

Carolina Planning

Vol. 16, No. 2
Fall 1990



Fifteenth Anniversary Issue

Editor's Note

It's been fifteen years since the first issue of *Carolina Planning* appeared, in the summer of 1975. Many thought the publication would soon fade away as similar student publications had done. *Carolina Planning* has been through some lean times, but it has survived and grown to become, as one person put it, "the oldest and most successful student-run planning periodical in the U.S."

Who can take credit for the longevity and success of *Carolina Planning*? The journal would have never gotten off the ground without the financial support received from various sources. A series of grants made generously by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation were responsible for the birth and growth of the publication. The John A. Parker Trust Fund, supported by the contributions of alumni and friends of the Department of City and Regional Planning (DCRP), has provided a solid core of support for many years. The North Carolina chapter of the American Planning Association, which provides a *Carolina Planning* subscription to each of its members, has provided a stable financial base for more than eleven years. Regular subscribers, of course, have been faithful in their support, and the publication has received grants from DCRP and the University of North Carolina from time to time.

The Department of City and Regional Planning has played an important role in *Carolina Planning's* success. George C. Hemmens, department chairman in 1975, collaborated with students to get the initial grant to start the publication. David Godschalk, chairman from 1978 to 1983, helped the staff negotiate the subscription agreement with the N.C. APA chapter, and has been a faithful adviser and contributor. Other faculty members, including Michael Stegman, Edward Kaiser, William Rohe, Emil Malizia, Shirley Weiss, Harvey Goldstein, Raymond Burby, Jonathan Howes, and Gorman Gilbert, have provided valuable guidance over the years. The contributions of other department staff members, including Bertina Baldwin and Pat Coke, cannot be overlooked (especially in the early years when the text for the journal was produced using typewriters!).

Students, of course, have played a crucial role in the publication's history, both as article writers and staff members. A review of previous issues shows that 105 students have served on the staff since 1975. Four students--Nancy Grden, Jim Miller, John Carroll, and Lee Corum--deserve special recognition for their role in conceptualizing and developing the idea of the journal. Another group of students, those who struggled in the years after the foundation grant was spent and before the agreement with the N.C. APA chapter, also deserves special recognition.

In an introduction to the first issue of *Carolina Planning*, George C. Hemmens wrote, "With the widespread concern over the future of our environment, the current problems of the economy and planning for growth and change, and the widespread concern for efficient and fair government action, the issues of public planning need to be discussed, and the experiences of different local governments, citizen groups, and the university community need to be shared." A look at past issues (as well as the index included in this issue) shows that the journal has met this challenge. Furthermore, this challenge is still potent and pertinent as *Carolina Planning* continues into the 1990s.

Unlike several past issues, this issue of *Carolina Planning* does not present a concentration of articles on a single topic. Instead, the issue contains a variety of articles that address current planning concerns. The issue also takes a look at planning's past in an interview with John A. Parker, the founder of UNC's Department of City and Regional Planning. Mr. Parker discusses the status of planning in the South in the mid-1940s, and explains why the University of North Carolina was a favorable location for a new planning department. An article by Arthur C. Nelson reviews the ambitious statewide land use planning program in Georgia, which makes that state only the second one in the Southeast to "put teeth into statewide planning." In another article, Owen J. Furuseth and Robert E. Altman evaluate the use of two greenways in North Carolina by describing greenway users and their activity patterns.

Three articles in this issue focus on water resources. First, Judith Welch Wegner, drawing on her experience as an elected local government official, discusses the problems and possible solutions for jurisdictions involved in protecting a water supply watershed. Second, Raymond J. Burby and co-authors discuss their evaluation of North Carolina's erosion and sedimentation control program, noting not only its successes but also shortcomings that need attention. Third, R. Paul Wilms discusses the potential effects of global warming and sea-level rise on the coast of North Carolina, and the policy options that may be necessary to respond to these effects.

Three articles discuss ways in which smaller jurisdictions throughout North Carolina are coping with their unique planning needs. David H. Quinn discusses the pilot growth management effort now taking shape in mountainous Avery County. Bruce M. Bortz describes how the town of Nags Head, on the Outer Banks, has taken steps to reduce loss of life and property during coastal storms and to prepare for reconstruction before those storms occur. Watson Brown and Wes Hankins focus on the efforts to combine downtown revitalization, historic preservation, and economic development in the town of Tarboro. (Ironically, Wes Hankins was president of the N.C. APA chapter when the subscription agreement with *Carolina Planning* was negotiated.)

We hope you will put on a party hat, blow out some candles, and enjoy this fifteenth anniversary issue. As always, we invite you to respond to our content and design, and to submit manuscripts for publication in future issues. Thank you for your continued support of our efforts.

L. Dale McKeel

L. Dale McKeel
EDITOR

Sara J. Hendricks
EDITOR

Margaret C. Stewart
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

John P. Gliebe
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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Carolina Planning welcomes comments and suggestions on the articles published. We are currently accepting articles for our Fall 1991 issue. Please address all correspondence to: *Carolina Planning*, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Campus Box # 3140, New East Building, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599-3140.

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