

Partners in Housing

HBAWS & WSRAR Joint Governmental Affairs

UPDATE – September 20, 2011

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
<i>The Latest News.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>W-S & Forsyth Co. News.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Other Counties and Towns News....</i>	<i>2</i>

(** - indicates an item that has changed or is new since the previous UPDATE)

THE LATEST NEWS

****Associations' Look Forward to W-S Development Review Committee.** Several WSRAR and HBAWS members, with Joint Governmental Affairs Director, Nancy Gould, have been appointed by the W-S City Council to serve on a citizen advisory committee that will look at the how the local government reviews, processes and approves new development from the proposal stage through the construction and final approval stage. The Committee is expected to work for approximately one year in developing recommendations on how the W-S/Forsyth Co. development approval process can become more efficient, easy and accurate. Congratulations to our members who have been appointed to this important citizen committee.

****NAR Smart Growth Course to be offered here.** WSRAR was recently awarded a grant from NAR to assist in sponsoring NAR's Smart Growth for the 21st Century Class which has been approved by the NC Real Estate Commission for 4 hours of required continuing education for 2011-2012. This will allow WSRAR to make the class extra special and offer it at a discounted price to its members. Plans for the class are being finalized and it will soon be advertised here in the UPDATE and also on WSRAR's Continuing Education Classes Form at www.wsrar.com.

****Developing or Building in Clemmons?** The Village of Clemmons has completed a draft Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) manual to help streamline the TIA process for the Village, developer, and NCDOT as well as some significant modifications to the Village of Clemmons Driveway Ordinance. Clemmons is having an open house to share both drafts and get any feedback you may have prior presenting them to the Village Council. NCDOT has reviewed and agreed to the revisions in the driveway ordinance and the newly created TIA manual.

The open house will be in the Village Council Chambers on October 3rd from 3-5pm. Please feel free to drop-in at your convenience.

Several Major Community Plans in the Works: For balanced and reasonable plans and regulations within our region, it is **SO IMPORTANT** for building and real estate professionals to share their knowledge and experience as major land use documents are being prepared. Right now, you have plenty of opportunities to help make sure the future is bright for our community, you and future generations.

Legacy 2030 Update: Want to know more and participate in the update of W-S/Forsyth County's comprehensive plan? Find everything you need to know at: <http://www.legacy2030.com/>. The website is currently presenting information and taking comments about our smaller towns and communities. The HBAWS/WSRAR Joint Legislative Committee will also be discussing the draft document as it moves through its 2-year update process. The next Community Meeting will be **September 20th, 6-8 PM, LJVM Coliseum, Winston Room.**

The Future of the Piedmont Triad. Piedmont Triad was awarded \$1.6 Million from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development several months ago. The funds are being used to create a regional plan intended to build economic competitiveness by connecting housing with good jobs, quality schools and transportation. To learn more and start working on a committee go to: <http://triadsustainability.org/>

Bermuda Run Works on its First Comprehensive Plan. If you live in or near Bermuda Run, don't forget that it's important to be in the know about the Comprehensive Plan they're working on. To learn all about it, go to: <http://www.benchmarkplanning.com/bermudarun>

Database of Energy Efficiency Incentives in NC

Did you know the NC Solar Century and the US Department of Energy provide an online database of all Incentives/Policies for Renewables and Efficiency for North Carolina?

Check out the [DSIRE Database for North Carolina here:](http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/index.cfm?getRE=1?re=undefined&ee=1&spv=0&st=0&srp=1&state=NC)
<http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/index.cfm?getRE=1?re=undefined&ee=1&spv=0&st=0&srp=1&state=NC>

WINSTON-SALEM & FORSYTH COUNTY NEWS

****Don't Miss 19th Annual W-S Community Roots Day on October 22.** Come help plant over 300 trees in the West Salem Neighborhood. It is a great event for not only individuals, but also church groups, boy scouts and all ages of children. There are Free T-Shirts and Hats to the first 250 volunteers and a Free lunch for all. To learn more and/or sign up to volunteer, go to the Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful website at www.kwsb.cityofws.org

****Know of a Building, Home, Garden or Effort that Deserves Recognition?** The Community Appearance Commission (CAC) is seeking nominations for the 2012 Community Appearance Awards to be held in April 2012. The CAC sponsors a biennial Awards Program to honor the efforts of businesses, individuals, and community groups who have had a positive impact on the appearance of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County.

If you would like to nominate a project or individual for an award, please follow the listed instructions available on the Planning Board webpage (www.cityofws.org/planning). To be eligible, projects must be complete and located in Forsyth County. Past nominees that did not receive an award may be resubmitted for an award. Deadline for submittal of nominations is **Wednesday, October 19, 2011.**

October 1st Don't Miss the GO Expo at Benton Convention Center, 8AM -5PM Make plans now to attend the free GoExpo and learn how sustainability at home and in the workplace can save you money.

Western Rural Forsyth County Plan Available. In response to concerns about the potential loss of rural character in the western rural area of Forsyth County, planning staff undertook a study of this area in the fall of 2010. The Legacy Growth Management Plan recognizes the rural character of this area, which is outside of municipal boundaries, west of the Muddy Creek Basin and not easily served by gravity sewer, by designating it GMA 5. The ultimate conclusion of the western rural analysis was that no additional regulations are needed beyond the existing Growth Management Plan to maintain the current rural character of the area. Please take a moment to look at Western Rural Study presentation:

<http://www.dsireusa.org/incentives/index.cfm?getRE=1?re=undefined&ee=1&spv=0&st=0&srp=1&state=NC>

****Northwest Area Planning Process. Plan Status** - City-County Planning staff has begun work on the Northwest Area Plan. The Draft Northwest Area Plan is tentatively scheduled for a community-wide review of the Plan to be held in October 2011. To see a map of the Northwest Area and learn more, go to:

<http://www.ci.winstonsalem.nc.us/Home/Departments/Planning/AreaPlans/Articles/AreaPlans>

****West Suburban Area** A Planning Board public hearing has been scheduled for September 8th at 4:30 p.m. in the Bryce Stuart Municipal Building. Interested citizens are encouraged to come to this meeting and share their comments on the Plan with the Planning Board. Walt Kinsey is serving on the West Suburban Area Plan CAC as the WSRAR representative and Tom Dubuisson is HBAWS's representative.

****Rural Hall Area Plan.** The Board of County Commissioners adopted the Rural Hall Area Plan on September 12, 2011.

OTHER COMMUNITIES AND COUNTIES

****Lewisville Public Hearing on Draft Tree Ordinance.** The Lewisville Planning Board has recommended approval of the draft ordinance to its Town Council who is expected to act on the proposed ordinance in November. For additional information contact Nancy Gould at ngould@wsrar.com or 659-5526.