

The Area Planning Process

The Legacy Toolkit

Gather Existing Conditions Information

Aids staff and Citizens in making Area Plan recommendations

Create Staff Team and Web Page

Various city departments assist Planning staff with the area planning process;
A web page is created to share Area Plan information

Process Kickoff Workshop

Members of the community meet to share their thoughts on issues and concerns regarding how the area should be developed in the future

Recommendations

Staff develops detailed plan recommendations based upon comments heard at the process kickoff workshop

Draft Recommendation Discussions

Staff works with citizens to refine the concepts developed in response to concerns heard at the process kickoff workshop, and the proposed land use plan

Process Conclusion Open House

Final draft recommendations are presented to the community and further comments are solicited from citizens

City-County Planning Board Hearing

The Planning Board reviews the Area Plan and gives its recommendation for action by the appropriate elected body

Elected Body Hearing

The elected body reviews the Area Plan and Planning Board recommendations;
Final decision regarding the Area Plan is made

Publication and Distribution of the Approved Area Plan

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The Legacy Toolkit

Area Plan Program for Winston-Salem/Forsyth County

In 2004, the City-County Planning Board (CCPB) adopted boundaries, names, and priority rankings for seven urban Area Plans, a Downtown Plan, and thirteen suburban/small town Area Plans. At that time, the CCPB also adopted a specific Area Plan process. It is the goal of the Planning Board to develop a process which enables staff to cover more of the community and serve more citizens with Area Plans by producing them within a shorter, more focused time frame. Planning staff coordinates a process which includes working with the other City-County staff and area citizens for each plan. Multiple opportunities for citizen input are also included in each plan including a process kickoff workshop and a process conclusion open house.

The CCPB also has a standard Area Plan format to assist in using and finding information in Area Plans. Consistent components in each Area Plan include maps using consistent colors and conventions for land use designations. Consistency between plans is important to Planning staff, City and County staff, the CCPB, elected officials, and the public as the plans provide invaluable guidance for zoning and other decisions. A standard format also reduces the time staff spends on document and map preparation.

An information page for each plan within the Planning Department's web site is the main focus for sharing information with the community throughout the planning process. Completed Area Plans may also be found on the CCPB web site. When adopted, each Area Plan becomes part of the Comprehensive Plan, *Legacy*. The Planning Board has the responsibility to see that each Area Plan is consistent with the broad public interest and with the elements of *Legacy*. For more information about Area Plans on-line, visit the Planning Department web site at www.cityofws.org/Planning.

