

Carolina Planning

Volume 20
Number 2



P L A N N I N G

N O R T H C A R O L I N A

C I T I E S

Editors' Note

City planning encompasses a large range of activities undertaken by planners and others to improve the health and environment of our urban areas. This issue of *Carolina Planning* highlights a variety of the programs and projects that are underway in North Carolina's cities.

The first two articles address issues related to housing. DeWayne Anderson discusses how public-private partnerships enable programs aimed at the preservation and reuse of urban structures. He describes a specific project in Reidsville, North Carolina, where an abandoned school is rehabilitated for affordable housing. The second article, by Victoria Basolo and William Rohe, challenges the ideal of homeownership. They expose the myths and realities of this American dream and focus on efforts in Durham and Charlotte to make homeownership a greater reality for low-income city residents.

Transportation is the theme of the second section, which begins with an article about recent efforts to involve the public in transportation planning. The four authors, Richard Atkins, Terry Bellamy, Don Bryson, and Elizabeth James, outline how the Greensboro Department of Transportation has involved citizens in the early stages of transportation projects. In the next article, Marion Clark discusses the City of Raleigh's efforts to improve the aesthetic quality of major road entryways into the City. She details how these efforts are implemented through a combination of land use, transportation, and landscape planning. Lastly, Anna Nalevanko covers another "hot" transportation planning topic as she describes Winston-Salem's involvement in a Federal test project for Advanced Public Transportation Systems.

Articles by James Brantley and Keva Walton share the themes of public involvement and neighborhood planning. Brantley's article looks at how some Raleigh neighborhoods are defining and preserving their identities by instituting resident-designed neighborhood conservation zoning districts, while Walton's article details how Charlotte's Neighborhood Matching Grants Fund has helped city residents work together to improve the urban environment.

The last set of articles address a variety of themes. In the first article, Karen Cragolin takes us to the City of Asheville, where a consortium of public and private groups have committed themselves to the lengthy process of rejuvenating the French Broad River. The next article by Andrew Henry and Harvey Goldstein presents the results of surveys conducted to determine officials' reactions to a proposed merger of government functions in the City of Durham and Durham County. Finally, Kevin Krizek describes how Chapel Hill residents use and relate to public space along one of the city's most active streets. He details the methodology used to determine the findings and discusses their implications.

We hope that this issue will give you a taste of the many innovative programs that can be found in North Carolina's cities and provide you with inspiration on new ways to address issues in your area.

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