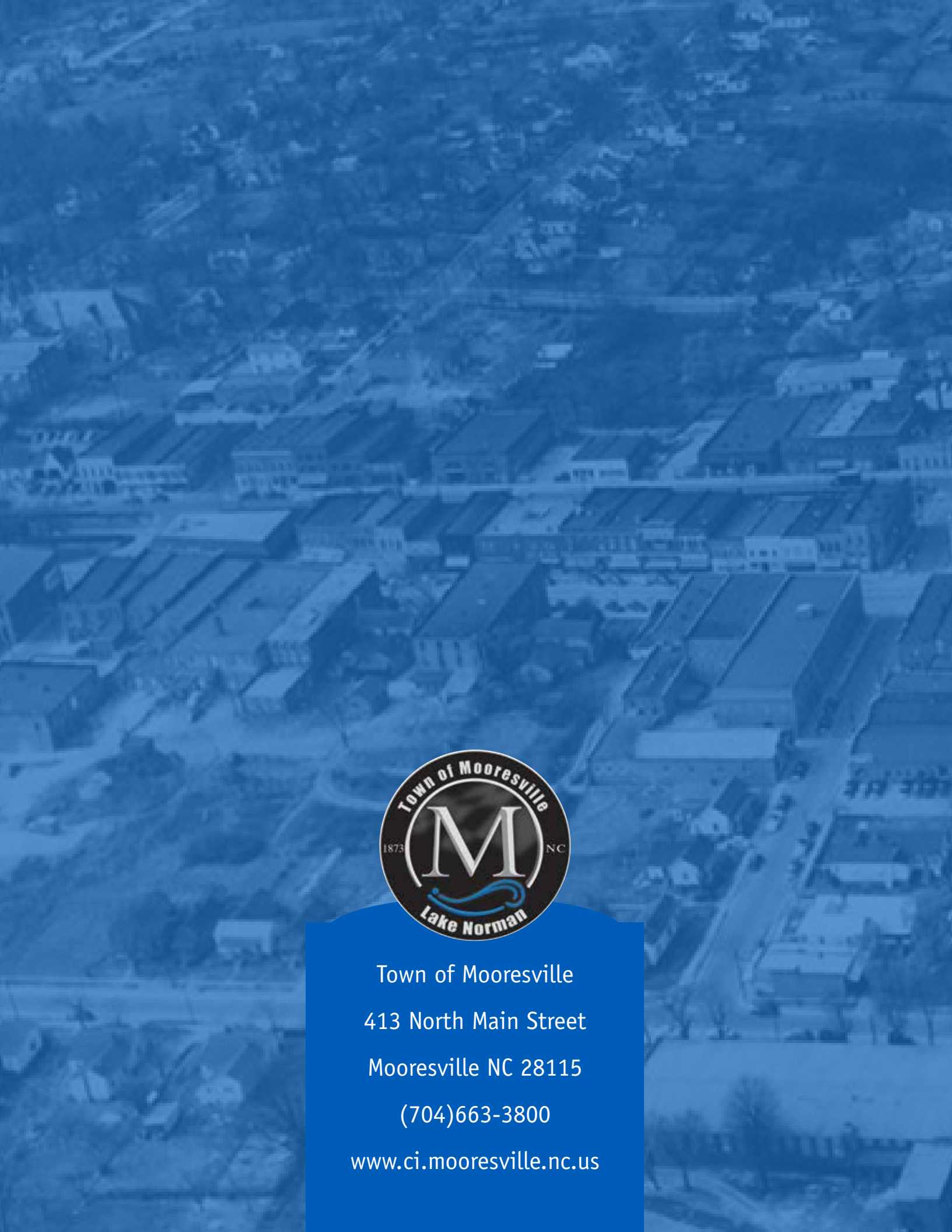
Rooted in History,
Cultivated by Citizens,
Geared for Growth

A Look at Mooresville



Town of Mooresville

413 North Main Street

Mooresville NC 28115

(704)663-3800

www.ci.mooresville.nc.us

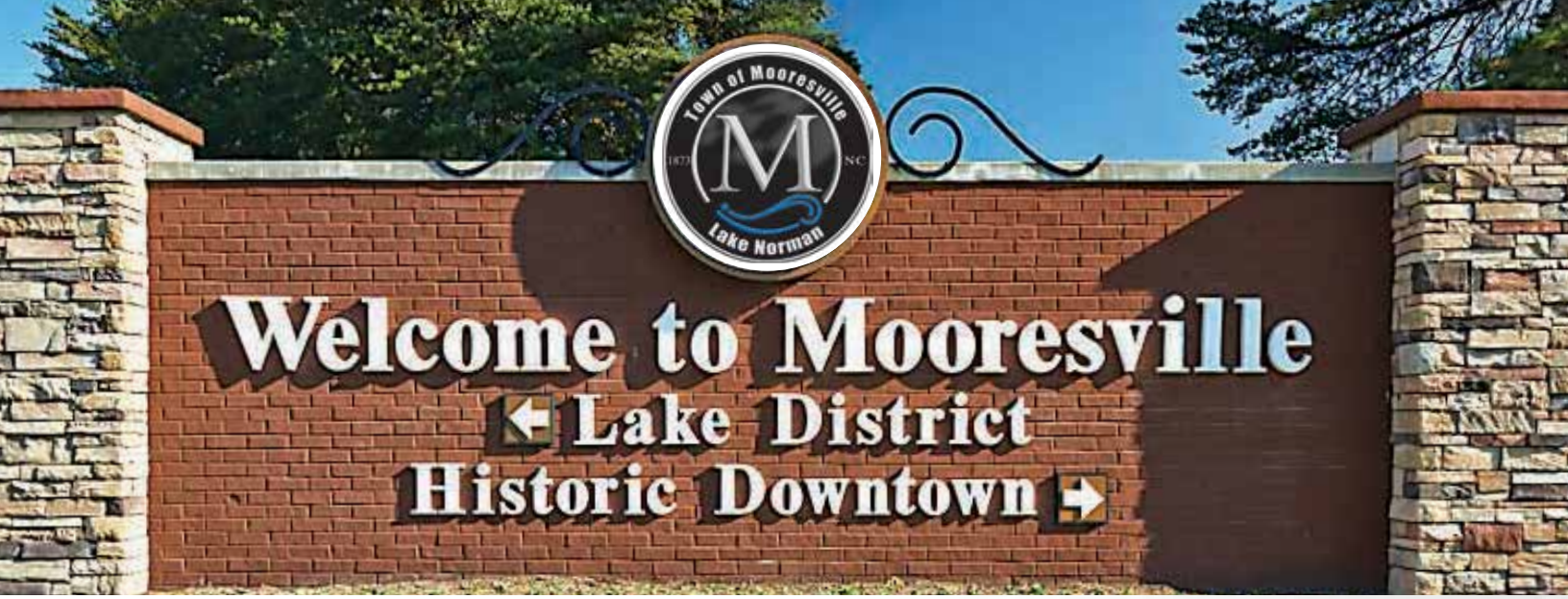


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 2
- History 2
- Vision and Strategic Framework 3
- Citizen Engagement 3

Natural, Community and Cultural Resources 4
- Lake Living 4
- Recreation 5
- Education 6

Land Use 7
- Rural 9
- Neighborhood Residential Living 10
- Smart Growth 11
- Town Center 11
- Urban Centers 11

Economic Development 12
- Trends 12
- A New Approach 13
- Employment and Business Centers 14

Transportation 16
- Roadways 16
- A Healthier Approach to Active Transportation 18
- Mass Transit 19

Conclusion 20

Introduction

History

Years before its first days of incorporation in 1873, the seeds of change were planted in the red North Carolina clay that would be known today as the Town of Mooresville. Over time, those seeds took root and wove their fine tendrils through small farms and into large mills. The Town's first development patterns took shape as cotton became intertwined with the rail line.

The mill town spun into a hub of commerce and a community was woven around the tracks of growth. The Town grew with the economic success of cotton mills, along with investments in housing, government and community facilities. Like many similar mill towns in the south, Mooresville was a self-contained community, with many of the residents benefiting both directly and indirectly from the mill. In 1999, when the mill operation shut down, Mooresville had already reshaped its image from mill town into "Race City USA" as it geared for growth.

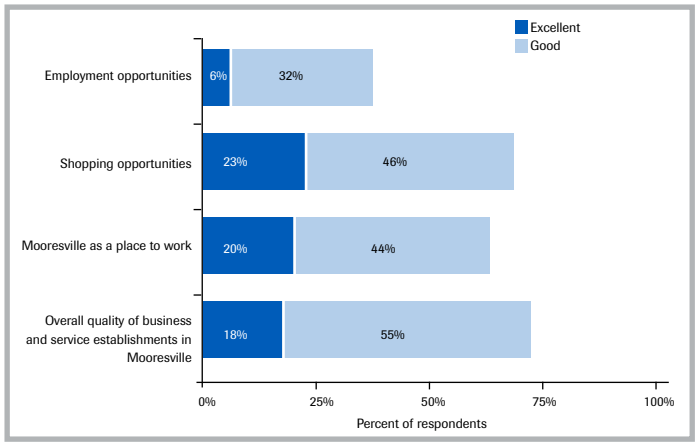
Located approximately 20 miles north of Charlotte, Mooresville boasts award-winning schools and a vibrant business community. From the beauty of Lake Norman to the quaintness of Downtown, Mooresville is an attractive place to live, work and play.

Those early seeds of change produced a thriving town and a regional leader in championing a smarter way of accommodating growth. Through its Comprehensive Master Plan process, the Town of Mooresville has cultivated a balanced, sustainable land development pattern that will accommodate planned growth, efficiently utilize public infrastructure, and protect rural and environmental resources.

Vision and Strategic Framework

Mooresville experienced unprecedented growth and change in the last 20 years. The rate of population growth began to increase in the 1980s and accelerated dramatically in the 1990s. At the same time, the Town changed from a self-contained industrial community to a rapidly urbanizing, multi-faceted society.

Today, with a population of over 34,000, which has surged by almost 74 percent in the past decade, and over 12,300 households, Mooresville is a mix of small town, suburban and urban development. Projections show the Town to double its population in the next 20 years. The Town is ripe with opportunity to manage smart growth with a variety of development patterns.



RATINGS OF ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY AND OPPORTUNITIES

Guided by the desire to enhance the quality of life for its citizens, while also providing valued governmental services and directing well-planned growth and development, the Town Board of Commissioners sanctioned the creation of the Mooresville Comprehensive Master Plan. The Master Plan provides a vision, strategy and framework for future decision making about the Town's growth and development.

Citizen Engagement

In 2006, the Town initiated three planning projects – the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, the Comprehensive Transportation Plan and the Zoning Ordinance. All three parallel efforts were coordinated by Development Services.

Public engagement for the Land Use Plan began early and continued throughout the process. Recognizing the relationship between land use and transportation, the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Comprehensive Transportation Plan teams held two joint public workshops that provided participants the opportunity to share their ideas for the future and discuss plan concepts. Additionally, an extensive community survey captured input from Town residents.

Led by the Town of Mooresville Planning Board and guided by the technical staff in Development Services, the Comprehensive Master Plan was produced and adopted by a 24-member Citizen Advisory Committee. These committed citizen volunteers worked to ensure the vision, goals and objectives for the Master Plan and companion, Comprehensive Transportation Plan, were developed based on broad goals that set the strategy for managing growth and development.

Natural, Community and Cultural Resources

Mooresville's natural environment contributes to the overall enhanced quality of life for its residents. While natural resources are abundant, they are also fragile and must be protected. Local action and regional cooperation are crucial in achieving the goals of protecting and enhancing the water and air quality, protecting viewsheds, and developing a comprehensive network of greenways.

With approximately 53 percent of the land in the planning area within various water supply watershed protection districts, the Town has the opportunity to leverage strict limits on land coverage. Providing these guidelines will encourage new development to take full advantage of natural features and conserve large areas of open space. The presence of open space is an essential element in determining the character and quality of the community.

Lake Living

Mooresville's proximity to Lake Norman, and its well-maintained network of open space, makes it a highly desirable place to live, work and play. Created by Duke Power in 1963, Lake Norman is the largest man made body of fresh water in North Carolina with 525 miles of shoreline – more than the coastlines of North and South Carolina combined – and a surface area of more than 32,475 acres.

Beginning in the 1980s, parts of Mooresville in the Lake Norman area west of Interstate 77 (I-77) and south of North Carolina Highway 150 (NC 150) began to experience surging residential growth. Commercial and retail centers followed the residential growth, creating regional retail and employment centers – first along the NC 150 corridor east of I-77 and then west from Exit 36 –as utilities were extended across the interstate. The Brawley School Road, Templeton Road and Langtree Road peninsulas provide many miles of beautiful lakefront property along Lake Norman.

Recreation

Parks and recreational opportunities play a large role in enhancing the quality of life of the community. The Town of Mooresville operates an extensive active recreation program with 15 parks, 15 tennis courts, 15 basketball courts, 19 lighted ball fields and three gyms. The Mooresville Graded School District along with the Iredell-Statesville School System provides a significant component of the Mooresville parks and recreation program by supplying existing school sites for active recreation. The Town's Cultural & Recreation Services also proudly maintain the War Memorial and hosts programs for all residents – from seniors to civic groups – at The Charles Mack Citizen Center.

The Mooresville Parks and Greenways Comprehensive Master Plan was adopted in 2009 to provide ample parks, recreation and open space for the community. In establishing guidelines for future needs, there was overwhelming consensus that Mooresville is a young, active community with a strong demand for recreation activities. The plan encourages Mooresville to partner with Iredell County to supplement the recreation and park facilities. Additionally, through the strategy of the Comprehensive Master Plan, land developers will share responsibility for the dedication of open space for active recreation, natural area preservation, and greenway development as they seek to develop within the Town of Mooresville.

While natural resources are abundant they are also fragile and must be protected. Local action and regional cooperation are crucial to achieving the goals of protecting and enhancing environmental quality, conserving open space, and developing a comprehensive network of greenways and pedestrian facilities throughout the region.

Trees and other vegetation represent both an environmental resource and an important landscape feature in the quality of life for the Town. Preserving, maintaining and increasing the Town's tree canopy will have a beneficial impact on air quality, storm water control and visual appearance.

Education

The perceived quality of education is important to attracting and retaining young families and is crucial to the economic vitality of the community. Mooresville's schools are nationally recognized for their quality education. They diligently prepare students with skills and knowledge needed for success in higher education and the workplace, laying the foundation for greater paying jobs.

The Town of Mooresville is served by two public school systems, plus numerous private and charter schools. The Mooresville Graded School District (MGSD) and Iredell-Statesville Schools (ISS) represent a total of 40 schools and an enrollment of approximately 20,000 students.

MGSD has been featured in multiple news articles and educational journals including: The New York Times, Ed Leadership, Ed Week, District Administration, and the American School Board Journal. They were also featured in a Learning Matters segment on PBS: The News Hour with Jim Lehrer. President Barack Obama toured Mooresville Middle School on June 3, 2013.

With more than 20,000 students, ISS ranks among the 20 largest school districts in North Carolina, and their 36 schools offer a wide array of services and programs to meet the unique demands of the student population. From International Baccalaureate programs to challenge even the most advanced learner, to alternative schools and a differentiated diploma program designed to help students who need extra support to graduate, the district ensures there is something for everyone.

Through the guiding principles and framework of its own Strategic Plan, MGSD embarked on an extraordinary and innovative journey to put laptops in the hands of students in grades four to 12 and SMART boards in all kindergarden to third grade classrooms. Its Digital Conversion Initiative employs technology in ways that improve teaching and learning through increased student engagement while teaching the NC Standard Course of Study focusing on reading and mathematics. MGSD is leading the way as a 21st Century Learning Community.

Land Use

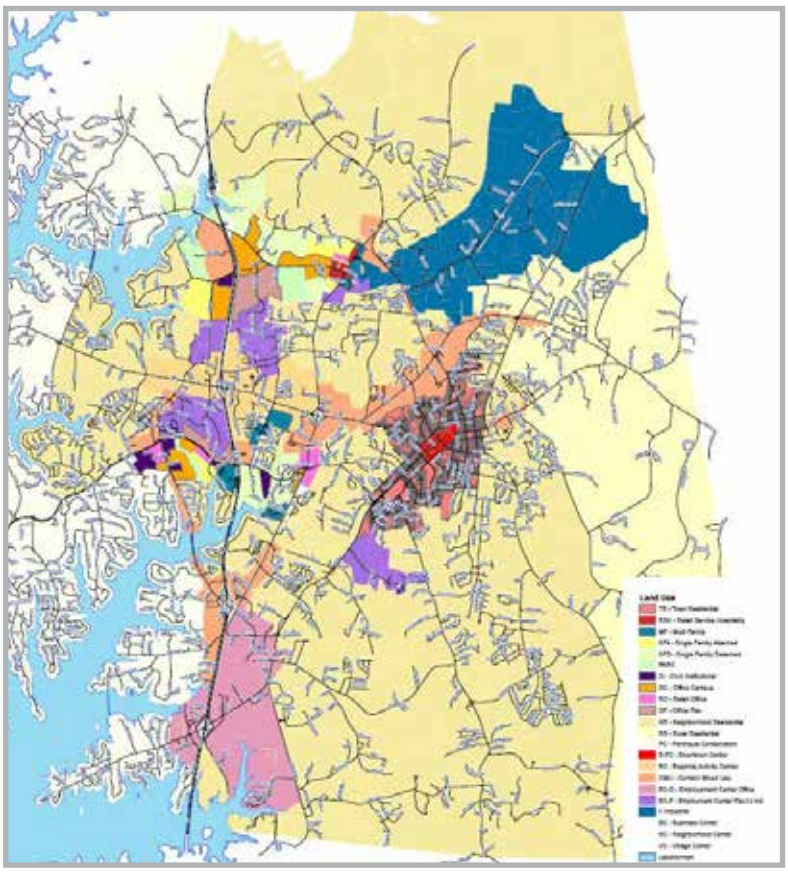
For many years, the rail line and cotton mills shaped development. The compact Downtown built adjacent to the train depot was the hub of commerce for the Town and surrounding area. The mill buildings were located to the north and south of Downtown, with residential neighborhoods surrounding it.

The overall goal of the Comprehensive Land Development Plan is to make Mooresville an attractive place for people of all ages, backgrounds and income levels to live, work and play. This requires not only sound land use and economic policies, but a strong commitment to excellence in community design and appearance. The quality of the physical environment – attractive streets, buildings, parks and open space – has a direct impact on Mooresville's economy, the sustainability of neighborhoods, and the successful stewardship of its unique natural and cultural resources.

Until the early 1970s, development followed a grid pattern of streets with residences, retail, office and institutions within the same neighborhood. The next band of development began to separate residential and commercial uses with neighborhoods defined by curvilinear streets and commercial centers located along major streets.

By the late 1970s, the focus of new residential development began to shift to areas outside the traditional town center. Although Downtown Mooresville remained the government and financial center for the community, businesses soon relocated to rapidly developing business parks and commercial centers.

Beginning in the 1980s and through the two decades that followed, the Lake Norman area began to experience surging residential growth. Today, residential growth is occurring both east and west of I-77. Commercial growth is occurring along the NC 150 corridor, west of I-77 in close proximity to Lake Norman. This pattern is expected to shift predominately to the east as available land for development west of I-77 approaches build-out over the next decade.



The 2030 Land Use Plan focuses on achieving a balanced, sustainable land development pattern that will accommodate planned growth, efficiently utilize public infrastructure, and protect rural and environmental resources. The emphasis of the Plan is on defining the form, function, scale and mix of uses in each of the areas, as well as providing general criteria for locating and citing these land use elements or their components.

As in the past, the Town expects development to occur in several phases, through residential neighborhoods, neighborhood and village nodes, regional employment centers and regional activity centers interconnected by a network of streets. The Town's ultimate development pattern will be based on the long-term commitment to maintaining distinct neighborhood, employment and regional activity areas with denser clusters of mixed-use development in the growth areas where utilities will be available to serve urban development.

Studies indicate that the perception of a safe environment is one of the critical factors to a community's success in attracting residents, visitors and businesses. The Town will continue the approach of community policing as an effective and responsive approach to law enforcement and will ensure fire and rescue services are located to provide the most equitable, effective and efficient services to the community.

The second phase will occur as utilities are extended to the north and east of Downtown. Improvements to the road network and construction of a highway interchange at I-77 and Cornelius Road are incentives for business and new industries to become established in employment and industrial planning areas.

A third phase is expected to occur in the next 10 to 15 years in the form of redevelopment in nodes of higher density land uses along major thoroughfares. These nodes will be true urban centers with a mix of uses designed for pedestrians, served by public transit and compact in form.

The changes that occurred began slowly in the late 1980s and quickened dramatically in the 1990s. It is expected that the rate of development will continue as the employment centers build-out and residential neighborhoods are developed in response to housing demand. Ultimately, development will be driven by the market and the Town's ability to extend public utilities, improve highway access and road networks serving the area to the north.

Rural

Rural residential areas are low-density areas. Lots for single family homes typically range from one half to five acres and development relies on well and private septic systems. The rural residential planning areas are within the Yadkin Creek/Back Creek and Yadkin Creek/Coddle Creek WS-II Watershed Protection Areas.

While retaining rural areas are an essential asset of the community, neighborhoods in the rural residential area will be developed in a cluster design to preserve rural and forested land, protect groundwater resources, preserve open space and reduce potential congestion on rural roads.

In this type of design, a significant portion of the site remains undeveloped, preserving natural areas. To protect the rural and scenic qualities of Coddle Creek Road (NC 3), the Comprehensive Transportation Plan recommends a strategy that would permit development of a four-lane boulevard from the Iredell/Cabarrus/Mecklenburg County line to Rocky River Road. As the road approaches Downtown, it will be limited to a two-lane road with a boulevard.

The Town's rural commercial, industrial, employment and institutional activities will continue to preserve Mooresville's rural character. Businesses development will meet established performance criteria, including traffic capacity limits and site design standards.

Neighborhood Residential Living

Neighborhoods consist of not only homes, but also parks, streets, shops, schools, places of worship, community centers and other services. The collection of neighborhoods creates the community.

Residential neighborhoods come in many different densities and configurations, and will include a diversity of housing types and price ranges. Protection, preservation and enhancement of existing neighborhoods must be as important as promoting new construction.

Current development patterns of auto-dependent, single use, low-density development has resulted in traffic congestion, loss of open space and lack of street connectivity. As the market changes, new types of neighborhoods with greater diversity in housing styles, sizes, price ranges and amenities will be required to meet the demand for a broader range of housing choices.

The changing housing market will affect how Mooresville's neighborhoods are developed. New neighborhoods will have a mix of commercial and residential uses, with a range of housing types, styles and density. Specific types of residential development will reduce sprawl and focus development in areas where there are adequate public facilities and services such as public utilities, road, school, and fire and police protection. Within larger planned neighborhoods, smaller villages may share common unifying elements such as street lighting, signage and landscaping palate.

The neighborhood residential planning area will support the majority of the residential development over the next 20 years. The neighborhood residential planning area will be developed as a series of interconnected neighborhoods with the highest density housing located in close proximity to services or in village and neighborhood centers.

The neighborhood center provides the essential facilities for the neighborhood in one convenient location. Neighborhood centers and village centers will be strategically located to provide needed services and public facilities. The scale of the use will determine the location. Public investments in utilities, road and community facilities will be focused in this planning area. Surrounding neighborhoods will be able to access the center by a short walk. Public parks, community recreation and social facilities will contribute to the neighborhood character.

Smart Growth

Smart Growth initiatives recognize the relationship between development and quality of life. Smart Growth practices are community-focused, transit – and pedestrian – oriented, and have a greater mix of housing, commercial and retail uses in close proximity to each other.

Neighborhoods will have various scales and densities of housing options ranging from the highest densities in close proximity to a village center to densities more appropriate for suburban residential development further from the center. A greater mix of residential and non-residential uses in the neighborhoods will promote a sense of community and encourage less reliance on vehicles for daily activities.

Town Center

Dating from the 1850s, Downtown Mooresville retains many of the original buildings along Main and Broad Streets. Locally owned shops, restaurants and business services dominate. Public buildings include the new Town Hall, Fire Station, Library, Post Office and the Charles Mack Citizen Center.

Between 2003 and 2008, the Town invested in street, sidewalk, water and sewer and lighting improvements, which spurred private development. The result – a vibrant Downtown area.

Urban Centers

Urban neighborhoods have a diverse range of building types, thoroughfares and public open spaces. Urban neighborhoods will have interconnected streets, with pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Centrally located open space, recreation areas or well-designed conservation areas will encourage community gatherings.

Concentrated areas of more dense urban development or urban villages a half-mile in diameter will be located along major corridors, supporting the potential for bus transit linking villages, Downtown and employment centers. Residential development will include a range of housing choices, with workforce housing located near transit corridors.

Economic Development

Mooresville's location, quality of life, school systems and existing business clusters are what give our Town a robust economy making it a desirable place for business. The Town's close proximity to Charlotte, reliable infrastructure that is in place through roads, rail, fiber optics, water/sewer and air make it an ideal business location for manufacturers, headquarters, back-office and users alike. Numerous corporations have their headquarters in Mooresville/Southern Iredell County including: Lowe's Companies, Inc., BestCo, Carolina Beverage Group, Custom Products, Inc. and General Microcircuits, Inc. just to name a few.

> *Two of the trends that will directly influence the housing market are the age of householders and household size. The number of people turning 65 will rise dramatically over the next 20 years. In the same time period, there will be more households in every age bracket without children in them, people living alone or people living with others to whom they are not related.*

Also known as "Race City USA" the Town is the proud home to numerous NASCAR Teams and over 60 racing–related businesses. This core industry sector has built up the labor pool along with the strong K-12 school systems and continuing education systems located in the Town.

The Master Plan calls for a comprehensive approach in partnership with the Mooresville-South Iredell Economic Development Corporation and other organizations to enhance the area's economic competitiveness. This collaboration will create an environment that supports the attraction of new and diverse companies while supporting existing companies in their growth and stability.

Trends

Mooresville is the hub of a growing regional economy. There are approximately 26,000 employees in the Mooresville region. This is projected to increase to 40,000 in the year 2025.

Growth has come from several factors including the importance of industry clustering, the availability of a skilled workforce, the expanding of the Charlotte Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which the Town became nationally recognized as part of beginning in 2013. This area continues to grow northward, along with families and individuals attracted to the region, because of the high quality of life and accessibility to the international airport in Charlotte.

This growth has provided an extremely dynamic workforce for the community's economy. Between 2005 and 2025, new office jobs are expected to account for 49 percent of all new jobs. Retail will account for 23 percent of the gain, and industrial accounts for about 15 percent of the projected increase. This translates into an increased demand for both business and industrial space. Mooresville strives to create a climate that grows existing business, attracts new business and cultivates entrepreneurship by offering a world-class workforce in order to maintain and enhance the excellent quality of life.

In 2005, the Chamber of Commerce commissioned Angelou Economics to conduct an economic study to evaluate the Town and the surrounding South Iredell region's performance in areas that are most critical to business and industry growth. The study identified five target industries that enhance and support existing industries in the region: business and financial, technology manufacturing, automotive, clean energy technologies, and retail and tourism.

Mooresville must continue to cultivate a climate that grows existing business, attracts new business and promotes entrepreneurship by creating a world-class workforce that maintains and enhances the quality of life.

However, land available for development is quickly being purchased and developed for residential use. Additionally, rising land prices make the area less attractive to large footprint industrial development, while surrounding areas have more available rural land available at a lower price. These challenges create the opportunity for Mooresville to shift the course of economic development away from businesses that require traditional large industrial tracts and toward those that need higher density commercial/office and flex industrial facilities.

A New Approach

Public investment alone is not sufficient to attract and sustain economic growth. Instead, public private partnerships better known as P3 sector investments can afford the opportunity to target specific geographic areas and business clusters to maximize their impact. Areas targeted should have the potential for significant job creation to leverage existing clusters of business or industry and enhance the community's overall quality of life and access to services.

Employment and Business Centers

The Comprehensive Land Development Plan identifies areas that are well-suited for a major corporate campus and office employment centers, flex spaces, research and development employment centers and industrial centers. To accommodate growth projections, the plan encourages the development of mixed-use commercial/residential centers in areas near employment centers.

Regional Activity Center

Mooresville's planning area includes several distinct regional shopping centers, businesses and institutions located within close proximity. These regional activity centers contain the shopping, services, recreation and entertainment, hotels, employment and institutional facilities, like a community college, to serve residents and non-residents alike. This destination requires direct access to major highways and arterial roads.

Future regional activity centers will be supported by high-density housing and commercial uses located in vertically integrated buildings within centers or in the adjacent mixed use corridors. The plan proposes one regional activity center that encompasses the major destination retail centers along the NC 150 corridor, east and west of I-77.

Buildings will be arranged to create a sense of defined space with an internal network of streets and pedestrian areas, formal outdoor spaces and landscaping. Architectural features and parking areas will present an attractive and inviting appearance.

Corridor Mixed-Use

Mooresville has several older shopping centers and strip commercial areas, particularly east of the NC 21 corridor. Underutilized shopping centers and commercial sites can be converted to more appropriate uses. By redeveloping these sites as either mixed-use developments or adding new buildings along the street edge and placing the parking into the newly created interior areas, these sites can accommodate a range of needs. Applying the concepts of the village center and corridor mixed-use planning areas will be an incentive to convert these underutilized sites to dynamic business centers.

Business Center

A business center is strategically located to serve larger employment areas and will vary in scale and intensity depending on the location, service area and availability of adequate roads and public utilities. Any new employment center in the Town will be easily accessible by road and transit. A network of interconnecting roads, with sidewalks and bikeways would provide alternatives for employees to walk to lunch or services. Travel from adjacent residential neighborhoods or activity

centers should be possible without requiring travel along a major thoroughfare. A sufficient buffer or transition between the employment center and residential neighborhoods will minimize the impact of noise, light and traffic.

Industrial

The industrial area is an important asset to Mooresville. The Town will continue to feature concentrations of industrial uses in well-planned centers or parks, or as infill and redevelopment of existing industrial areas. An additional 500 acres has been purchased to facilitate phase two of the Mooresville Business Park.

Based on projections for employment growth, the area will need to reserve almost 300 acres of land for employment uses. - *The Angelou Economics Study*

Mixed-Use Activity Centers

Activity centers are typically located along major transportation corridors and are physically and aesthetically unified areas designed to function as a whole rather than as a series of unconnected, unrelated developments. The intent is for uses and characteristics that define activity centers to ultimately work together as an integrated community.

Transportation

Mooresville is transitioning from a dispersed pattern of low density development to a more compact pattern that includes an integration of land uses in mixed-use nodes and activity centers. The Mooresville Comprehensive Transportation Plan, which was developed concurrently with the Mooresville Comprehensive Land Use Plan, recognizes the inherent relationship between land use and transportation.

Through a forward-looking innovative approach, the plans call for an integrated transportation network that consists of four elements: roadway, bicycle, pedestrian and air. These essential elements of transportation influence how land is developed in terms of density and even types of use. The Town's transportation solutions are designed to address congestion, support economic development, incorporate environmental stewardship and be implemented through a "think regionally, act locally" collaborative, intergovernmental approach that is supported and enforced by local decision makers.

Roadways

For Mooresville residents and visitors alike, the principal mode of transportation is the motor vehicle. Mooresville's rapid growth has resulted in peak hour congestion along its many roadway corridors. The Comprehensive Transportation Plan recommends improvements to the major corridors that serve the identified growth areas.

A proposed East-West Connector will serve the neighborhood residential planning area improving access to both the employment center areas and NC 3/Coddle Creek. The connection between Mazeppa Road and Cornelius Road will serve the industrial and employment center areas, and provide safer and more efficient access for freight and vehicular traffic. These improvements will provide an alternative route for traffic from the Talbert Pointe Industrial Park and also will provide access for future expansion of the park to the north.

Additionally, expanding the transportation system with an increased number of collector streets will enhance travel between local streets and arterials, and improve accessibility to higher intensity residential areas and activity centers. Transportation improvements will ensure Mooresville remains a vibrant community to live, work and play.

Compact Development

Sustainable development as measured by environmental stewardship and equitable distribution of community resources that reflects the community's unique character and local values can be achieved through more compact development patterns. With this in mind, future growth anticipated for 2030 was directed to one of seven urban or 15 neighborhood activity centers, matching those identified in the Mooresville Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan.

Urban and neighborhood centers will limit low-density, sprawl development patterns and reduce public infrastructure cost. This proven development pattern significantly improves the efficiency and effectiveness of the regional transportation system by emphasizing compact, walkable urban and neighborhood centers. It also supports future opportunities for bus and rail transit, increases walking and biking trips, and reduces reliance on the automobile for day-to-day activities.

A Healthier Approach to Active Transportation

Connected sidewalks, attractive and safe walking environments, and designated bikeways are required to encourage people to leave their cars at home. The Mooresville Comprehensive Pedestrian Plan (CPP) has identified an interconnected network of seven greenways and four multi-use trails within the Town limits. These facilities will be linked through signed bicycle and pedestrian routes.

The Town's subdivision ordinance requires that new subdivisions provide a continuous pedestrian network. However, like most other growing communities, gaps exist throughout the sidewalk network. The CPP has identified several pedestrian development zones where improvements would enable residents to walk and bike to attractions within their neighborhoods.

CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL

Weaving Communities Together

To promote active, healthy living, the Town is involved in two progressive projects – The Carolina Thread Trail (The Thread) and the Mooresville-Charlotte Trail. Both are designed to link people, places, cities, towns and attractions.

The Thread is a regional network of greenways and trails that reaches 15 counties and 2.3 million people. There are 119 miles of The Thread open to the public including 12.6 miles planned for Mooresville. The Thread preserves our natural areas and is a place for exploration of nature, culture, science and history. This is a landmark project that provides public and community benefits for everyone in every community.

The Mooresville-Charlotte Trail is a bicycle and pedestrian trail designed to link existing and planned greenways from Mooresville to Charlotte, including the communities in-between. It is a joint effort between multiple local governments in Mecklenburg and Iredell counties to provide a north-south connection for bicyclists and pedestrians across seven jurisdictions.

The vision is for a continuous, multi-jurisdictional bicycle route that will encircle Lake Norman and connect with neighboring communities, destinations, and the various local bicycle facilities, in order to provide a safer, useful and attractive transportation and recreation resource for a wide range of users within the surrounding four-county region.

This additional 30 miles of trail will allow bicycle and pedestrian users an off-roadway alternative to high-volume and high-speed NC 115 and other roads. It is intended to provide connectivity for schools, greenways, parks, residential developments, businesses and commercial centers.

These expanding trail systems will encourage regional economic investment and development by improving community quality-of-life attractiveness.

Mass Transit

As the Town's population continues to increase, it is important to look beyond the passenger vehicle when planning future transportation services. While the private vehicle will remain the predominant means of transportation for the majority of citizens, the need for quality alternative modes of transportation will increase with community growth.

Several studies, including the 2025 Integrated Transit/Land-Use Plan, the 2025 Corridor System Plan, and a Major Investment Study conducted by both the Charlotte Area Transit System and the City of Charlotte, outline strategies to construct commuter rail between downtown Charlotte and several outlying communities, including Mooresville. The North Corridor Commuter Rail Line (LYNX Red Line) is intended to provide an alternative to the congested I-77 corridor for commuters from the northern section of Mecklenburg County to uptown Charlotte. The Metropolitan Transit Commission established the Red Line Task Force (RLTF), a standing committee to focus on finding alternative means to finance and advance the Red Line rail project.

A Norfolk Southern rail line for freight runs north/south connecting Mooresville to the national rail system. Three airports are located within proximity to the Town of Mooresville. Charlotte Douglas International Airport is located approximately 28 miles southwest of Mooresville and services travel throughout the world. The Concord Regional Airport is located 17 miles southeast of Mooresville and Statesville Municipal Airport is located 15 miles northwest of Mooresville. It is home to Lowe's Companies, Inc. corporate fleet.

Conclusion

Rooted in its humble history, the Town of Mooresville has flourished through generations of caring citizens and involved industry partners. From mills to rails, the Town switched gears and its growth became fueled by a new crop of diverse corporate, industrial firms and the popularity of motorsports.

Like all seeds of change, the community has and will continue to grow. Through the guidance of the Town's leadership and staff, combined with the vision of its residents as represented in the Comprehensive Master Plan, Mooresville will thrive as a growing, dynamic and sustainable community that is future-focused – with a strong economy and a balanced and growing population that values and enjoys a high quality of life within a safe and attractive environment.

Acknowledgements

The Town of Mooresville sincerely appreciates the involvement, leadership and vision of current and past Board Members who were involved in the creation of the Comprehensive Master Plan.

Mayor
Miles Atkins

Mooresville Town Board
Commissioner Eddie Dingler, Ward 1

Commissioner Thurman Houston, Ward 2

Commissioner Mac Herring, Ward 3

Commissioner Lisa Qualls, Ward 4

Commissioner Bobby Compton, At Large

Commissioner David Coble, At Large

Planning Board Members
David Nail, Chair

John Robertson, Vice-Chair

Allen Brawley

Mark Brady

Rosalind Campbell

Danny Martin

Steve McGlothlin

William Ogburn

Joseph Yanicak

The Town of Mooresville gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their photographic contributions: Pam Brackett, Kelly Culpepper, Cotton Ketchie and the Mooresville Downtown Commission.

Town of Mooresville

413 North Main Street

Mooresville NC 28115

(704)663-3800

www.ci.mooresville.nc.us