

Notice of Public Hearing of the Amherst County Planning Commission

The Amherst County Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing during its regular meeting on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 7:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as may be heard, in the Amherst County Administration Building, 153 Washington Street, Amherst, Virginia, 24521, to consider the following requests:

SPECIAL EXCEPTION REQUEST, NO. 2017-17

Request by Vincent & Margo Baker for a special exception in the A-1 Agricultural Residential District. The purpose of the special exception is to allow a short term tourist rental of a dwelling. The parcel is located at 203 Forks of Buffalo Drive and is further identified as tax map number 35-2-9.

SPECIAL EXCEPTION REQUEST, NO. 2017-18

Request by Rutcom Properties for a special exception in the A-1 Agricultural Residential District. The purpose of the special exception is to allow a short term tourist rental of a dwelling. The parcel is located at 1025 Lexington Turnpike and is further identified as tax map number 80-A-16.

AMHERST COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Request by the County of Amherst to approve proposed modifications to the Amherst County Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan was written in 2007; the County is proposing to update the current Plan. In general, sections that are proposed to be updated include the Introduction, Process, Development and Growth Trends, Community Facilities, Anticipated Growth Trends, Land Use, and the Mixed Use and Urban Development Areas Sections.

More specifically, updates were made to the demographic data found in the Development and Growth Trends Section that include population projections, employment and unemployment data, household income, housing units constructed, housing value and rent distribution by census tract; policies were updated in the Public Water and Wastewater Section that improve the readability of that Section, and includes a strategy that address annual increases of water and sewer rates and fees rather than periodic large increases, also including the addition of a strategy for future funding; the Solid Waste Management Section includes a name change to the Department of Public Works and addresses the enforcement of inoperative motor vehicles; the Transportation Section reflects amendments to updated road projects, specifically updating the current Six Year Improvement Program and other updates to proposed road projects; the Public Education Section was re-written to address primary and secondary education, higher education, adult education and to reflect the Amherst County Public School's Six-Year Strategic Plan, four goals have been added to ensure continuous improvement in student and school achievement, promoting and maintaining a safe, clean, inviting, supportive and healthy school environment that is conducive to teaching and learning for all students and staff, strengthen relationships with

students, parents, community members and local organizations and to expand opportunities to learn; Public Library Services was modified to clarify library services; objectives and strategies were updated in the Law Enforcement Section to clarify their services, the Public Safety Section was re-worded to better address their operations; the Social Services and Health Care Section was updated with budgetary information and office space additions; the Economic Development Section was modified to address a number of changes including the closure of Central Virginia Training Center, objectives dealing with business friendly policies and procedures, references to the 2016 Economic Development Strategic Plan, policies to address business growth, funding plans, creation of business sites and buildings, job creation, removal of irrelevant goals, objectives and strategies; additions to Cultural Resources and the Natural Heritage Resources Section that promote Sweet Briar College and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and identify and support conservation practices that protect rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, unique or exemplary natural communities, and significant geological formations; the Future Land Use Map is modified to reflect a change in a growth boundary near the Town of Amherst and the Land Use Section has been updated to support tourism and agritourism, promoting parks, clarify objectives and strategies, support of Planned Unit Developments, retirement communities and the redevelopment of Central Virginia Training Center.

The proposed hearing packet is available for review Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. in the Office of the County Administrator at the above address.

Accommodations for disabled persons may be made with the Office of the County Administrator by calling 434-946-9400 at least five (5) days prior to the hearing date.

Jeremy S. Bryant
Director of Planning/Zoning