

on the inside . . .

- Managing Growth and Development
- Transportation Alternatives
- Regional Planning and Development
- Economic Vitality
- City and Town Centers
- Building Better Neighborhoods
- Community Character
- Environmental Quality
- Open Space, Parks and Greenways
- Active Citizenship
- Community Life

# LEGACY

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

## SHAPING OUR COMMUNITY'S TOMORROW

We live in an exciting and challenging time. Major economic, social and technological changes are occurring at an accelerated pace. Locally, increased growth and development are changing the face of our community. Anticipating and planning for change has become more important than ever. The special State enabling legislation that created the City-County Planning Board requires it to plan for the future -- to prepare, maintain and periodically update a comprehensive plan to guide the development of our community. *Vision 2005*, the current comprehensive plan, was adopted by our community in 1987. Given the accelerated pace of change, the City-County Planning Board concluded in 1995 that it was time to begin preparation of a new comprehensive plan that would guide us into the 21st century.

The first step in planning for our community's future was to envision the future we want. *Forsyth County Tomorrow*, our future vision, was the result of a year long community wide effort guided by the Legacy Citizens Steering Committee and the more than 100 members of the Legacy Focus Groups. Completed in 1997, *Forsyth County Tomorrow* has been endorsed by the City-County Planning Board, Forsyth County and its eight municipalities. Since that time, the Citizens Steering Committee has been hard at work drafting a comprehensive plan that is based on the goals of the vision. Their work on a public review draft of the *Legacy Comprehensive Plan* is now complete.

Legacy's vision of the future calls for changes in the way Forsyth County grows and develops. Change can be difficult to accept because of the uncertainty it creates. Intelligent preparation for change and its uncertainty requires objective evaluation of the current situation in Forsyth County. This self-criticism reflects confidence in the potential of our community.

This report summarizes the key issues and recommendations of the draft plan. It is designed to inform and to engage the community in discussion and debate on the plan's proposed initiatives. The draft plan contains fifteen chapters on topics including growth management, transportation alternatives, economic development and environmental protection. Several themes weave together the individual chapters of the plan. Reducing sprawl and growing smarter by building at increased densities in new and existing neighborhoods and at designated activity centers is emphasized. The plan stresses the need to promote pedestrian and transit-oriented development that reduces automobile use and air pollution. Retaining our distinctive community character by protecting farmland and open space, historic resources and revitalizing our downtowns and older neighborhoods are additional themes. The title of the plan, *Legacy*, identifies the overarching theme -- *that we all are stewards of the community and land that has been passed to us and we have an obligation to protect and enhance it as our legacy to our children and grandchildren.*

### Want to know more?

Call our Hotline at  
336-727-2087

Visit our web site at:  
[www.co.forsyth.nc.us/cepb/legacy.htm](http://www.co.forsyth.nc.us/cepb/legacy.htm)