



F O R I M M E D I A T E R E L E A S E

October 10, 2017

Summerfield's UDO Review Committee, Water Study, and Focus on Adopted Plan

The town continues to focus on the community's 2010 Summerfield Comprehensive Plan and important committee work is underway to better align our Development Ordinance with citizen desires as the population increases. This communication is provided as a progress report, water study update, and to demonstrate the town's commitment to its vision statement:

Summerfield is a town that respects the history of the community and balances growth with the preservation and utilization of our natural, cultural, fiscal, and citizen resources to enhance our quality of life and our small town identity.

A Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Review Committee was appointed this year and charged with reviewing the current UDO draft's substantive issues and shaping a final draft that is more congruent with the current Comprehensive Plan. This committee has been hard at work, but has several months of work left prior to presenting a recommendation. This citizen group will make recommendations to the Zoning Board, which will hold a public hearing about the UDO. The Zoning Board in turn advises Town Council, which will hold its own hearing prior to final action. Many public meetings and at least two hearings remain and citizens are always welcome.

The PD amendment that generated such lively debate months ago was put on hold last April. It is no longer being considered as originally proposed, although our development challenges remain. The UDO Review Committee will be scrutinizing broad concerns, such as density and water, through the lens of the adopted Comprehensive Plan and it should be given time to review and advance the UDO in a way that better synchronizes it with the Comprehensive Plan. Town leadership and staff remain focused on supporting the committee's efforts. Relevant documents and committee materials can be found at www.summerfieldgov.com.

Another citizen-requested Comprehensive Plan policy and action item is being implemented – Summerfield and neighboring jurisdictions of Guilford County, Oak Ridge, and Stokesdale are collectively exploring the feasibility of future water sources. State funding is being utilized and no action steps are in play yet to form a municipal water system. Public sewer is not part of the study and leadership's interest is up-to-date, water-related data as growth continues in northwest Guilford. Results from the Timmons Group are expected in February or March.

Thank you to those serving on the advisory committees who help Summerfield function as a limited-services government! Your efforts truly matter to our community.

For more information, contact Town Manager Scott Whitaker at 336-643-8655.