

Southampton County, Virginia

Subdivision Ordinance Amendments Study Issues and Possible Ordinance Amendments

Preface

With assistance from County staff and a consultant, the Southampton County Planning Commission worked throughout 2008 to prepare a draft Subdivision Ordinance Study. The Commission, based on preliminary work by a subcommittee (comprised of two Planning Commission members, a member of the Board of Supervisors, County staff, and a consultant), examined issues related to the current subdivision ordinance and developed a number of possible ordinance amendments for consideration.

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on the proposed subdivision ordinance amendments contained in the study on August 4, 2008. Following its public hearing, the Planning Commission voted to recommend adoption of the proposed subdivision ordinance amendments by the Board of Supervisors.

Following a public hearing on October 27, 2008, the Board of Supervisors referred the proposed subdivision ordinance amendments back to the Planning Commission for further consideration of (and recommendations concerning) items raised at the public hearing, as well as comments included in the Tidewater Builders Association's (TBA) October 22, 2008 letter to Chairman Dallas Jones.

On November 13, 2008, as directed by the Board of Supervisors, the Planning Commission discussed the items raised at the public hearing, as well as a number of clarifications and recommendations made by the staff. The Planning Commission also considered and discussed the TBA comments and the staff's initial responses and recommendations to same. At the November 13, 2008 meeting, the staff was directed to re-evaluate some of its recommendations relative to the TBA comments. As a result, the staff revised its initial responses and recommendations and presented the revisions to the Planning Commission at December 11, 2008 meeting.

On December 11, 2008, after discussing, and directing the staff to make minor editorial changes, the Planning Commission unanimously voted to forward the revised study, including proposed subdivision ordinance amendments to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation that the proposed ordinance amendments be adopted by the County.