

9. CONSIDERATION OF FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AREA GRANT FROM THE VDOT OFFICE OF INTERMODAL PLANNING AND INVESTMENT

As you may recall, Mrs. Lewis successfully authored an application to VDOT for an Urban Development Area Planning Grant. The grant will provide us up to \$50,000 for consultant services to analyze future growth patterns, evaluate potential locations within the county for designation as an Urban Development Area (UDA), and revise zoning and subdivision regulations to incorporate "new urbanism" principles in designated areas.

"New Urbanism" focuses on replacing sprawl with walkable, mixed use, transit oriented communities. A UDA is an area designated by a locality in its Comprehensive Plan that is appropriate for higher density development due to proximity to transportation facilities, the availability of a public or community water and sewer system, or proximity to a city, town, or other developed area. UDAs provide for commercial and residential densities that are appropriate for reasonably compact development, typically at a density of at least four residential units per gross acre and a minimum floor area ratio of 0.4 per gross acre for commercial development. UDAs may provide for a mix of residential housing types, including affordable housing, to meet the projected family income distributions of future residential growth.

Acceptance of the grant obligates the County to designate at least one UDA somewhere in Southampton County and to revise the zoning and subdivision regulations to create at least one zoning classification that will allow this type of development by-right (without conditions). Otherwise, the grant has to be repaid in full.

Attached herewith, please find a copy of the Agreement with VDOT and a written report by Mrs. Lewis outlining the terms and conditions.

MOTION REQUIRED:

If the Board is so inclined, a motion is required to authorize the County Administrator to endorse the attached agreement.