

DRAFT MINUTES

**TOWN OF APEX
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024
6:00 PM**

The Apex Town Council met for a Regular Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers at Apex Town Hall, located at 73 Hunter Street in Apex, North Carolina.

This meeting was open to the public. Members of the public were able to attend this meeting in-person or watch online via the livestream on the Town’s YouTube Channel. The recording of this meeting can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ITqzzHP8o0>

[ATTENDANCE]

Elected Body

- Mayor Jacques K. Gilbert (presiding)
- Mayor Pro Tempore Ed Gray
- Councilmember Audra Killingsworth
- Councilmember Terry Mahaffey
- Councilmember Arno Zegerman
- Councilmember Brett Gantt

Town Staff

- Town Manager Randy Vosburg
 - Deputy Town Manager Shawn Purvis
 - Assistant Town Manager Marty Stone
 - Town Attorney Laurie Hohe
 - Town Clerk Allen Coleman
 - Deputy Town Clerk Ashley Gentry
 - Planning Director Dianne Khin
- All other staff members will be identified appropriately below

[COMMENCEMENT]

Mayor Gilbert called the meeting to order and welcomed all who were in attendance and watching. He then said the invocation supports unity recognizing that not everyone practices the same traditions. Everyone was welcome to have a moment of silence.

Mayor Gilbert read a prayer.

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1 **Mayor Gilbert** then led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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3 **[CONSENT AGENDA]**

4
5 A **motion** was made by **Councilmember Zegerman**, seconded by **Mayor Pro-**
6 **Tempore Gray**, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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8 **VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)**

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11 **CN1 Agreement - Renewal of GoApex Agreement with Town of Cary and MV**
12 **Transportation - July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (REF: CONT-2024-114)**

13 Council voted to approve an Agreement Amendment No. 2 between Town of Cary, Town of
14 Apex and MV Transportation, to renew terms and responsibilities for the operation of
15 GoApex transit services, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, and to authorize the
16 Town Manager to execute on behalf of the Town.

17 **CN2 Annexation No. 767 - Apex Commerce Center Lot E - 5125 Jessie Drive -**
18 **27.5221 acres (REF: RES-2024-024, RES-2024-025, and OTHER-2024-061)**

19 Council voted to adopt a Resolution Directing the Town Clerk to Investigate Petition
20 Received, to accept the Certificate of Sufficiency by the Town Clerk, and to adopt a
21 Resolution Setting the Date of a Public Hearing for May 28, 2024, on the Question of
22 Annexation - Apex Town Council's intent to annex 27.5221 acres, located at 5125 Jessie
23 Drive - Apex Commerce Center Lot E, Annexation No. 767 into the Town Corporate limits.

24 **CN3 Annexation No. 779 - Apex YMCA - New Hill Holeman Road - 25.68 acres (REF:**
25 **RES-2024-026, RES-2024-027, and OTHER-2024-062)**

26 Council voted to adopt a Resolution Directing the Town Clerk to Investigate Petition
27 Received, to accept the Certificate of Sufficiency by the Town Clerk, and to adopt a
28 Resolution Setting the Date of a Public Hearing for May 28, 2024, on the Question of
29 Annexation - Apex Town Council's intent to annex 25.68 acres, located at New Hill Holeman
30 Road- Apex YMCA Center, Satellite Annexation No. 779 into the Town Corporate limits.

31 **CN4 Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 16 and Capital Project Ordinance**
32 **Amendment No. 2024-18 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Go-**
33 **Apex Project Funding (REF: ORD-2024-037 and ORD-2024-038)**

34 Council voted to adopt Budget Ordinance Amendment No.16 and Capital Project Ordinance
35 Amendment 2024-18 allocating additional funding for the GoApex CDBG Bus Stops
36 Improvement and Sidewalk Project.

37 **CN5 Capital Project Ordinance Amendment No. 2024-19 - Cybersecurity Model Grant**
38 **(REF: ORD-2024-039)**

39 Council voted to approve Capital Project Ordinance Amendment 2024-19 allocating funding
40 and grant award for cybersecurity model project.

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CN6 Contract Amendment - Itron Inc. - June 9, 2022 through June 9, 2025 (REF: CONT-2024-115)

Council voted to approve Contract Amendment No.2 between the Town of Apex and Itron Inc., to extend the Field Deployment Manager (FDM) Field Tools Mobile Device Software Agreement (CONT-2022-059) for one year, effective until June 09, 2025, and authorize the Town Manager to execute on behalf of the Town.

CN7 Council Meeting Minutes - Various

Council voted to approve Meeting Minutes from the following meetings:

April 9, 2024 - Regular Town Council Minutes

April 16, 2024 - Town Council Work Session Minutes

CN8 Historical Marker Program Update - Increase Grant to \$4,000

Council voted to approve an update to the Historical Marker Program application to change the grant amount to up to \$4,000.

CN9 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), Town of Apex, and Various Municipalities - Administrative Updates (REF: CONT-2024-116)

Council voted to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), Town of Apex, and various municipalities, to reflect the administrative updates of current codes and practices, in cooperation with United States Department of Transportation Agreement No. 2024-04-17 and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement on behalf of the Town.

CN10 Rezoning Case No. 23CZ22 - 1013 Olive Chapel Rd - Statement (REF: ORD-2024-040)

Council voted to approve Statement of the Town Council and Ordinance for Rezoning Case No. 23CZ22 1013 Olive Chapel Rd, Ashwini Kumar Reddy Yalala, Srikanth Nalla, Rajanikanth Chippa, and Gurudath Munimakula, petitioners, for the property located at 1013 Olive Chapel Rd (PIN 0732732042).

CN11 Rezoning Case No. 24CZ02 - 5836 Old Smithfield Rd - Statement (REF: ORD-2024-041)

Council voted to approve the Statement of the Town Council and Ordinance for Rezoning Case No. 24CZ02, Natalie Hinton-Brooks & Inetta L. Hinton, applicant, for property located at 5836 Old Smithfield Rd (PIN 0740840331)

CN12 Special Event Authorization - Alcoholic Beverages and Open Containers - Juneteenth Festival 2024

Council voted to authorize alcohol possession, consumption, and open container of the same in The Depot parking lot located at 220 North Salem Street in Apex, North Carolina, for the Town's Juneteenth Festival scheduled for June 15, 2024.

CN13 Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Amendments - April 2024 - Statement (REF: OTHER2024-063)

Council voted to approve the Statement of the Apex Town Council pursuant to G.S. 160D-605(a) addressing action on the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Amendments of April 23, 2024.

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[PRESENTATIONS]

PR1 Apex Public School Foundation - Quarterly Peak S.T.A.R. Awards - 3rd Quarter

Mayor Gilbert said that Councilmember Terry Mahaffey would give the presentation along with Barbara Conroy Co-Founder and President of Apex Public School Foundation.

Councilmember Mahaffey introduced the Peak S.T.A.R award, and invited Fundraising Chair of the Apex Public School Foundation Jack Otepka, to give more information.

Mr. Otepka gave information on the Apex Public School Foundation and how it promotes creativity and recognizes extraordinary employees from the Apex area in Wake County Schools with the Peak Star Award each quarter. He said that the Board of Directors selects an individual recognized for doing extraordinary work to support students at their schools. He recognized Ms. Lauren Roy for this quarter’s Peak Star Award. He said that the nomination was received from Principal Kelly Wilson who said that Ms. Roy was an advocate for all children, she embraces the beauty and importance of creativity problem solving and risk-taking. He said she is someone that loves to challenge her students, always challenging herself by learning the latest and most innovative approaches to teaching and learning, and she’s always looking for ways to involve the entire school community and her classroom environment. He said she sponsors open chess play, the literacy ambassadors book club for children regardless of their AIG identification. Ms. Roy recognizes that there is brilliance in all kinds of minds at West lake Elementary, and that the community is grateful and thankful to have Ms. Lauren Roy as one of their own. He congratulated Ms. Roy and thanked her. He asked Ms. Roy to come up and speak along with Principal Kelly Wilson.

Principal Kelly Wilson addressed Councilmembers, special guests, and community members. She reflected on a feeling of gratitude and appreciation that fills her heart as everyone comes together to recognize the outstanding accomplishments and contributions of Lauren Roy, AIG teacher. She has worked to increase representation with underserved populations, and acknowledged the collective impact that she has made in the community. She said Ms. Roy’s tireless efforts have not only grown the AIG program but have also opened the doors of opportunity for students who have otherwise been overlooked and increased access by 20% over the past two years to students in underserved populations. She thanked the Apex Public Schools Foundation for the support and advocacy, yearly grants, teacher recognition, and community perks for local educators, and help bring and retain high quality teaching staff in Apex. She thanked the Apex Public Schools Foundation, the Apex Town Council and the Apex Community for recognizing Ms. Lauren Roy.

Ms. Roy came up to receive the award and to take a picture. She then thanked the Apex Public School Foundation and Town Council for the recognition and the Peak S.T.A.R Award. She also thanked Principal Wilson for her support and belief in the vision and for allowing her to create a nurturing environment at West Lake Elementary School so that every

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1 child can thrive and excel. She also thanked West Lake Elementary school-based committee
2 for Gifted Education, PTA, and the Advanced Learning Services team at WCPSS for the
3 support to insure the children have access to the resources and support that they need to
4 meet their full potential. She said that this is not just about celebrating past achievements, it's
5 also reaffirming commitment to advocacy and equity in education. She said it was important
6 to advocate for adequate funding and policies for gifted education. She said that as she
7 accepts this award, she does so not for herself, but for every gifted and talented child.

8 **Mayor Gilbert** thanked Ms. Roy and thanked Councilmember Mahaffey for leading
9 the presentation.

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12 **PR2 Proclamation - Apex Public Service Recognition Period - May 5 through May 18,**
13 **2024 (REF: PRO-2024-013)**

14
15 **Mayor Gilbert** along with the rest of the Town Council read Apex Public Service
16 Recognition Period - May 5 through May 18, 2024. He invited the Human Resources Director,
17 Mary Beth Manville and other Town of Apex employees in attendance to be recognized and
18 take a picture.

19
20 **PR3 Proclamation - Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage**
21 **Month - May 2024 (REF: PRO-2024-014)**

22
23 **Mayor Gilbert** along with the rest of the Town Council read the Asian American,
24 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month - May 2024. He invited Reverend Gary
25 Lee and Linda Graham Jones, DEI Director to accept the Proclamation and take a picture.

26 **Reverend Gary Lee** said he was thankful for the Town of Apex. He said it is a great
27 place for his family to live. He thanked Mayor Gilbert for his support for him and the faith
28 community in Apex. He said he was happy to accept the Proclamation as part of the Asian
29 community.

30
31 **PR4 Proclamation - National Foster Care Month - May 2024 (REF: PRO-2024-015)**

32
33 **Mayor Gilbert** with the rest of the Town Council read National Foster Care Month -
34 May 2024. He invited Karen Morant, Kim Adcock, Shanna Davis, Sheila Alford and Joselyn
35 Williams from Wake County Health and Human Services to receive the Proclamation and for a
36 picture.

37 A Representative for Wake County Health and Human Services thanked Council for
38 the proclamation and raising awareness. She said if anybody was interested in becoming a
39 foster parent, they could contact foster4wake@wake.gov or call (919) 212-7474.

40
41 **PR5 Proclamation - National Police Week 2024 - May 12 through May 18, 2024 (REF:**
42 **PRO-2024-016)**

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2 **Mayor Gilbert** along with the Town Council read Proclamation - National Police Week
3 2024 - May 12 through May 18, 2024. Mayor Gilbert invited Police Chief Jason Armstong and
4 other members of Apex Police Department to receive the Proclamation and take a picture.
5 Mayor Gilbert thanked the family members of the Police Department for their sacrifice as
6 well. He said that as part of National Police Week the Hunter Street Water Tower will be lit
7 blue beginning tonight through Sunday in their honor. He thanked them for all they do.
8

9 **PR6 Proclamation - National Tennis Recognition Month - May 2024 (REF: PRO-2024-**
10 **017)**

11
12 **Mayor Gilbert** along with the Town Council read Proclamation - National Tennis
13 Recognition Month - May 2024. He invited Laura Weygandt, Executive Director of Western
14 Wake Tennis to receive the Proclamation and take a picture.

15 **Laura Weygandt** thanked the Mayor and Council, and thanked Town of Apex, Parks,
16 Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department for their partnership in helping provide
17 tennis opportunities to the community.
18

19 **PR7 ADDED - Proclamation - The Fifty-Fifth Professional Municipal Clerk's Week May**
20 **5TH - May 11th, 2024**

21
22 **Mayor Gilbert** along with the rest of the Town Council read Professional Municipal
23 Clerk's Week May 5TH - May 11th, 2024. He invited Town Clerk Allen Coleman and Deputy
24 Town Clerk Ashley Gentry to receive the Proclamation and take a picture.
25

26 **PR8 Western Big Branch Area Plan Update**

27
28 **Jenna Shouse**, Senior Planner, gave the following presentation of the Western Big
29 Branch Area Plan Update.
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31 **[WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 1]**

Western Big Branch Area Plan

Spring 2024 Public Input Summary

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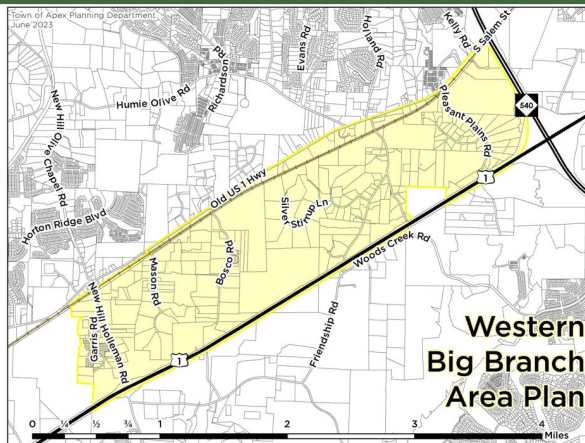
[WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 2]

Overview

- Presentation includes summary of input on:
 - Three plan amendment scenarios
 - Friendship and New Hill Community Land Use Map & Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District
- Staff report **also** includes summary of input on:
 - Draft Additional Plan Recommendations

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[WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 3]



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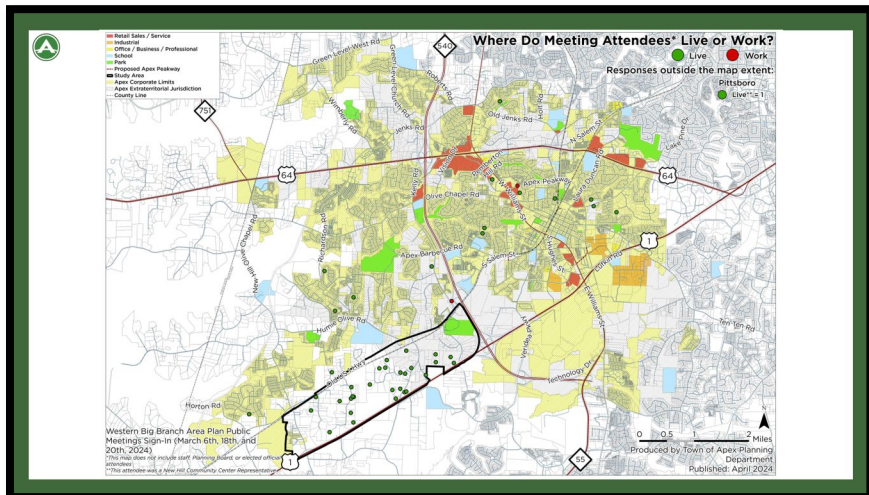
1 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 4]

March 2024 Public Meetings

- March 6th at Apex Senior Center
 - 26 attendees
- March 18th at Pleasant Plains Baptist Church
 - 29 attendees

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graph LR; A[Sign-in & Gather Materials] --> B[View Recorded Presentation]; B --> C[Review Plan Amendment Scenarios]; C --> D[Review Additional Recommendations & US 4/Friendship Road Traffic Safety Study];
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3 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 5]



4
5 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 6]

Presentation Purpose and Overview

- August 2023 Public Input Summary
- Draft Study Area Vision & Goals
- Plan Amendment Scenarios and how to provide input
- Additional Plan Recommendations
- Next Steps

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1 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 7]

Online Opportunity

- Meeting materials posted online February 20th
- Online survey period: February 20th – April 1st
- 81 online and paper survey responses
- Community input, separate from online survey, provided through email
- 474 views of the recorded presentation on YouTube

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3 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 8]

Scenarios Introduction

The diagram illustrates three scenarios for land use and transportation. Scenario 1 shows a decrease in both Land Use Intensities and Transportation Network. Scenario 2 shows a balance between Land Use Intensities and Transportation Network. Scenario 3 shows an increase in both Land Use Intensities and Transportation Network.

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5 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 9]

Scenario Preferences

- Most preferred: Scenario 1
- Second preferred: Scenario 2
- Least preferred: Scenario 3

| | Scenario 1 | Scenario 2 | Scenario 3 |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Top Rank | 43 | 15 | 6 |
| Second Rank | 5 | 38 | 12 |
| Third Rank | 16 | 3 | 37 |
| Weighted Rank | 1.6 | 1.8 | 2.6 |

1 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 10]

Scenario One Comments: General

| Comment | Frequency |
|---|-----------|
| Maintain the rural feel (low density and few vehicles). | 5 |
| Leave us and the area alone/keep the area the same. | 4 |
| It is not realistic to expect this area to stay as is (new water, sewer, etc.). | 4 |
| Support this scenario. | 2 |
| Do not support this scenario. | 1 |
| Concerned it pushes housing further into non-developed areas with less infrastructure. | 1 |
| Current pace of town growth is not sustainable. | 1 |
| There is a misperception on what the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) does. The FLUM does not force sales or require right-of-way dedication. | 1 |
| Allow people to stay in the area and commute separately from survey | 1 |
| Half of Bosco Road is destroyed. | 1 |

*Update map to reflect Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural Districts and Voluntary

2
3 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 11]

Location-Specific Land Use Comments

1. Change the Kilcastle Farms properties to Rural Density Residential
2. Change both sides of New Hill Holleman Rd to Low/Rural Density, apart from the US 1 interchange
3. Support the Rural Transition Density along Hazelhurst Cir
4. Change 3601 Friendship Rd to Rural Density Residential
5. Change both sides of Friendship Rd to Rural Density Residential

General Land Use Comments

- Like the rural development levels/atmosphere (5)
- Support density around major intersections (1)
- Support life science campus (or similar) rather than subdivisions with commercial, with the exception of grocery (1)
- Concerned the medium density and commercial areas will have a domino effect (1)
- The US 1/ NC 540 area should not be fully preserved. Provide options for people to live and work (1)

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5 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 12]

Location-Specific Transportation Comments

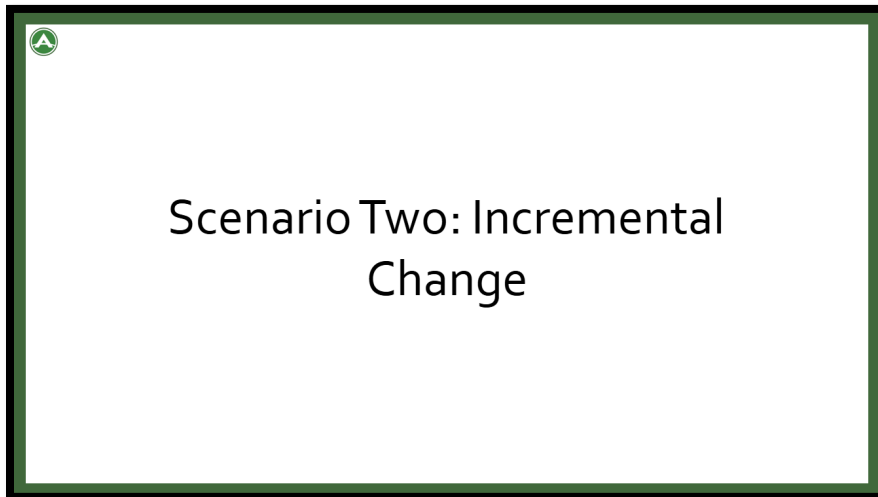
1. Shift Richardson Rd away from Country Haven Ln and Bosco Rd
2. Transportation improvements are needed, particularly along Friendship Rd and Old US 1
3. Improve Friendship Rd/Old US 1 intersection
4. Against New Hill Loop collector
5. Against Richardson Rd extension
6. Against Friendship Rd widening – protect historic structure
7. Support side path along Old US 1
8. Support removal of Bosco Rd collector
9. Support Richardson Rd/Bosco Rd alignment
10. Close Friendship Rd bridge
11. Against removal of bike lanes from Friendship Rd
12. Against collector street between Friendship Rd and Pleasant Plains Rd

General Transportation Comment

- Bike lanes are needed (1)

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1 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 13]



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3 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 14]

A presentation slide with a green border and a small green icon in the top-left corner. The title is "Scenario Two Comments: General". Below the title is a table with two columns: "Comment" and "Frequency".

| Comment | Frequency |
|--|-----------|
| Do not support. | 5 |
| Leave us/the area alone. | 4 |
| Best balance of development and road improvements. | 3 |
| Good overall. | 2 |
| Average / safe. | 1 |
| Hoping this will bring a good mix of housing and business with the necessary infrastructure improvements. | 1 |
| Since the current infrastructure is overwhelmed by growth, we need transportation updates. At the same time, this plan will help preserve the unique history and nature of the Friendship Community. | 1 |
| Support 3-lanes along Friendship Road, but without land use changes to Creeks Bend. Prefer rural density for Creeks Bend. | 1 |
| Buildings are often abandoned. Green areas and trees should be prioritized. | 1 |
| Keep the rural nature. | 1 |

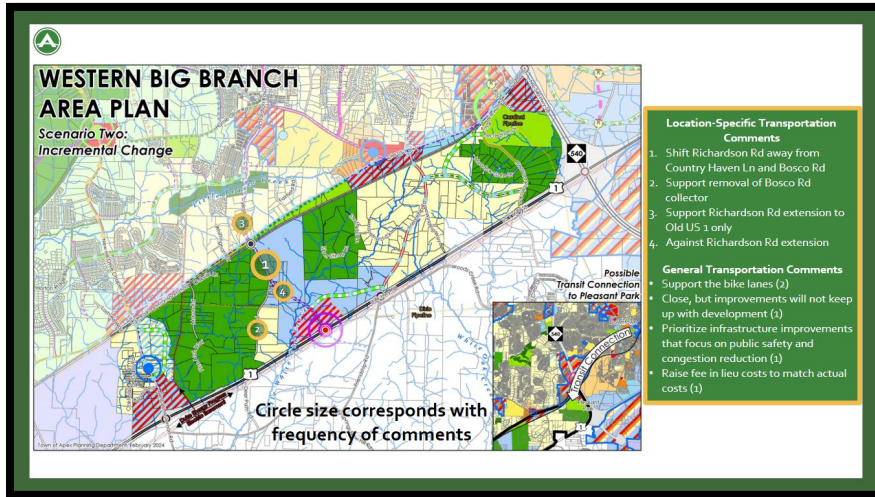
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5 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 15]

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| Comment | Frequency |
|--|-----------|
| Do not support. | 5 |
| Leave us/the area alone. | 4 |
| Best balance of development and road improvements. | 3 |
| Good overall. | 2 |
| Average / safe. | 1 |
| Hoping this will bring a good mix of housing and business with the necessary infrastructure improvements. | 1 |
| Since the current infrastructure is overwhelmed by growth, we need transportation updates. At the same time, this plan will help preserve the unique history and nature of the Friendship Community. | 1 |
| Support 3-lanes along Friendship Road, but without land use changes to Creeks Bend. Prefer rural density for Creeks Bend. | 1 |
| Buildings are often abandoned. Green areas and trees should be prioritized. | 1 |
| Keep the rural nature. | 1 |

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1 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 16]



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3 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 17]

Scenario Three: Expand Transportation Network

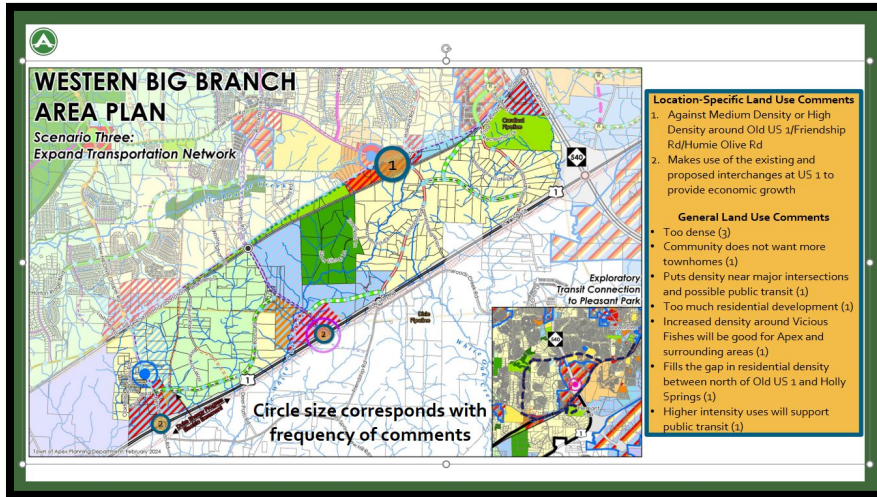
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5 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 18]

Scenario Three Comments: General

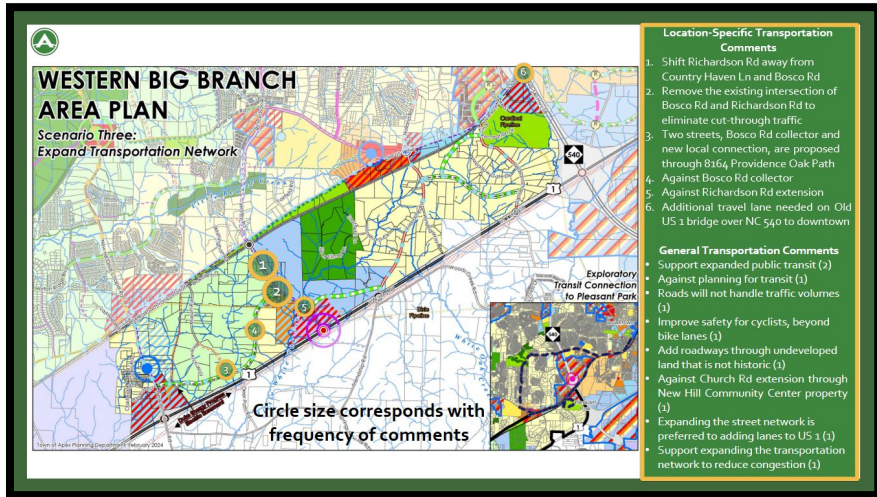
| Comment | Frequency |
|---|-----------|
| Do not support. | 6 |
| Leave us/the area alone. | 5 |
| Costs to the Town and environmental impacts outweigh benefits. | 2 |
| If roads are changing, builders will offer more money and land will sell. Have a plan for future land owners, not current ones. | 1 |
| This scenario would destroy the rural character and historic structures in Friendship. | 1 |
| Good overall. | 1 |
| Half of Bosco Road is destroyed. | 1 |
| Expanding the street network and increasing density is needed to reduce traffic all over town. | 1 |

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1 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 19]



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3 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 20]




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5 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 21]

Summary of Friendship and New Hill Community Land Use Map & Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District


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1 **[WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 22]**

 **Overlay District Proposal**


- Residential development:
 - Provisions regarding building height, fencing, buffers, stormwater, tree preservation, and seller disclosure
- Citizen Advisory Committee:
 - Review and provide non-binding comments on pre-applications for development

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3 **[WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 23]**

 **Land Use Map Comments**

- Residential development:
 - No more than one home per acre (Rural Transition Density Land Use Category)
- Commercial development:
 - Target commercial development along Old US 1, New Hill Holleman Road, and future Richardson Road
 - Do not allow mixed-use commercial with residential development
 - Encourage agritourism

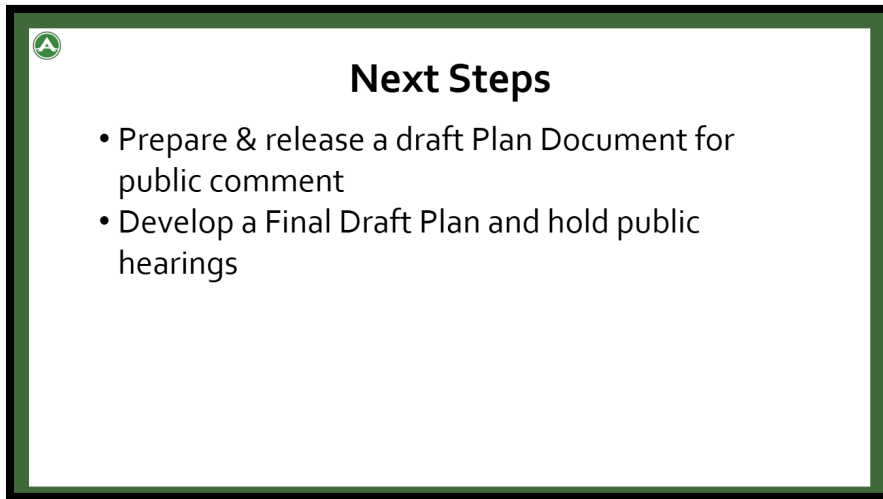
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5 **[WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 24]**

 **Transportation Plan Comments**

- Focus on improvements to perimeter roads (Old US 1, NC 540, New Hill Holleman Road)
- Minimize interconnectivity
- Shift future Richardson Road east

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1 [WESTERN BIG BRANCH AREA PLAN - SLIDE 25]



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Mayor Gilbert thanked Ms. Shouse for the work and community members for being engaged, and asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember Gantt said in 2019 during the last Land Use Map update, some communities wanted the town to “leave them alone”, then a few years later were wanting help developing the area around them. He said the results of this reminded him of the initial sentiment then.

Councilmember Mahaffey wanted to clarify that this is not a regulatory change on anyone’s property, it is an update to a future land use map and explained that this is a plan that has to be published. He said the map reflects the possible zoning for a property if that property decides to be developed.

Councilmember Zegerman said the Land Use Map was very important for Council and future Councils, and thanked staff for their work in crafting this vision along with the community.

Mayor Gilbert thanked Ms. Shouse for the update.

[REGULAR MEETING AGENDA]

A **motion** was made by **Councilmember Gantt**, seconded by **Councilmember Killingsworth**, to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda as submitted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)

[PUBLIC FORUM] (NOTE: To view Public Forum and Public Hearing Sign In Sheets, see OTHER-2024-064)

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1 First to speak was **Elizabeth Stitt** of 3113 Friendship Road:

2
3 "Mayor and Town Council good evening. I signed up first so I could go right behind Jenna.
4 Jenna has done a fabulous job presenting the Planning Board, presenting to you tonight,
5 working with us in the Community, so her and her staff, I have to say, thank you for all the
6 time they spent. So, I am a part of the group that is proposing the Overlay District, so I'd like
7 to address a couple of things first. If you look at the owners within that corridor, nobody has
8 sold out or developed since 2019, and most of us that are left have no plans of going
9 anywhere, so I appreciate you may have had some bad experiences, but I want to reassure
10 you that's not on the current horizon. I'd also like to reassure you that there's no
11 misunderstanding, that this is a land use map that this is not the town annexing us, this is not
12 the town changing our land zones or anything of that nature, what our response back is we
13 are coming to you with what we want because we have seen development around us that's
14 not consistent with who we are as a community, and we know that if we don't take the time to
15 engage and say, look you did project X, Y, or Z, we raised concerns and objections, you out
16 voted us, and clearly we don't have a vote for any of you, because we don't have a right to
17 vote in town elections, you haven't heard us, you know, you still move forward with the
18 projects that you decided on. So through this, you know, we looked at the three plans and
19 none of them really fit and we kind of joked about how it's kind of like, you know, it's a guy
20 coming up saying, hey you want to go out on a date, you know, what do you want to do and
21 you're like, oh, I don't know, you know, and they suggest three different things when it would
22 better for us just to say, hey, this is what we like to go do on the date. So, this is a date
23 between us and the town, so there's going to be many more conversations. I don't expect us
24 to cover everything in the last 56 seconds I have. A couple of things I want to call out is our
25 proposal is in the packet from page 269 to 297 and our goal is not anti-development, we've
26 actually proposed four times the amount of residential density that exists there today. We
27 have made recommendations on what type of commercial development, and of the 249
28 parcels that are included, we had 146 owners sign on to these recommendations that they
29 were in support of it. So, it is not all anti-development, we did have some individuals that said
30 we're not signing on because you're allowing some development, we want zero, so they're
31 against us, so we're trying to find something that is somewhere in between all of us. We did
32 propose a citizen committee because you need to be talking to us."

33
34 **Mayor Gilbert** thanked Ms. Stitt.

35
36 Next to speak was **Omar Nabulsi** of 410 James Street:

37
38 "Peace be upon you all. Today I'm going to tell you why the safety of Palestinians in Palestine
39 is directly correlated to my safety here in America. Despite this geographical distance, as a
40 Muslim-Palestinian American who proudly served in the US Army, I speak from both personal
41 and collective experience. The plight of Palestinians resonates deeply with our community, as
42 it reflects a struggle for justice, dignity and human rights. My service in the US Army

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1 exemplifies the diversity and strength of our nation, built on the principles of equality and
2 liberty for all. Yet as a Palestinian-American, I cannot ignore the controversy of advocating for
3 freedom abroad and turn a blind eye to the injustices committed against my people in
4 Palestine. While I was active duty, a Sergeant, someone I trusted with leadership and
5 authority, expressed that if it were up to her, all Palestinians would be obliterated off the map.
6 Hearing those words from someone in a position of power was not just shocking, it was
7 deeply disturbing. What struck me most was the realization that individuals harboring such
8 extreme and hateful views, are the very ones we entrust with guns and send to the countries
9 where Palestinians reside. While the conflict may seem distant, its ramifications are felt locally.
10 The Palestinian diaspora, including many within our city, grapple with the anguish of
11 displacement, loss, and the constant fear for the safety of themselves and loved ones. The
12 trauma inflicted by the ongoing violence runs back generations, leaving a profound impact
13 on mental health and community cohesion. Moreover, our City's commitment to Human
14 Rights and social justice demands that we stand in solidarity with oppressed communities
15 around the world. Just as we advocate for justice on local issues, we must extend our support
16 to those facing systemic injustice and violence elsewhere. Silence in the face of adversity
17 condones violence and perpetuates oppression. It is silence that got UNC students Deah
18 Shaddy Barakat, Yusor Abu-Salha, and Razan Abu-Salha killed in Chapel Hill, got Wadea Al-
19 Fayoume, a 6-year-old Palestinian American boy stabbed to death by his neighbor, and got
20 three Palestinian Americans in Vermont shot. These crimes were a direct result of the US's
21 involvement in decades of vilification and dehumanization of our community and were
22 undoubtedly fueled by hatred and bigotry. Would you sit here and tell them their lives don't
23 matter if they were standing where today. Silence speaks volumes. Just last week a woman
24 took a 10-second clip of me walking with Palestinian flag and fabricated a story of
25 aggressively following a Jewish Family. I walked with cadence in this video, something that
26 was drilled into my head during my time in service. The online responses to this were threats
27 of violence against me. I was made to feel unsafe, simply for existing and representing my
28 country. These incidents underscore the urgent need for advocacy and protection for
29 Palestinian-Americans. While our government rightfully sponsors ads addressing
30 antisemitism, and supports the Jewish Community, there is a stark absence of similar
31 initiatives for Palestinian Americans. This disparity and support leaves Palestinian-Americans
32 vulnerable to targeted attacks and hate crimes because of their ethnicity or perceived
33 political affiliations. Allowing discrimination against Palestinians on foreign land, not only
34 violates their human rights, but also jeopardizes the safety and security of Palestinian
35 Americans at home. It undermines America's credibility, fosters resentment and
36 radicalization, and sets a dangerous precedent for the erosion of civil liberties and human
37 rights. Every great movement has faced resistance, ridicule, and even violence, but it's the
38 unwavering commitment of individuals and communities to stand firm in their convictions
39 that ultimately drives change. Whether it's advocating for marginalized communities, fighting
40 against systemic injustice, or speaking truth to power, our actions today shape the world we
41 leave for future generations. It is imperative that we stand against discrimination and
42 oppression wherever it occurs both as a matter of principle and to ensure the safety and well-

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1 being of all Americans. I will continue to be a voice for the voiceless, even when my voice
2 shakes. I took an oath to defend the principles of freedom and justice, not just for me but for
3 all. Thank you.”
4

5 Next to speak **Zane Zanta**, 1100 Ryanmar Circle of Apex:
6

7 “Good evening, I’d like to begin by acknowledging and thanking the Council for the diversity
8 on display here before us today. Representation is existence, and existence is to be seen, felt,
9 and heard. While we’re on the subject of diversity, we have a diversity of children in our
10 community who look like Palestinians. They are witnessing what’s happening to them as our
11 coward leaders and soulless of a President are openly spewing Islamophobic rhetoric and
12 encouraging a country and its inhabitants to be flattened and wiped off the Earth. Children in
13 our community do not feel safe, we installed in our youth the love of knowledge, education,
14 college, serving our communities, and serving our country. We champion our youth, our
15 students for participating in society and Government, and when they do, they are being
16 punished. Protests have broken out across the country and the world alike. Students
17 protested peacefully after not being heard for months and their demands not being met. The
18 University of Chapel Hill students were targeted by a police mob at the early hour of the
19 morning. Many were arrested, but why. For protesting a genocide. Dutch police were seen
20 bulldozing and beating students. The Dutch Colonial Empire and the American Colonial
21 Empire are displaying what they learned from the Israeli terrorist forces, the same methods
22 that were laid upon the South Africans during the apartheid. Have we not learned anything. If
23 for a second, you think that this has nothing to do with you, then you better look deeper, our
24 struggles are all connected. If anybody’s freedom offends you, then you need to check
25 yourself. The hypocrisy of our children being sent to war and die, but not being able to
26 protest a war is unfathomable. The latest resigning of top American military personnel and
27 the soldiers coming back home and committing suicide, should at least have you question
28 why. As we draw parallels of student protests, we cannot forget the Greensboro luncheon
29 protest, started by four Black students against segregation. This is a survey taken in the 1960s
30 that I will be giving to you in a second. On the first day, four students sat in, the second day
31 25 more joined, and the third, 63 students joined. By the fifth day, more than 300
32 demonstrators had joined. Four local men against a system that prevented them from having
33 any rights for the last 100 years after their own Liberation in the 1960s. Their movement
34 spread to many Southern States, fueling changes which transcended into global recognition.
35 The process which brought down segregation.”
36

37 **Mayor Gilbert** thanked Mr. Zanta for his comments.
38

39 Next to speak was **Lorraine Meehan**, 2524 Walden Woods Creek:
40

41 “As I said, I am a resident of Apex and I want to thank you first off for acknowledging our
42 Police. My husband was a federal law enforcement officer, he died from injuries he received

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1 while recovering the bodies of the dead on 9/11 at the World Trade Center. So, what you did
2 here tonight acknowledging the sacrifice that he made and the impact on me, I am very, very
3 grateful. As a resident, I understand the purpose of the City Council is to act as our legislative
4 body for the Town of Apex, not to opine on world issues or events. In the past weeks.
5 speakers here in this room have falsely accused Israel of genocide, but they won't tell you
6 about Hamas' own genocidal plans, written in the Hamas Covenant of 1988 Preamble. Israel
7 will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it. You won't hear them talk about
8 Article 2, that Hamas is a wing of the Muslim Brotherhood, the same people responsible for
9 the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center, or Article 15 that Jihad is an individual duty in
10 face of the Jews usurpation. Even the UN, who is no friend of Israel, exposed Hamas' lies and
11 officially cut in half the number of women and children killed in this war from Hamas' own
12 official numbers. Showing that the vast majority killed in Gaza are Hamas terrorists who use
13 women and children as human shields. In light of these veiled, yet very real anti-Semitic
14 charges by others in this room in previous weeks, I thank Council for your position of keeping
15 Apex Council business just that, the business of governing Apex without distraction. Thank
16 you."

17

18 Next to speak was **Amy Rosenthal**, 402 Old Larkspur Way:

19

20 "No doubt you've seen the explosion of anti-Semitism, in other words, hatred of Jews, appear
21 on campuses here in North Carolina and across the country. Jewish students have had water
22 bottles thrown at them and people have spit in their faces and more, how did this happen.
23 The infamous Nazi propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels said if you repeat a lie often
24 enough people will believe it and you will become to believe it yourself. The Jewish
25 community is all too familiar with where these lies lead, to hate, to violence, to actual
26 genocide. Unfortunately, that is exactly what we're seeing today. You have heard some of the
27 anti-Israel lies and propaganda here in this room. Some of the speakers before you have
28 dedicated their lives to promoting the genocide of Jews in Israel. They cloak their hate in
29 noble language, but make no mistake, their goal is to eliminate Jews by any means. This
30 includes terrorism as we saw October 7th when Hamas publicly bragged about cutting babies
31 out of pregnant women, burning children alive in front of their parents, beheading babies,
32 gang rape of women and more, just because they were Jewish. When they can't destroy,
33 Israel with violence, they use gullible Americans to do the job for them by hurting Israel
34 economically and more. They want Apex to be complicit in their quest to eliminate the only
35 Jewish State in the world. They want Apex to hop onto the bandwagon of hate. Others who
36 parrot lies about Jews are intellectually lazy, believing the anti-Semitic propaganda without
37 question so that they'll be accepted by the mob. They call it love bombing and it works on
38 weak minds. These are the new Nazis. You are probably tired of hearing them, you have a city
39 to run. Thank you for standing strong against anti-Israel lies. Thank you for standing against
40 anti-Semitism."

41

42 Next to speak was **Andrew Gluck**, 2524 Waldon Wood Creek:

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1
2 "First just to address what was said here earlier, there's never been and still isn't a sovereign
3 country called Palestine. It's never existed, and Hamas still calls for the destruction of Israel. A
4 lot of accusations against Israel apartheid have been made, I want to point out virtually no
5 Jews presently live in Arab and North African Nations today. Over 850,000 Jews were kicked
6 out from those countries when Israel was founded in 1948, all victims of apartheid. They were
7 told to leave with just what they could carry or they would be killed. They were absorbed by
8 the State of Israel which has been the Jewish homeland for over 3,000 years, disproving the
9 lie that Israel is a white racist country, remember Israel even went with great Pearl and
10 rescued over 15,000 Jewish Ethiopians from the country while a Civil War was going on and
11 brought them to Israel. To have to even come here and say anything as the Town of Apex is
12 supposed to focus on the Town of Apex issues only, but unfortunately, we have misinformed
13 and hateful people who want to bring world issues to a peaceful town and remember over
14 80% of this country supports Israel over Hamas, don't fall for the lies and hate because that's
15 all they have. Thank you."

16
17 Next to speak was **Arnan Ullman**, Sterling Oak Court:

18
19 "I would like to address a couple of things that were said here today. First of all there were
20 people saying genocide. In 2005, Israel left Gaza. There were 1.3 million people living there,
21 right now there are 2.1 million. Since the war has started over 20,000 babies have been born
22 in Gaza, those 20,000 babies are still alive, Israel does everything it it's power to protect
23 civilian lives. When we look at death rates in global conflicts, you have a ratio of 1 to 5 when
24 not in cities and in cities you have 1 to 9, one combat soldier to nine civilians. Right now, with
25 that data coming from the UN, it is one to two, one combatant soldier to two civilians in one
26 of the most densely populated areas in the world. I would not say that this is a great thing,
27 nobody thinks so. On October 7th if that day did not happen many lives would be still here on
28 the Palestinian and on the Israeli side, sadly it happened and since then, Israel has been
29 doing everything in its power to defend itself and to defend the Palestinian people ability to
30 have their own right to govern themselves and not a terrorist group. But let's talk about other
31 things. Ethnic cleansings, there are no Jewish people living in Gaza since 2005. Right now
32 there are 130 Israelis held as captives there, why, because they wanted to go into a trip there,
33 no, they wee stolen from their house, people burn in their houses, we have other things said
34 here, apartheid, Israel the apartheid state, do you know what state actually is an apartheid to
35 Palestinians? Lebanon. Lebanon doesn't allow them to own land, doesn't allow them to be
36 doctors. In Israel, any Arab Israeli can become whatever he wants. The Supreme Court of
37 Israel sent a prime minister and a president to prison. That person that sent them to prison
38 was an Arab Israeli, what they would call Palestinian Israeli, he send them that is not an
39 apartheid state when somebody can send a president or a prime minister to prison, that just
40 shows freedom. Lastly, a lot of times we're hearing the colonizers, colonizers are whom, out
41 of curiosity which country did we represent, not the US, not Canada, not others, we're a
42 Jewish nation that just came back to our homeland. And finally there was something very,

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1 very, very, really bad said today here, oppressed people, nobody should be oppressed, but
2 when you're held by terrorist organization, captive and holding 2.1 million people, you are
3 oppressed, get rid of them, that's what you should be doing and if you really want to
4 something, call Karen, Wake County has 404 people that, kids that need more fostering, do
5 that, that's what we need to do for this community. Thank you."

6

7 Next to speak, **Daniel Cahana**, 605 West Chapel Hill St, Durham:

8

9 "Hi everyone, this is October 7th, as you can see, this is a Jewish woman pregnant being cut
10 open and her baby being cut before he was born. Those terrorists, Hamas capture her and
11 then didn't stop there, they go ahead and broadcast to the entire world to go to see what
12 they mean when they say intifada and I want you to understand guys, today what they mean
13 when they say they want to globalize it, that this is a serious matter, and it should be a threat
14 over here. When those people ask for ceasefire, why do they ask for ceasefire, not for peace,
15 did you ever come this mind, why not peace, I want peace, everybody wants peace. I want
16 you to understand that in the mind of Jihadistic Islamic, that want Sharia law over the whole
17 world, this is just a piece, ceasefire between the big war, there will be not peace up until the
18 entire regime and the entire world become Muslim and I want you to understand that this is
19 the reason that they ask for ceasefire. For example, only this year in Africa they kill 8,000
20 Christians because they are Christians. When the Jihadistic Palestinians group came to
21 Lebanon, they decided to cleanse over there, the entire Christian population, we still have in
22 New Jersey some of their refugee's ceasefire in 2008, 2012, 2014, 2021, 2023, they promise
23 to do this again and again. To what we need the ceasefire another one if Hamas is going to
24 break it one more time. When King of Jordan go ahead and create want to create a peace in
25 the Middle East a century ago, the Palestinian terror group decided to go ahead and murder
26 him and more than that and you can see this. All of those is a Peace Agreement that they had
27 like an option to create a Palestinian State, why won't any one of them go ahead and
28 advocate even once for this one? If they really want a Palestinian State, they could have any
29 one of those. So, here's the thing, those people don't have peace, any peace in their mind. I
30 want to guide you guys, that if they don't say the word peace, they say ceasefire, think about
31 the global team. Now, the first thing that I want you to understand, I live next to Arabs all of
32 my life, the Arabs is the first one that suffer from those Jihadistic group, take example for the
33 people of Afghanistan that suffer from the Taliban, take for example the people of Iran that
34 suffer from the Iranian regime. The same way there is people in Gaza that go ahead and
35 oppose the Hamas regime. Israel wants to take Hamas down because Hamas is the one that
36 prevents them to have any peace in the Middle East. In order for having that we have got to
37 get them out, out of the equation. Thank you very much."

38

39 Next to speak was **Alex Har:**

40

41 "My name in Arabic would be Iskander because I am an Arab, I am here actually without
42 propaganda, without a speech that I've written to you without anything I'm just here

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1 recognizing this is the Town of Apex, you are the Council and your work is to work for the
2 Town or the City of Apex, not international conflict. We all know that, both sides know that,
3 but they're trying to bring politics and views that have nothing to do with your work or with
4 anything that you do but, in case that this town will vote for anything political, or anything
5 associated with the state of Israel, I am here to tell you that it will be a huge mistake. I can't
6 believe that we are standing here in 2024 defending the Jewish people, how is this possible.
7 When is this darkness will end. When will we just have peace, when will that happen? When
8 Jihadi terrorist groups such as Hamas stop killing Jews, when people stop advocating for
9 murder, for genocide. What is genocide. Genocide is when they say (*spoken in foreign*
10 *language*) like a very known antisemite that lives in the triangle and everybody go and give
11 her a mic, they keep saying these things, they keep saying from the river to the sea, a lot of
12 Americans don't even know which river and which sea unfortunately, they just repeat this
13 because of lies they hear. The river is Jordan, and the sea is the Mediterranean. It means the
14 annihilation of Israel, the only Jewish State, the only Democratic State, the only state where
15 the LGBT community have, oh you can laugh all you want, I am a member of the LGBT
16 community, you know what will happen to me in there, why there are not gay people in Gaza
17 or in Judea and Samaria or what is called West Bank because they throw them off the roofs,
18 because they murder them, because they killed them and I quote the words of Hassan Yusef,
19 the son of the creator of Hamas, he says 'This is a struggle between light and darkness', why
20 do we defend the state of Israel, because Israel is the light in there, the only Democratic state
21 in there, the only state that have yes, Black people who are not discriminated against gay
22 people who are not discriminated against, minorities who are not discriminated against, and
23 for that I urge you to support the state of Israel. Thank you."

24

25 Next to speak was **Emanuela** of 105 Heart Pine Drive, Cary:

26

27 "I would like to ask you not to give into any demands for resolutions against the state of Israel
28 and for ceasefires. As has been noted, ceasefire is just an opportunity to re-arm. There are
29 still 132 people who are hostages of Hamas in Gaza, and it is important to note that there are
30 five of them are US citizens. Their names are not mentioned anyone by the powers that be, so
31 I would like to name them; Keith Seagull, native of North Carolina, born in Capel Hill, Edan
32 Alexander, Omar Naltra, Hersch Goldberg Poland and Sagui Dekel Chen. We have not
33 forgotten them, and we hope and pray for the day they can go home to their loved ones. I
34 noticed that this Town Council has made note of the heritage month for Asian-Americans, has
35 noted tennis, has rightfully honored the police and in the Town of Apex which I honor as well,
36 but you have not mentioned and I find this very odd, you have not mentioned Jewish-
37 American heritage month which is the month of May and I have to wonder if you forgot to
38 mention Jewish-American contributions to American fabric of life because you are cowed by
39 the presence of Islam fascists among us. The demonstrations that you see daily in our towns
40 on bridges in our Universities in City centers, those demonstrations are a show of force, this is
41 the alliance between the Reds and the Greens at play. They openly say that their goal is to
42 destroy America, we Jews are just in the way and it's always been like that, we are the counter

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1 in the minds. You think you're safe? You cannot be, because if Jewish-Americans cannot be
2 safe then nobody is safe in this country. That's the truth when they take down the American
3 flag at UNC Chapel Hill, when they burn American flags in New York City, when they chant
4 intifada, what they're saying is they're bringing their war to our shores and they're already
5 here, so please don't be cowed. Thank you.”
6

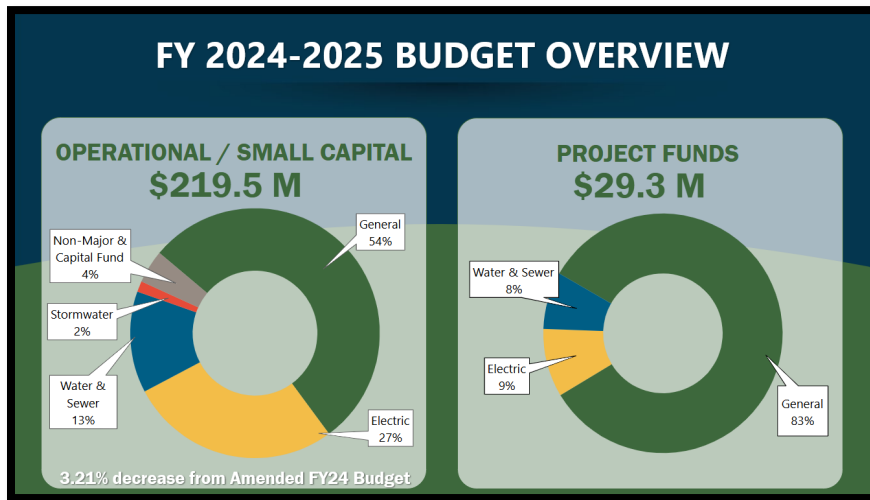
7 **Mayor Gilbert** thanked everyone that came out to speak and closed the public forum.
8

9 **Mayor Gilbert** called for recess at 7:40 p.m. and returned at 7:50 p.m.
10

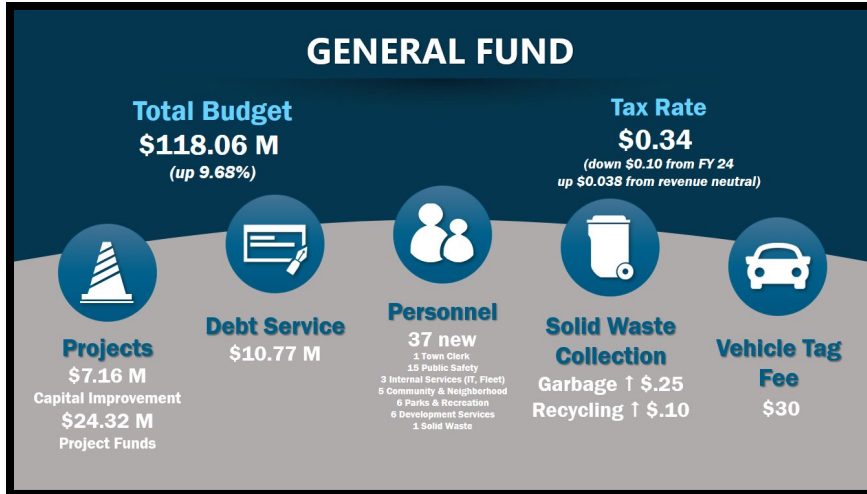
11
12
13 **PH1 FY 2024-2025 Annual Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) -**
14 **2nd Budget Hearing**
15

16 **Amanda Grogan**, Director, Budget & Performance Management Department, gave
17 the following presentation regarding FY 2024-2025 Annual Operating Budget and Capital
18 Improvement Plan (CIP) - 2nd Budget Hearing.
19

20 **[SLIDE 1]**

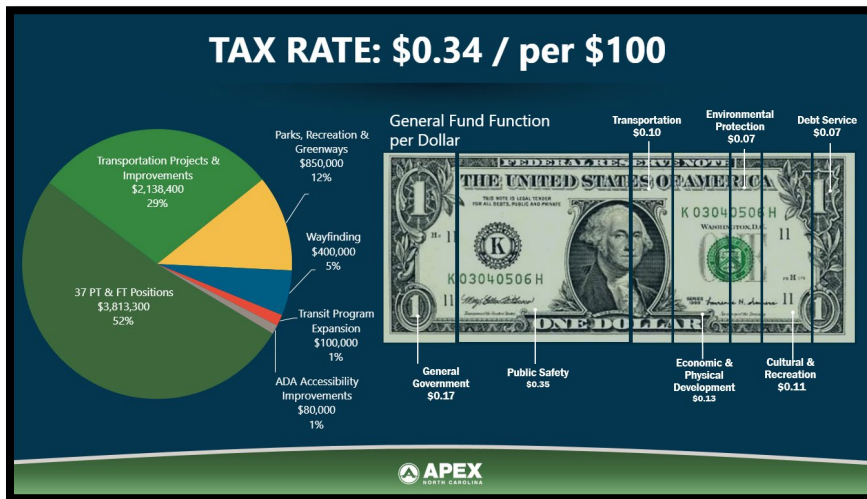


21
22 **[SLIDE 2]**



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[SLIDE 3]



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[SLIDE 4]

Economic Development:

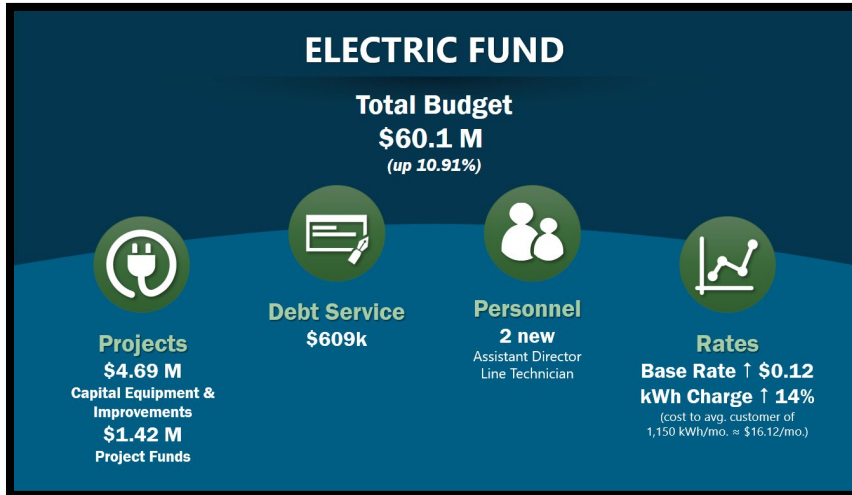
| Economics Development | |
|--|----------------|
| Personnel Salaries & Benefits: | 522,400 |
| Operations, Training, Supplies and Equipment: | 106,200 |
| Professional Services - Potential site development: | 15,000 |
| Economic Incentives | 150,000 |
| Special Programs – Initiative to promote local spending & awareness: | 17,000 |
| Total | 810,600 |

*NCGS 158-7.1

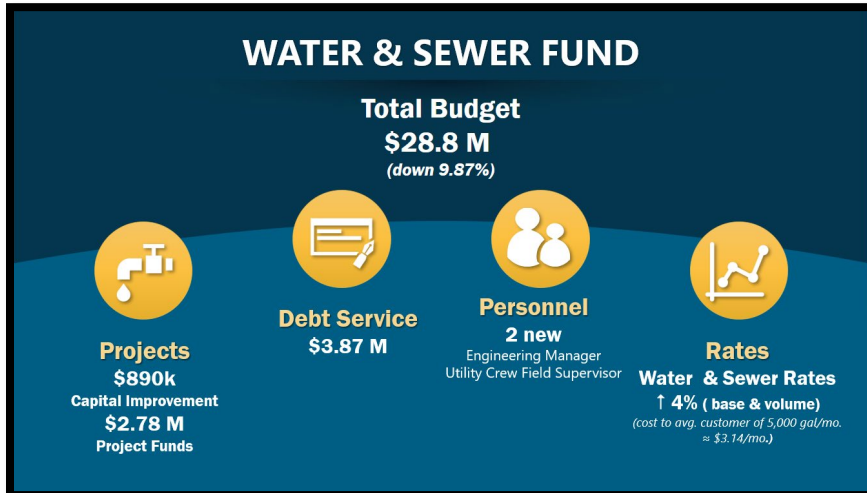
APEX NORTH CAROLINA

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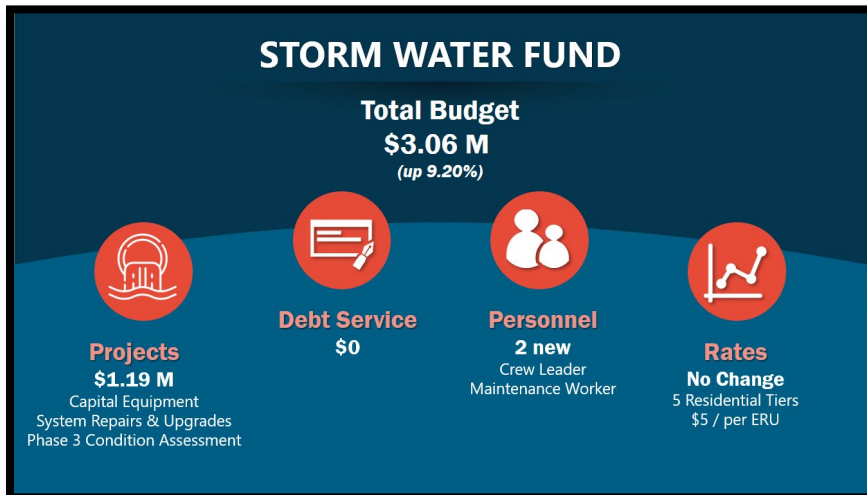
1 [SLIDE 5]



2
3 [SLIDE 6]

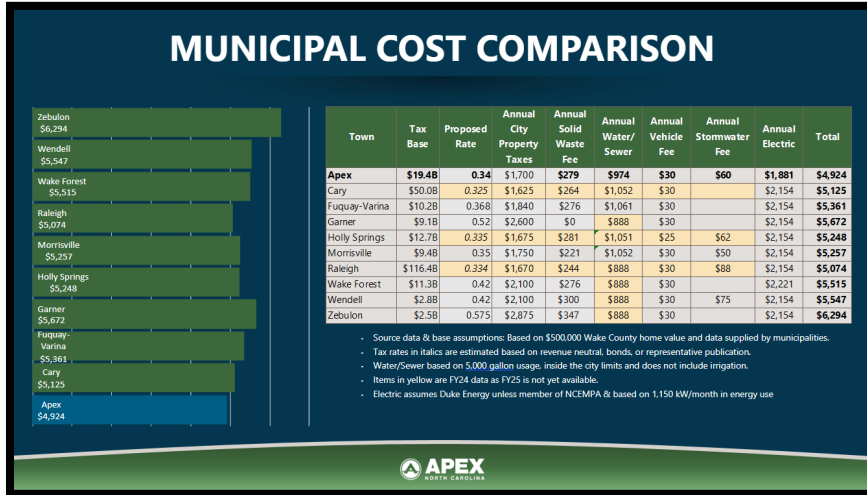


4
5 [SLIDE 7]

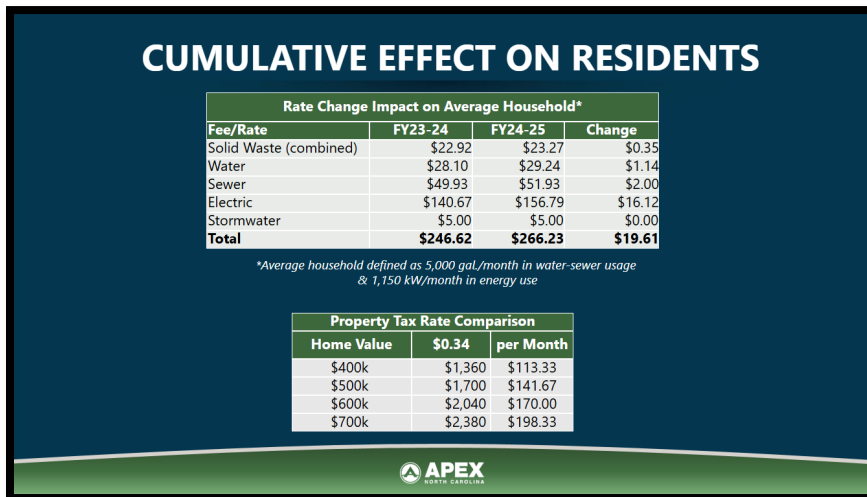


6

1
2 [SLIDE 8]



3
4 [SLIDE 9]



5
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7
8
9

10 **Councilmember Gantt** requested for next budget year to show the percentages of
11 expenditures on areas for other municipalities.

12 **Ms. Grogan** said that this information is submitted to the County for tax billing
13 purposes, and the categories may not be the same.

14 **Councilmember Gantt** said that possibly Ms. Grogan could make a chart with some
15 comparable information. He asked how often he worked with surrounding towns to see what
16 they were doing.

17 **Ms. Grogan** said that they do talk pretty often to see what the trends are and make
18 comparisons. She said they do share information and it's a more collaborative approach.

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1 **Councilmember Gantt** commented that it is public information.

2 **Ms. Gorman** said that sometimes they are on different schedules, so they don't want
3 our Council to see something before their Council.

4 **Councilmember Gantt** said he understands.

5 **Councilmember Mahaffey** commented that typically every town has some version of
6 the expenditures chart in their budget message. He said that Public Safety is one that is
7 usually consistent. He said he had looked a couple of years ago and Apex was among the
8 highest in the County for Public Safety expenditures, as that was the year Apex had opened a
9 new fire station.

10 **Councilmember Gantt** said having that expenditures comparison from year to year
11 may be valuable.

12 **Councilmember Mahaffey** said items that are strategic priorities like environment
13 leadership and other categories may not be comparable.

14 **Ms. Grogan** said that they could try to include that chart.

15 **Councilmember Mahaffey** thanked Ms. Grogan and her team for all the hard work.
16 He said it was an excellent budget and addressed the needs and the properties of the Town
17 and that he was very happy that the tax rate is among the lowest increases that he had seen.
18 He asked if there was an increase in Zebulon, as they kept their rate the same, which was an
19 11.5% increase in taxes after revaluation.

20 **Ms. Grogan** said that they had just had their meeting.

21 **Councilmember Mahaffey** said that he was proud of the way Apex did their budget.

22 **Councilmember Zegerman** said that he appreciated all of the hard work and detail
23 that went into the budget.

24 **Ms. Grogan** said it is a team effort and that she is very fortunate.

25

26 **Mayor Gilbert** opened up for public comment.

27

28 First to speak was **Elizabeth Ray Stitt**, 3113 Friendship Road.

29

30 "Mayor and Town Council, good evening. I had started my three-minute practice in saying, I
31 should come to you guys to say hello sharks, I'm here to ask for \$250,000. I am here to ask for
32 \$250,000 so through all the discussions around old US1 and the Friendship Road
33 intersection, there's enough funding to do everything but the traffic signal and Russell Dalton
34 said it was \$250,000 and so that's why I'm asking for \$250,000. It's very little when you look at
35 a budget of \$219 million, I mean come on, it's not much. But what I wanted to call out was a
36 couple of things, so I hit send on my email while I was sitting there. This is the Town's Traffic
37 Study that said our intersection met three of the nine warrants that we need a traffic signal,
38 now. Then I included an updated crash analysis from D.O.T., so in the last 26 months we've
39 had 12 accidents that was not reflected in the Big Branch or the Western Big Branch area
40 plan. Here it said there were only three accidents in the last 5 years, that was because they
41 didn't pull the current data, so we went back as a community, and so you now have 12
42 accidents, Russell and team has the 12 accidents, and basically what I was told was, hey it's

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1 really late in the game to be asking for \$250,000, but I listened to you guys budget workshop
2 on May 2nd, y'all were talking about being number one in solar, can we be number one in
3 safety as well, please? So, if we get a no here, we have already started talking with the State
4 Legislature, some of the contacts there to look for funding, D.O.T. has already turned us
5 down, after that, if we can't get any yeses, we're going to start a GoFundMe campaign and
6 look to try to raise the \$250,000. If you guys would come out, day after day, and sit there, and
7 listen to the number of times people are now honking their horns because they are so tired
8 and frustrated, the number of hand gestures, the number of times people are pulling into
9 people's yards and driveways and turning around because the backups are just that
10 ridiculous, but what's really said is we have some elderly neighbors who are fearing for their
11 lives, they are afraid the moment they need an ambulance, nobody's going to get in, your
12 cars cannot pull off on the side of our roads because we have no shoulders and our elderly
13 should not be fearing for their lives because we can't come up with \$250,000. I love solar,
14 \$670,000 going on solar panels, over the actual lives and safety, so I know Vision Zero is a top
15 town priority, but if you don't fund it, is it not just Zero Vision at that point, I mean we kind of
16 joke about that we need to get this intersection fixed. Thank you. It's in your mailbox, I
17 already hit send, thanks."

18

19 **Mayor Gilbert** said thank you and closed public comment. He commented that this
20 was the second budget hearing, the first one was held on Tuesday, January 23rd and the next
21 budget Work Session is to be held Thursday, May 23rd. He said final budget adoption is
22 anticipated to be on Tuesday, June 11th.

23

24

25

26 [UPDATES BY TOWN MANAGER]

27

28 **Town Manager Vosburg** said that Go Apex Onboard survey that started this past
29 Saturday and will go through this upcoming Saturday to inform the Transit Prioritization
30 Study. He said a Public Open House will be held in Town Hall on May 20th 4:30 p.m. - 6:30
31 p.m. related to Jessie Drive and the final design plans. He said that due to maintenance, the
32 bridge between Ambergate Station and Grand Central Station will be closed from Monday,
33 May 20th to Friday, May 24th. He also gave an update on Senate Bill 166 and how that Bill will
34 impact the Town of Apex. He said one of the items is related to residential sprinklers, and
35 were planning to bringing it to Council in June. He said their lobbyist indicated there was a
36 high likelihood that provision would pass, but that he was happy to pause or continue efforts
37 based on Council's direction.

38 **Mayor Gilbert** asked if the Council would want to see what the General Assembly
39 does with Bill 166, he said that if it passed the General Assembly that it wouldn't come to
40 Council.

41 **Councilmember Gantt** said he would agree on a pause. He said he didn't want staff
42 to spin their wheels on something that wouldn't be allowed.

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1 **Councilmember Mahaffey** supported pausing as well.

2 **Councilmember Zegerman** supported pausing the bill until there is clarity of where
3 Bill 166 is going. He said he was frustrated that the state would be reducing what the town
4 can do with building safety.

5 **Councilmember Gantt** asked Town Manager Vosburg if the item was paused, was
6 there a presentation ready so that it would not delay the Work Session.

7 **Town Manager Vosburg** said he did not think it was ready for presentation.

8 **Councilmember Gantt** asked if they could provide Council the information without a
9 presentation.

10 **Town Manager Vosburg** said that they can give them what they have.

11 **Mayor Pro Tempore Ed Gray** asked for it to be given in paper form, and any
12 questions could be brought up in Work Session. He said it would be prudent to refocus
13 efforts towards something else.

14
15 **[CLOSED SESSION]**

16
17 A **motion** was made by **Mayor Pro Tempore Gray**, seconded by **Councilmember**
18 **Mahaffey**, to enter into Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(3) and NCGS §
19 143-318.11(a)(6).

20
21 **VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)**

22
23 Council entered into Closed Session at **8:16 p.m.**

24
25 Council will enter into closed session pursuant to:

26
27 **CS1 Laurie Hohe, Town Attorney**

28
29 **RE: Williams v. Town of Apex.**

30
31 **NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(3)**

32 *"To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve*
33 *the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body."*

34
35
36 **CS2 Randy Vosburg, Town Manager**

37
38 **NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(6)**

39 *"To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of*
40 *appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee*

DRAFT MINUTES

1 *or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or*
2 *grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee."*

3
4
5 **CS3 Laurie Hohe, Town Attorney**

6
7 **NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(6)**

8 *"To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of*
9 *appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee*
10 *or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or*
11 *grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee."*

12
13 Council returned to open session at **10:12 p.m.**

14
15 **[ADJOURNMENT]**

16
17 Mayor Gilbert adjourned the meeting at **10:12 p.m.**

18
19
20
21 Jacques K. Gilbert
22 Mayor

23 Allen Coleman, CMC, NCCCC
24 Town Clerk to the Apex Town Council

25 Submitted for approval by Town Clerk Allen Coleman and approved on _____.