TownVoice

Your Voice, Your Plan…Mooresville's Future

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TOWN CLERK

A municipality's comprehensive plan is more than just a map and information. It is a blueprint for future growth. It is an encapsulation of policy for the vision of what type of community we want to be in 15-20 years. This is a document used by Town officials, citizens, developers and staff as a point of departure when discussing or making land use decisions.

The current Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Mooresville was adopted in 2008. It is currently serving the Town well as it has in the past. However, we are not the same community we were in 2008.

The Town is experiencing tremendous growth, new influx of populations and strains on infrastructure. This is this reason the Town is updating its vision as we continue to grow and plan for that growth.

In addition to the Comprehensive Plan, there are eight "small area plans" which address growth in specific geographic areas throughout the Town. These are Brawley School Road, Downtown District, Alcove Road, Highway 21, Cornelius Road, Cascade, Mt. Mourne and Highway 3.

In addition to "land use" plans, there is also a separate Comprehensive Transportation Plan which deals with road construction, traffic mitigation, etc.

All of these plans were adopted at different times over the past years. In many cases, the information in the plans needs updating. And now there is some overlap in boundaries. Currently, the Town will be updating the information in these plans and consolidating them into one master document.

Successful comprehensive plans are developed with a large and diverse amount of input from citizens. This process is scheduled to take about a year-and-a-half to complete. It's the Town's goal to solicit input from as many people as possible during this process.

Once complete, the Town will have a comprehensive document that ties transportation, land use and economic development into one master document for reference going forward. We are looking for you to help us make it happen.

To provide input into the development of the Comprehensive Plan, visit planmooresville.mindmixer.com.

Role of Technology in Your Community

What do the Parks & Recreation and Information Technology (IT) Departments have in common? If you said, "popular TV shows you can binge on Netflix," you wouldn't be wrong. But that's not exactly where this article is heading.

Similar to Parks & Recreation, IT connects people and helps make memories, though you may not know we are even around. In addition, IT's role is cross-departmental, providing tools to every department in the Town to improve delivery of services to citizens.

The Town of Mooresville is a full-service municipality, providing water and utility services, trash and recycling collection, public safety, and amenities such as a golf course, parks and recreation facilities.

IT is proud to be a part of this, delivering Wi-Fi in every Town park and facility at a speed of 200mps, comparable to cities like New York and San Francisco. At Town sports, fields are equipped with public-facing HD cameras so out-of-town and military family members can watch games live from anywhere in the world.

Our roots run deep in the Mooresville Business Park East as well, and those roots are made of fiber. You may not think IT would be involved in economic development, but this is a new concept for local governments.

Certified Town staff utilize our drone capabilities to fly over sites and send high quality images and videos to potential developers and businesses looking to relocate or expand. The data is processed in our system to create real-time imagery and 3D models that are published for web mapping applications and put on the Town's website.

The IT Department is also involved in fighting crime. We don't use bulletproof vests, but our HD cameras at Town facilities have been useful to the Police Department in identifying criminals.

In addition, real-time crime information is coded and converted into data. Specific analysis is performed to create hotspot maps to help police personnel analyze crime patterns for better responses to calls for service and determine causes for repeated calls.

Geograhic Information Systems Technology is also useful to the Mooresville Fire-Rescue as IT uses the Fire Incident data to create drive-time maps to help Fire-Rescue staff reduce response times. Fire-Rescue staff use the gathered data to pinpoint areas where precious seconds can be saved when responding to a call for service during an emergency.

We also provide mapping to the Engineering and Planning Departments, as well as our water billing office. Using GIS maps, staff are able to effectively troubleshoot maintenance issues and create large, printable maps with real-time digitized data of zoning, land use and annexation plots.

Finally, IT staff serves a safety role for other departments. Equipping and upgrading Town devices with protection safeguards against potential malware, spamware and viruses.

IT staff typically do not interact with the community as much as other departments, but we pride ourselves in knowing that we impact every department in a positive way to help them provide services in the most efficient manner to you, our citizens.

Jeff Brotherton
Information Technology Director

Please send any questions or suggestions for a future issue to the address below:

Town Voice
c/o Public Information Office
P.O. Box 878
Mooresville, NC 28115
comments@ci.mooresville.nc.us

March Programs @ The Library

March offers programs for children and adults at the Mooresville Public Library. These programs are led by Town staff or professionals in the career field. Please note, some events require prior registration.

Youth Activities

After School Lego Club - March 6 @ 6:00 p.m.
Use your imagination to create with Legos. This program supports STEAM learning, and is for children in grades K-7.

Peacock Fun - March 9 @ 11:00 a.m.
March 15 @ 1:00 p.m.
Come to the library and create a peacock out of recycled materials and enjoy a story. For children ages 3-6 years old. Registration required.

Don't Bug Me - March 16 @ 11:00 a.m.
March 22 @ 1:00 p.m.
Join three mice as they learn about colors and paint an awesome picture for Mom. For children ages 3-6 years old. Registration required.

Stay and Play - March 23 @ 10:30 a.m.
Drop in with your little one for free play which promotes healthy child development. Enjoy the tunnel, kitchen area, stepping stones and many other learning toys. For children Newborn-3 years old.

Adult Activities

Homebuyer's Class - March 7 @ 5:00 p.m.
Are you looking to buy a house? Attend the homebuyer's class at the library and learn what you need to know before purchasing your home.

Let's Dish - March 22 @ 11:00 a.m.
Looking for quick, healthy breakfast ideas that you can eat on the run? Join us for discussion, recipe ideas and a sample to make your mornings healthier and easier. Registration required.

Spring Cleaning - March 29 @ 10:00 a.m.
Join professional organizer Rebecca Reid as she helps you create a plan to successfully clean and clear your house of unwanted items.

For more information about these programs or any event at the library, call 704-664-2927.

News in Brief
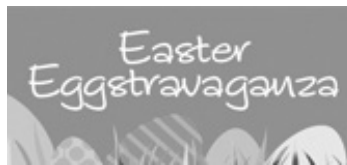
St. Patrick's Parade – March 10

The Mooresville Downtown Commission (MDC) will host the annual Saint Patrick's Parade Saturday, March 10. Participants include two Irish Pipe Bands (including the Town's Pipe & Drum Band), Irish dancers, green cars, family fun and more.
The parade takes place on Main Street from Iredell Avenue to Center Avenue, and begins at 3 p.m. If interested in participating, contact the MDC at info@downtownmooresville.com.

Our Town Stage – March 17

On Saturday, March 17, Our Town Stage Concert Series continues with Stephen Freeman as Elvis. Originally from Thomasville, NC, Freeman's tribute to Elvis Presley started professionally in 1998. Since then he's performed in theaters all over the country, including multiple cruise ship performances. This concert will take place in the Joe V. Knox Auditorium beginning at 7 p.m. Ticket prices range from $25 - $50 depending on seat location. For more information, call 704-663-7026.

Easter Eggstravaganza – March 24

Join the Town's Parks & Recreation Department for the annual Easter Eggstravaganza on Saturday, March 24. The event is from 1 - 4 p.m. at Mazeppa Park, 645 Mazeppa Road. Activities will include bounce houses, arts and crafts, summer camp previews and 20,000 eggs. For more information or if you would like vendor booth space, call 704-663-7026.

Public Safety Academies

Beginning in March, Mooresville Fire-Rescue and Mooresville Police Department will offer free academies for residents to learn more about their respective departments.

Beginning March 6, the Citizens Police Academy is a 10 week course designed to give residents and business owners a glimpse into the life of a police officer. Classes continue each Tuesday night from 6 - 9 p.m. The Citizens Fire Academy is a 10 week program designed to give participants a better grasp of the daily activities of MFR. Beginning Thursday, March 15, classes will continue each Thursday night from 6 – 9 p.m

For more information or to check space availability, call 704-664-3311 for the police academy and 704-664-1338 for the fire academy.

Prescription Pill Drop-Off

Mooresville Police Department's permanent pill drop box, in association with Project Lazarus, is a safe, secure way to dispose of unwanted, unused or expired medications.

The drop box provides a decrease of water contamination due to pharmaceutical medications being flushed down the drains in our homes or contained in landfills. It also serves as a way to reduce access to addictive medications for accidental or intentional misuse by children or others in the home.

To dispose of your unwanted medications, place them in the drop box located at the Mooresville Police Department, 750 West Irededll Avenue, with no questions asked. Just keep the pills in the original container.

What happens to items that are placed in the drop box? Members of the Mooresville Police Department report the numbers to the Drug Enforcement Administration. Then, everything (pills and containers) is sent to an approved incinerator facility for safe destruction.

For more information, call 704-664-3311.

MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR

MARCH 5
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN HALL @ 6 P.M.

MARCH 8
PLANNING BOARD
TOWN HALL @ 6 P.M.

MARCH 10
ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE
DOWNTOWN @ 3:00 P.M.

MARCH 17
MUSIC ON MAIN
CMCC @ 6:30 P.M.

MARCH 19
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN HALL @ 6 P.M.

MARCH 20
WATER BILLS DUE

Truth About Road Upgrades (Part 2)

In the January issue, we discussed the importance of planning for our transportation network and, more importantly, how these networks are funded. In this article is more detail about the first option of financing road construction: Town-Funded Capital Improvement Projects.

Every year, the Town reviews priorities about future road construction or improvements for Town roads. Numerous factors are considered. Historically, Town road projects have focused primarily on improvements to existing roads and are driven by data provided from various sources such as police crash data or Street Department data.

Town road improvement projects (not maintenance) comprise more than 90% of the activities the Town funds for local street repairs and improvements. A recent example would include the intersection upgrade project on Statesville Avenue and Main Street near downtown.

New road construction for Town roads are driven by the Town's Comprehensive Transportation Plan. This plan is adopted by the Town Board as being the blueprint for future road expansions.

This plan is updated periodically as the Town's growth and development evolve. A recent example of a road project funded by the Town is Connector Road, which joins Highway 115 and Highway 21 in the northern area of Town.

Regardless if the project is an improvement, an expansion or a new road project, the Town Board allocates money for these local projects from the annual budget. This money must be approved every year and funded by local tax dollars.

With competing demands for local tax dollars for other services, the Town stresses the importance of balancing funding with the State and the development community. We will cover this relationship in more detail in upcoming issues of Town Voice.