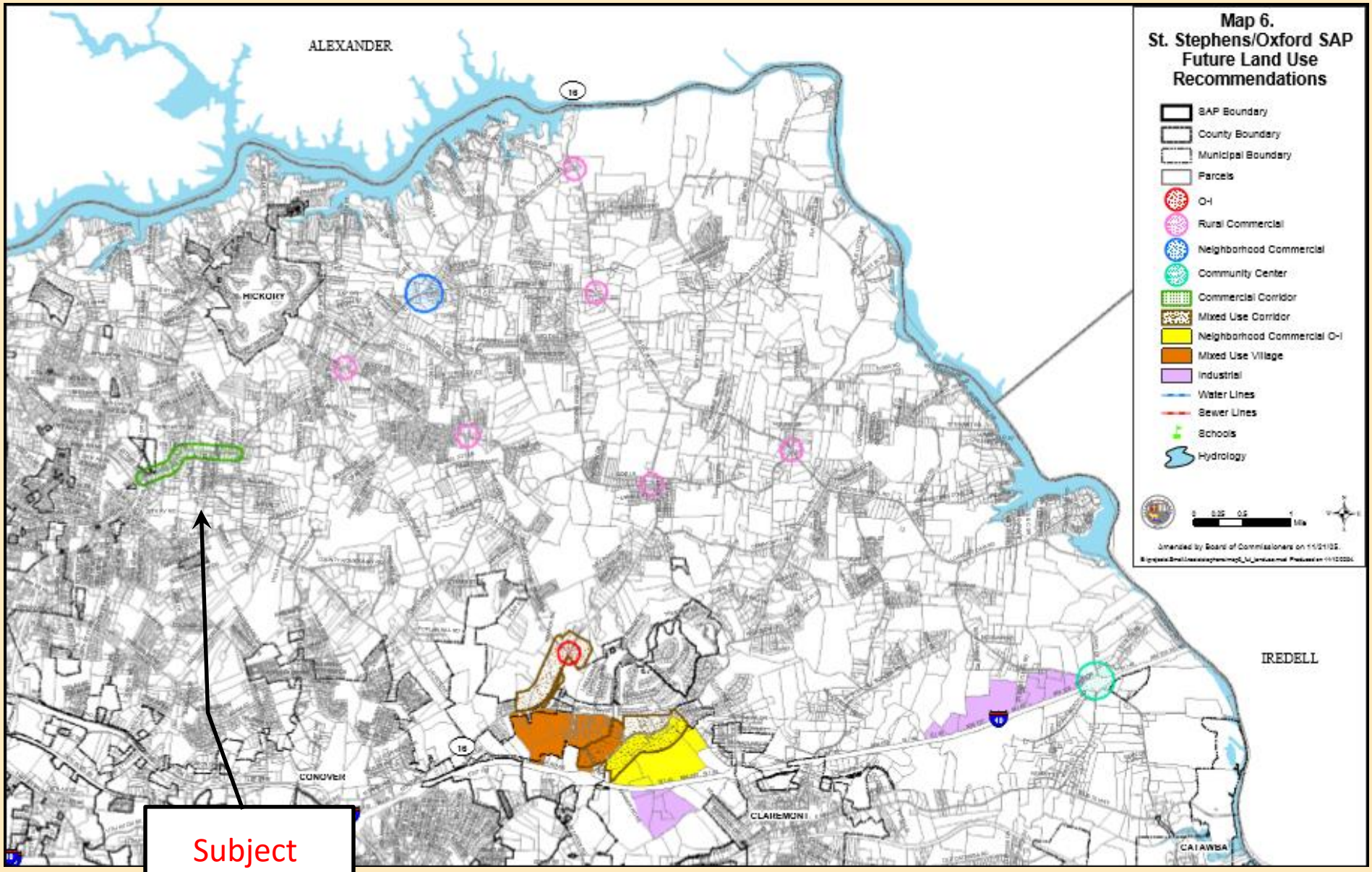
Transportation

- Charlotte Street is a local residential street.
- It is privately maintained south of its intersection with Thomasville Rd.
- There are no recommended improvements for Charlotte Street in the 2035 Greater Hickory Urban Area Long Range Transportation Plan.
- No traffic counts are available for Charlotte Street.
- Rezoning the property from PD (multi-family) to R-20 Residential (single-family) would reduce the opportunity for increased traffic on the roadway.

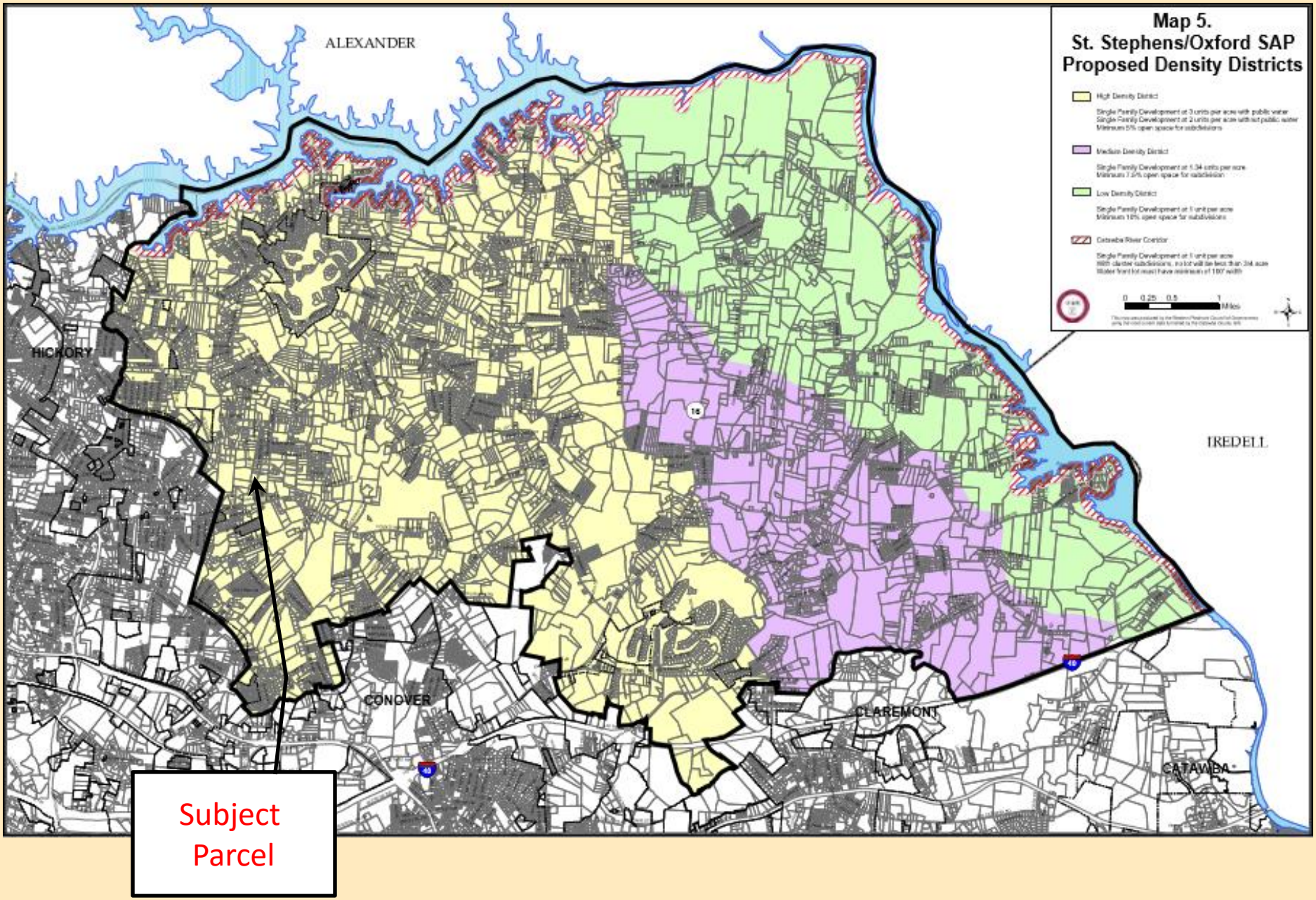
Land Use Plan

- Property is within the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan accepted in April 21, 2003.
- Map 6, titled “Future Land Use Recommendations," depicts the property as being located in an area recommended to remain residential.
- Map 5, titled “Proposed Density Districts” proposes that the area remain High Density Residential (1/2 acre lots).
- The request is <u>consistent</u> with the use recommendations of the plan.

Future Land Use Recommendations



Residential Density Recommendations



Planning Board Public Hearing Discussion

- The Planning Board held a public hearing on January 25, 2016.
- No one from the public spoke in favor or in opposition to the request.
- There were no comments or concerns shared by the board.

Planning Board Recommendation

The Planning Board voted 8-0 to recommend to the Catawba County Board of Commissioners the 3.87 acres owned by John Chrisley Fox, Jr. be rezoned from PD Planned Development to R-20 Residential District based upon:

1. The property's proximity to other R-20 Residential properties located along Charlotte Street; and
2. The request being consistent with the accepted St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, future land use recommendations.

Subject and Adjacent Properties

Map #	PIN	Acres	owner	owner2	address	city	state	zip
1	373305092370	3.87	JOHN CHRISLEY FOX JR		1855 WATERFALLS DR	LINCOLNTON	NC	28092-8528
2	372308996563	15.70	TERESA JANE WARLICK BIGGS	GREGORY EMMANUEL WARLICK	4754 SALISBURY ST NE	HICKORY	NC	28601-7756
3	373305093548	1.12	MARILYN BUSS	AMY M ROBINSON	4645 CHARLOTTE ST	CONOVER	NC	28613-8538
4	373305096581	0.40	CLIFTON R SHULL	JOSEE A SHULL	4652 CHARLOTTE ST	CONOVER	NC	28613-8538
5	373305097267	5.91	DAVID P HAMBRICK II		4620 CHARLOTTE ST	CONOVER	NC	28613-8536
6	373305082942	1.45	CONLEY ALSTON LAIL	RACHEL S LAIL	4583 CHARLOTTE ST	CONOVER	NC	28613-8537
7	372308985965	9.05	DALE STEWART BUMGARNER JR	TERRI J BUMGARNER	PO BOX 202	CONOVER	NC	28613-0202

RZ-12-2015-22
RZ2015-10

Catawba County Rezoning/Ordinance Text Amendment Application

Applicant Tara H. Fox / Judy M. Hoke Phone # (828)244-3516 / (828)324-2510
Applicant's Fax _____ Applicant's Email catfox@charter.net
Applicant's Mailing Address 3979 Shakespeare Dr. City, State, Zip Hickory, NC 28601
Property Owner John C. Fox, Jr. Phone # _____
Property Owner's Mailing Address Deceased City, State, Zip _____
Parcel 911 Address PL 21-26 Charlotte St. Conover, NC PIN # 373305092370
Subdivision Name and Lot # _____
Current Zoning District PD Proposed Zoning District R-20

Type of Rezoning Application:

X **General Rezoning**
- The general information listed below shall be submitted with the rezoning application.

☐ **Planned Development Rezoning**
- All information contained in the Planned Development Chart of the Procedures Manual is to be shown on a plan submitted with the application and the general information below.

☐ **Special District Rezoning**
- All information contained in the Special District Development Chart of the Procedures Manual is to be shown on a plan submitted with the application and the general information below.

☐ **Conditional District Rezoning**
- All information contained in the Conditional District Development Chart of the Procedures Manual is to be shown on a plan submitted with the application. The complete application includes the general information below and specific development conditions substantially agreed to by the staff and applicant as well as a development agreement if applicable.

☐ **Manufactured Home Park Rezoning**
- All information contained in the Manufactured Home Park Development Chart of the Procedures Manual is to be shown on a plan submitted with the application and the general information below.
- Proposed Park Name _____

☐ **Ordinance Text Amendment**
- Submit general information listed below.

General Information to be attached:

☐ If a portion of an existing parcel is requested to be rezoned, a survey of the portion of the parcel(s) covered by the proposed amendment at a scale no smaller than 1 inch equals 200 feet, on a 18 x 24 inch map and one 8 x 11 inch map (30 copies).
☐ Submittal of 30 copies of each map including digital copies in .pdf or .jpg format.
☐ If applicable, a legal description of such land
☐ If applicable, a detailed statement of any alleged error in the Unified Development Ordinance which would be corrected by the proposed amendment, and a detailed explanation of the manner the proposed amendment will correct the alleged error.
☐ A detailed statement of all other circumstances, factors, and reasons, which applicant offers in support of the proposed zoning map or text amendment.
☐ Filing Fee: Per Catawba County Fee Schedule

Applicant's Signature Tara H. Fox Date 12/2/15
Property Owner's Signature Judy M. Hoke Exc. of will Date 12-2-15
John C. Fox Jr.

Received
DEC - 3 2015
Catawba County
Planning Zoning

My husband and I bought this parcel of land in December, 2000. The land was listed with a local realty co. and was being sold by 2 individuals. The land was listed on the Catawba Co. gis as "residential" and the realty company assured us we could build a single family home on the land. We had the land perked for a 4 bedroom single family home. The land was on a dead end, dirt road (at the time) with only single family homes in the surrounding area. The realtor told us the previous owners were selling the land because they had wished to build an apartment complex on the land but because of the area it was in, they were not able to get the required permits or approval to build the complex. No one said anything at anytime about the land being zoned commercial or multifamily or whatever it was. It was listed as simply "residential", sold by a realty company to us knowing we were intending to build a single family home, and the papers at closing said "residential".

For various personal reasons, we never did build a home on the land. Once the decision was made to not build, we chose to keep the land and sell it at the time we would need college tuition money. My husband passed away unexpectedly several months ago. Finding myself in a position to now need to sell the land, I listed it with a realty company. Upon research by the realty co., I am informed that the gis listing on our land is now commercial. I was stunned to hear this, needless to say. I am not sure how this land was able to be listed as plain "residential", sold to us under such terms, with everyone involved...realty co., sellers, lawyer at closing, etc. knowing we were intending to use this land to build a single family home.

Now I find myself in the position of owning a piece of property that is on a dead end street with only single family homes anywhere around and being unable to sell it for reasons totally out of my control. I cannot imagine that anyone would ever want this land for anything other than a single home. I have a buyer anxious to buy the land to build a single family home, but cannot sell it as such. This whole ordeal is very upsetting to me on top of dealing with the death of a spouse. I am asking that you please approve this land for rezoning to single family residential, as that is what is obviously logical for this property.

Thank You,

Tara Fox

Tara Fox

Planning and Parks Department
PO Box 389
100 A Southwest Boulevard
Newton, NC 28658
828-465-8380
Fax: 828-465-8484
www.catawbacountync.gov/

ZONING MAP AMENDMENT CONSISTENCY STATEMENT

On March 7, 2016, the Catawba County Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing for the purpose of recommending a zoning map amendment to PIN 3733-05-09-2370 (Case #RZ2015-10). The applicant is Tara Fox and the property owner is John Fox, Jr.

Upon considering the matter, the Catawba County Board of Commissioners finds the request to be consistent with Map 6 titled "Future Land Use Recommendations" of the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan. The board therefore finds the request reasonable for rezoning based upon:

1) The property's proximity to other R-20 Residential properties located along Charlotte Street; and
2) The request being consistent with the accepted St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, future land use recommendations.

This recommendation was affirmed by a vote of ___-___ of the Catawba County Board of Commissioners.

_____
Presiding Officer

_____
Date

Ordinance No. 2016-_____

AMENDMENT TO THE CATAWBA COUNTY ZONING MAP

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Catawba County Official Zoning Atlas is hereby amended by rezoning the following described property from PD Planned Development to R-20 Residential District (RZ2015-10).

> One parcel totaling approximately 3.87 acres located on Charlotte Street in the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Planning District, Clines Township, and further identified by Parcel Identification Number 3733-05-09-2370.

PLAN CONSISTENCY STATEMENT:

Pursuant to NCGS 153A-341, the Catawba County Board of Commissioners finds the request to be consistent with Map 6 titled "Future Land Use Recommendations" of the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan. The board therefore finds the request reasonable for rezoning based upon:

1) The property's proximity to other R-20 Residential properties located along Charlotte Street; and
2) The request being consistent with the accepted St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, future land use recommendations.

This, the 7th day of March, 2016.

_____
C. Randall Isenhower, Chair

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Chris Timberlake, Planner

DATE: March 7, 2016

IN RE: Rezoning Request

REQUEST

Consider an application to rezone two parcels totaling 3.55 acres from R-30 Residential to General Industrial (GI) district.

Purpose

The R-30 Residential District is a medium-density district allowing one home per 30,000 square feet (approximately 3/4 acre). General uses of the R-30 Residential district include single family housing and agricultural production. The General Industrial (GI) district provides for intensive manufacturing, processing, and assembly uses.

Land Use and Zoning

Parcels 1A and 1B (see attached maps) are within the WS-IV Watershed Protected Area established to offer protection of surface water from pollutants. The WS-IV Watershed Protected Area allows 36% built upon area if a curb and gutter system is not constructed. Both parcels are located within the Doublewide Manufactured Home-Overlay district which allows for manufactured housing.

REVIEW/BACKGROUND

Location

The properties are located along Keller Street in the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Planning District, Clines Township, and further identified by Parcel Identification Numbers 3762-09-07-4380 and 3762-09-07-6299.

Current Use

Parcels 1A and 1B (subject parcels), on the attached maps, are zoned R-30 Residential. There is a single-wide manufactured home located on each parcel.

- *North* – Parcel 3 on the attached maps, is zoned GI General Industrial and contains an unoccupied single-family home.

- *South* – Parcel 5 is zoned M-1 (Industrial) by the City of Claremont. It is the location of Cargo Transporters.

- *East* – Parcel 4 is zoned GI General Industrial and is undeveloped.

- *West* – Parcel 2, on the attached maps, is zoned R-30 Residential. An older single-wide manufactured home, which appears to be unoccupied, exists on the property.

Zoning History
November 18, 2013 – Parcel 4 was rezoned from R-30 Residential to GI General Industrial.
October 20, 2014 – Parcel 3 was rezoned from R-30 Residential to GI General Industrial.

Utilities
A public sewer line and sewer pump station exists near Mull Creek to the east of the properties. Public water exists along North Oxford Street.

Transportation
North Oxford Street is designated as a minor thoroughfare in the 2035 Greater Hickory Urban Area Transportation Plan. It extends from US 70 in Claremont to Rock Barn Road. No road improvements are recommended for the road north of I-40.

Traffic counts taken in 2011 on North Oxford Street just south of Keller Street measured 4,400. Based on design and construction, the road should handle at least 8,000 cars per day without any loss to traffic service. Development of the property should not overburden the existing roadway. Keller Street is a local residential gravel road. If the rezoning is approved, Keller Street would not be used to access nonresidential development.

Land Use Plan
The St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan, adopted on April 21, 2003, serves as the current land use plan for this area. Map 6, titled "Future Land Use Recommendations," does not depict the properties being located in an area for future industrial use. The properties are however directly adjacent and bordered on three sides by property zoned for General Industrial use as well as property zoned M-1 (industrial, manufacturing, and warehousing district) within Claremont's planning and zoning jurisdiction.

Staff Recommendation
Staff recommends the two parcels totaling 3.55 acres be rezoned from R-30 Residential to GI General Industrial based upon:

1) The request being in harmony with the existing adjacent industrial land use; and
2) The property being in close proximity to Interstate-40 (freeway), a major transportation facility.

Planning Board Public Hearing Discussion

The Planning Board held a public hearing on January 25, 2016 to consider the request. No one spoke in favor or in opposition to the request. The Planning Board had no comments and shared no concerns with respect to the request.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Board voted 8-0 to submit a favorable recommendation to the Catawba County Board of Commissioners to rezone the two parcels totaling 3.55 acres from R-30 Residential to General Industrial (GI) based upon:

1) The request being in harmony with the existing adjacent industrial land use; and
2) The property being in close proximity to Interstate-40 (freeway), a major transportation facility.

Applicant

Catawba Management LLC

Request

Rezone two parcels (3.55 acres) from R-30 Residential (30,000 square feet, .68 acres) to GI General Industrial

Location

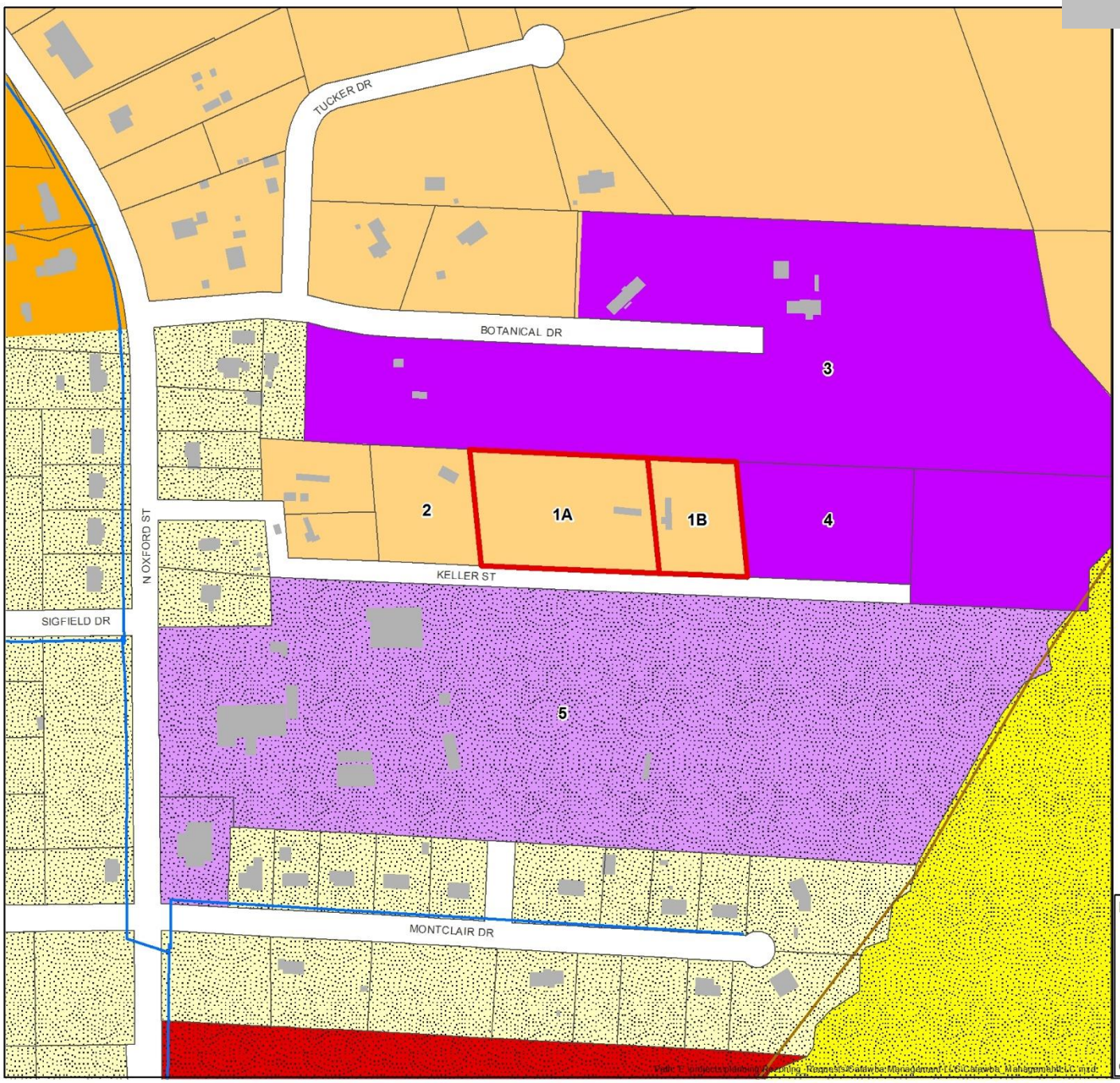
3040 and 3062 Keller Street

Date

March 7, 2016

REZONING REQUEST MAP

Applicant: Catawba Management LLC
PIN - 376209074380 and 376209076299
R-30 Residential to GI General Industrial



Water Lines
Sewer Lines
Subject Parcels
Structures

County Zoning

GI
R-20
R-30

Claremont Zoning

B-3
M-1
R-1
R-2

1 Through 5 - See Adjacent Property Owner List

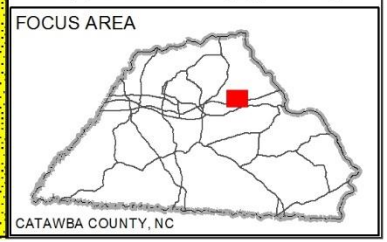
Parcels fall within the following Overlays:
DWMH-O & WP-O

N

1 inch = 300 feet

This map product was prepared from the Catawba County, NC, Geographic Information System. Catawba County has made substantial efforts to ensure the accuracy of location and labeling information contained on this map. Catawba County promotes and recommends the independent verification of any data contained on this map product by the user. The County of Catawba, its employees and agents disclaim, and shall not be held liable for any and all damages, loss or liability, whether direct, indirect or consequential which arises or may arise from this map product or the use thereof by any person or entity.

FOCUS AREA



CATAWBA COUNTY, NC

REZONING REQUEST MAP

Applicant: Catawba Management LLC
PIN - 376209074380 and 376209076299
R-30 Residential to GI General Industrial

Water Lines

Sewer Lines

Subject Parcels

1 Through 5 - See Adjacent Property Owner List

Parcels fall within the following Overlays:
DWMH-O & WP-O

N

1 inch = 300 feet

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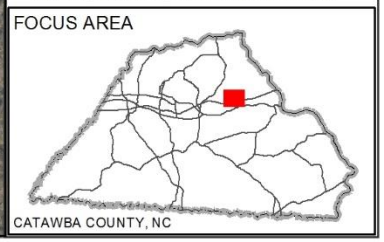
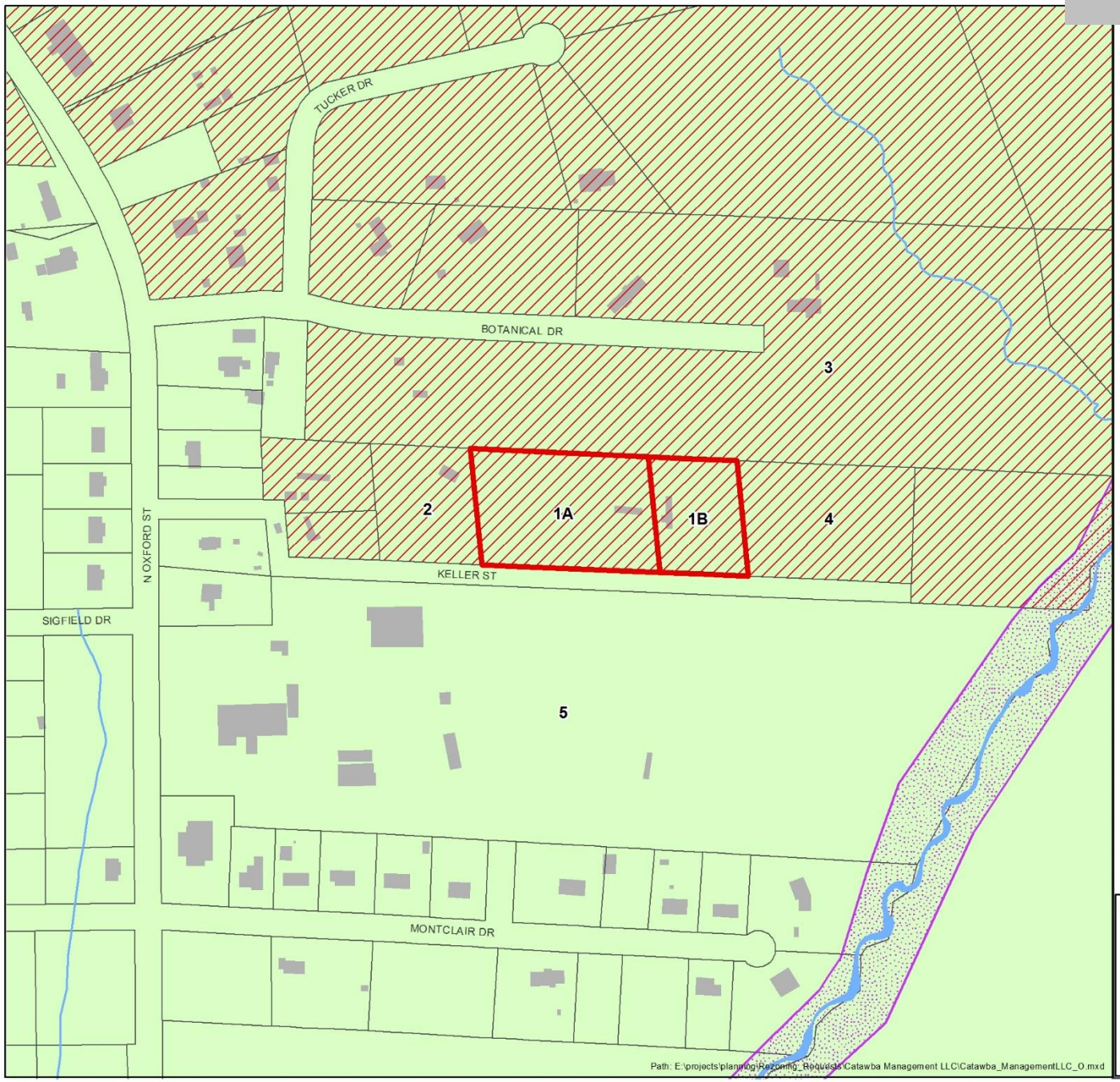
FOCUS AREA



REZONING REQUEST MAP

Applicant: Catawba Management LLC
PIN - 376209074380 and 376209076299
R-30 Residential to GI General Industrial



Floodway
Structures
WP-O
DWMH-O
Ponds, Creeks

1 Through 5 - See Adjacent Property Owner List

Parcels fall within the following Overlays:
DWMH-O & WP-O

N

1 inch = 300 feet

This map product was prepared from the Catawba County, NC, Geographic Information System. Catawba County has made substantial efforts to ensure the accuracy of location and labeling information contained on this map. Catawba County promotes and recommends the independent verification of any data contained on this map product by the user. The County of Catawba, its employees and agents disclaim, and shall not be held liable for any and all damages, loss or liability, whether direct, indirect or consequential which arises or may arise from this map product or the use thereof by any person or entity.

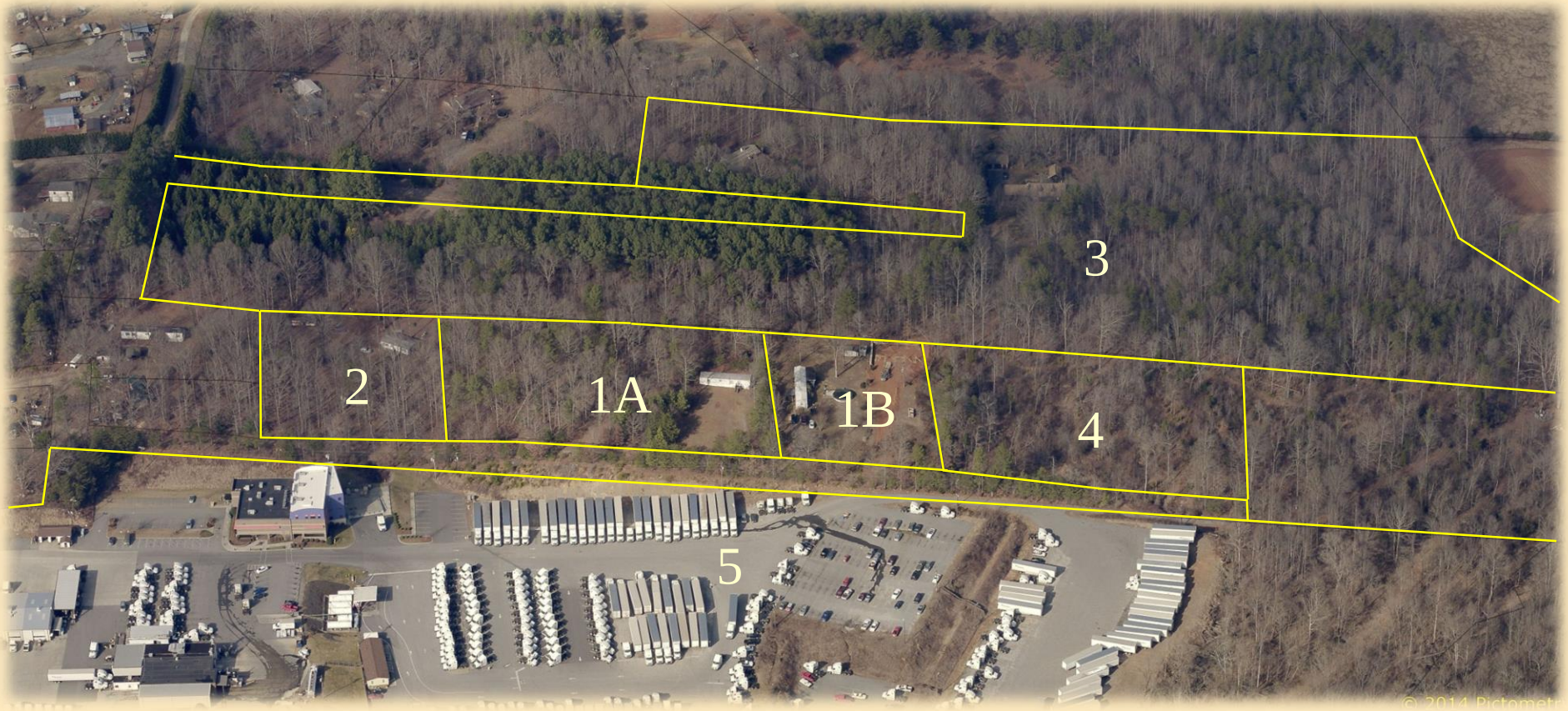
FOCUS AREA

CATAWBA COUNTY, NC

Subject Properties

Adjacent Properties

Subject and Adjacent Properties



Purpose - Review

- The R-30 Residential district requires a minimum lot size of 30,000 square feet (.68 acres per dwelling) and is considered a medium density "general use" district. Predominate uses are single-family houses and agriculture.

- The GI General Industrial district requires a minimum lot size of 60,000 square feet (1.37 acres) and provides for intensive manufacturing, processing, and assembly uses. The district promotes the County's policies to promote economic development opportunities.

Utilities

- A public sewer line and sewer pump station exists near Mull Creek to the east of the properties. Public water exists along North Oxford Street.
- Public water exists along North Oxford Street.

Transportation

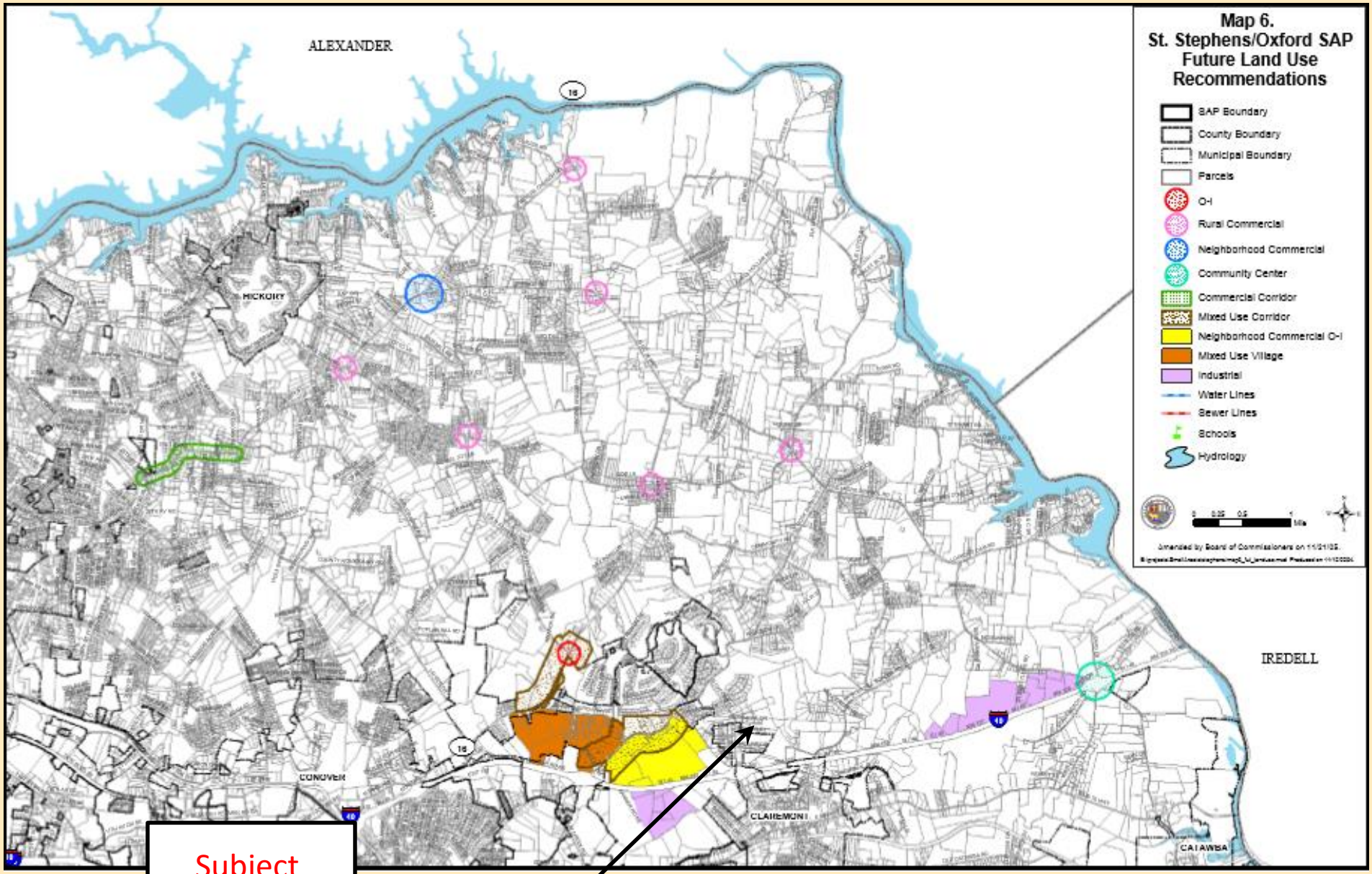
- North Oxford Street is designated as a minor thoroughfare in the 2035 Greater Hickory Urban Area Transportation Plan designed to carry 12,000 – 15,000 vehicles per day.
- Traffic counts taken in 2013 on North Oxford Street just south of Keller Street measured 4,400.
- No road improvements are recommended for the road north of I-40.
- Development of the property should not overburden the existing roadway.
- Keller Street is a local residential gravel road. If the rezoning is approved, Keller Street would not be used to access nonresidential development.

Land Use Plan

- Property is within the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan accepted on April 21, 2003.

- Map 6, titled “Future Land Use Recommendations," does not depict the properties being located in an area for future industrial use.

- The properties are however bordered on three sides by property zoned for General Industrial use and adjacent to property zoned M-1 (industrial, manufacturing, and warehousing district) within Claremont’s planning and zoning jurisdiction.



Subject Parcel

Planning Board Public Hearing Discussion

- Public hearing held on January 25, 2016
- No one spoke in favor or in opposition to the request.
- No comments or concerns were shared by the board.

Planning Board Recommendation

The Planning Board voted 8-0 to submit a favorable recommendation to the Catawba County Board of Commissioners to rezone the two parcels totaling 3.55 acres from R-30 Residential to General Industrial (GI) based upon:

1. The request being in harmony with the existing adjacent industrial land use; and
2. The property being in close proximity to Interstate-40 (freeway), a major transportation facility.

Subject and Adjacent Property Owners

Map #	PIN	Acres	owner	address	city	state	zip
1A	376209074380	2.38	CATAWBA MANAGEMENT LLC	P O BOX 339	CLAREMONT	NC	28610-0339
1B	376209076299	1.17	CATAWBA MANAGEMENT LLC	P O BOX 339	CLAREMONT	NC	28610-0339
2	376209071342	1.35	JEANETTE SYKES	3006 KELLER ST	CLAREMONT	NC	28610-8650
3	376205171665	17.35	CATAWBA MANAGEMENT LLC	P O BOX 339	CLAREMONT	NC	28610-0339
4	376209079268	2.28	CATAWBA MANAGEMENT LLC	P O BOX 339	CLAREMONT	NC	28610-0339
5	376209065876	23.72	CATAWBA MANAGEMENT LLC	PO BOX 339	CLAREMONT	NC	28610-0339

RZ-11-2015-228
RZ2015-09

Catawba County Rezoning/Ordinance Text Amendment Application

Applicant CATAWBA MANAGEMENT LLC Phone # 828 459 3218
Applicant's Fax 828 615 2391 Applicant's Email DAN.BARNES@CTMANAGEMENTINC.COM
Applicant's Mailing Address PO BOX 339 City, State, Zip CHAREMONT NC 28610
Property Owner CATAWBA MANAGEMENT LLC Phone #
Property Owner's Mailing Address City, State, Zip
Parcel 911 Address KELLER ST., CHAREMONT NC PIN # 376209074380, 376209076299
Subdivision Name and Lot #
Current Zoning District R-30 Proposed Zoning District G-1

Type of Rezoning Application:

☒ **General Rezoning**
- The general information listed below shall be submitted with the rezoning application.

☐ **Planned Development Rezoning**
- All information contained in the Planned Development Chart of the Procedures Manual is to be shown on a plan submitted with the application and the general information below.

☐ **Special District Rezoning**
- All information contained in the Special District Development Chart of the Procedures Manual is to be shown on a plan submitted with the application and the general information below.

☐ **Conditional District Rezoning**
- All information contained in the Conditional District Development Chart of the Procedures Manual is to be shown on a plan submitted with the application. The complete application includes the general information below and specific development conditions substantially agreed to by the staff and applicant as well as a development agreement if applicable.

☐ **Manufactured Home Park Rezoning**
- All information contained in the Manufactured Home Park Development Chart of the Procedures Manual is to be shown on a plan submitted with the application and the general information below.
- Proposed Park Name

☐ **Ordinance Text Amendment**
- Submit general information listed below.

General Information to be attached:

☐ If a portion of an existing parcel is requested to be rezoned, a survey of the portion of the parcel(s) covered by the proposed amendment at a scale no smaller than 1 inch equals 200 feet, on a 18 x 24 inch map and one 8 x 11 inch map (30 copies).
☐ Submittal of 30 copies of each map including digital copies in .pdf or .jpg format.
☐ If applicable, a legal description of such land
☐ If applicable, a detailed statement of any alleged error in the Unified Development Ordinance which would be corrected by the proposed amendment, and a detailed explanation of the manner the proposed amendment will correct the alleged error.
☐ A detailed statement of all other circumstances, factors, and reasons, which applicant offers in support of the proposed zoning map or text amendment.
☒ Filing Fee: Per Catawba County Fee Schedule

Applicant's Signature David G Barnes Date 11/16/2015
Property Owner's Signature Denny Abernathy, Managing Member Date 11-17-15

Received
NOV 24 2015
Catawba County
Planning Zoning

Planning and Parks Department
PO Box 389
100 A Southwest Boulevard
Newton, NC 28658
828-465-8380
Fax: 828-465-8484
www.catawbacountync.gov/

ZONING MAP AMENDMENT CONSISTENCY STATEMENT

On March 7, 2016, the Catawba County Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing for the purpose of considering a zoning map amendment to PINs 3762-09-07-4380 and 3762-09-07-6299 (Case #RZ2015-09). The applicant and property owner is Catawba Management LLC.

Upon considering the matter, the Catawba County Board of Commissioners finds the request to be inconsistent with Map 6 titled "Future Land Use Recommendations" of the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan. However, the request is consistent with the guiding principal within the plan of: "Targeting industrial growth within the study area to specific, appropriate sites. The Board of Commissioners therefore finds the request reasonable for rezoning based upon:

1) The request being in harmony with the existing adjacent industrial districts and land use; and
2) The property being in close proximity to Interstate-40 (freeway), a major transportation facility.

This recommendation was affirmed by a vote of ___-___ of the Catawba County Board of Commissioners.

_____
Presiding Officer

_____
Date

Ordinance No. 2016-_____

AMENDMENT TO THE CATAWBA COUNTY ZONING MAP

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Catawba County Official Zoning Atlas is hereby amended by rezoning the following described properties from R-30 Residential to GI General Industrial District (RZ2015-09).

Two parcels totaling approximately 3.55 acres located at 3040 and 3062 Keller Street in the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Planning District, Clines Township, and further identified by Parcel Identification Numbers 3762-09-07-4380 and 3762-09-07-6299.

PLAN CONSISTENCY STATEMENT:

Pursuant to NCGS 153A-341, the Catawba County Board of Commissioners finds the request to be inconsistent with Map 6 titled "Future Land Use Recommendations" of the St. Stephens/Oxford Small Area Plan. However, the request is consistent with the guiding principal within the plan of: "Targeting industrial growth within the study area to specific, appropriate sites. The Board of Commissioners therefore finds the request reasonable for rezoning based upon:

1) The request being in harmony with the existing adjacent industrial districts and land use; and

2) The property being in close proximity to Interstate 40 (freeway), a major transportation facility.

This, the 7th day of March, 2016.

_____

C. Randall Isenhower, Chair

APPOINTMENTS

RANDY ISENHOWER (Due) <u>Agricultural Advisory Board</u>
Chair Isenhower recommends the reappointment of Steve Killian for a second term and Susan Proctor for a third term on the Agricultural Advisory Board. These terms will expire January 2019.

BARBARA BEATTY (Upcoming) <u>Board of Equalization and Review</u>

12/06/15	**Clement Geitner**	**Eligible for a 5th term**
	Jerry Hodge	**Does not wish reappt**

3-year terms
Vice-Chair Beatty recommends the reappointment of Clem Geitner for a fifth term and the appointment of Joe Rowe for a first term on the Board of Equalization and Review. These terms will expire December 6, 2018.

BARBARA BEATTY (Upcoming) <u>Nursing and Rest Home Advisory Board</u>

03/16/16	**Willliam Knox**	**Eligible for a 3rd term**
	Pamela Connelly	**Does not wish reappt**

3-year terms
Vice-Chair Beatty recommends the reappointment of William Knox for a third term term on the Nursing and Rest Home Advisory Board. This term will expire March 16, 2019.

DAN HUNSUCKER (Upcoming) <u>Dangerous Dog Appellate Board</u>

02/03/16	**Mike Rutledge**	**Eligible for a 2nd term**

3-year terms
Commissioner Hunsucker recommends the reappointment of Mike Rutledge for a second term on the Dangerous Dog Appellate Board. This term will expire February 3, 2019.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Lori Mathes, Catawba County Tax Collector

DATE: March 7, 2016

SUBJECT: DELINQUENT 2015 REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAX

REQUEST

In accordance with NCGS 105-369(a), the Catawba County Tax Collector requests the Board of Commissioners accepts this report in compliance with the aforementioned statute, and the Board further orders the Catawba County Tax Collector to advertise the delinquent tax liens as prescribed by NCGS 105-369.

BACKGROUND

NCGS 105-369(a) requires that each county's Tax Collector submit to their respective Board of Commissioners the total amount of unpaid taxes for the current year. As of January 31, 2016, delinquent real property taxes in Catawba County totaled $4,498,664, which represents 6.30% of the 2015 real property levy.

The applicable statue reads as follows:

***105-369. Advertisement of tax liens on real property for failure to pay taxes.**

(a) Report of Unpaid Taxes That Are Liens on Real Property. – In February of each year, the tax collector must report to the governing body the total amount of unpaid taxes for the current fiscal year that are liens on real property. A county tax collector's report is due the first Monday in February, and a municipal tax collector's report is due the second Monday in February. Upon receipt of the report, the governing body must order the tax collector to advertise the tax liens. For purposes of this section, district taxes collected by county tax collectors shall be regarded as county taxes and district taxes collected by municipal tax collectors shall be regarded as municipal taxes.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners accepts this report in compliance with NCGS 105-369(a), and the Board formally issues an order to the Catawba County Tax Collector to advertise all unpaid real property taxes. The follow resolution applies:

RESOLUTION No.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners for Catawba County, in compliance with NCGS 105-369(a), orders the Tax Collector to advertise all unpaid tax liens, as prescribed in NCGS 105-369.

This the _____ day of March, 2016

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FROM: Lori Mathes, Tax Collector

DATE: March 7, 2016

IN RE: REFUND REQUESTS FOR MARCH 7, 2016 MEETING

REQUEST

Two refund requests totaling $8112.93 have been made to the Tax Office. The records have been checked and these refunds verified; therefore, the Tax Collector is asking for approval of the refund request.

BACKGROUND

According to General Statute 105-381, a Taxpayer who has paid his taxes may request a refund (in writing) for the amount that was paid through error. The attached sheet gives the information for the Taxpayers' requests.

RECOMMENDATION

The refund requests are approved as shown on the attached sheet.

LAM/AMP
Attachment

REFUND REQUESTS – MARCH 2016

Island Properties Inc
P.O. Box 196
Terrell N.C. 28682-0196

Location: 4840 Kiser Island Rd & 4842 Kiser Island Road, Terrell, NC

PARCEL NUMBER	YEAR	VALUE	COUNTY RATE	COUNTY TAX	SHERRILLS FORD F.D. RATE	FIRE DISTRICT TAX	TOTAL TAX
0019636	2015	100,000	.5750	$575.00	.0810	$81.00	$656.00
	2014	100,000	.5300	$530.00	.0800	$80.00	$610.00
	2013	100,000	.5300	$530.00	.0700	$70.00	$600.00
	2012	100,000	.5300	$530.00	.0700	$70.00	$600.00
	2011	100,000	.5300	$530.00	.0700	$70.00	$600.00
	2010	100,000	.5350	$535.00	.0700	$70.00	$605.00
						Total	***$3,671.00***
0019635	2015	100,000	.5750	$575.00	.0810	$81.00	$656.00
	2014	100,000	.5300	$530.00	.0800	$80.00	$610.00
	2013	100,000	.5300	$530.00	.0700	$70.00	$600.00
	2012	100,000	.5300	$530.00	.0700	$70.00	$600.00
	2011	100,000	.5300	$530.00	.0700	$70.00	$600.00
	2010	100,000	.5350	$535.00	.0700	$70.00	$605.00
						Total	***$3,671.00***
						Grand Total Refund	***$7,342.00***

Island Properties Inc has been paying property taxes on 2 lots – parcel # 0019636- Lot-4840 Kiser Island Road, Terrell, NC and parcel # 0019635- Lot 4842 Kiser Island Road Terrell, NC. These lots were never officially approved by Catawba County Planning and Zoning, as they were labeled on the plat for future development with dashed lines outlining the lots. Tax Mapping Department has taken off the tax map these 2 lots and combined them into the common area for the development which is assessed at $0.00 with no tax liability. Island Properties Inc. is requesting a refund for current plus 5 years in the amount of $7,342.00 for both properties.

OCWEN LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Tax/Escrow Department
1661 Worthington Road
Suite 100
West Palm Beach Fl. 33409

Location of Incorrect Parcel: 1050 92 21ST Ave. NW, Hickory NC
Location of Correct Parcel: 720 E Saunders Ave. Newton NC

INCORRECT PARCEL #	YEAR	VALUE	COUNTY RATE	COUNTY TAX	HICKORY RATE	HICKORY TAX	TOTAL TAX
0061479	2015	80,200	.5750	$461.15	.5665	$454.33	$915.48
	2014	83,400	.5300	$442.02	.5000	$417.00	$859.02
						Total Taxes From Incorrect Parcel	**$1,774.50**

CORRECT PARCEL #	YEAR	VALUE	COUNTY RATE	COUNTY TAX	NEWTON RATE	NEWTON TAX	TOTAL
0902846	2015	47,100	.5750	$270.83	.5400	$254.34	$525.17
	2014	46,000	.5300	$243.80	.5100	$234.60	$478.40
						Total Taxes From Correct Parcel	**$1,003.57**
						Total Taxes Difference Refund Due	**$770.93**

Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC made two incorrect escrow payments to parcel #0061479 located 1050 92 21st Ave NW, Hickory, N.C. in the amount of $859.02 and $915.48 on 10/29/2014 and 10/08/2015 respectively. The funds should have been paid to parcel # 0902846 located at 720 E. Saunders Ave. Newton, N.C. that they service. Ocwen is requesting a transfer of the funds that were paid on parcel # 0061479 to parcel # 0902846 and refund the excess amount to Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC. The payment of $915.48 for the incorrect parcel for 2015 when applied to the correct parcel of $525.17 resulted in a refund of $390.31. The payment of $859.02 for the incorrect parcel for 2014 when applied to the correct parcel of $478.40 resulted in a refund of $380.62. The total refund amount to Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC will be $770.93.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Chris Timberlake, Planner

DATE: March 7, 2016

IN RE: Resolution for Adoption of the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

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REQUEST

The Policy and Public Works Subcommittee recommends the Board of Commissioners sign a resolution to adopt the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan.

REVIEW/BACKGROUND

The Western Piedmont Council of Government received a planning grant in 2013 from North Carolina Department of Transportation to prepare a regional bike plan for the four-county region of Catawba, Alexander, Burke, and Caldwell Counties. The purpose of the bicycle plan offers a framework for development of bike facilities, programs, and policies that will support safe and efficient bicycling within the region.

The attached Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan Executive Summary includes the plan's vision, goals, trends, challenges, benefits, and describes the planning process. The goals focus on:

1. Safety and engineering;
2. Transportation;
3. Recreation;
4. Health and Education; and
5. Economic Vitality.

The planning process discussed in the executive summary offers background on the public process, collection of data, process of route selection, implementation, and partnership opportunities.

Sixteen bicycle routes are identified in Catawba County. Five are recognized as high priority, five are medium priority, and six are low priority. Recommendations for each of the routes vary from adding signage identifying it as a bicycle route, widening road shoulders, striping bike lanes, or recognizing lanes as a sharrows (widened lanes shared by both vehicles and bicycles).

Planning Board Discussion

Todd Stroupe, with Western Piedmont Council of Government presented the Western Piedmont Bike Plan to the Planning Board on January 25, 2016. One board member asked if the identified routes currently provided enough right-of-way for improvements. Overall, the board felt bicycle safety was a concern, especially on rural roads, and the plan is a good start toward improving bicycle transportation and safety.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Board voted 8 – 0 to favorably recommend the Catawba County Board of Commissioners adopt the resolution supporting the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

The Policy and Public Works Subcommittee recommends the Board of Commissioners sign a resolution to adopt the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan.

The following 22 pages identifies each priority route, road segments associated with each route, and includes accompanying maps with more clarity for each route.

Route Segment 13

Project Extent: From Zion Church Road to Alexander County Line

Project Total Length: 9.17 Miles

Current Conditions

Route Segment 13 is made up of sections of NC 127, South Center Street, North Center Street, 8th Avenue Northeast (NE), and 2nd Street NE in Hickory. Highway NC 127 is a 4-lane principal arterial with posted speed limits of 45 miles per hour with an AADT count average of 18,500 vpd and truck AADT count average of 770. South Center Street is a 2-lane and 4-lane major collector with posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour with an AADT count average of 3,500 vpd. North Center Street in downtown Hickory is 2-lane street with posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour with an AADT count of 3,100 vpd. North of 8th Avenue NE are 2nd Street NE (NC 127) and North Center Street (NC 127). Both are 4-lane principal arterials with a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour with an AADT count average of 27,000 vpd.

Justification

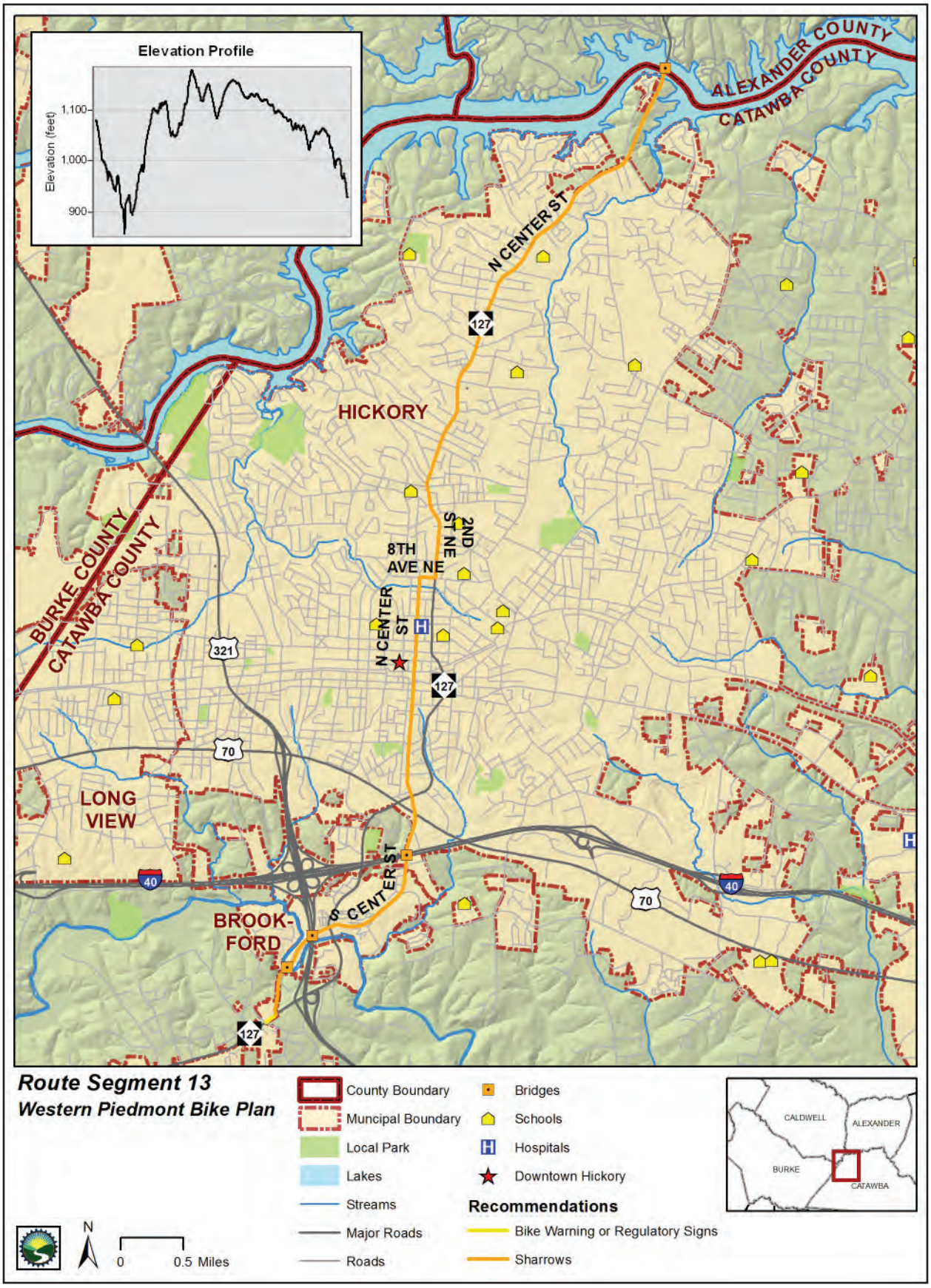
Route Segment 13 connects the Town of Brookford to the City of Hickory and Alexander County. It also connects a Alexander County high priority project that extends the Alexander connection to the Town of Taylorsville and NC Bicycling Highway system (NC 2/Mountains-to-Sea) along with downtown. This project also links with other Catawba County high priority routes in downtown Hickory to create a network of other connections to Burke and Conover.

Recommendations

The recommendations for Route Segment 13 consists of 8.08 miles sharrows on 2nd Street NE (NC 127), 8th Avenue NE, North Center Street (downtown Hickory), North Center Street (NC 127), and South Center Street; and 1.09 miels of bicycle warning or regulatory signs on Brookford Boulevard (NC 127) and NC 127.

Along 2nd Street NE (NC 127) from 2nd Avenue NE to 16th Ave NW

Figure 3-21
Route Segment 13



Route Segment 14

Project Extent: From 39th St NW (Long View) to 9th Avenue NW (Hickory)
Project Total Length: 4.72 Miles

Current Conditions

Route Segment 14 is made up of sections of 1st Avenue Southwest (SW), 17th Street Northwest (NW), 2nd Avenue NW, 3rd Avenue NW, and 3rd Avenue Court NW. In Long View, 1st Avenue SW is a 2-lane, minor arterial with posted speed limits of 35 and 45 miles per hour; and has an average annual daily trip (AADT) count average of 5,433 vehicles per day (vph). In Hickory, 17 Street NW is a 2-lane street with a posted speed limit of 35 and an AADT count of 4,600. Heading toward downtown Hickory, 2nd Avenue NW is a 2-lane, minor arterial with posted speed limits of 25 mph and 35 mph with an AADT count average of 7,300 vph. In downtown Hickory, 3rd Avenue NW and 3rd Avenue Court NW are 2-lane minor arterials with posted speed limits of 25 mph and 35 mph with an AADT count of 5,300 vph.

Justification

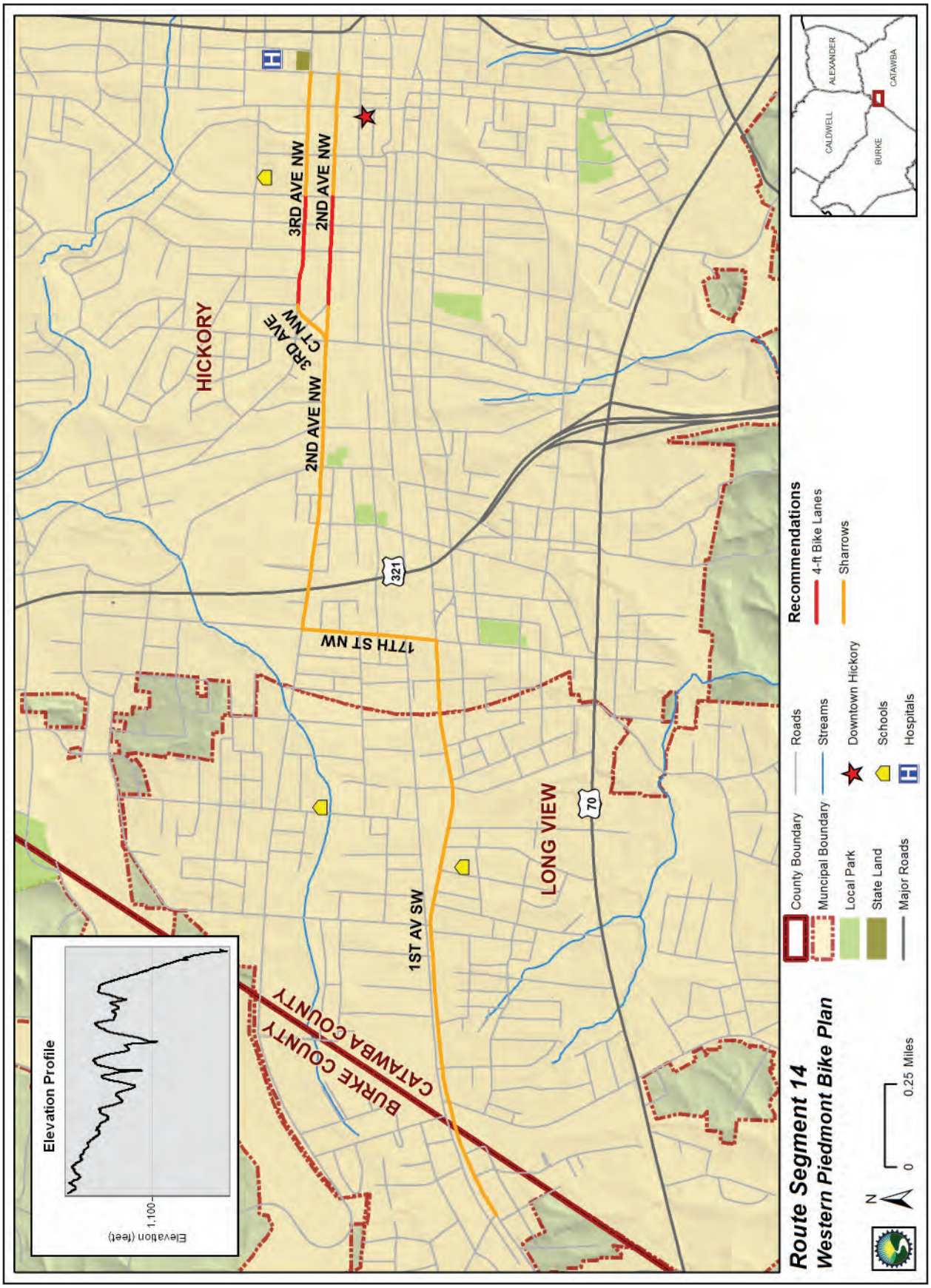
Route Segment 14 connects the City of Hickory with the Town of Long View, linking Hickory with Burke County, and to a Burke County high priority project that extends the Burke connection to the Town of Hildebran. This project also links with other Catawba County high priority routes in downtown Hickory to create a network of other connections to Alexander County, Brookford, and eventually Conover.

Recommendations

The recommendation for Route Segment 14 consists of 4.06 miles sharrows on 1st Avenue SW, 17th Street NW, 2nd Avenue NW, 3rd Avenue NW, and 3rd Avenue Court NW; and 0.66 miles of 4-ft bike lanes on 2nd Avenue NW and 3rd Avenue NW.

Along 1st Avenue SW from 39th NW to 9th Street SW

Figure 3-22
Route Segment 14



Route Segment 15

Project Extent: From 6th Street NW (Hickory) to 2nd Street SW (Town of Catawba)

Project Total Length: 17.67 Miles

Current Conditions

Route Segment 15 is made up of sections of 8th Avenue Northeast (NE), 5th Street NE, 9th Avenue NE, 9th Avenue Place NE, 8th Street NE, Highland Avenue, US 70A, 1st Street W, 1st Street E, Conover Blvd E (US 70), US 70, West Main Street (US 70), Catawba Street, Old Catawba Street, 4th Avenuenue Southwest (SW), and 3rd Avenuenue SW in Catawba County. The City of Hickory's 8th Avenue NE and 5th Street NE are both 35 mph 2-lane major collectors with an AADT count average of 4,800 vpd. Hickory's 9th Avenue NE, 9th Avenue Place NE, and 8th Street NE are 35 mph 2-lane roads. Highland Avenue and US 70A are both 2-lane and 4-lane minor arterials with an AADT count average of 4,600 vpd. Conover's 1st Street W and 1st Street E are 2-lane and 4-lane minor arterials with posted speed limits of 20, 35, and 45 mph with an AADT count average of 14,750 vpd. Conover Boulevard E (US 70), US 70, and West Main Street (US 70) are 35, 45, and 55 mph minor arterials with an AADT count average of 6,900 vpd and truck AADT average of 652. Catawba Street, Old Catawba Street, and 4th Avenue SW are all 2-lane collectors with posted speed limits of 35, 45, and 55 mph and an AADT average of 1,500 vpd. The Town of Catawba's 3rd Avenue SW is a 35 mph minor arterial with an AADT count of 5,000 vpd.

Justification

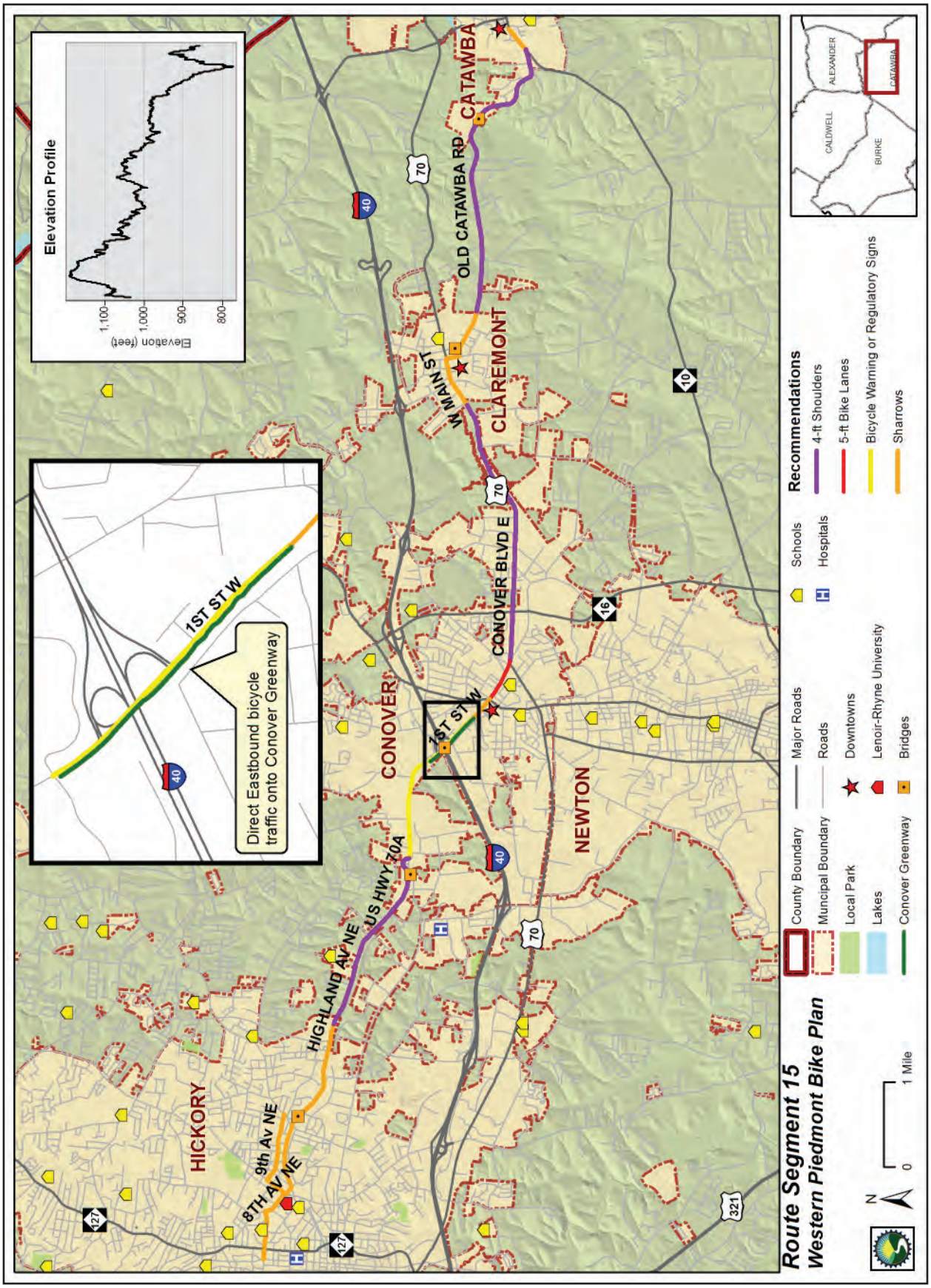
Route Segment 15 connects the Cities of Hickory and Conover with the Towns of Claremont and Catawba. This segment goes by Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory and through Downtown Conover and Downtown Claremont. This segment also links with other Catawba County high priority routes in Hickory to create a network of other connections to Alexander County, Burke County, and the Town of Brookford.

Recommendations

The recommendations for Route Segment 15 consists of 8.99 miles of 4-foot shoulders on 4th Avenue SW, Conover Boulevard E, US 70, Highland Avenue, Old Catawba Road, and US 70A; and 6.18 miles of sharrows on 1st Street W, 3rd Avenue SW, 5th Street NE, 8th Avenue NE, 8th Street NE, 9th Avenue NE, 9th Avenue Place NE, Catawba Street, Highland Avenue NE, S Depot Street, and W Main Street; and 1.99 miles of bicycle warning or regulatory signs on 1st Street W and direct Eastbound bicycle traffic on 1st Street W to the Conover Greenway; and 0.51 miles of 5-foot bike lanes on 1st Street E.

Along Old Catawba Street from Bethlehem Drive to 5th Street SW

Figure 3-23
Route Segment 15



Route Segment 16

Project Extent: From Conover Blvd (Conover) to NC 10 (Newton)

Project Total Length: 5.27 Miles

Current Conditions

Route Segment 16 is made up of sections of Emmanuel Church Road, Mclin Creek Road, East 20th Street, Main Avenue, College Avenue and East D Street (NC 10) in Catawba County. Emmanuel Church Road, Mclin Creek Road, and East 20th Street are all 2-lane minor arterials with posted speed limits of 35, 45, and 55 mph and an AADT count average of 4,830 vpd. Main Avenue is a 20 and 35 mph, 2-lane minor arterial with an AADT average of 4,925 vpd and truck AADT count of 277. College Avenue is a 35 mph 2-lane minor arterial with an AADT average of 2,200 vpd and truck AADT average of 75. East C Street is a 2-lane road with a posted speed limit of 25 mph.

Justification

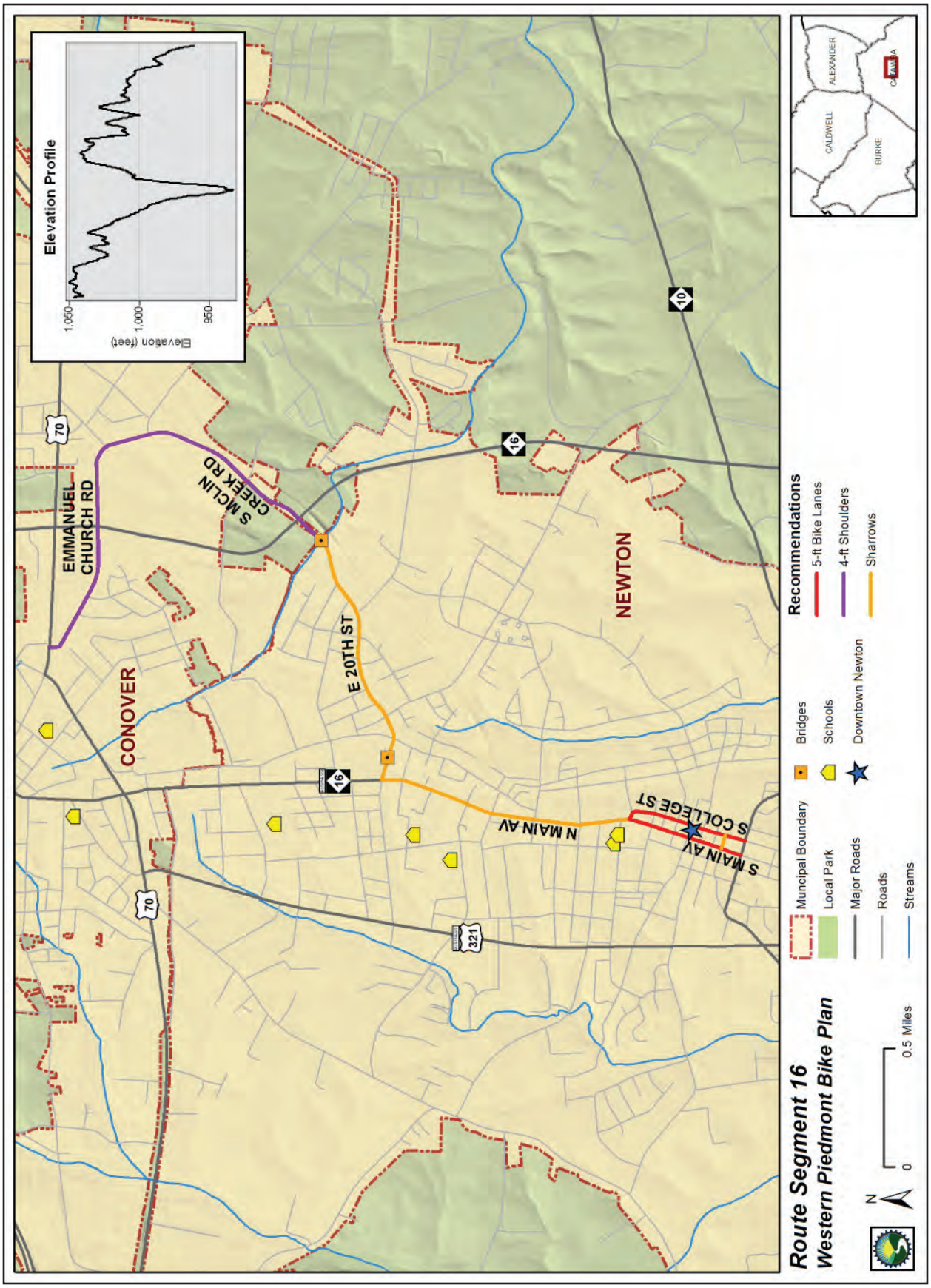
Route Segment 16 connects the City of Newton and Downtown Newton with the City of Conover. This project links with other Catawba County high priority routes in Conover that creates additional connections to the City of Hickory and to the Town of Claremont.

Recommendations

The recommendations for Route Segment 16 consists of 2.24 miles of sharrows on East 20th Street, North Main Street and East C Street; and 2.01 miles 4-foot shoulders on Emmanuel Church Road, and Mclin Creek Road; and 1.02 miles of 5-foot bike lanes on North Main Avenue, South Main Avenue, North College Avenue, and South College Avenue.

Along South College Avenue from East D Street (NC 10) to East A Street

Figure 3-24
Route Segment 16



Route Segment 17

Project Extent: From Highland Avenue (Hickory) to Alexander County Line
Project Total Length: 10.78 Miles

Current Conditions

Route Segment 17 is made up of sections of 16th Street Northeast (NE), 12th Avenue NE, Springs Road NE, Springs Road, and NC 16 in Catawba County. Springs Road NE, 16th Street NE, and 12th Avenue NE are all 4-lane minor arterials with posted speed limits of 35 and 45 mph and an AADT count average of 19,170 vpd. Springs Road is a 45 mph, 2-lane minor arterial with an AADT count average of 8,130 vpd. NC 16 is a 50 and 55 mph, 2-lane minor arterial with an AADT count of 13,000 vpd and truck AADT count average of 675.

Justification

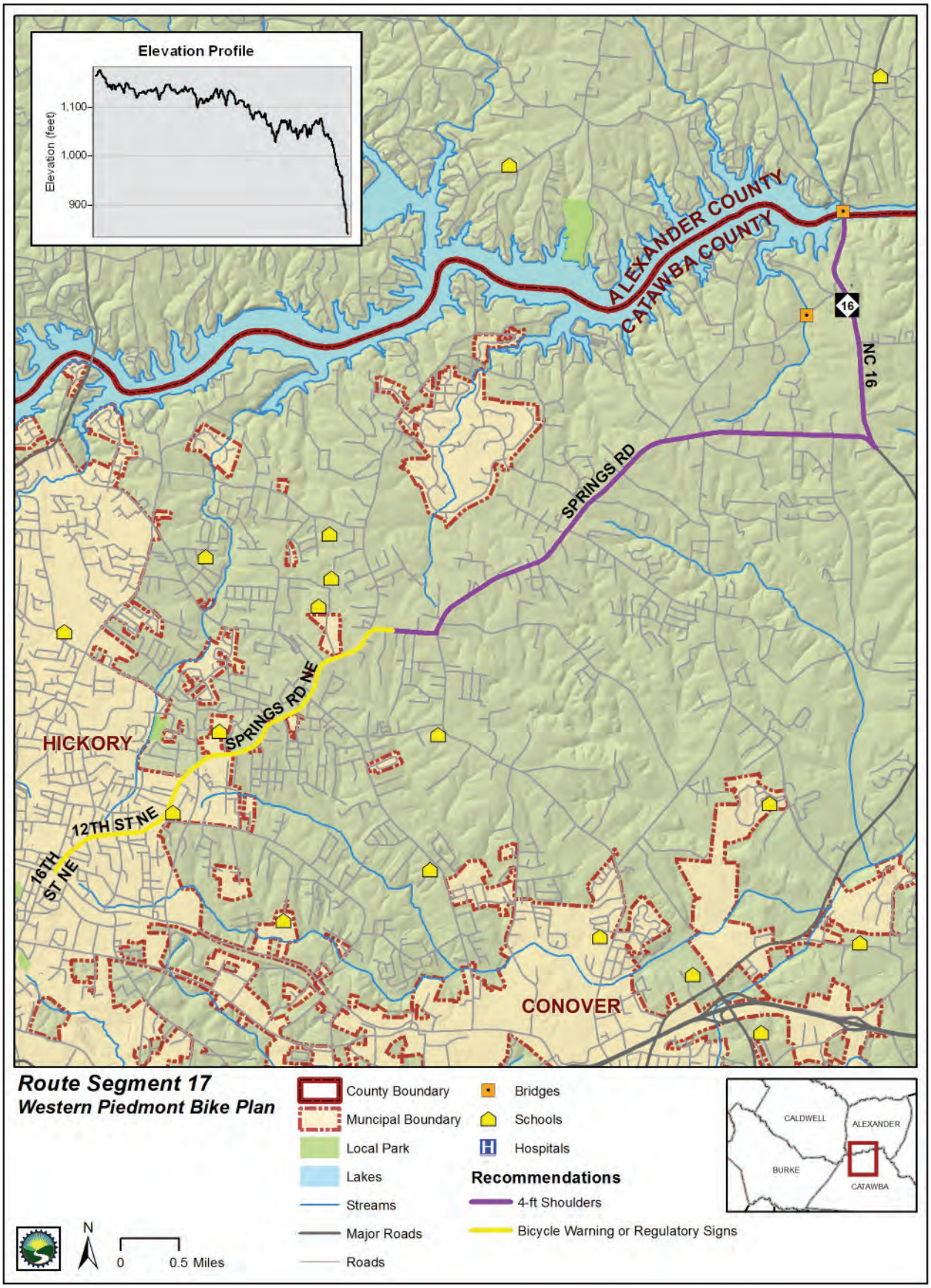
Route Segment 17 connects the city of Hickory to Alexander County. This project links with other Catawba County high priority routes in Hickory that creates additional connections throughout Hickory and Conover.

Recommendations

The recommendations for Route Segment 17 consist of 6.95 miles of signs and 4-foot shoulders on Springs Road and NC 16; and 3.83 miles of bicycle warning or regulatory signs on 16th Street NE, 12th Avenue NE, and Springs Road NE.

Along 12th Street NE from 18th Street NE to 12th Avenue Drive NE

Figure 3-25
Route Segment 17



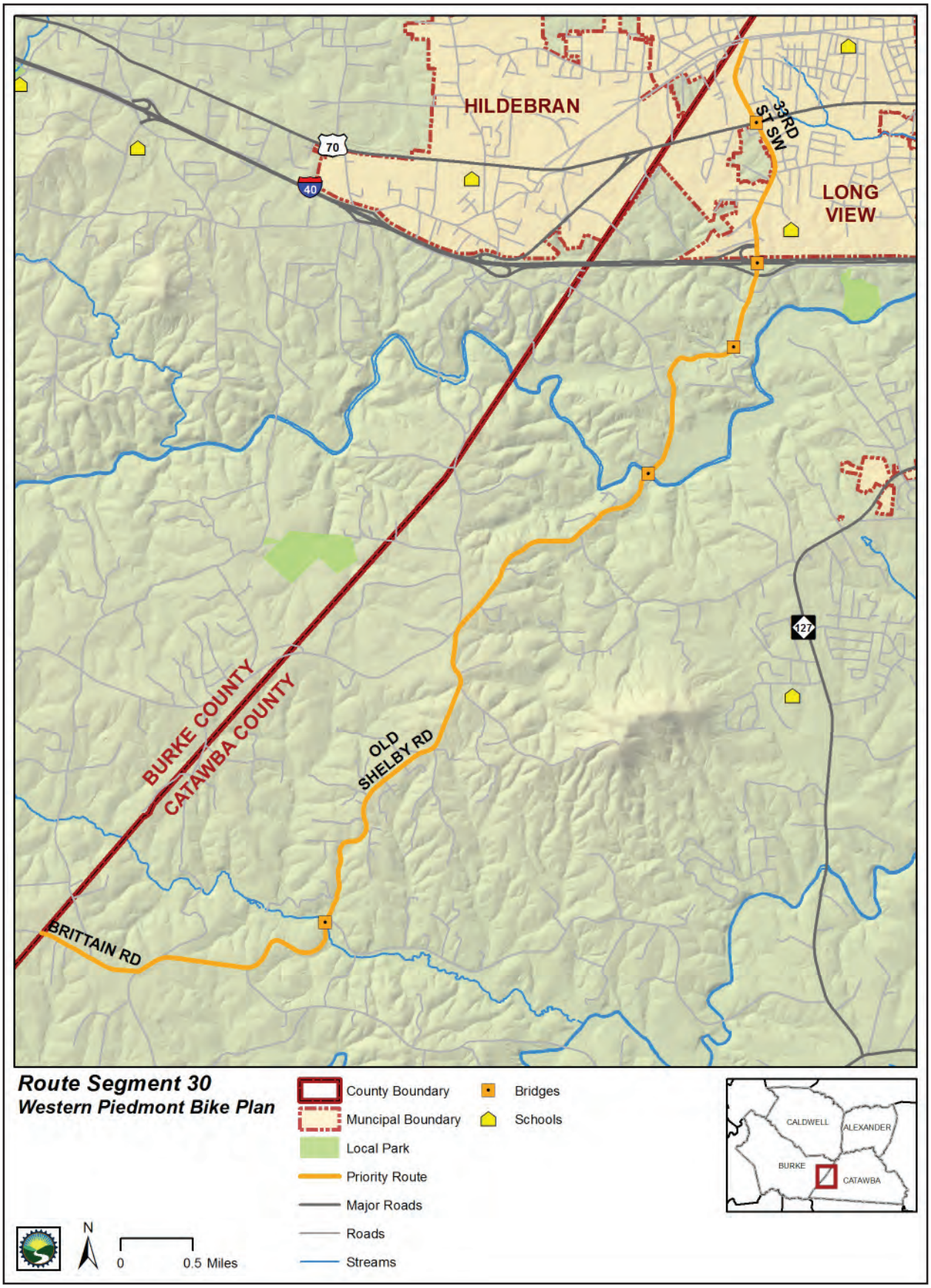
Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan - Priority Routes

Tier 2 Routes

Route Segment 30

Route segment 30 is made up of sections of Brittain Rd., Old Shelby Rd., and 33rd Street SW.

Figure 3-38
Route Segment 30



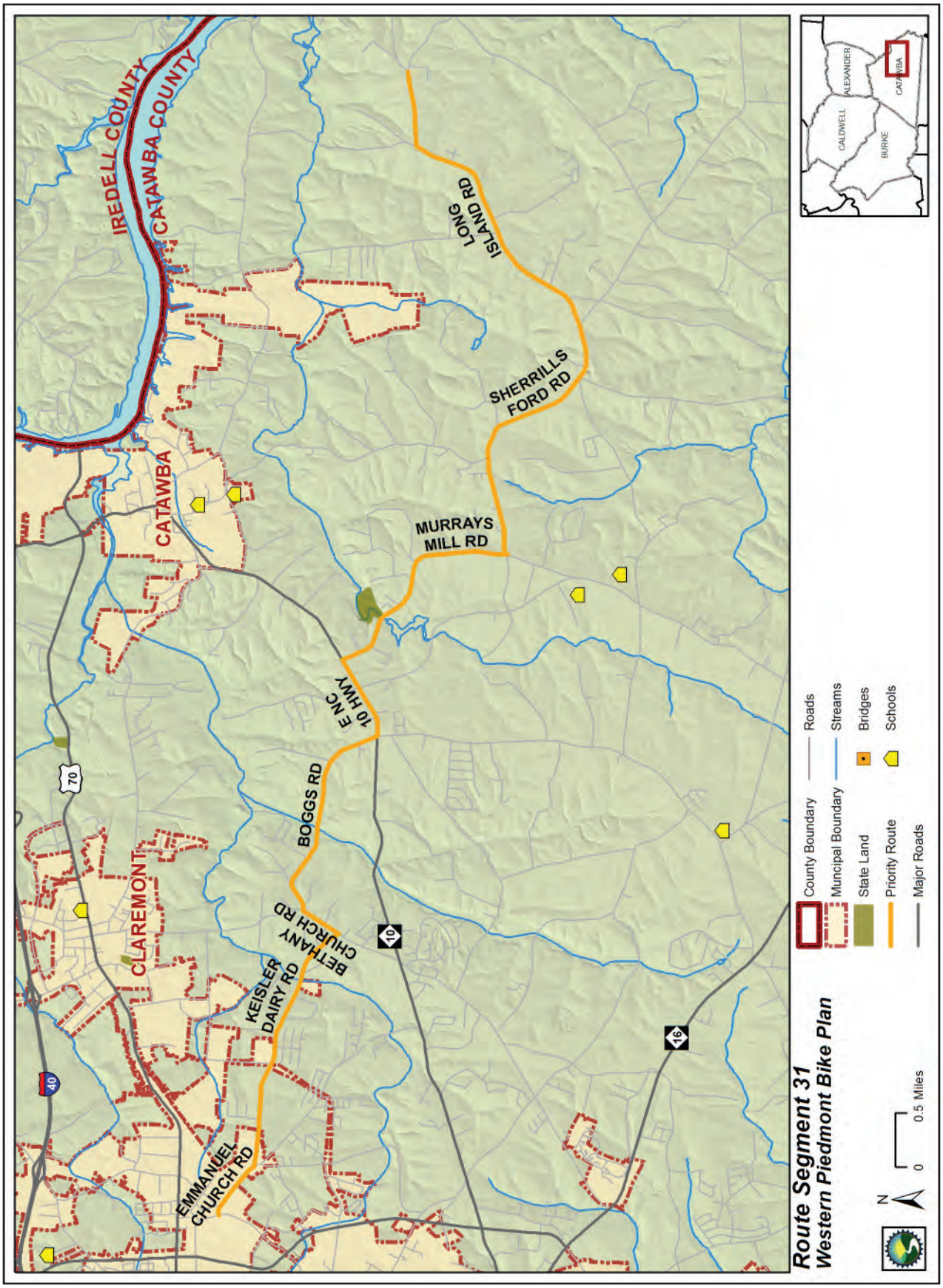
Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan - Priority Routes

Tier 2 Routes

Route Segment 31

Route segment 31 is made up of sections of Emmanuel Church Road, Keisler Dairy Road, Bethany Church Road, Boggs Road, E NC 10 HWY, Murrays Mill Road, Sherrills Ford Road, and Long Island Road.

Figure 3-39
Route Segment 31



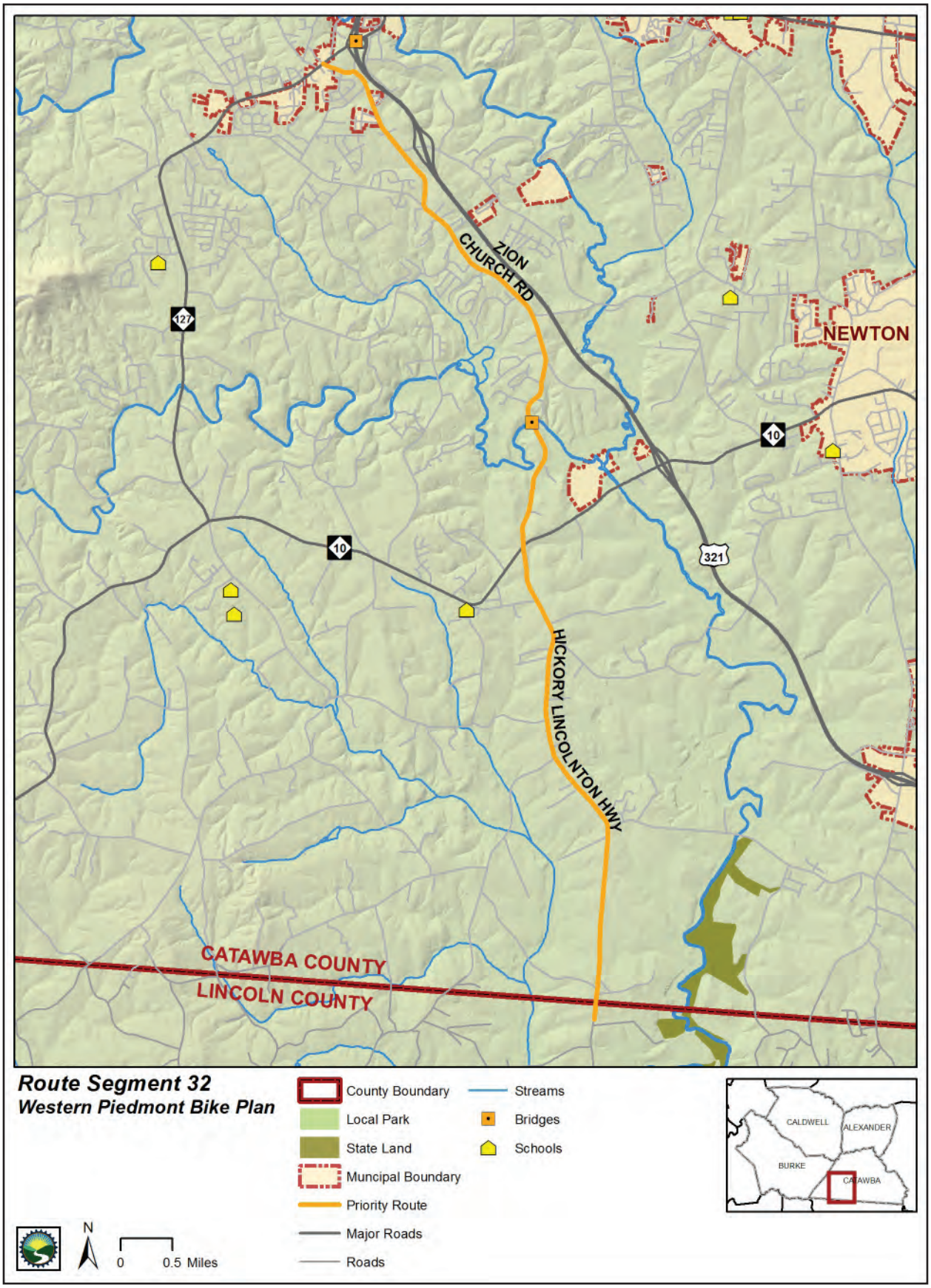
Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan - Priority Routes

Tier 2 Routes

Route Segment 32

Route segment 32 is made up of Zion Church Road and Hickory-Lincolnton Highway to the Catawba County/Lincoln County line.

Figure 3-40
Route Segment 32



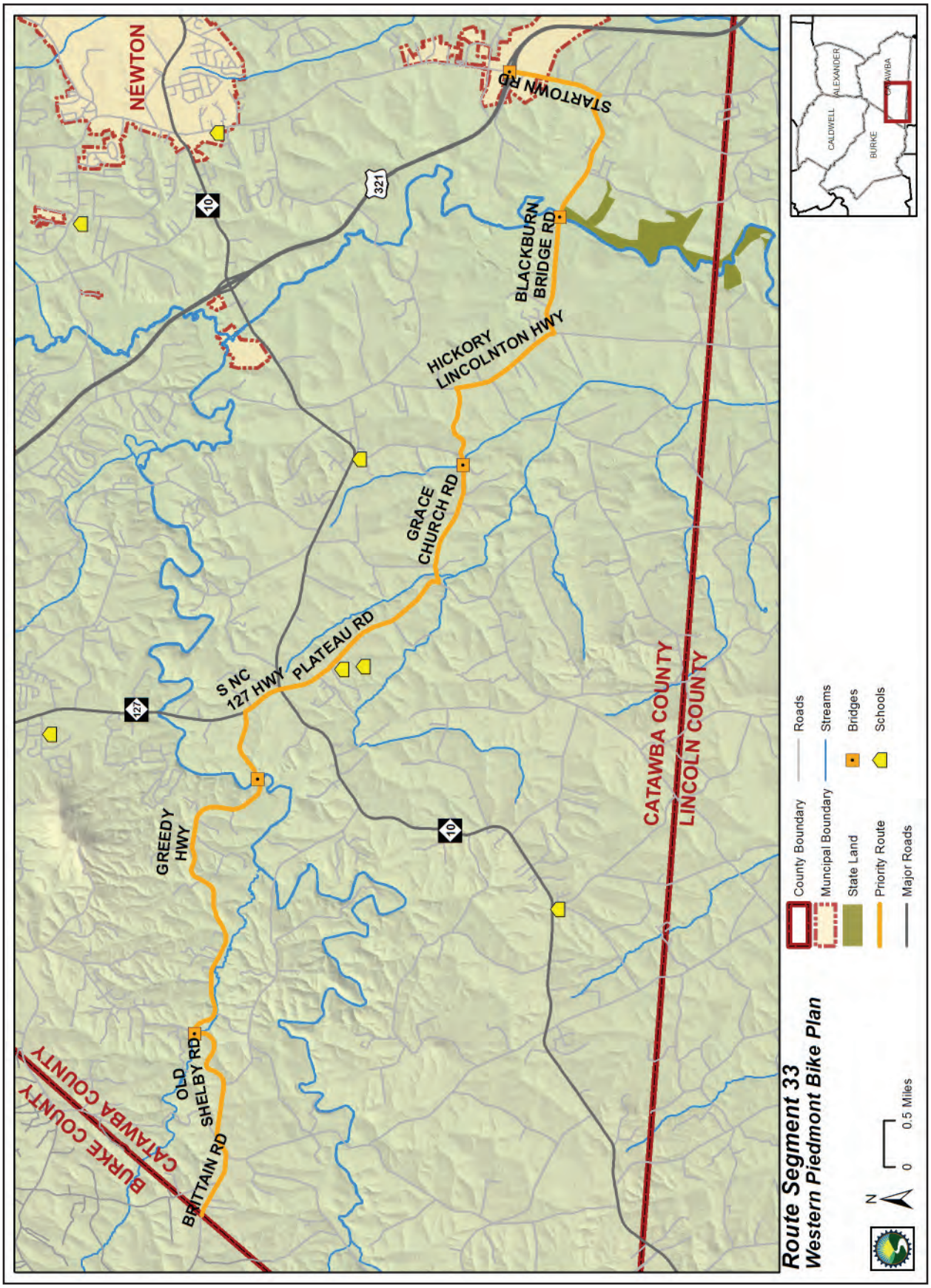
Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan - Priority Routes

Tier 2 Routes

Route Segment 33

Route segment 33 is made up of sections of Brittain Road, Old Shelby Road, Greedy Highway, Plateau Road, Grace Church Road, Blackburn Bridge Road, and Startown Road.

Figure 3-41
Route Segment 33



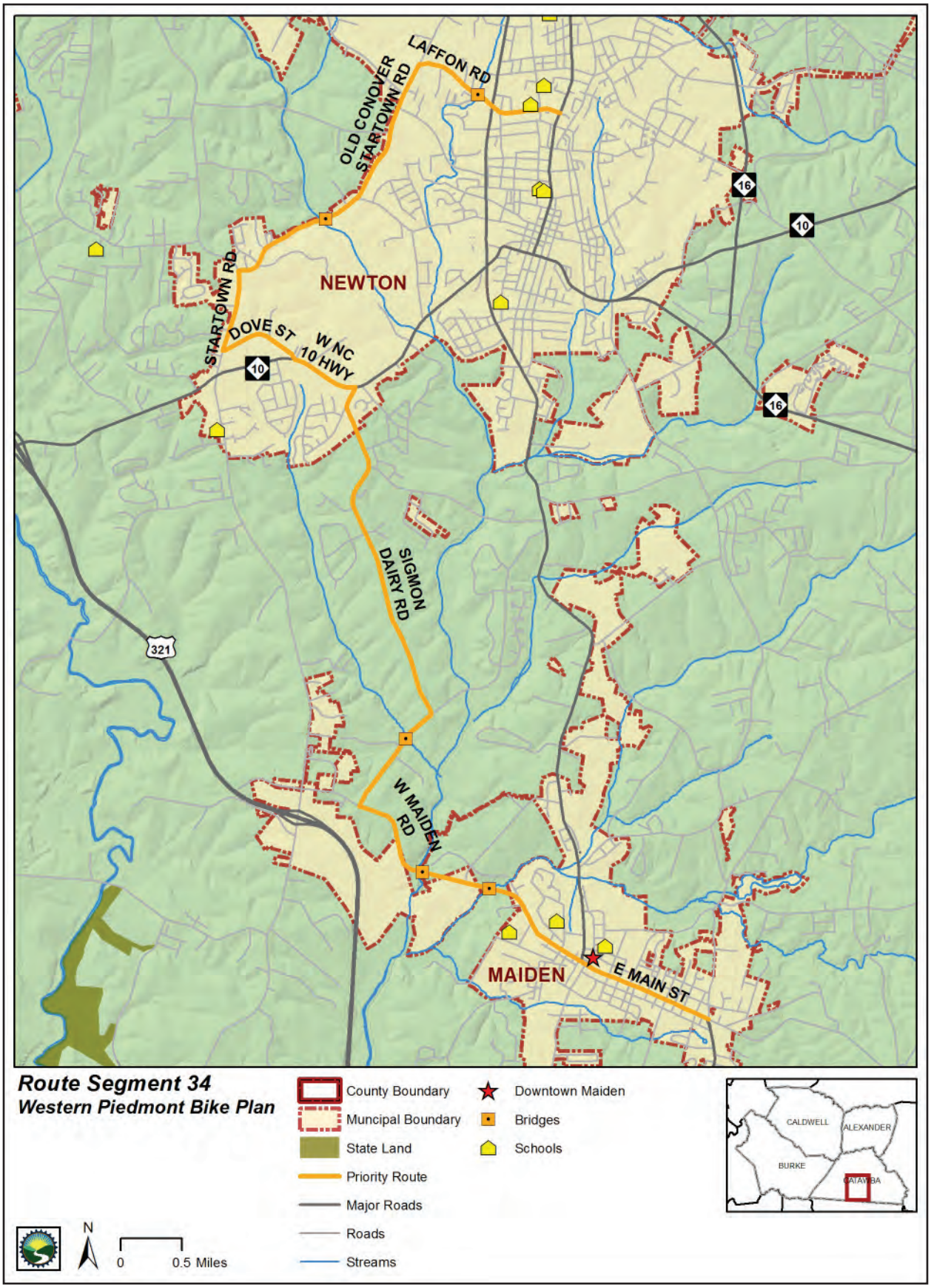
Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan - Priority Routes

Tier 2 Routes

Route Segment 34

Route segment 34 is made up of sections of W 15th Street, Laffon Road, Old Conover-Startown Road, Startown Road, Dove Street, W 10 NC Highway, Sigmon Dairy Road, W Maiden Road, W Main Street, and E Main Street.

Figure 3-42
Route Segment 34

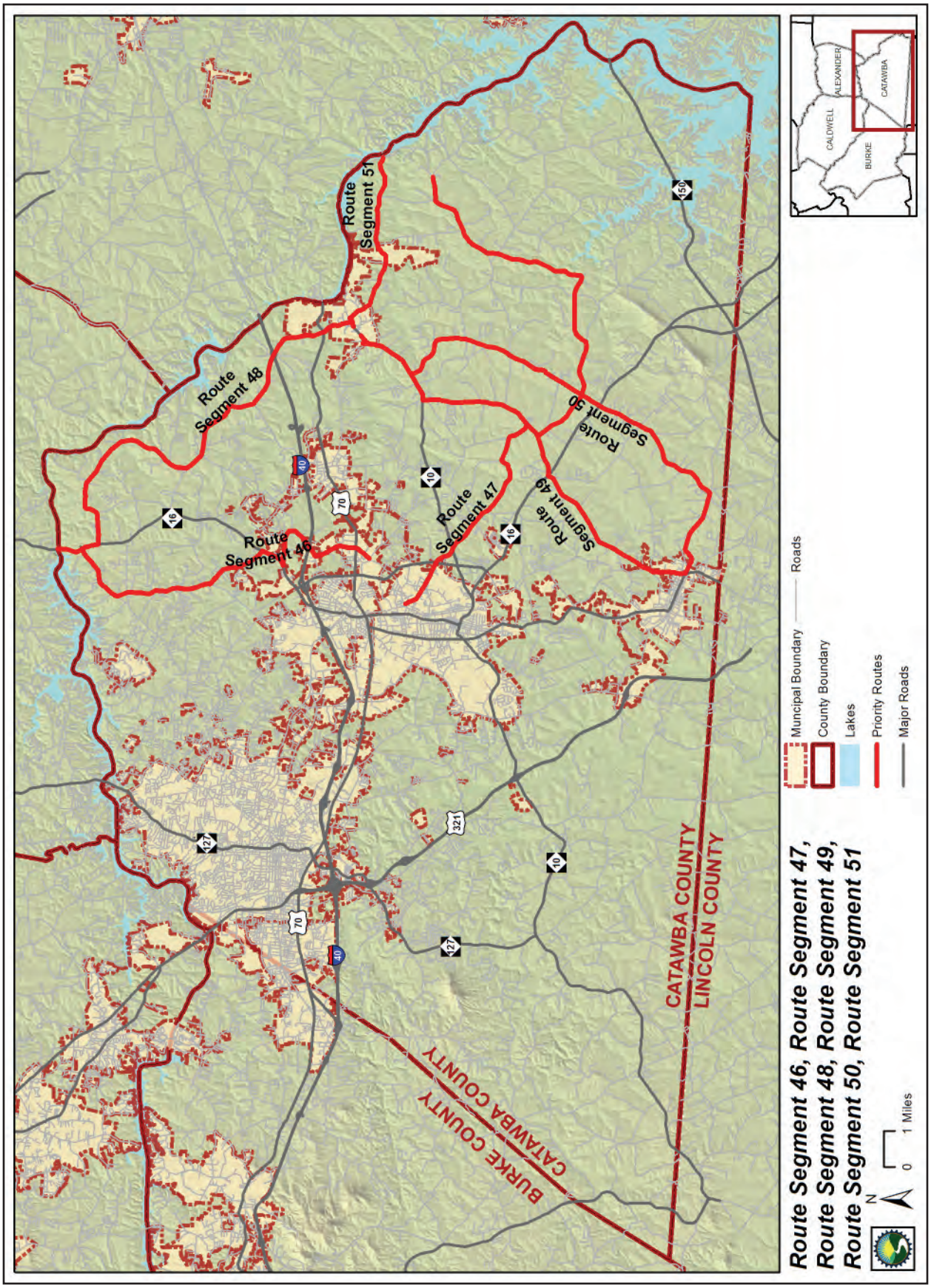


Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan - Priority Routes

Tier 3 Segments

Tier 3 segments include sections of N Mclin Creek Road, Rock Barn Road, St John's Church Road NE, NC 16, C & B Road, Lee Cline Road, Mt Olive Church Road, Little Mountain Road, Joe Johnson Road, Long Island Road, E NC 10 Highway, Oxford School Road, River Bend Road, NC 16 Highway, Balls Creek Road, Providence Mill Road, Murrays Mill Road, Buffalo Shoals Road, E Maiden Road, 2nd Ave SW, 2nd St SE, and Hudson Chapel Road.

Figure 3-46
Catawba County Tier 3 Segments



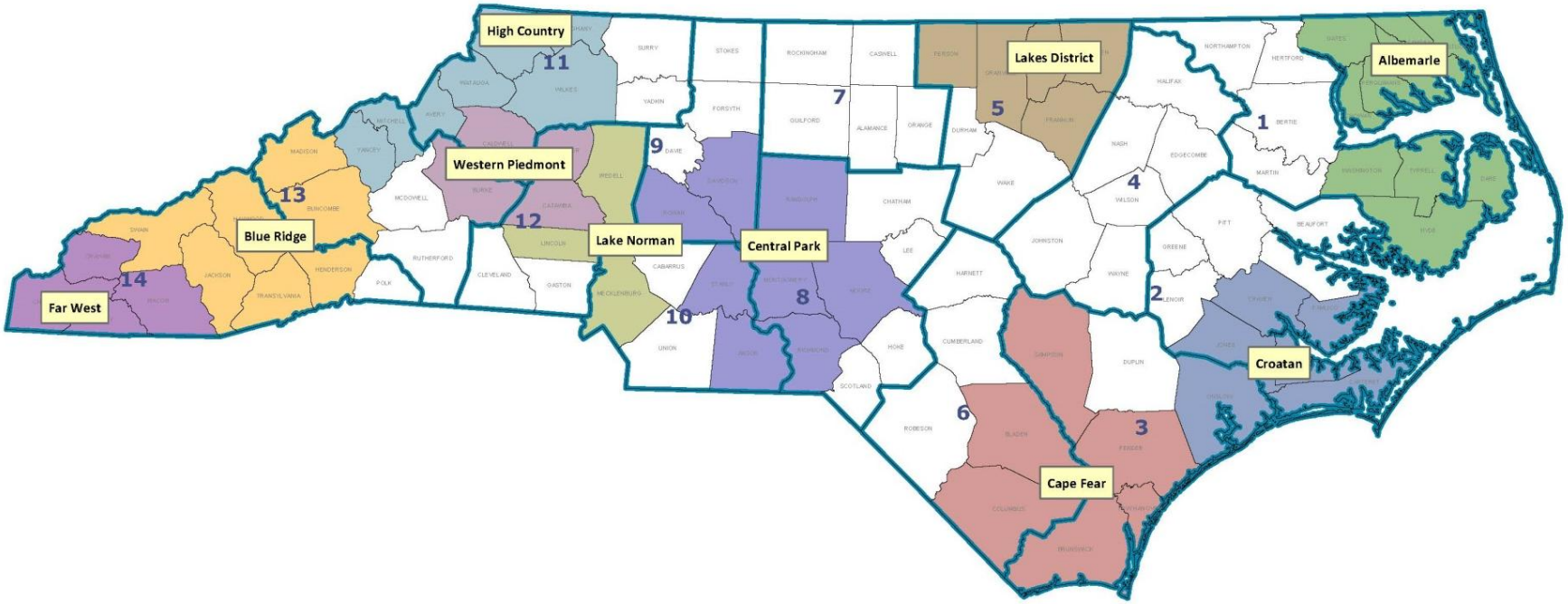
Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan (WPBP)

Todd Stroupe

WPCOG

Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Regional Bicycle Plans



Date Prepared: September 2, 2015

Division of Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation

WPCOG

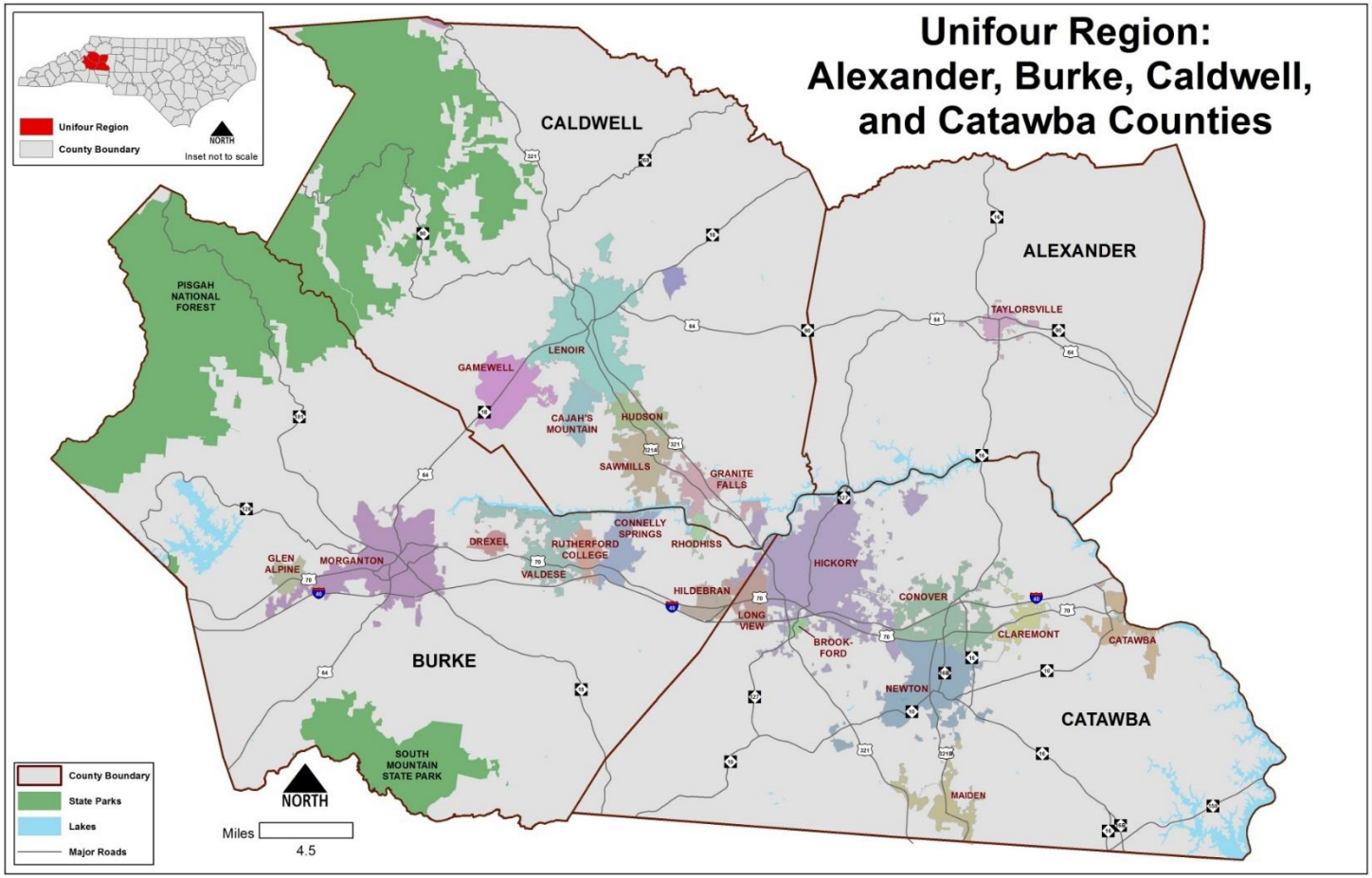
Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Bicycling in Hickory circa. 1915

Source: North Carolina Post Card Collection – UNC Chapel Hill

Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Western Piedmont Region



Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Plan Development

- Phase 1 – Project Initiation
  - Creation of Steering Committee
  - Development of Website and Social Media
  - Initial Data Collection
  - Online Survey

- Phase 2 – Data Collection and Analysis
  - Development of Vision, Goals and Objectives
  - Determination and Reconnaissance of Potential Corridors
  - Research Potential Ordinance and Policy Measures
  - Public Workshops

Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Plan Development cont.

- Phase 3 – Preliminary Plan Development
  - Public Workshops (Round 2)
  - Route Prioritization
  - Development of Design Guidelines
  - Identifying Funding Sources

- Phase 4 – Plan Creation and Finalization
  - Implementation Recommendations
  - Signing and Branding Plan Creation

Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Vision

Our region values bicycle use for its health and recreational benefits. Bicycles present an alternative transportation option for our community's residents and visitors with an accessible, safe, healthy and scenic way to reach destinations.

Western Piedmont
Council of Governments

Creative Regional Solutions Since 1968

Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Goals & Objectives

WPBP – Goals & Objectives

Safety and Engineering

Design our region's communities as places where bicycle use is valued as an important transportation mode.

1. Improve bicycle safety by eliminating road conditions that present hazards for bikers.
2. Encourage the use of NCDOT'S "Watch for Me" campaign and other recognized safety education programs.
3. Encourage and promote public outreach events.
4. Promote NCDOT's "Complete Streets" policy.
5. Encourage dialogue among engineers, planners, regional bike advocates and local governments.
6. As part of the development review process, support bicycle-friendly amenities and connectivity to local greenways and routes.

WPBP – Goals & Objectives

Transportation

Connect key bike routes to individual communities across the region.

1. Develop connectivity between public transport and non-motorized transportation.
2. Connect neighborhoods to schools, shopping and work places.
3. Ensure parks, community destinations, and employment centers are connected to bike facilities.
4. Expand directional signage and pavement markings to direct bicyclists to the greenway trail network.
5. Distribute guides for regional bike routes with location, descriptions of difficulty and skill levels.
6. Create a logo and signage for regional bicycle routes.

WPBP – Goals & Objectives

Recreation

Encouraging bicycle use for different purposes, ages and skill levels.

1. Promote that biking is a fun, low-cost family activity through region-wide events.
2. Promote bike trails by listing them to the “Rails to Trails” website and the publicity for their events.
3. Provide bike rental to adults in various parks and urban areas across the region.
4. Publish a regional bicycle network map.

WPBP – Goals & Objectives

Health and Education

Bicycling provides and improves the community's physical and mental health.

1. Educate people that increased biking options contribute to healthier lives. Use data to demonstrate health improvements (such as heart health, lowering risks for diabetes) resulting from bicycle activity.
2. Strategize between local health organizations and bike advocates about shared funding options.
3. Connect bike advocates with health focused organizations such as YMCAs and local health departments.

WPBP – Goals & Objectives

Economic Vitality

Strengthen the economic impact of bicycling.

1. Emphasize a “bike-friendly” community is an asset to the region’s economic attractiveness.
2. Educate local officials and the public about the economic benefits of bicycling.
3. Market the region’s bike trails through advertising campaigns.

Western Piedmont
Council of Governments

Creative Regional Solutions Since 1968

Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Selection Methodology

WPBP – Selection Methodology

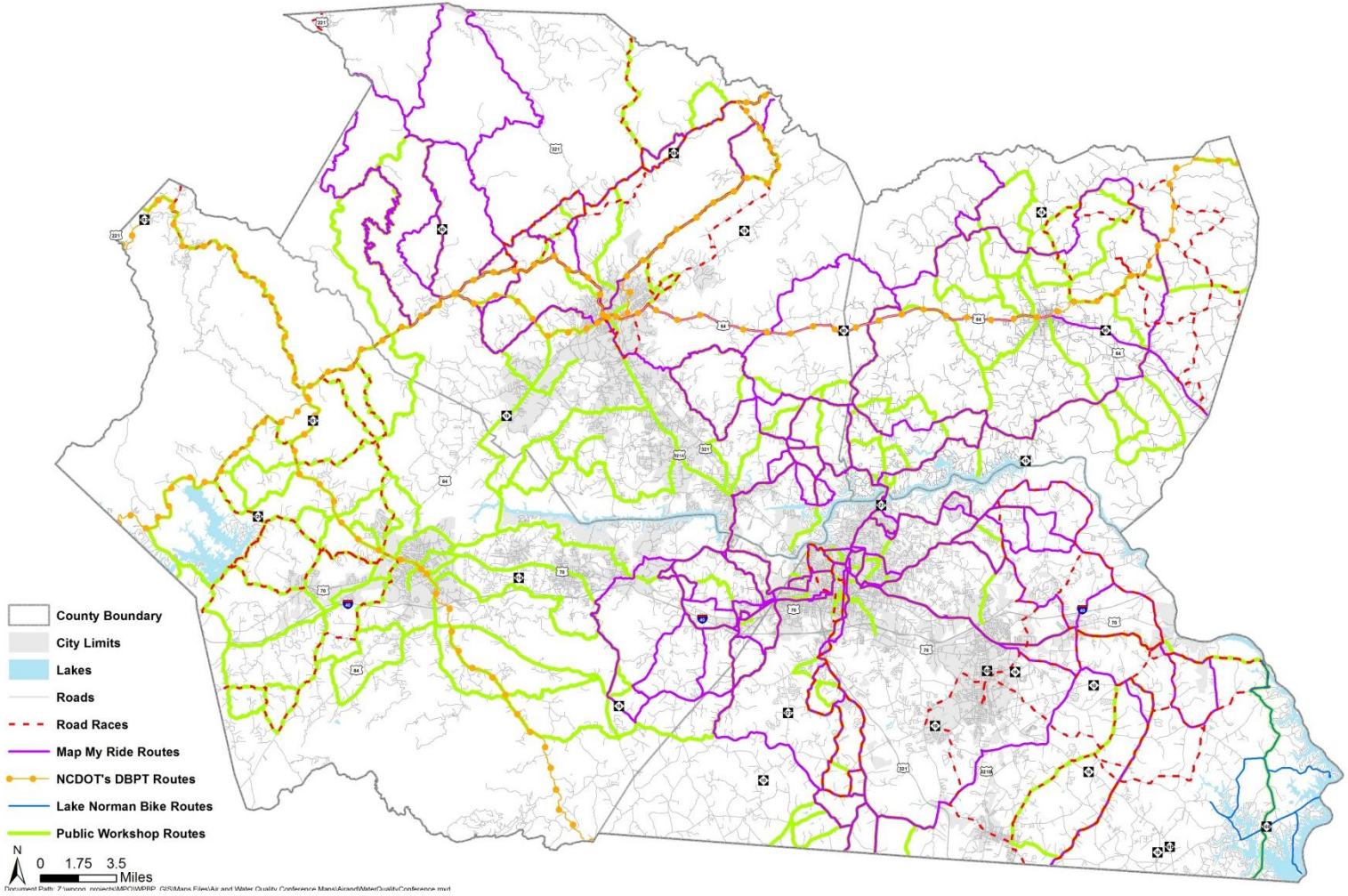
Route Identification Sources

- Online Survey
- Public input at four public workshops
- NCDOT’s Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian (DBPT)
- Lake Norman Bike Plan
- Regional road races
- Map My Ride (mapmyride.com)
- Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry (GHCCM)

WPBP – Selection Methodology

WPBP – Selection Methodology

The "Commonly Used" Network



Western Piedmont
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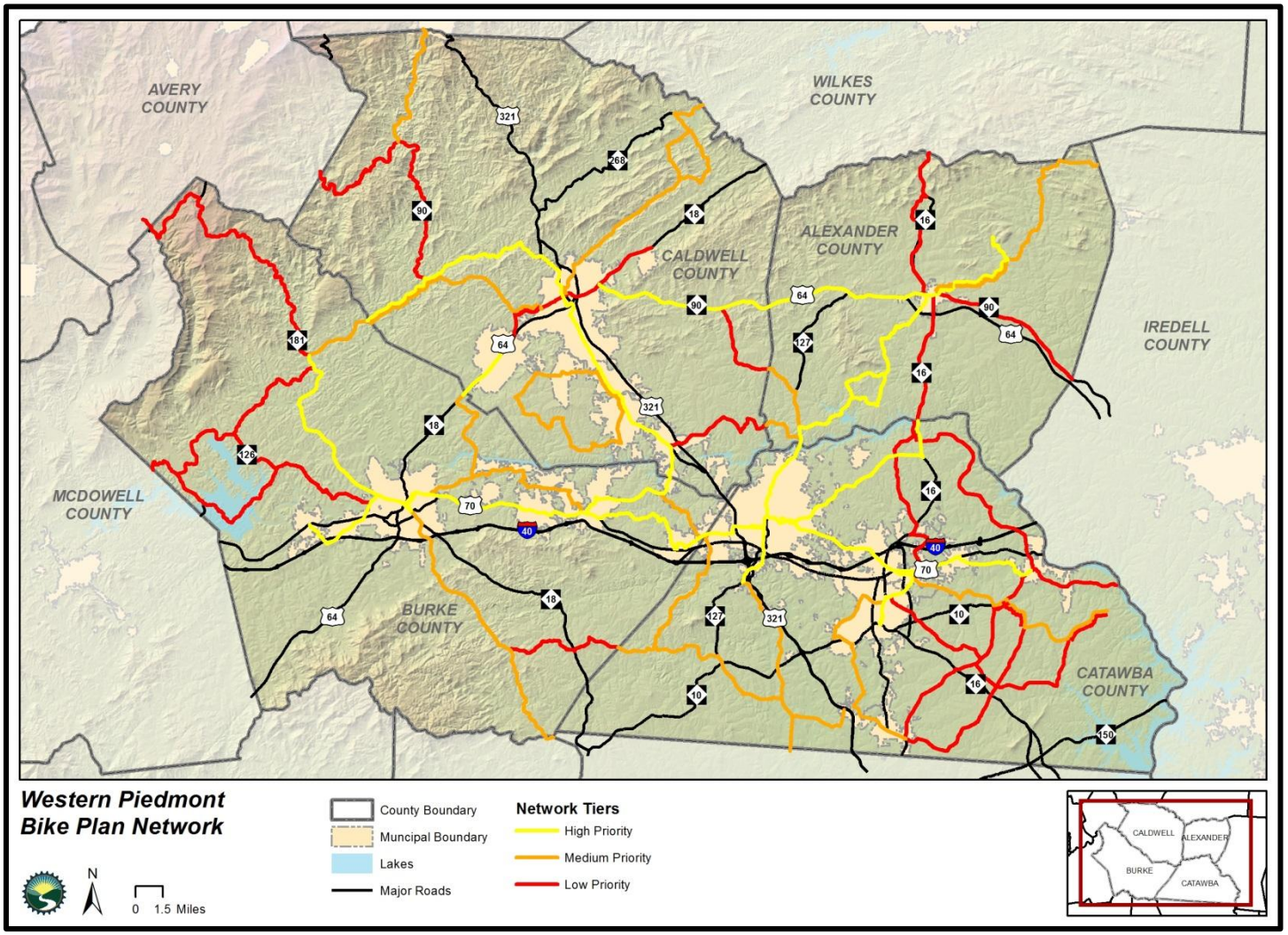
Priority Segments

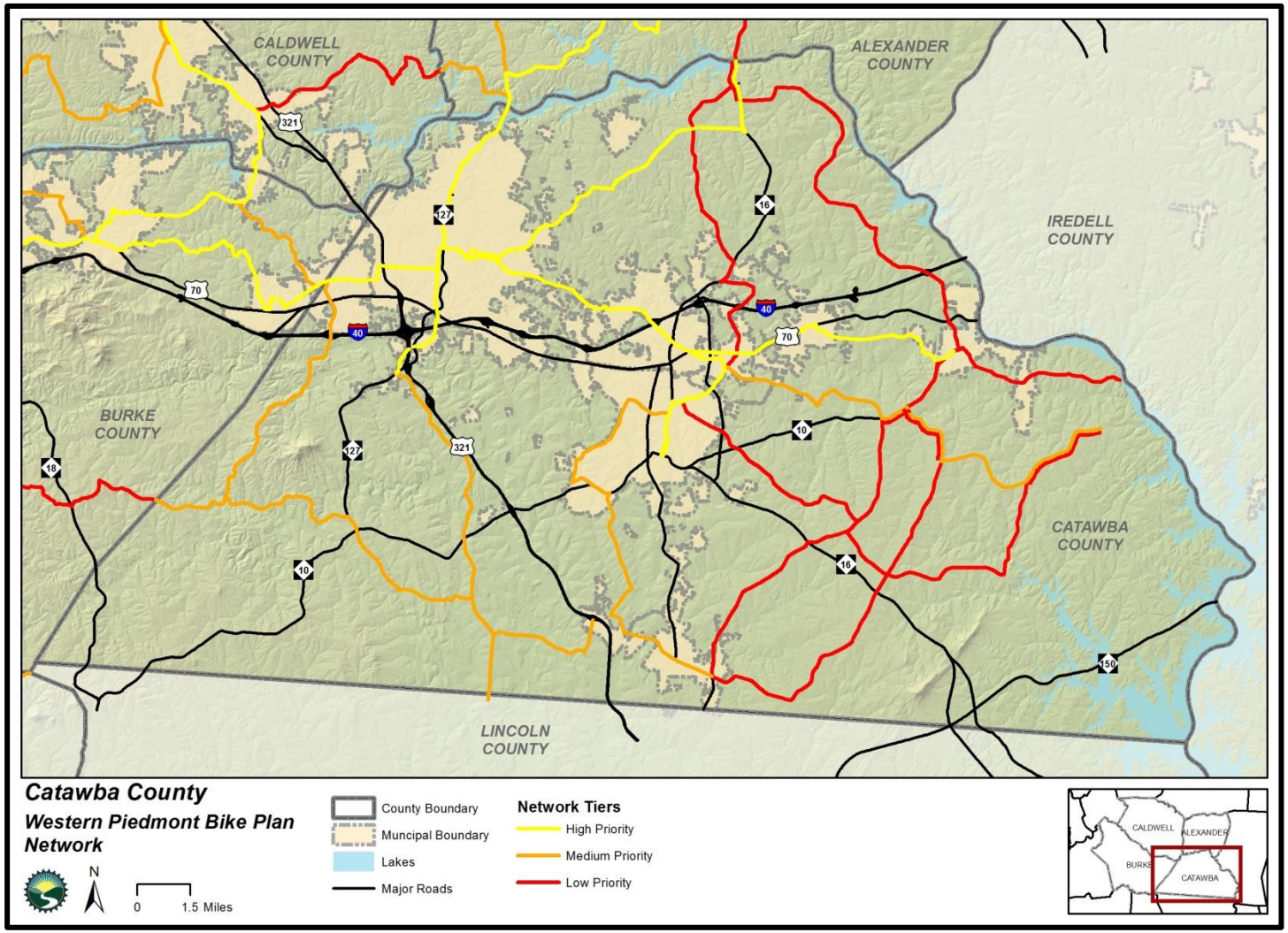
WPBP – Priority Segments

Western Piedmont Region



WPBP – Priority Segments

Catawba County



Western Piedmont
Council of Governments

Creative Regional Solutions Since 1968

Implementation Strategies

WPBP – Implementation Strategies

Signing Plan

WPBP – Implementation Strategies

Potential Funding Opportunities

Federal

- Surface Transportation Program – Direct Attributable (STP-DA)
- Transportation Alternatives (TA)
- Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ)

State

- State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Safe Routes to School Program
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
- North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
- Adopt-a-Trail Program
- Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- NCDOT Bicycle Planning Grant Initiative

Local

- State Street-Aid (Powell Bill Funds)
- Tax Increment Financing
- Municipal Bonds

Private

- Lowes Foundation
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

WPBP – Implementation Strategies

Potential Partnership Opportunities

- Bicycling clubs (on-road and off-road)
- Chambers of Commerce
- County departments of social services
- Downtown associations
- Economic development corporations
- Hospitals, medical centers, and their foundations
- Local bicycle shops
- Local non-profits
- Major employers
- Municipal engineering, planning, recreation, and police departments
- North Carolina Department of Commerce
- NCDOT's Division 11, 12, and 13
- NCDOT's Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation
- Public health departments
- Public school systems
- Service clubs
- Sheriff departments
- Tourism authorities
- Universities and community colleges
- Veteran groups
- Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Western Piedmont
Council of Governments

Creative Regional Solutions Since 1968

Questions?

http://www.wpcog.org/#!blank/nfhhg

Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan

Executive Summary

Western Piedmont Council of Governments
Creative Regional Solutions Since 1968

Division of Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation

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Acknowledgements

Developing the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan (WPBP) involved cooperation from the Steering Committee, local government, the public, and technical staff. The Western Piedmont Council of Government expresses gratitude to those who have assisted with the plan's development.

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Chad Ritchie	Alexander County	Rob Dickerson	Hickory Velo Club
Scott Carpenter	Burke County	Jeff Welch	Luna Cycles
Jason May	Burke County Senior Center	Kelly Russell	Morganton Cycling Club
Merlin Perry	Caldwell County Pathways	John Vine-Hodge	NCDOT DBPT
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Kelsey Johnston	Catawba County Public Health	Lanny Lambert	Rock n Road Bicycles
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Jenny Wheelock	City of Lenoir	George Holleman	Town of Taylorsville
Mark Young	City of Morganton	Chip Black	Town of Valdese
Colleen Anderson	Cooperative Christian Ministry	Bryan Duckworth	Town of Valdese Public Works

Introduction

The Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan provides a framework for improving bicycle transportation in the counties of Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba. The plan acts a blueprint for improving both regional and local connectivity with a comprehensive toolbox

Scope

Geographic Scope

The Western Piedmont region is located in the foothills of western North Carolina about 45 miles north of Gastonia, 50 miles northwest of Charlotte, 70 miles west of Winston-Salem and 75 miles east of Asheville. As of 2014, the urbanized area is comprised of 162 square miles containing 24 municipalities: Brookford, Catawba, Claremont, Conover, Hickory, Long View, Newton, Maiden, Connelly Springs, Drexel, Glen Alpine, Hildebran, Morganton, Rutherford College, Valdese, Cajah's Mountain, Cedar Rock, Gamewell, Granite Falls, Hudson, Lenoir, Rhodhiss, Sawmills, and Taylorsville.

The rural area encompasses 1,502 square miles and contains both unincorporated communities, agricultural land, and several recreational areas and parks. Of all major parks in the region, the largest are Lake James State Park at 4.89 square miles, South Mountain State Park at 27.76 square miles, and Pisgah National Forest (located in both Burke and Caldwell Counties) at 168.67 square miles.

Project Scope

The Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan addresses the following:

Route Networks

The Plan identifies a bicycle route network based on information gathered from public input.

Economic Impact of Cycling

The Plan examines the impact increased bicycling can have on the region.

Safety Analysis

The Plan reviews bicycle accident data from 2007-2012.

Laws/Enforcement

The Plan outlines recommendations for the integration of bicycle-friendly policies into codes and ordinances.

Roadway Design and Signage

The Plan provides recommendations on the placement of signage along the identified routes.

Implementation

A prioritized list of recommended strategic and low-cost improvements is included along with a discussion about future project programming, facility maintenance, and funding sources.

Vision, Goals, and Policies

As part of the public input process, the Steering Committee created a vision, goals, and policies to guide the development of the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan and bicycle planning in the region for years to come. The following was developed over several months. Each goal has related policies that have been prioritized by the public.
The following vision statement guides the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan:
Our region values bicycle use for its health and recreational benefits. Bicycles represent an alternative transportation option for our community's residents and visitors as an accessible, safe, healthy and scenic way to reach places people want to go.

To achieve this vision now and in the future, the following goals and policies were developed:
Goal 1: Safety and Engineering - Design our region's communities as places where bicycle use is valued as a significant transportation mode.

1. Improve bicycle safety by eliminating road conditions that present hazards for bicyclists.
2. As part of the development review process, support bicycle-friendly amenities and connectivity to local greenways and routes.
3. Encourage dialogue among engineers, planners, regional bike advocates and local governments.
4. Promote NCDOT's "Complete Streets" policy at the local and regional level.
5. Encourage the use of NCDOT'S "Watch for Me" campaign and other recognized safety education programs.
6. Encourage and promote public outreach events.

Goal 2: Transportation - Connect key bike routes to individual communities across the region.

1. Connect neighborhoods to schools, shopping and work places.
2. Ensure parks, community destinations, and employment centers are connected to bike facilities.
3. Develop connectivity between public transport and non-motorized modes of transportation.
4. Increase the number of "Share the Road" signs or develop a billboard/advertising campaign promoting "Share the Road."
5. Expand directional signage and pavement markings to direct bicyclists to the greenway trail network.
6. Create a logo and signage for regional bicycle routes.
7. Distribute guides for regional bike routes with location, descriptions of difficulty, and skill levels.

Goal 3: Recreation - Encouraging bicycle use for different purposes, ages, and skill levels.

1. Publish a regional bicycle network map.
2. Promote bike trails by listing them to the "Rails to Trails" website, and publicize their events.
3. Promote biking as a fun, low-cost family activity through region-wide events.
4. Provide bike rental to adults in various parks and urban areas across the region.

Goal 4: Health and Education - Bicycling provides and improves the community's physical and mental health.

1. Educate people that increased biking options contribute to healthier lives. Use data to demonstrate health improvements (such as heart health and lowering risks for diabetes) that result from bicycling.
2. Strategize between local health organizations and bike advocates about shared funding options.
3. Connect bike advocates with health-focused organizations such as YMCAs and local health departments.

Goal 5: Economic Vitality - Strengthen the economic impact of bicycling.

1. Emphasize that a "bike-friendly" community is an asset to the region's economic attractiveness.
2. Educate local officials and the public about the economic benefits of bicycling.
3. Market the region's bike trails through advertising campaigns.

Trends, Challenges, and Benefits

The Western Piedmont is a diverse region with different levels of urbanization and development, household incomes, commuting patterns, health and fitness, and local economies to name a few. Chapter 2 of the plan reviews the current trends and potential challenges to creating a better bicycling environment within the Western Piedmont.

Trends

Demographics

Data collected for the plan shows that the population in the Western Piedmont is quickly aging with the majority of residents (22%) in the 45 to 59 age group. Population trends over the next 25 years indicate that the majority of residents (57.1%) will be 65 and older.

Housing and Transportation Costs

Housing and transportation costs represent a large portion of a household's income in the region. The mean annual transportation cost for 73.6% of individuals in the Western Piedmont is $14,300. When housing costs are added, 94.2% of people living in the region spend 50% or more annually on these expenses.

Mobility and Land-Use

Vehicle Miles Traveled is one measure of how many miles a vehicle may travel over a particular time period (Table 2-5). According to information provided by The Center for Neighborhood Technology, the amount of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per household annually in the Hickory MSA is between 21,000 and 26,000 miles.

Commuting

The overall commuting patterns for each county are divided into "out-commuters" to another

county, "in-commuters" from another county, and "non-commuters" meaning persons residing and working in the same county. Within the region, Catawba County is identified the "job magnet" because it has the highest number of in-commuters than out-commuters.

The total number of bicycle commuters in North Carolina is estimated at 10,489 which is 0.2% of all commuters. From this total, 8,079 or 77% are male and 2,410 or 23% are female. According to U.S. Census information, within the Hickory Metropolitan Area, only a small percentage of workers travel by bicycle with the majority of commuters traveling by private automobile. Bicycling comprises only 0.1% of all commuting modes for both the Hickory MSA.

Health

Current health risk behaviors, such as lack of physical activity, are determinants of future health. An estimated one in four (or 26.98%) of adults in the Western Piedmont Region does not participate in any physical activity or exercise (with no leisure-time physical activity).

Safety

Crash data at national, state, and county levels has not shown a positive or negative trend. From 2007 to 2008, national and statewide crashes increased, though the percent change for state-level crashes was only 1.17%. Burke and Catawba Counties saw decreases in crashes between 2007 and 2008, and the number of crashes in Caldwell County remained the same. Alexander County has had only one recorded crash between 2007 and 2012.

Environment

Current and past air quality issues in the Western Piedmont region come from having high-levels of ground-level ozone (O3) and particulate matter (PM 2.5) in the atmosphere. Ozone (O3) is a gas created by chemical reaction when solar radiation interacts with nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) in the atmosphere. Nitrogen oxide (NOx) is formed when fuel is burned at high temperatures by both on-road (cars, trucks, buses) and non-road vehicles (boats and construction equipment, for example) as well as from industrial sources such as turbines, power plants, cement kilns, and industrial boilers. Volatile organic compounds (VOC) can enter the atmosphere through various sources from either vehicle engine operation or fuel evaporation.

Challenges

Mobility and Land-Use

Blcyclists in Downtown Morganton. Source: City of Morganton

The high number of VMTs per household is a symptom of a larger challenge facing the Western Piedmont region. In a report published by Smart Growth America in April 2014, the Hickory MSA was ranked the worst region for sprawl out of the 221 regions currently in the United States. Smart Growth America measured development by using four separate factors which include development density, land use mix, activity centering, and street accessibility. These measures were then used by researchers who developed for each region a Sprawl index score. The highest Index score of 203.4 was earned by the New York/White Plains/Wayne, NY-NJ metro region in comparison to the Hickory metro region which earned a score of 24.9. Other metro regions in the state also ranked low in the Sprawl Index including Durham/Chapel Hill (Index score: 73.8), Charlotte/Gastonia-Rock Hill (Index score: 70.5) and Greensboro/High Point (Index score: 63.5).

Health

The Western Piedmont Region's current and future health is significantly determined by the current levels of physical inactivity, overweight levels, and obesity rates. These current levels indicate an increased risk of heart disease, diabetes, and other chronic diseases.

Benefits

Economy

Bicycling is one of the most efficient and cost-effective means of travel. Bicycles require hardly any upkeep and allow people to commute without the inefficiency of moving a two-ton vehicle with them. Placing an emphasis on bicycling also helps in other ways like increasing property values, assisting cities and towns in revitalizing their downtowns, and attracting tourists from both within and outside the region.

Environment

Creating bicycling infrastructure and promoting bicycling for commuting, tourism, and recreational purposes can greatly reduce the negative effect of environmental impacts produced by motor vehicle use. Bicycles do not burn fossil fuels, are more energy efficient to make, and do not require toxic batteries or motor oil to operate.

Planning Process

In the summer of 2013, the Western Piedmont Council of Governments received funding from the North Carolina Department of Transportation to begin developing a regional bicycle plan for the four-county region of Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties. The purpose of this bicycle plan provides a clear framework for the development of new facilities, programs, and policies that will support safe and efficient bicycling throughout the region.

The development of the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan included an open, participatory process, with residents providing input through public events, stakeholder meetings, the project Steering Committee, social media, and online surveys.

Selection Methodology

The routes discussed in this plan are organized into three different tiers. Assignment into a tier depended on several different factors led by attendees at the public workshops, by the planning staff, and eventually the steering committee. The process for determining route tiers was as followed:

- April 2014: Members of the public identified commonly used routes at regional workshops.
- September 2014: Routes were prioritized by attendees at public regional workshops.
- September/October 2014: WPBP Staff ranked routes by using internal scoring methodology.
- October 2014: Steering Committee members from each county made final recommendations using information gathered through both workshops and the staff rankings.

Final Route Selection

The final priority list for each county was divided into thirds with the top third being assigned to Tier 1, the middle third assigned to Tier 2, and the bottom third assigned to Tier 3. While roadway recommendations outlined in this plan apply only to Tier 1 routes, future plan updates will include recommendations for Tier 2 and Tier 3.

The routes found in Tier 1 form the spine of the overall system and connect municipalities across the region. Tier 2 and Tier 3 routes fill in the remaining areas of the region which are primarily rural.

Route Descriptions

Tier 1 Routes

- Total Tier Length (in Miles): 173.47
- Roadway Miles Maintained by NCDOT: 169.09
- Number of Projects: 17
- Municipalities Impacted: 21

Tier 2 Routes

- Total Tier Length (in Miles): 191.59
- Roadway Miles Maintained by NCDOT: 189.04
- Number of Projects: 17
- Municipalities Impacted: 16

Tier 3 Routes

- Total Tier Length (in Miles): 211.88
- Roadway Miles Maintained by NCDOT: 211.88
- Number of Projects: 17
- Municipalities Impacted: 10

Facility Type Recommendations

Recommendations for each Tier 1 roadway are based on several factors.

- Public feedback gathered at workshops.
- Right-of-way availability.
- Consultation of NCDOT Division Planning Engineer Dean Ledbetter, PE.
- Expected improvement costs per mile.
- Roadway characteristics such as width, traffic volume, and speed.
- Characteristics of the surrounding built environment.
- Staff reconnaissance of routes.

Implementation

First Steps

The first step towards implementation is the adoption of the WPBP. All four counties should adopt this plan and use it as a guiding document for improving bicycling conditions in the region. Having an adopted plan will help each county and local municipality when securing funding for specific projects.

The second step is to form the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization's Bicycle and Pedestrian (BiPed) Advisory Committee. The membership of the BiPed Advisory Committee should be members of the WPBP Steering Committee along with community advocates. The primary responsibility of the members should be campaigning for the changes outlined in this plan and any additional projects that may arise in the region. The BiPed Advisory Committee should also be the communication link between citizens, local government, and the Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization. It is also recommended that the BiPed Advisory Committee hold meetings every quarter and become responsible for starting the educational activities recommended by this plan.

Key Steps

- Approval and adoption of WPBP by counties.
- Start public outreach efforts to promote the plan to residents.
- Establish the Western Piedmont Bicycle and Pedestrian (BiPed) Advisory Committee.
- Set up regional BiPed website.
- Update website with bicycling information as it becomes available.
- Schedule time to evaluate projects with Greater Hickory MPO and each highway division.

Partnership Opportunities

The Action Steps will be carried out by partnerships between various organizations and groups including regional planning organizations, municipal governments, local nonprofits, county health departments, civic organizations, business owners, and law enforcement agencies. Creating strong partners in

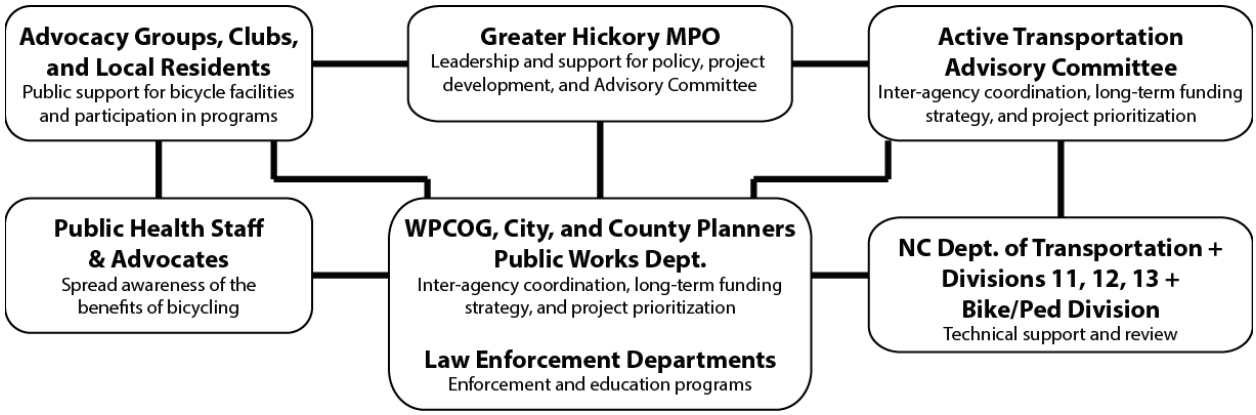
the regional effort to improve bicycling infrastructure and awareness will help spread the message about the importance of bicycling in the community and lead to effective programs in the future.

Potential partners for implementation of the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan include:

- Bicycling clubs (on-road and off-road)
- Chambers of Commerce
- County departments of social services
- Downtown associations
- Economic development corporations
- Hospitals, medical centers, and their foundations
- Local bicycle shops
- Local non-profits
- Major employers
- Municipal engineering, planning, recreation, and police departments
- North Carolina Department of Commerce
- NCDOT's Division 11, 12, and 13
- NCDOT's Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation
- Public health departments
- Public school systems
- Service clubs
- Sheriff departments
- Tourism authorities
- Universities and community colleges
- Veteran groups
- Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Administrative Structure

The figure below presents an organizational structure for plan implementation. All of the groups and agencies shown in this diagram will be necessary to successfully implement the extensive program, policy, and infrastructure recommendations of the WPBP.



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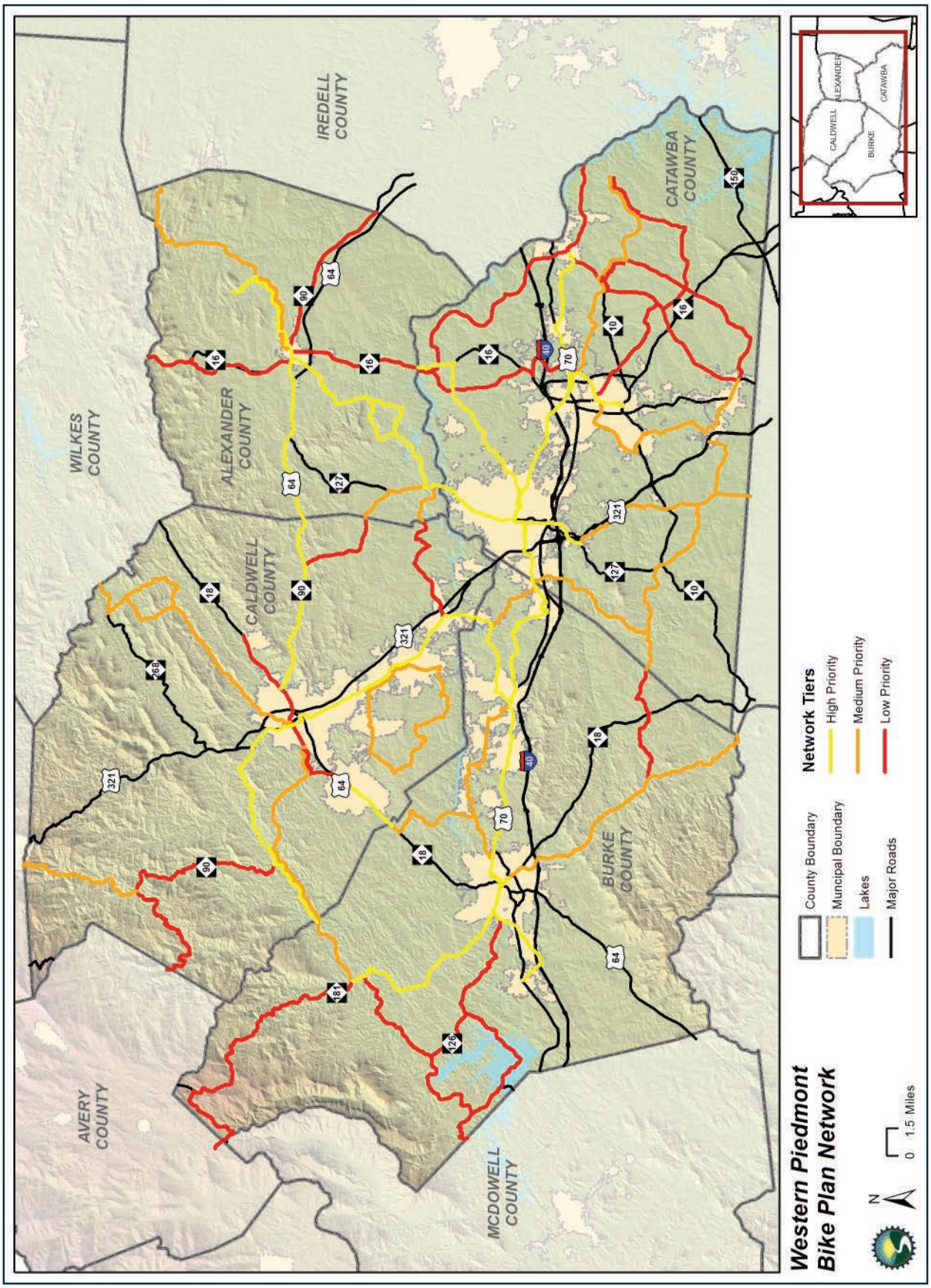
Route Segments


Western Piedmont
Bike Plan Network
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Major Roads
Network Tiers
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Medium Priority
Low Priority
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IREDELL COUNTY
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BURKE COUNTY
AVERY COUNTY
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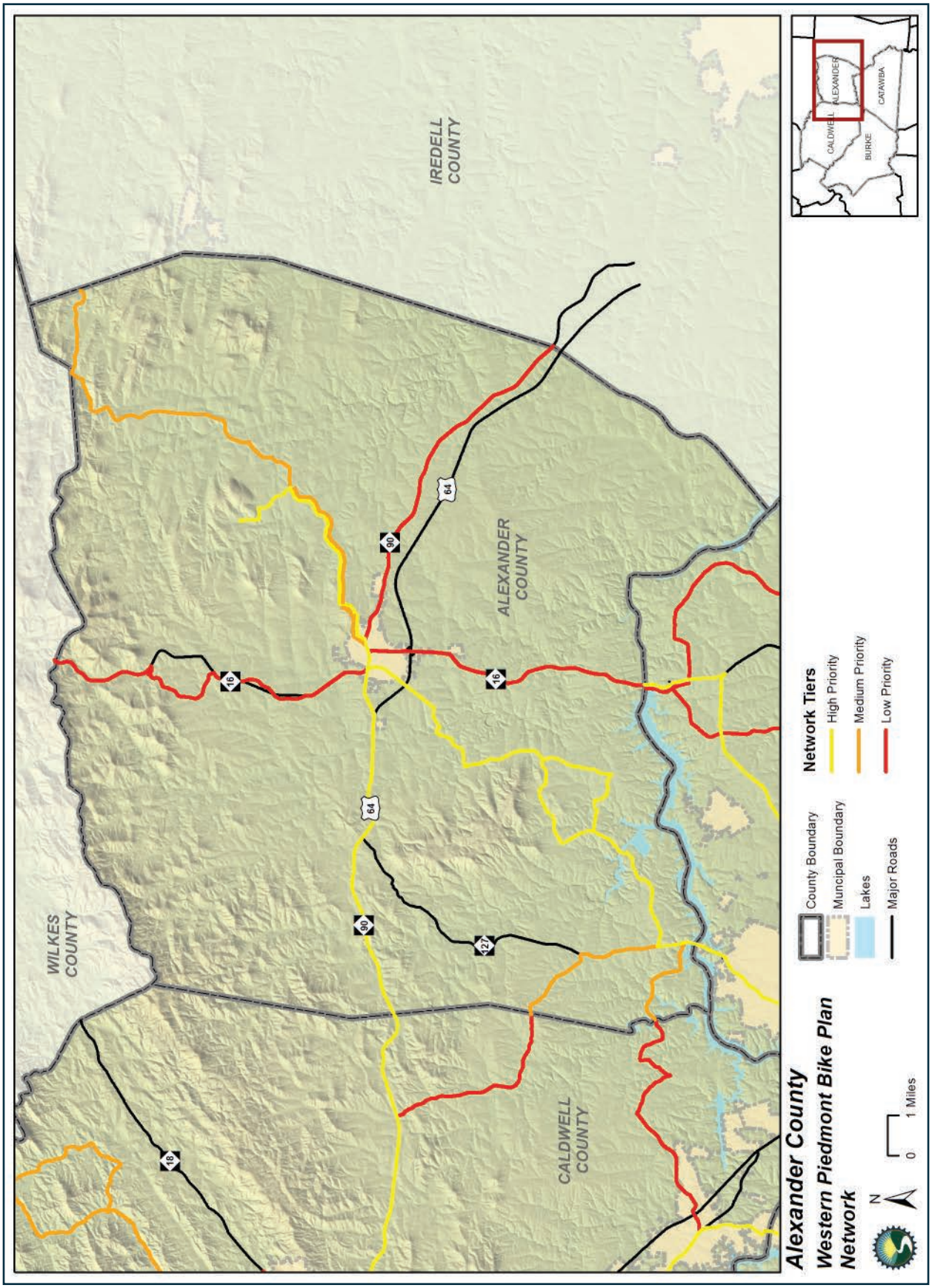
BURKE


WILKES COUNTY
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CALDWELL COUNTY
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Western Piedmont Bike Plan Network
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Major Roads
Network Tiers
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Medium Priority
Low Priority
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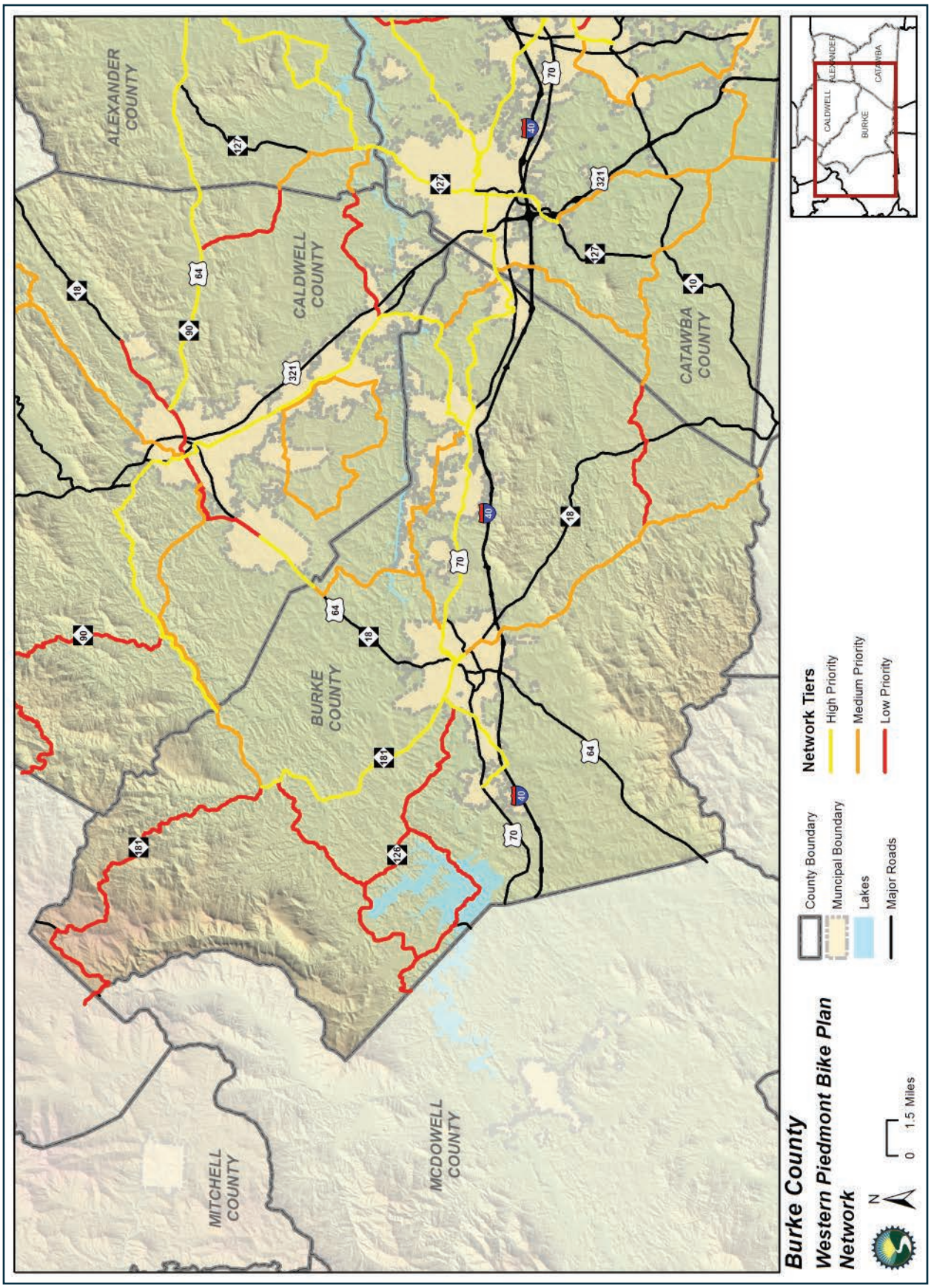
ALEXANDER
BURKE
CATAWBA


ALEXANDER COUNTY
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BURKE COUNTY
CATAWBA COUNTY
MITCHELL COUNTY
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Network Tiers
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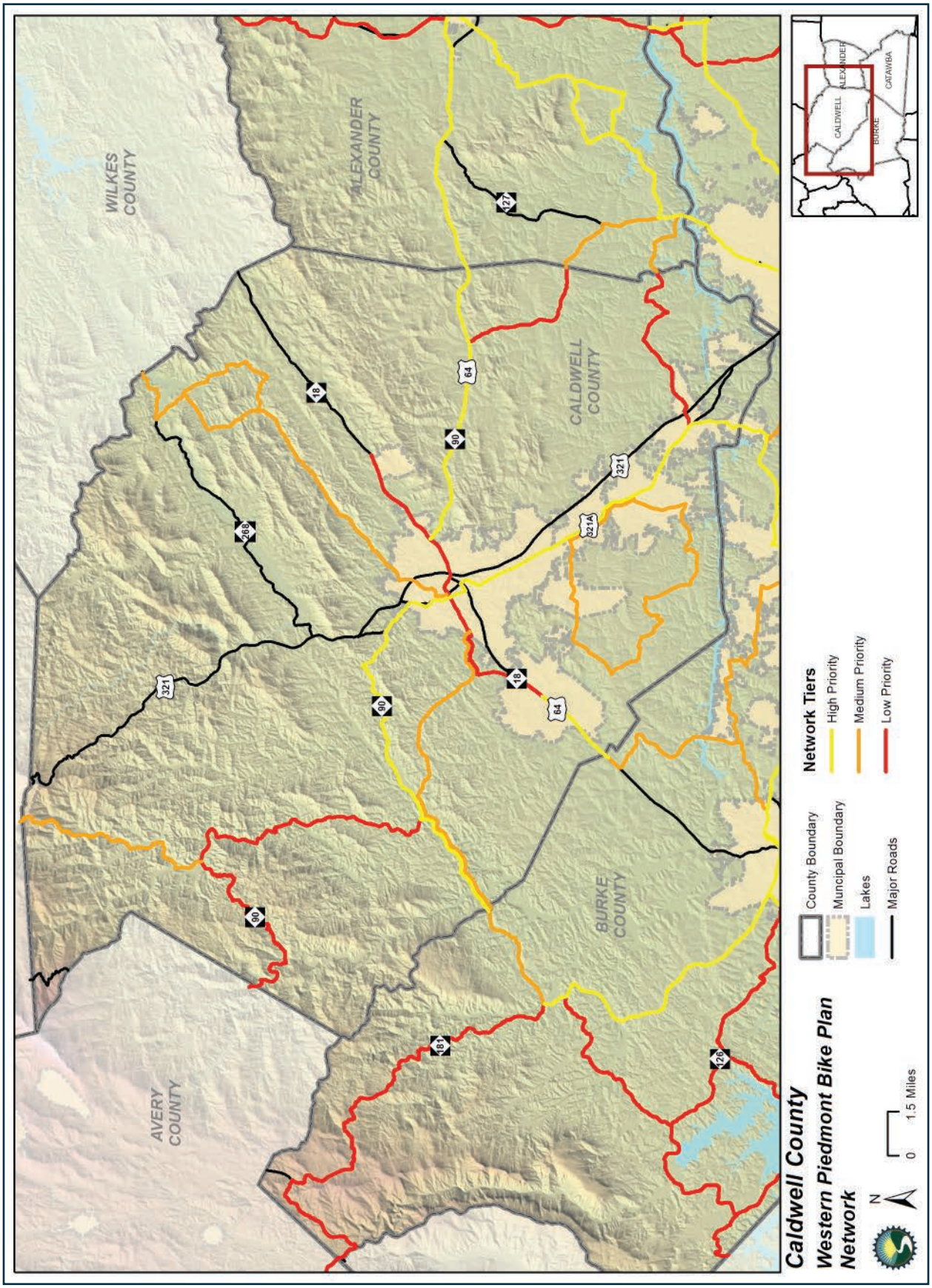
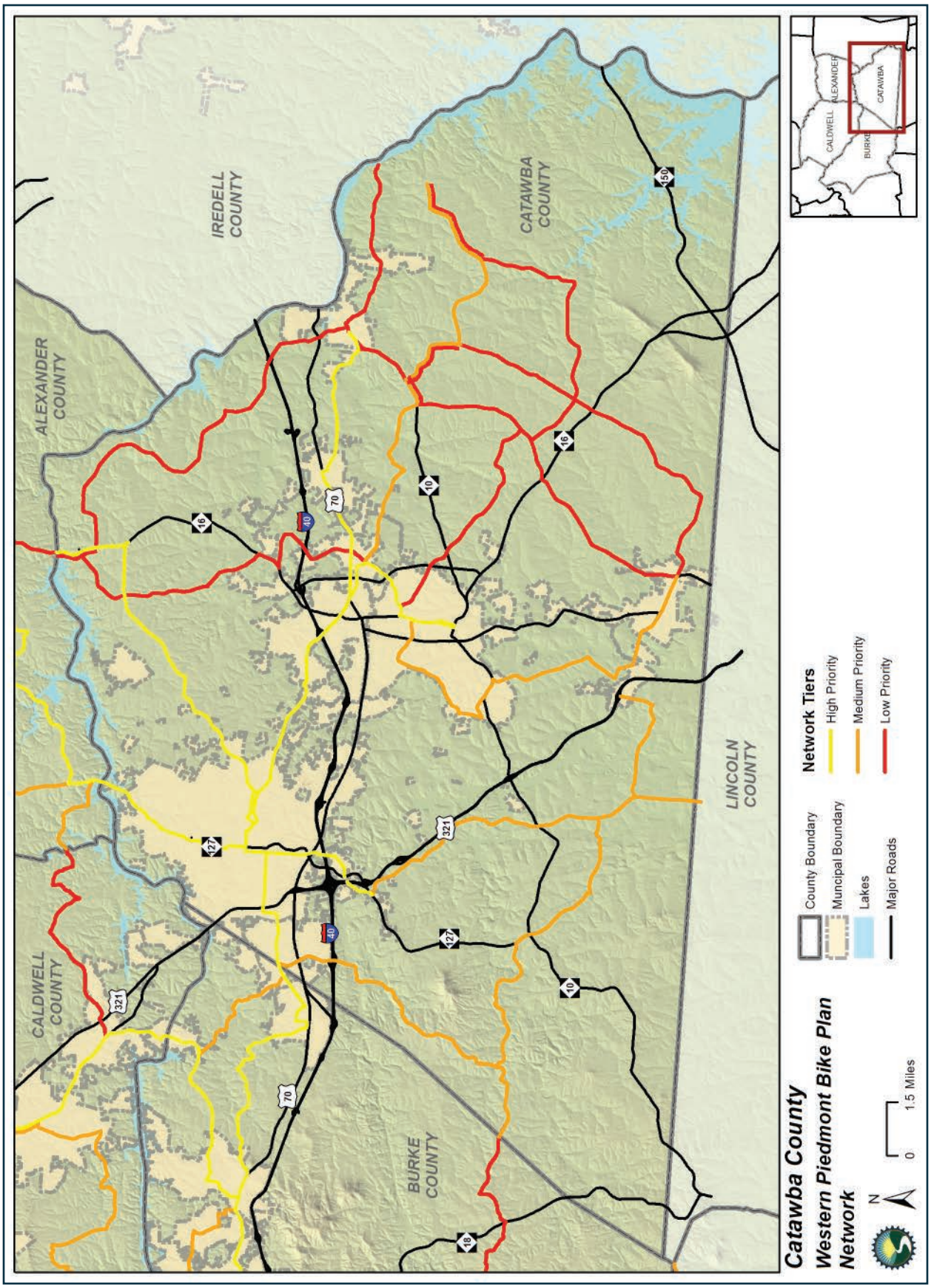


Caldwell County
Western Piedmont Bike Plan Network


IREDELL COUNTY
ALEXANDER COUNTY
CATAWBA COUNTY
CALDWELL COUNTY
BURKE COUNTY
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Major Roads
Network Tiers
High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority
CALDWELL
ALEXANDER
BURKE
CATAWBA

A RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF THE
WESTERN PIEDMONT BICYCLE PLAN

WHEREAS, NCDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Division provides funding and technical assistance to develop comprehensive regional bicycle plans, and

WHEREAS, the Greater Hickory MPO initiated the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan, including the counties of Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba; and

WHEREAS, the NCDOT provided funding for the Western Piedmont area for a regional bicycle plan due to its history of coordination and collaboration on land use, transportation, and economic development issues; and

WHEREAS, Catawba County recognizes a need to promote alternative modes of travel to reduce congestion, improve air quality, increase tourism, promote recreation, improve health, and increase safety for existing bicyclists and motorists; and

WHEREAS, the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan and its supporting text were developed with input from a wide range of constituents and public input from residents to reflect local conditions and preferences; and

WHEREAS, Catawba County will consider implementation of the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan through the recommended implementation strategies as listed in the plan; and

WHEREAS, representatives from Alexander, Burke, Caldwell and Catawba Counties participated on the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan Steering Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Catawba County Board of Commissioners adopts the Western Piedmont Bicycle Plan on this, the ____ day of _____, 2016.

A motion was made by _____ for adoption of the resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted, on this, the _____ day of _____, 2016.

_____
Catawba County, Chairman

_____
Catawba County, Clerk

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Policy and Public Works Subcommittee
DATE: March 7, 2016
IN RE: Revision of Code of Ordinances, Chapter 24: Libraries

REQUEST

The Policy & Public Works Subcommittee recommends the Board of Commissioners amend the Catawba County Code of Ordinances *Chapter 24: Libraries.*

BACKGROUND

In June 2015, the Board of Commissioners adopted the Library's recently completed Strategic Plan, developed to serve as a compass guiding the Library's programs and services through 2019. This Strategic Plan incorporates several objectives aimed at moving the Library forward as *our community's place to connect, explore, and grow.* The adoption of this plan signifies a call to action for Library staff, members of the Library Board of Trustees, Friends of the Library, the Board of Commissioners, and other community advocates and champions who recognize the value of library services. In order to ensure alignment between the Library Board of Trustees' efforts and the objectives embedded in the Strategic Plan, staff initiated a review of Article II of the Catawba County Code of Ordinances *Chapter 24: Libraries,* which deals specifically with the composition and powers and duties of Library Board of Trustees. Staff's review of the entire *Chapter 24* identified several other areas within it that require updates to reflect how the advisory board currently operates.

The proposed revision to board powers and duties, *Section 24-37*, allows for alignment with standard advisory roles, including the board role of assisting in the development and implementation of a Strategic Plan for Library Services, supporting library adherence to state and national standards for Library Services, promoting the vision and mission of the public library in the community and advocating for equal and unrestricted access, and making recommendations on library services, policies, and facilities in consultation with the library director. Staff engaged the Library Board of Trustees in the development of this proposed revision of *Article 2*, taking their feedback into consideration and integrating their input. The Library Board of Trustees unanimously supports these revisions and took formal action to recommend them to the Board of Commissioners.

Upon review of *Section 24-36* establishing the Library Board of Trustees and determining composition, the need to revise board composition to allow for more equal representation from municipalities with library branch presence was identified. At the time the Library Board of Trustees was created, Newton was the only municipality in which the Library had a branch presence. Now, however, there are also county branch libraries in Claremont, Conover, and Maiden, and all of these municipalities (including Newton) contribute either financial or in-kind support to library branch operations.

The proposed revision to this section allows for two of the board positions to be filled by representatives nominated by the respective governing bodies of the four municipalities on a rotating basis. The governing bodies may nominate a council member or a citizen, with final appointment authority resting with the Board of Commissioners. After serving one four-year term, the municipal representative

rotates off the board and the next municipality nominates a member for consideration by the Board of Commissioners for final appointment.

An additional change not specifically discussed with the Library Advisory Board of Trustees but consistent with the changes recommended by the Trustees include revision of *Section 24-5 Library Director* to remove reference to trustees' participation in the selection process of the library director, as this has not been followed for the hiring of at least the last 2 library directors and the County Manager's Office has full hiring authority for this position.

Last, the code review identified that *Article 3 Law Library* be stricken in its entirety, as the Justice Center Law Library was disbanded some 12-15 years ago with the advent of online legal resources providing more cost efficient and timely legal information for both legal staff and the public.

RECOMMENDATION

The Policy & Public Works Subcommittee recommends the Board of Commissioners amend the Catawba County Code of Ordinances *Chapter 24: Libraries*.

Chapter 24 - LIBRARIES[1]

Footnotes:

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Cross reference— Streets, sidewalks and other public places, ch. 34.

State Law reference— County libraries, G.S. 153A-261 et seq.

ARTICLE I. - IN GENERAL

Sec. 24-1. - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Library materials means any book, plate, picture, engraving, map, magazine, pamphlet, newspaper, manuscript, film, recording, specimen, work of literature, objet d'art, item of historical significance, item of curiosity, slide projector, opaque projector, overhead projector, movie projector, filmstrip, slide, recorder, sound equipment, transparency, microform, audiovisual equipment, art materials, supplies, equipment of any sort, or any other item owned by or lent to such library or branch thereof.

Trustees means the county library board of trustees.

(Code 1995, § 70.01)

Cross reference— Definitions generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 24-2. - Library system authorized.

In accordance with G.S. 153A-263, the county may:

(1) Establish, operate, and support a public library system.

(2) Set apart lands and buildings for a public library system.

(3) Acquire real property for a public library system by gift, grant, purchase, lease, exercise of the power of eminent domain, or any other lawful method. The county shall, before acquiring real property by purchase, lease, or exercise of the power of eminent domain, seek the recommendations of the trustees regarding the proposed acquisition.

(4) Provide, acquire, construct, equip, operate, and maintain buildings and other structures for a public library system.

(5) Acquire library materials by purchase, exchange, bequest, gift, or any other lawful method.

(6) Appropriate funds not otherwise limited as to use by law to carry out this chapter.

(7) Accept any gift, grant, lease, loan, exchange, bequest, or devise of real or personal property for a public library system. Devises, bequests, grants, and gifts may be accepted and held subject to any term or condition that may be imposed by the grantor or trustor, except that the county may not accept or administer any term or condition that requires it to discriminate among its citizens on the basis of race, sex, or religion.

(Code 1995, § 70.02)

Sec. 24-3. - Title to property.

The title to all property acquired by the county for library purposes shall be in the name of the county. If property is given, granted, devised, bequeathed, or otherwise conveyed to the board of trustees, it shall be deemed to have been conveyed to the county and shall be held in the name of the county.

(Code 1995, § 70.03)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, G.S. 153A-269.

Sec. 24-4. - Free services.

All residents of the county are entitled to the free use of the library system, but shall be subject to the fees and fines established by the county.

(Code 1995, § 70.04)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, G.S. 153A-264.

Sec. 24-5. - Library director.

To be eligible for appointment and service as the library director, a person must have a professional librarian certificate issued by the secretary of cultural resources, pursuant to G.S. 125-9, under regulations for certification of public librarian as established by the state public librarian certification commission pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 143B-67. ~~The trustees will participate in the selection process by interviewing finalists and presenting recommendations to the county manager who will interview and make the final appointment~~ The library director shall serve as the chief administrative officer of the library system and will report directly to and be under the supervision of the county manager.

(Code 1995, § 70.05)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, G.S. 153A-267.

Sec. 24-6. - Employees.

Other employees in the library shall be hired by the library director in accordance with the personnel regulations set forth in chapter 28 of this Code. Library employees are, for all purposes, employees of the county.

(Code 1995, § 70.06)

Sec. 24-7. - Retention, removal, destruction of materials.

(a) Any person violating subsections (a)(1)—(3) of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished in accordance with section 1-14. No person shall:

(1) Receive or become responsible for any library materials belonging to any public library in the county or any library or branch thereof supported wholly or in part by the public funds of the county and willfully fail to return any such library materials to the library or branch thereof from

which it was received for a period of 15 days after mailing or delivering in person a notice in writing from the librarian or assistant librarian of such library or branch thereof that the time for which such library materials may be kept under library regulations has expired;

(2) Willfully or intentionally remove from the premises of such library or branch thereof any library materials without charging them out in accordance with the regulations of such library or branch thereof; or

(3) Willfully or wantonly damage, deface, mutilate, or otherwise destroy any library materials, whether on library premises or on loan.

(b) In all indictments for violations of this section, it shall not be necessary to allege or prove that the item not returned was lawfully received by such person from any such public library, but only that the person came into possession of the item, knowing that the item belonged to such public library. The failure of any person to return any such item after written demand as set forth in subsection (a) of this section shall be prima facie proof that the person possessing the item acted willfully in failing to return such item within the 15-day period.

(Code 1995, §§ 70.07, 70.99)

Secs. 24-8—24-35. - Reserved.

ARTICLE II. LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FOOTNOTE(S):

--- (**2**) ---

Cross reference— Boards, commissions and committees, § 2-266 et seq. (Back)

State Law reference— Library board of trustees, G.S. 153A-265, 153A-266. (Back)

Sec. 24-36. - Established.

(a) There is created and established in and for the county a board to be known as the Catawba County Library Board of Trustees.

(b) The library board of trustees is an advisory board and shall be composed of seven members. The members shall be appointed by the board of commissioners~~; provided, however, that one member shall be a member of the board of aldermen of the City of Newton recommended by that board~~. Representatives should be selected to adequately represent the various areas of the county, as well as to ensure that the board remains diverse with respect to gender, age, ethnicity, economic status, profession, experience, skills, and ability, when possible.

(c) Two of the board positions shall be filled by representatives recommended by the respective governing bodies of the four municipalities with County branch library presence within their boundaries on a rotating basis: Claremont, Conover, Maiden, or Newton. The governing bodies may nominate a council member or a citizen. After serving one four year term, the council member or citizen from the respective municipality shall rotate off the board and the next municipality shall fill the next four year term. The rotation shall be alphabetical: Claremont, Conover, Maiden, and Newton.

(d) If the person or persons recommended by the governing body of the municipality are not acceptable to the board of commissioners, the board of commissioners shall ask the governing body to

recommend another person or persons until each vacancy is filled by the appointment of a person acceptable to both the recommending governing body and the board of commissioners.

(e) The board of commissioners may remove a trustee at any time for incapacity, unfitness, misconduct, or neglect of duty.

(Code 1995, § 70.20)

Sec. 24-37. - Powers and duties.

(a) The library board of trustees shall elect a chairperson and may elect other officers.

(b) The trustees shall have the following duties:

(1) Assist in the development of a Strategic Plan for Library Services by providing input into the establishment of system-wide priorities, raising awareness about the planning process by soliciting feedback from citizens on existing and future library services, participating in the process of developing a mission, vision, and values for the system, and making recommendations to the board of commissioners for the Strategic Plan's adoption.

(2) Contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan over time, assisting the library director by individually and collectively assuming responsibility for furthering specific strategies, based on the available talents and resources of each board member and as requested by the library director.

(3) Maintain knowledge of and support library adherence to state and national standards for Library Services, including the North Carolina Public Library Standards and those of the American Library Association and the Public Library Association.

(4) Understand and promote the vision and mission of the public library in the community, and advocate for equal and unrestricted access to library services and materials for all in the community.

(5~~1~~) In consultation with the library director, m~~M~~ake recommendations on ~~programs,~~ library services and policies~~, and regulations for the government of the library for the consideration of and action by the board of commissioners~~.

(~~2~~6) In consultation with the library director, m~~M~~ake recommendations ~~to the board of commissioners~~ concerning the construction and improvement of buildings and other structures for the library system.

~~(3) Supervise and care for the facilities of the library system.~~

~~(4) Participate in the selection process of the library director and make recommendations concerning the appointment to the county manager.~~

~~(5) Recommend to the board of commissioners a schedule of fines and charges for late return of, failure to return, damage to, and loss of library materials, and to take other measures to protect and regulate the use of such materials.~~

~~(6)Participate in preparing the annual budget of the library system.~~

~~(7)Recommend to the board of commissioners terms and conditions under which privileges and use of the library system may be extended to nonresidents of the county.~~

~~(8) Advise the board of commissioners on library matters.~~

~~(9)Select persons from branch library areas to serve as nonvoting advisory members of the library board.~~

(Code 1995, § 70.21)

~~**Sec. 24-38. - Annual report.**~~

~~The library board of trustees shall make an annual report on the operations of the library to the board of commissioners and shall make an annual report to the department of cultural resources as required by G.S. 125-5.~~

~~*(Code 1995, § 70.22)*~~

Sec. 24-3~~9~~8. - Terms.

(a) A term shall be four years. Except for board members under Section 24-36(c), a person may serve up to two terms. Appointment to any portion of an unexpired term shall not count toward the two term limit. Following a 12 month absence on the board, an individual shall be eligible for reappointment.

~~(a) Each new appointment or reappointment to the library board of trustees shall be appointed for four-year staggered terms. The alderman of the City of Newton shall serve a term concurrent with his term as such alderman, but not to exceed such four-year term. Appointments to unexpired terms of six years will not be affected until expiration of the term.~~

~~(b) Trustees can serve a maximum of two consecutive four-year terms, with the exception of the trustee appointed by the Newton Board of Aldermen.~~

(Code 1995, § 70.23)

Sec. 24-~~40~~39. Ex officio members.

(a) The board of commissioners may appoint one of its members to serve as an ex officio member of the library board of trustees for a term coincident to ~~his their~~ his or her elected term of office.

(Code 1995, § 70.24)

Sec. 24-4~~1~~0. - ~~Policies and goals.~~ Quarterly reporting.

~~Policies and goals of the library board of trustees shall be approved by the board of commissioners on an annual basis in conjunction with the adoption of the goals and objectives of the board of commissioners. The programs adopted to carry out these policies will be set by the trustees.~~ A ~~monthly~~ quarterly report ~~(or once every two months)~~, in the form of minutes of the meetings of the trustees, shall be sent to the office of the county manager following each meeting and shall keep the board of commissioners informed on the direction being taken by the trustees.

ARTICLE III. - LAW LIBRARY

Sec. 24-66. - Established.

The county law library shall be considered a branch of the county library system. The law library shall consist of the following:

(1) The books included in the inventory filed with the board of commissioners by the clerk of the superior court and the chairperson of the library committee of the Catawba County Bar Association;

(2) The books that shall be purchased from time to time by the library director of the county library system; and

(3) The books that may be from time to time bequeathed or loaned to the county.

(Code 1995, § 70.40)

Sec. 24-67. - Title to books.

All books on hand and all books purchased and all books received as gifts and bequests for the law library shall be and remain the property of the county. The library director is authorized to accept a loan of books upon such terms as he may deem advisable and for the best interest of the library.

(Code 1995, § 70.41)

Sec. 24-68. - Quarters.

The county shall provide suitable quarters in the county justice center for the law library.

(Code 1995, § 70.42)

Sec. 24-69. - Use of books restricted.

No book shall be taken from the justice center by any person at any time, except in compliance with section 24-71.

(Code 1995, § 70.43)

Sec. 24-70. - Replacement of books.

Any and all persons using the law library shall place all books used by him back in their proper shelves before such person leaves the library room.

~~(Code 1995, § 70.44)~~

~~Sec. 24-71. - Use of books within justice center.~~

~~(a) Any person entitled to use the law library and who desires to use any book thereof in the justice center or elsewhere within the building may do so upon executing a receipt of such book on a form provided by the library director and kept in the library.~~

~~(b) The receipt shall state the following:~~

~~(1) The number or name of the book borrowed;~~

~~(2) The volume number;~~

~~(3) The day, year, and hour the book was removed from the library; and~~

~~(4) The name and address of the borrower.~~

~~(c) A method of checking books out shall be established by the policies and regulations established by the library board of trustees pursuant to section 24-2.~~

~~(Code 1995, § 70.45)~~

~~Sec. 24-72. - Liability of borrower.~~

~~Any person removing any book, volume or pamphlet from the law library without complying with this article or violating any other rule made for the use of the library or abusing the books, property, or room of the library shall be called upon by the library director to make good the loss or any damage done to any book or property of the library. The library director shall suspend the user's right to use the library or to remove any books therefrom until such loss or damage has been paid.~~

~~(Code 1995, § 70.46)~~

~~Sec. 24-73. - Donations.~~

~~If any law library is given or bequeathed to the county, the library director may accept the library in behalf of the county and may assure the donor or testator that the library so given or bequeathed will be forever maintained as a distinct unit in honor or memory of such person as the donor or testator may desire.~~

~~(Code 1995, § 70.48)~~

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-

BE IT ORDAINED that the Catawba County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 24, Libraries, is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

Chapter 24 - LIBRARIES[1]

Footnotes:

--- (**1**) ---

Cross reference— Streets, sidewalks and other public places, ch. 34.

State Law reference— County libraries, G.S. 153A-261 et seq.

ARTICLE I. – IN GENERAL

Sec. 24-1. - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Library materials means any book, plate, picture, engraving, map, magazine, pamphlet, newspaper, manuscript, film, recording, specimen, work of literature, objet d'art, item of historical significance, item of curiosity, slide projector, opaque projector, overhead projector, movie projector, filmstrip, slide, recorder, sound equipment, transparency, microform, audiovisual equipment, art materials, supplies, equipment of any sort, or any other item owned by or lent to such library or branch thereof.

Trustees means the county library board of trustees.

(Code 1995, § 70.01)

Cross reference— Definitions generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 24-2. - Library system authorized.

In accordance with G.S. 153A-263, the county may:

(1) Establish, operate, and support a public library system.

(2) Set apart lands and buildings for a public library system.

(3) Acquire real property for a public library system by gift, grant, purchase, lease, exercise of the power of eminent domain, or any other lawful method. The county shall, before acquiring real property by purchase, lease, or exercise of the power of eminent domain, seek the recommendations of the trustees regarding the proposed acquisition.

(4) Provide, acquire, construct, equip, operate, and maintain buildings and other structures for a public library system.

(5) Acquire library materials by purchase, exchange, bequest, gift, or any other lawful method.

(6) Appropriate funds not otherwise limited as to use by law to carry out this chapter.

(7) Accept any gift, grant, lease, loan, exchange, bequest, or devise of real or personal property for a public library system. Devises, bequests, grants, and gifts may be accepted and held subject to any term or condition that may be imposed by the grantor or trustor, except that the county

may not accept or administer any term or condition that requires it to discriminate among its citizens on the basis of race, sex, or religion.

(Code 1995, § 70.02)

Sec. 24-3. - Title to property.

The title to all property acquired by the county for library purposes shall be in the name of the county. If property is given, granted, devised, bequeathed, or otherwise conveyed to the board of trustees, it shall be deemed to have been conveyed to the county and shall be held in the name of the county.

(Code 1995, § 70.03)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, G.S. 153A-269.

Sec. 24-4. - Free services.

All residents of the county are entitled to the free use of the library system, but shall be subject to the fees and fines established by the county.

(Code 1995, § 70.04)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, G.S. 153A-264.

Sec. 24-5. - Library director.

To be eligible for appointment and service as the library director, a person must have a professional librarian certificate issued by the secretary of cultural resources, pursuant to G.S. 125-9, under regulations for certification of public librarian as established by the state public librarian certification commission pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 143B-67. The library director shall serve as the chief administrative officer of the library system and will report directly to and be under the supervision of the county manager.

(Code 1995, § 70.05)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, G.S. 153A-267.

Sec. 24-6. - Employees.

Other employees in the library shall be hired by the library director in accordance with the personnel regulations set forth in chapter 28 of this Code. Library employees are, for all purposes, employees of the county.

(Code 1995, § 70.06)

Sec. 24-7. - Retention, removal, destruction of materials.

(a) Any person violating subsections (a)(1)—(3) of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished in accordance with section 1-14. No person shall:

(1) Receive or become responsible for any library materials belonging to any public library in the county or any library or branch thereof supported wholly or in part by the public funds of the county and willfully fail to return any such library materials to the library or branch thereof from which it was received for a period of 15 days after mailing or delivering in person a notice in writing from the librarian or assistant librarian of such library or branch thereof that the time for which such library materials may be kept under library regulations has expired;

(2) Willfully or intentionally remove from the premises of such library or branch thereof any library materials without charging them out in accordance with the regulations of such library or branch thereof; or

(3) Willfully or wantonly damage, deface, mutilate, or otherwise destroy any library materials, whether on library premises or on loan.

(b) In all indictments for violations of this section, it shall not be necessary to allege or prove that the item not returned was lawfully received by such person from any such public library, but only that the person came into possession of the item, knowing that the item belonged to such public library. The failure of any person to return any such item after written demand as set forth in subsection (a) of this section shall be prima facie proof that the person possessing the item acted willfully in failing to return such item within the 15-day period.

(Code 1995, §§ 70.07, 70.99)

Secs. 24-8—24-35. - Reserved.

ARTICLE II. LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FOOTNOTE(S):

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(c) Two of the board positions shall be filled by representatives recommended by the respective governing bodies of the four municipalities with County branch library presence within their boundaries on a rotating basis: Claremont, Conover, Maiden, or Newton. The governing bodies may nominate a council member or a citizen. After serving one four year term, the council member or citizen from the respective municipality shall rotate off the board and the next municipality shall fill the next four year term. The rotation shall be alphabetical: Claremont, Conover, Maiden, and Newton.

(d) If the person or persons recommended by the governing body of the municipality are not acceptable to the board of commissioners, the board of commissioners shall ask the governing body to recommend another person or persons until each vacancy is filled by the appointment of a person acceptable to both the recommending governing body and the board of commissioners.

(e) The board of commissioners may remove a trustee at any time for incapacity, unfitness, misconduct, or neglect of duty.
(Code 1995, § 70.20)

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(a) The library board of trustees shall elect a chairperson and may elect other officers.

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(3) Maintain knowledge of and support library adherence to state and national standards for Library Services, including the North Carolina Public Library Standards and those of the American Library Association and the Public Library Association.

(4) Understand and promote the vision and mission of the public library in the community, and advocate for equal and unrestricted access to library services and materials for all in the community.

(5) In consultation with the library director, make recommendations on library services and policies.

(6) In consultation with the library director, make recommendations concerning the construction and improvement of buildings and other structures for the library system.

(Code 1995, § 70.21)

Sec. 24-38. - Terms.

(a) A term shall be four years. Except for board members under Section 24-36(c), a person may serve up to two terms. Appointment to any portion of an unexpired term shall not count toward the two term limit. Following a 12 month absence on the board, an individual shall be eligible for reappointment.

(Code 1995, § 70.23)

Sec. 24-39. Ex officio members.

(a) The board of commissioners may appoint one of its members to serve as an ex officio member of the library board of trustees for a term coincident to his or her elected term of office.

(Code 1995, § 70.24)

Sec. 24-40. - Quarterly reporting.

A quarterly report, in the form of minutes of the meetings of the trustees, shall be sent to the office of the county manager following each meeting and shall keep the board of commissioners informed on the direction being taken by the trustees.

This the _____day of March, 2016.

_____

Randy Isenhower, Chair

Catawba County Board of Commissioners

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Policy and Public Works Subcommittee

DATE: March 7, 2016

IN RE: Authority to Request from NCDOT the Installation of Two (2) Sleeves and Approximately 5,000 feet of Dry Sewer Lines During Highway 16 Widening Construction

REQUEST

The Policy and Public Works Subcommittee recommends the Board of Commissioners authorize the County Manager to work with NCDOT to accomplish the following:

- Install approximately 350 feet of steel encasement pipes and approximately 5,000 linear feet of dry sewer line as part of NCDOT's project for the widening of NC Highway 16; and
- Include project funding in the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget.

BACKGROUND

In similar fashion to the future use sleeves that were installed during the construction of the new US Highway 321, the County has a unique opportunity to capitalize on the impending NCDOT project of widening NC Highway 16. In analyzing the proposed road widening project, with specific regard to providing sewer service to the area in the future, staff recommends the County take advantage of the NCDOT project and request that future use sleeves and dry sewer lines be installed as part of the road widening project.

Staff believes the installation of future use sleeves under the widened NC Highway 16 is a prudent decision as this will allow for simplified and more cost effective future access, via gravity sewer, to the west side of the widened highway (acreage affronting South Oliver Cross Road, Buffalo Shoals Road, Anderson Mountain Road, and NC Highway 16). If approved, these proposed future use sleeves will be installed as part of the NCDOT widening project at the tributaries on the Burke property (See bold black lines on the attached map). The cost for the future use sleeves is estimated to be $80,000.

In addition to the future use sleeves, staff believes working with NCDOT to have the proposed dry sewer lines installed as part of the widening project is also a sensible action that will save hundreds of thousands of dollars in the future. The proposed dry sewer lines will be installed along the widened highway between a tributary located on the Burke property and the highpoint near Airport Road (See "red line" on the attached map). Providing sewer service along this portion of NC Highway 16 is best achieved during NCDOT's highway widening project because the proposed roadway alignment negates the future ability of utilizing the natural drainage features in this area as the tributary will be within the proposed new right-of-way and most likely will be piped along this portion of the NCDOT project. The cost for the installation

of the dry sewer lines is estimated to be $450,000 if installed by NCDOT during the highway widening project. Cost to construct said lines after highway widening will be more expensive due to proximity of new NC Highway right-of-way, elevation, and tributary. Exact increase in cost cannot be determined as new roadway elevations are unknown at this time. However, given the anticipated new roadway elevation, staff anticipates cost to approximately double to roughly $900,000. When placed into service (made wet) this 5,000 linear feet of sewer line will serve approximately 880 acres.

In analyzing the remaining area around the widening project, within the SECC Service Area, staff recommends that instead of installing additional dry sewer lines along the limited access highway, a more feasible approach to providing sewer service to the area around the Highway 16/Buffalo Shoals Rd. intersection will be best accomplished by following the natural drainage features and tributaries in the area that are not impacted by the highway widening project (See the dashed lines on the attached map).

RECOMMENDATION

The Policy and Public Works Subcommittee recommends the Board of Commissioners authorize the County Manager to work with NCDOT to accomplish the following:

- Install approximately 350 feet of steel encasement pipes and approximately 5,000 linear feet of dry sewer line as part of NCDOT's project for the widening of NC Highway 16; and
- Include funding in the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget.

SECC - Hwy 16 Sewer

- Future Pump Station
- Sewer Pump Station
- Sleeves for Future Use (Installed by NCDOT)
- Future Gravity Sewer
- 5000 LF 12" Gravity Sewer (Installed by NCDOT)
- Existing Sewer
- Lakes, Streams

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

This map product was prepared from the Catawba County, NC, Geographic Information System. Catawba County has made substantial efforts to ensure the accuracy of location and labeling information contained on this map. Catawba County promotes and recommends the independent verification of any data contained on this map product by the user. The County of Catawba, its employees and agents disclaim, and shall not be held liable for any and all damages, loss or liability, whether direct, indirect or consequential which arises or may arise from this map product or the use thereof by any person or entity.

CATAWBA County North Carolina Geospatial Information Services

Date Saved: 1/27/2016

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Catawba County
Board of Commissioners

The State of Board of Elections
Amanda H. Duncan, Director
March 7, 2016

Members of the Catawba County Board of Elections

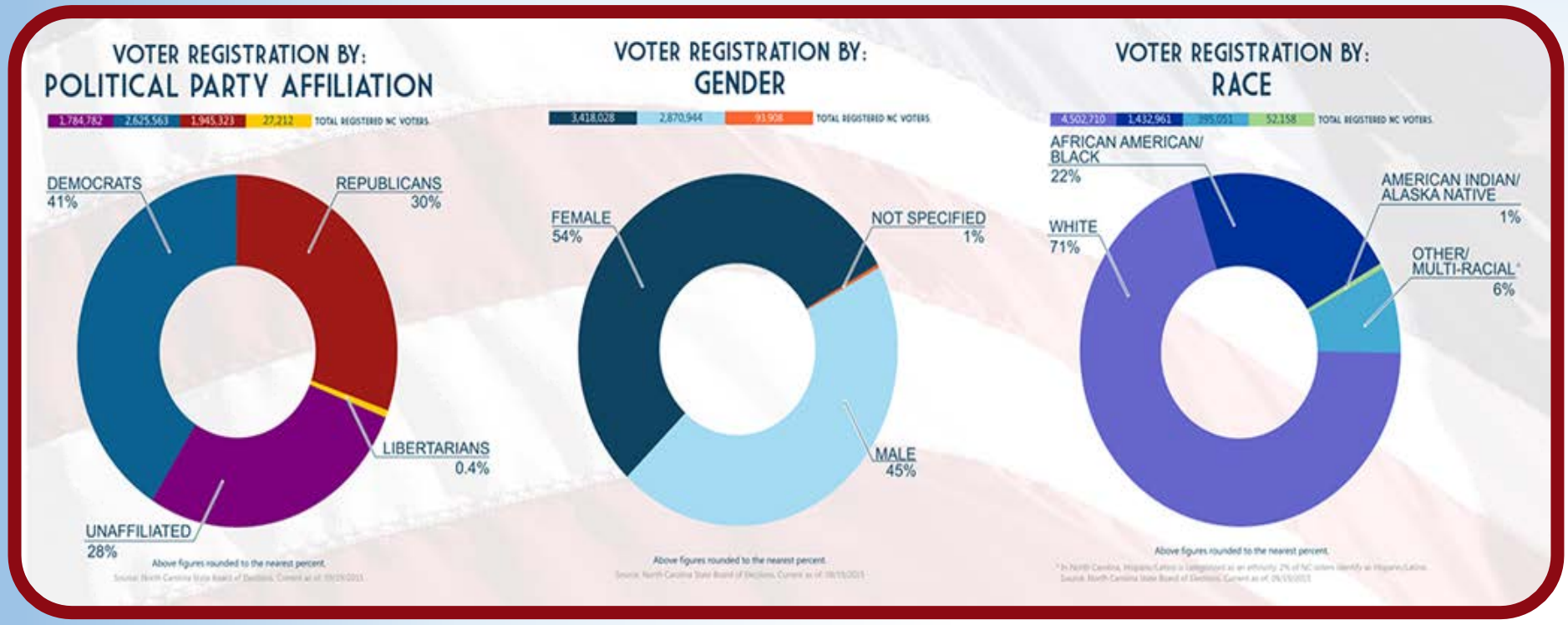
July 2015 – July 2017

- **David W. Hood – Chairman**
- **Barry Cheney – Secretary**
- **Stephen Palmer – Member**

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

NC State Board of Elections Voter Registration

- 6,425,000 registered voters 11/28/2015



CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

Catawba County Board of Elections Voter Registration

99,958 registered voters 02/25/2016

- ★ Republicans – 43,049
- ★ Unaffiliated – 29,317
- ★ Democrats – 27,262
- ★ Libertarians – 330

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

2016 Election Year

- Primary moved to March 15th
- US Congressional Primary: June 7th
- General Election: November 8th
- US President, US Senate, NC Governor, Local Races
- Voter ID goes into effect

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

EARLY VOTING
2016 PRIMARY ELECTION

Five One-Stop Locations

- ★ Newton Main Library
- ★ Highland Recreation Center
- ★ Southwest Library
- ★ Conover Station
- ★ Sherrills Ford - Terrell Library

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- ★Absentee voting ends March 8th
- ★17 year olds who will be 18 years old by November 8th can vote in 2016 Primary
- ★10 days of early voting: March 3-12
- ★Same Day Registration: early voting (proof of residence)

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

WHAT IS VOTER ID?

- ★ **Beginning in 2016, registered voters presenting *in person at the polls* will be asked to present a valid form of photo ID**
- ★ **Curbside voters will be asked to present either a photo ID or certain documents with their name & address**
- ★ **There are some exceptions for persons without ID**

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

NC VOTER ID

NC Drivers License/ Permit or State Identification Card

NC State Identification Card

US Passport/Passport Card

Military Identification Card

Veterans Identification Card

Certain Tribal Enrollment Cards

CATAWBA COUNTY
North Carolina Elections

EXCEPTIONS

- Declaration of Reasonable Impediment

  Voters who are unable to obtain an acceptable photo ID due to a reasonable impediment may still vote a provisional ballot at the polls. (Examples of a reasonable impediment include but are not limited to the lack of proper documents, family obligations, transportation problems, work schedule, illness or disability, among other reasonable impediments faced by the voter.)

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

EXCEPTIONS

- ★Absentee By-Mail Voting
- ★Persons Who Are Qualified to Vote Curbside
- ★Voters over the age of 70
- ★Natural Disaster
- ★Religious Objection

No Eligible Voter will be turned away or not allowed to vote because of the photo ID requirement.

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

Legislative and Litigation Update

House Bill 2 Proposed

- ★ **Eliminate all second primaries in 2016;**
- ★ **Establish a 2016 Congressional Primary on Tuesday, June 7;**
- ★ **Establishes that all results for the *current* congressional primaries are confidential and not public records.**

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

Legislative and Litigation Update

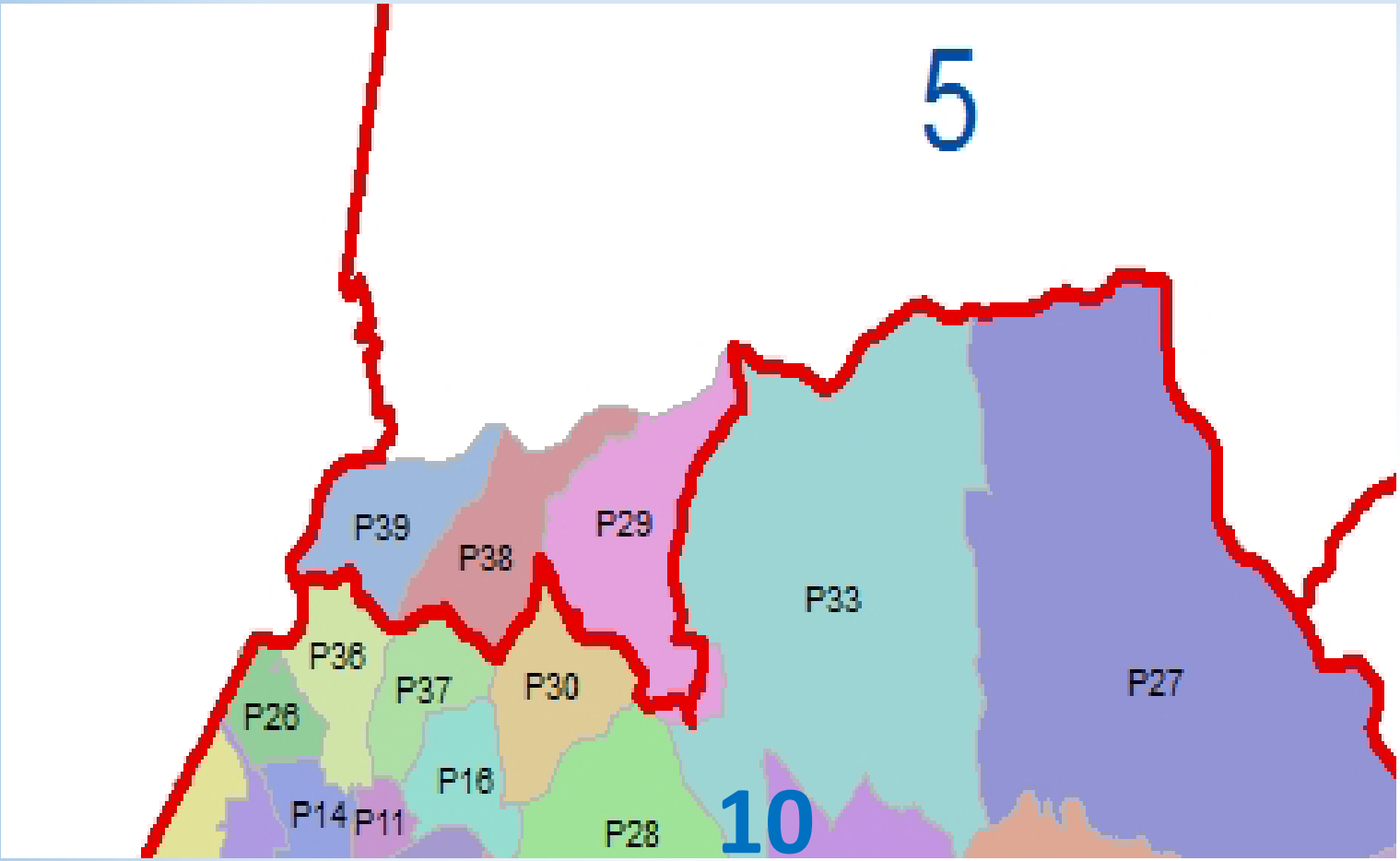
House Bill 2 Proposed

- ★Establish a new candidate filing period for congressional candidates from noon on March 16 to noon on March 25;

Early Voting Begins
May 26th – June 4th , 2016

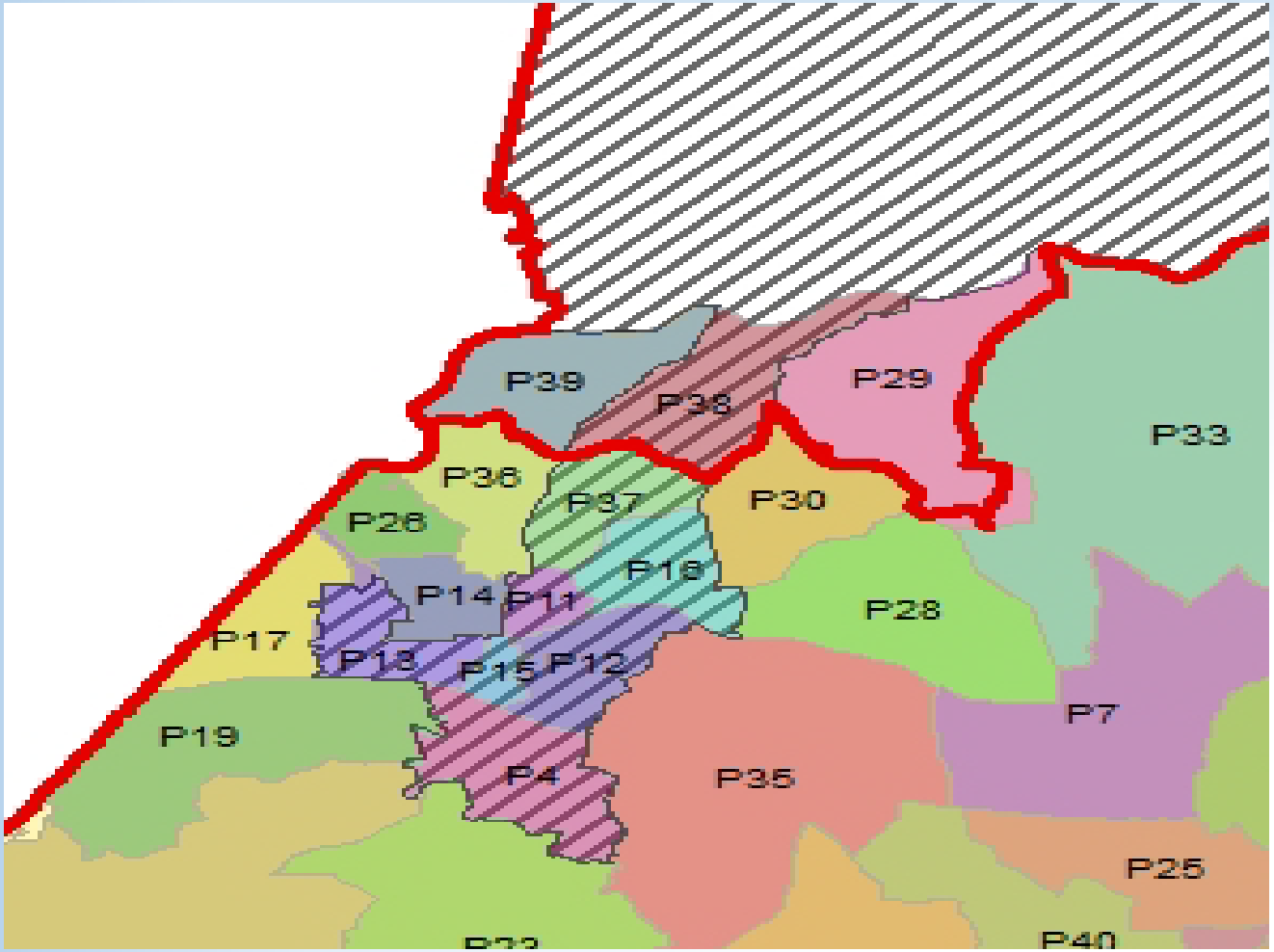
CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS



CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS



CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

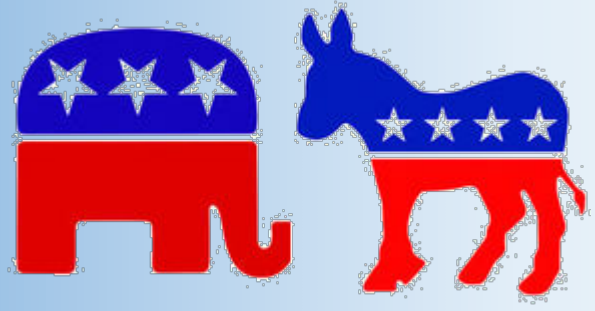
NEW – DS200 TABULATOR ELECTION DAY EQUIPMENT

EVERY VOTE COUNTS

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

COMING SUMMER 2016

ExpressVote®

CATAWBA COUNTY North Carolina Elections

Any Questions?