

Chamber Survey Providing Learning Exercise

BY SUSAN USHER

It will be summer before results of a survey of public attitudes toward education and communities in Brunswick County by the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce are made available to the public.

A handful of computer science students at South Brunswick High School this week began tabulating responses to the survey, which was distributed in February to a cross-section of county businesses and government agencies to adults who live or work in Brunswick County. The data are expected to be available by May to the chamber's education committee for analysis and development of a report on the results, said South Brunswick computer science teacher Bill Adams.

If the project proceeds on its current timetable, the chamber's education committee will be ready in June to present all of its findings first to the chamber's board of directors and then to the Brunswick County Board of Education.

"That's as a courtesy," said Jane Kulesza, a member of the education committee. "We've done everything with the schools."

The project grew out of chamber members' interest in helping improve education in the county by helping the schools. The survey is an effort to determine if public perceptions of the services and needs of the schools match reality. The survey was distributed with assistance from the county's other two chambers serving the South Brunswick Islands and North Brunswick areas.

"Our education committee spent a year discussing this and couldn't discern perceptions versus reality," said committee member Jane Kulesza. "While working on other projects, we believe the survey will help the chamber determine the best ways its resources can be used to benefit the schools."

Education committee members anticipate repeating the survey at three-year intervals and sharing the results with area chambers of commerce, the school system and other interested organizations.

Under the direction of Davis, a retired IBM manager, students are typing responses into a spreadsheet program contributed by Carolina Power & Light Co. to South Brunswick High specifically for this project. Frank Blackmon, a manager with CP&L, worked with chamber and Davis to install the program on two computers in the high school's business department.

"This will take more time," said chamber Karen Hope, "but we think it is valid to provide the hands-on learning experience for students."

Hope said the response rate from the survey was 48 percent or 650 surveys, more than the 600 needed for results to be valid.

Approximately 160 of the surveys included hand-written comments in addition to multiple-choice responses. "We got some really good feedback," said Hope. "They were glad somebody had asked."

"Some people wrote essays," said Kulesza. "People have a lot to say

about education and when given a sounding board, said it."

Davis has trained students Christine Love, Martha Daniels and Adam Sullivan in use of the spreadsheet software and expects to include more students before the project is completed. How many students get involved depends in part on how much time is required to enter data in the spreadsheet and develop reports.

Davis said students will summarize responses to each survey question and then sort or report the data in various ways for interpretation.

The first 10 questions asked respondents to "grade" the school system on a scale of A to F(ail) on its overall quality, programs for special needs children, its teaching of basic skills, creative thinking and curiosity, "skills necessary for the 21st century," preparation of students for college or the workplace, and emphasis on life skills training and a

safe school climate. Respondents were also asked to grade their own involvement in the schools.

Based on responses those areas would be ranked from "best to worst," for instance.

Other questions explore relative emphasis on sports, other extracurricular activities, academic success, whether more emphasis is needed in the schools on the dangers of drugs and alcohol and whether sufficient

emphasis is given to sex education and AIDS prevention.

Analysts will also be able to determine if correlations exist between answers and the respondents' background, such as educational level, occupation, age, type of local community involvement, their source(s) of information about the schools, and whether they live by choice outside the county or are considering moving to another county.



STAFF PHOTO BY EDDIE SWEATT

WORKMEN hang the signs for a new super market expected to open soon in Shallotte.

Super Market Opening Soon

A new super market is getting ready to open in Shallotte the end of this month, according to Dewey Hill of Whiteville and Dennis C. Farmer of North Myrtle Beach, co-owners.

Farmer's Market IGA will open in Hill's Shopping Center in the store formerly occupied by Food Folks, a super market which closed its doors August 31, 1993.

A grand opening is planned about two weeks after the store opens, according to Farmer, general manager of the super market.

The store will employ about 50 full and part time workers, according to a news release. When Food Folks closed at this location last year, 18 full and seven part time jobs were lost.

The IGA super market will provide a variety of services, featuring meats, a seafood department, wines, cheeses, and a deli/bakery.

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KEN'S PAWN SHOP

has moved to their new location

Business Hwy. 17, beside Joe's Bar-B-Que
and across from Naber Motorsport

754-5570

ADVERTISING FOR BIDS TOWN OF OCEAN ISLE BEACH RESURFACING STREETS

Sealed bids for resurfacing certain town streets will be received by the Town of Ocean Isle Beach until 5:00 PM on Thursday, April 21, 1994. Bids will be opened and publicly read at a board meeting which will be held on April 22, 1994 at 2 PM. A complete listing of those streets to be resurfaced and specifications for paving may be obtained from the Town Clerk during regular office hours, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. No bid will be accepted or considered unless it is accompanied by a deposit of cash, a cashier's check, a certified check or bid bond equal to 5% of the amount bid.

The Town of Ocean Isle Beach reserves the right to reject any or all bids received. This the 14th day of April, 1994.

Daisy Ivey, Town Clerk

SECOND READVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS BRUNSWICK COUNTY Special Assessment District Number Nineteen Water Improvements

Sealed bids will be received by the Owner, County of Brunswick, at the Brunswick County Complex, Bolivia, North Carolina, in the Commissioners Chambers until 2:00 PM, EST on April 20, 1994 for the construction of Special Assessment District Number Nineteen Project.

The work will consist of water main improvements in Brunswick County. Quantity of work includes the following approximate itemization:

- 2,300 L.F. 2" water line
- 43,500 L.F. 6" water line
- 15,000 L.F. 8" water line
- 8,000 L.F. 10" water line
- 13,000 L.F. 12" water line

Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents are open to public inspection at the office of Public Utilities Director, Brunswick County Governmental Center, Water Dept., Bolivia, N.C. the office of the Engineer at Cary, NC.; and the Associated General Contractors, and F. W. Dodge Company offices in Wilmington, Charlotte, Fayetteville, and Raleigh, N.C. They will be loaned to prospective bidders on application to the Engineer, accompanied by a deposit of \$50.00 for each set of documents requested.

All documents must be returned in good condition within two (2) weeks after time for receiving bids, whereupon the deposit will be returned to each bonafide bidder or supplier furnishing quotations to Contractors. No deposit will be refunded to any non-bidder.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check or bid bond by an acceptable surety company of not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid, made payable to the County of Brunswick as a bid guarantee.

A Performance and Payment Bond will be required for the successful bidder in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the contract, payment of all persons supplying labor or furnishing materials, and payment of all liabilities incurred in connection with the work under this contract.

North Carolina law requires any contractor bidding on work in the State which costs \$30,000.00 or more to show evidence that he is licensed under the "Act to Regulate the Practice of General Contracting."

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after scheduled closing time for receiving bids.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and any part of a bid and to waive formalities and technicalities in the bidding procedure.

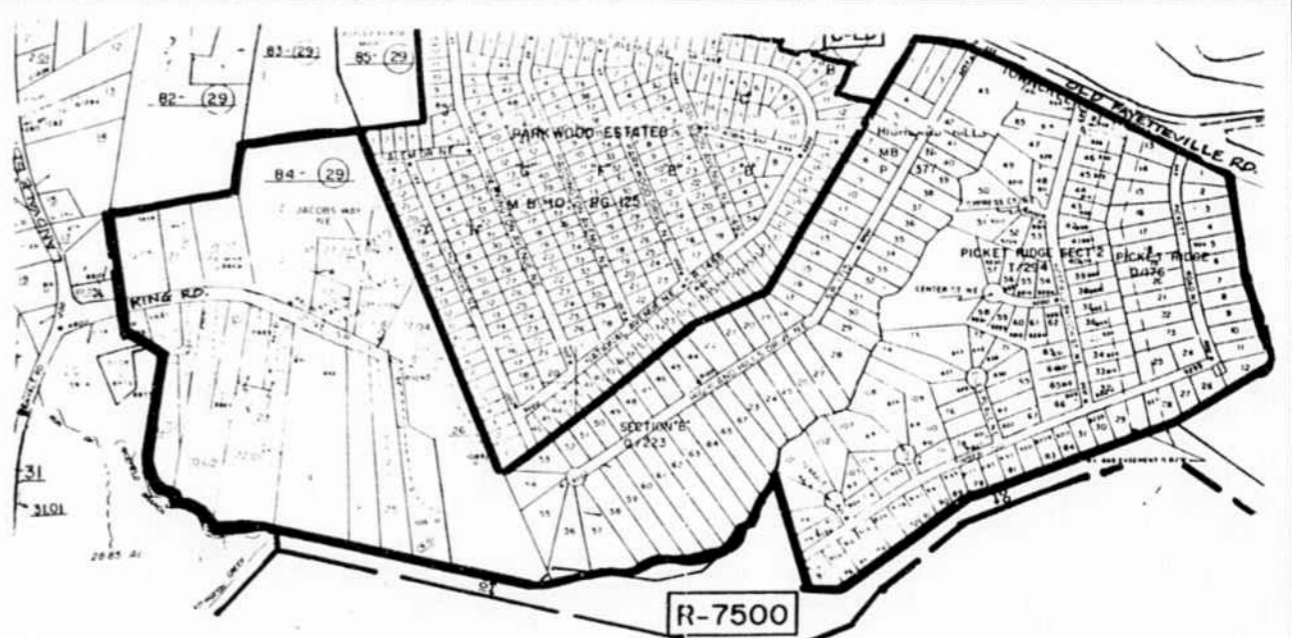
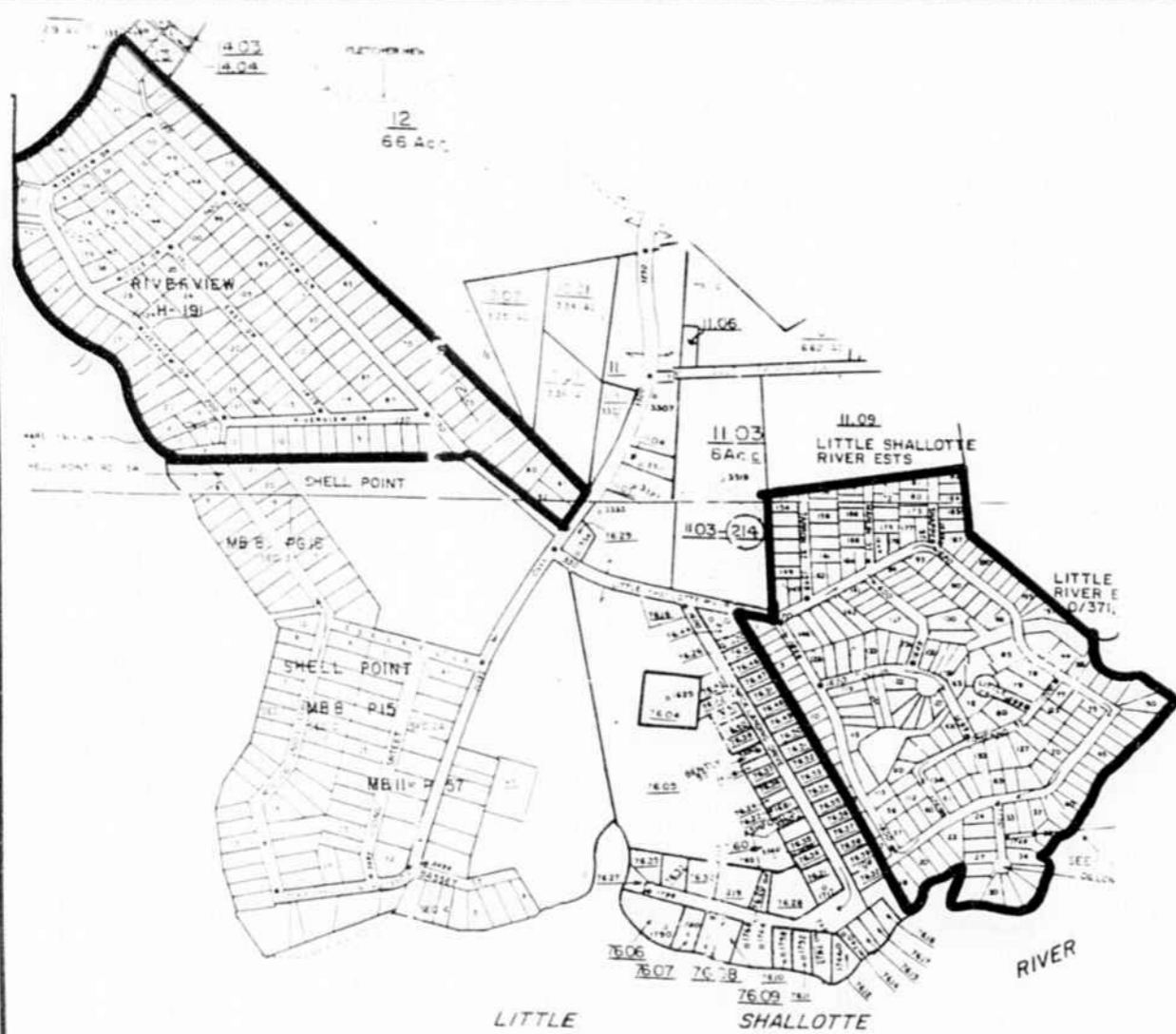
No consideration will be given any request for Plans and Specifications within the five (5) day period immediately prior to the date for receiving bids.

Bids must be submitted on the printed form, or exact copies thereof, contained in the Contract Documents.

The Contractor(s) agree to abide by the Brunswick County Minority and Women Business Enterprise Policy as adopted by the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners. These policies are located in Appendix A and B of this contract document. The Contractor must complete and submit these forms as part of the bid package.

MCKIM & CREED ENGINEERS, P.A.
5625 Dillard Rd., Suite 117
Cary, North Carolina 27511

JERRY WEBB, PUBLIC UTILITIES DIRECTOR
Brunswick County
P. O. Box 249
Bolivia, N. C. 28422



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED REZONING OF PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on May 2, 1994 at 5:45 P.M. in the Public Assembly Building at the County Government Center to consider rezoning these areas from R-7500 (Low Density Residential) to R-6000 (Medium Density Residential). This change will allow singlewide mobile homes to be located in these areas. For more information call 910-253-4361 or 800-621-0609.

Joyce Johnson, Interim Clerk
Brunswick County Board of Commissioners

