DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

1 2 3 4	TOWN OF APEX REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024 6:00 PM
5 6 7	The Apex Town Council met for a Regular Town Council Meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers at Apex Town Hall, located at 73 Hunter Street in Apex, North Carolina.
8 9 10	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:
11	https://www.youtube.com/live/3V2ESGVjlow
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13	[ATTENDANCE]
14 15 16 17 18 19	Elected Body Mayor Jacques K. Gilbert (presiding) Mayor Pro Tempore Ed Gray Councilmember Audra Killingsworth Councilmember Terry Mahaffey Councilmember Brett Gantt Councilmember Arno Zegerman
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	Town Staff Town Manager Randy Vosburg Deputy Town Manager Shawn Purvis Assistant Town Manager Marty Stone Assistant Town Manager Demetria John Town Attorney Laurie Hohe Town Clerk Allen Coleman All other staff members will be identified appropriately below
30	[COMMENCEMENT]
31 32	Mayor Gilbert called the meeting to order and welcomed all who were in attendance and watching on livestream.
33 34 35	Mayor Gilbert then took a moment of silence for the invocation, and invited attendees to join in a moment of giving thanks. He led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1	[CONSENT AGENDA]
2	A motion was made by Councilmember Zegerman, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Gray, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
4	VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)
5 6 7 8 9	CN1 Agreements - Wake Transit Funding Agreements - Go Apex Funding FY25 - General Operating Agreement for Bus Operations - Community Funding Area Program Wake Transit FY 2025 and General Capital Funding Agreement Community Funding Area Program for Bus Infrastructure Wake Transit FY25 (REF: CONT-2024-345 and CONT-2024-346)
10 11 12 13	Council voted to approve a General Operating Agreement between Research Triangle Regional Public Transpiration Authority (Go Triangle) and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) and the Town of Apex, effective until December 31, 2025, for Bus Operations - Community Funding Area Program Wake Transit FY 2025 and to authorize the Town Manager, or their designee, to sign on behalf of the Town.
15	AND
16 17 18 19	Council voted to approve a General Capital Funding Agreement between Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority (Go Triangle) and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) and the Town of Apex, effective until December 31, 2027, for Bus Infrastructure - Community Funding Area Program Wake Transit FY 2025 and to authorize the Town Manager, or their designee, to sign on behalf of the Town.
21 22 23	CN2 Agreement - Sontiq, Inc. dba Identify Force - Identity Theft/Credit Report Monitoring - Employees and Post-65 Retirees - Eligible for Auto Renew Annually (REF: CONT-2024-347)
24 25 26 27	Council voted to approve a Benefit Agreement between Sontiq, Inc. (dba IdentityForce) and the Town of Apex, to provide Identity Theft/Credit Report Monitoring and related services to employees and retirees not on the Town's Health Insurance Plan, and to authorize the Town Manager, or their designee, to sign on behalf of the Town.
28 29	CN3 Agreement Amendment - HireRight, LLC - Additional New Hire Services - Motor Vehicle Record Check and Reference Check (REF: CONT-2024-348)
30 31	Council voted to approve an Amendment to the Town's existing background check agreement with HireRight, LLC to include Motor Vehicle Record and Reference Checks.
32 33	CN4 Agreement - Lease Agreement - Quadient Leasing - Postage Machine Town Hall and Apex Police Department through November 30, 2027 (REF: CONT-2024-349)

Council voted to approve a lease agreement between the Town of Apex and Quadient

Leasing for two (2) postage machines, IX1 and IX7, effective December 1, 2024 through

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- 1 November 30, 2027 (36 months), and authorize the Town Manager, or their designee, to
- 2 execute on behalf of the Town.

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[PRESENTATIONS]

PR1 Emergency Management Program Overview

Mayor Gilbert invited Taylor Sanchez, Emergency Management Coordinator, Apex Fire Department, to give the following presentation.

8 **[SLIDE 1]**



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[SLIDE 2]

Emergency Management

Definition

The managerial function charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters.

Mission

To protect the Town of Apex by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other man-made disasters.

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1 **[SLIDE 3]**

Legislation

- Chapter 166A, North Carolina Emergency Management Act. 1977
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 1988
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), 2003
- Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA), 2006
- Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8), 2011

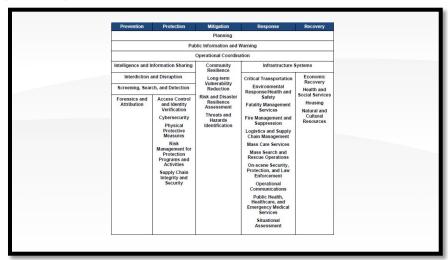
2 [SLIDE 4]

Mission Areas National Preparedness Goal

"A secure and resilient Nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk."

- Measured by 32 core capabilities
- Over 5 mission areas
- Multidisciplinary / whole community involvement*

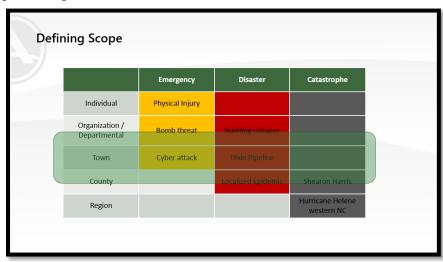
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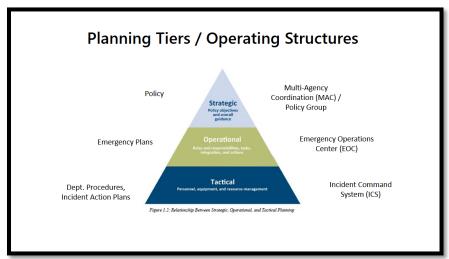
2 3 **[SLIDE 7]**



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	Incident Complexity Level: Incident Effect Indicators Summary									
Туре	Resistance to stabilization or mitigation	How long does it take for resources to meet incident objectives?	Effects on population immediately surrounding the incident	Length of incident effects	Evacuations necessary during mitigation	Adverse impact on CIKR	CIKR impact / mitigation measures	Coordination required with elected/ governing officials and stakeholder groups	Do conditions or actions that caused original incident persist?	Probability of cascading event or exacerbation of current incident
5	None	1-2 hours	Minimal	Minimal	Few or none	None	None	Minimal or none	No	None
4	Low	Several to 24 hours	Limited	Up to 24 hours	Few or none	Minimal	Uncomplicated within one operational period	Minimal or none	No	Low to none
	Moderate	At least 24 hours	Moderate	Several days to over one week	Possible; may require shelter	Threatens, damages, or destroys property	Adverse; multiple operational periods	Some	Possibly	Medium
	High	Several days	Significant	Several days to two weeks	Possible; may require shelter/ housing for several days to months	Threatens, damages, or destroys property	Destructive; requires coordination over multiple operational periods	Moderate, including political organizations	Possibly	High
	High	Numerous operational periods	Significant	Two weeks to over a month	May require shelter/ housing for several days to months	Significantly threatens, damages, or destroys property	Highly destructive; requires long-term planning and extensive coordination over multiple operational periods	High, including political organizations	Yes	High

1 **[SLIDE 9]**



2 3 **[SLIDE 10]**



5 **[SLIDE 11]**

EM Blue Sky Responsibilities

- Develop and maintain Town wide emergency plans (EOP and Annexes)
- Conduct training and exercise of emergency plans
- Coordinate preparedness efforts with surrounding municipalities and Wake County
- Ensure operational readiness of EOC
- Develop EOC Staffing roles/responsibilities/procedures
- Develop maintain emergency Memorandums of Understanding
- Monitor potential Threats/Hazards (Weather/EM Network)

1 **[SLIDE 12]**

EM Blue Sky Responsibilities

- Advise TOA on emergency policy and procedure development
- Review Incident Action Plans for Town Events
- Inventory / accountability of emergency reserve equipment/supplies
- Processing reimbursement of deployed resources
- Support outreach initiates to develop community preparedness

2 3 **[SLIDE 13]**

EM Grey Sky Responsibilities

Response (Emergency Operations Plan)

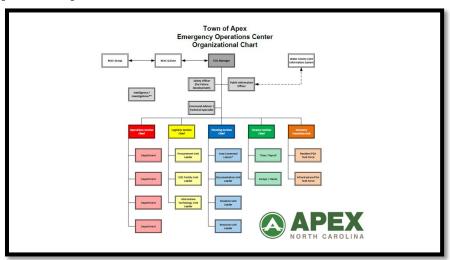
- Incident Command System (ICS) Advisor
 - · Operational Response Planning
 - · EOP Coordination
- Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Manager
 - Ops Sync Coordination Calls
 - EOC Activation
 - · COOP Manager
 - Battle Rhythm
- Multi Agency Coordination (MAC)/ Policy Group Liaison
 - · Situational Briefings

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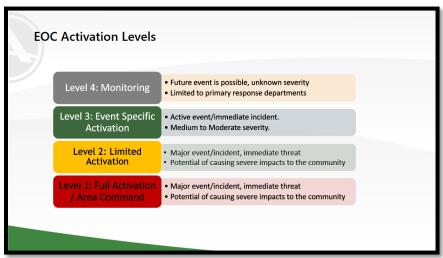
EM Grey Sky Operational Structures

- Incident Command Structure (ICS)
 - · Determine tactical objectives
 - · Field Command and Control
 - · Modular and Scalable
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 - · Coordination Center / resource, information and consequence management
 - Primary PD HQ / Secondary Public Safety Station #6
 - 1 monitoring level / 3 activation levels
 - · Staffed by various departments
- Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) / Policy Group
 - Establishing Goals / Priorities
 - Determine scarce resource allocations

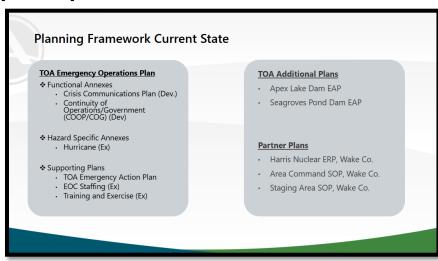
1 **[SLIDE 15]**



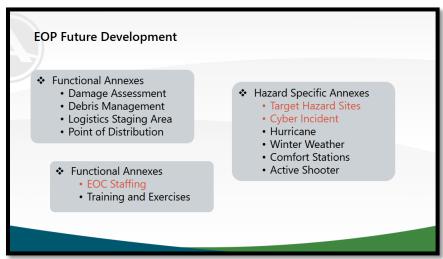
2 [SLIDE 16]



5 **[SLIDE 17]**



[SLIDE 18]



[SLIDE 19]



Mr. Sanchez asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember Zegerman asked what could be done for communications to residents in order to prepare them for different events before they may occur.

Mr. Sanchez said that the best way for the residents to stay informed is through Ready Wake alerts, which Wake County is responsible for maintaining. He said registering for that is key, as residents can get weather and emergency alerts directly. He said they plan to keep residents informed through social media, and can also plan outreach events in the future.

Councilmember Zegerman said it would be great to have people be prepared before an emergency occurs.

Mr. Sanchez said that one of the solutions is asking for volunteers during practice and exercises for emergencies.

[REGULAR MEETING AGENDA]

Mayor Pro Tempore Gray noted that New Business Item 1 was labeled as Public Hearing 2 on the webpage, and offered the clarification that the Regular Agenda only has 1 Public Hearing Item.

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A motion was made by Councilmember Killingsworth, seconded by Councilmember Zegerman, to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

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VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)

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[PUBLIC FORUM]

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Mayor Gilbert opened public forum and invited up the first speaker.

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

"Allen's going to hand you a handout. So, as you guys know I follow tree patterns and policies from other communities and what I have for you here today is the Wake Forest tree policy that they are getting ready to adopt as a part of their revamp of their UDO, and what I wanted to bring to your attention is how the conversation around trees are changing, so you'll see on the second page they start talking about trees in the terms of tree canopy is no longer just about the number of trees it's about the actual canopy, what is that particular tree going to do. And so I just thought it was really interesting how they put it together and I know that this information will get shared out to the EAB and the Tree CAP and the planning department, but I just wanted to keep you up to speed as to what other communities are doing. It seems that the City of Raleigh, with their street tree program my daughter got a tree actually technically two, in the City of Raleigh's right-of-way. My son lives in downtown Durham, he got trees put in his right-of-way as well, and so I know that we've had discussions with the town before, but it' be nice if the town would look at putting trees in the towns rightof-way, you don't have to have large trees you can still have small trees. So, with that part of the community conversation I've been having is because we haven't heard any type of workshop around the tree canopy study that you know came out a year ago, we're probably going to own have our own workshop around trees and bring the forestry agency. I'm in the final stages of getting my Forestry Certification and my controlled burn permit as well, to be able to take care of underbrush. So it is something that I'm comfortable hosting out for the larger community, so once we get dates and we get speakers and all I'll let you guys know but I think there's a lot of people in our community that don't understand what you can do to preserve the trees and like in this UDO one of the things they were talking about in certain areas you wouldn't be allowed to use equipment to put in fences, you would have to do hand digging instead of equipment, and why would you do that, you know it's about the root structure and trying to preserve the trees because what we've heard from a lot of developers is, hey we want to clearcut it because if we don't clearcut it these trees on the perimeter are going to die anyways, and that is not necessarily true there are ways to preserve the trees so I just wanted to share what Wake Forest was doing, Thank you.

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Mayor Gilbert thanked Ms. Stitt and invited the next speaker.

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Next to speak was **Panshul Aeron** at Green Level High School:

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"Good evening Mayor Gilbert, Apex's respected Council Members and my fellow citizens my name is Panshul Aeron, and I am a 16-year-old 11th grader currently attending Green Level High School in Apex. I am proud to say that I've been living in the Cary / Apex area for almost 14 years now. I'm here with my childhood best friend Suayam who I've known since the third grade. Firstly, I'd like to express how grateful we are to have this opportunity to speak to you all today. We recently had the chance to speak at the Town of Cary, September Council meeting where we gathered strong support and we hope the Town of Apex will do the same. Suayam and I started off as two teenagers with a passion for teaching and helping others. We began by tutoring kids in our neighborhood hoping to make a small difference while earning volunteering hours, but as we quickly learned it wasn't easy to gather enough students, that's when we decided to take our efforts to the next level. In November 2023 we officially launched the Global Scholars Alliance, a 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to providing free and nutritious meals to WCPSS students. Since then, I am proud to say that our journey has been nothing short of remarkable. Throughout the past 10 months GSA has grown from a simple idea to a fully established nonprofit organization. We received certification from the IRS, created our own website, gathered a social media presence, launched a successful GoFundMe campaign, and even formed a team of seven student leaders. Through these efforts we've managed to raise over \$3,000 which has allowed us to expand our reach and provide ample services to our local community. Before we dive deeper I would like to introduce some of our talented student team members; Babik Kanimuri, a junior at Eno High School, Bobic is our Toastmasters public speaking instructor and a state level award-winning debater. Sadar Chakapuli is our competition math and SAT prep instructor, Sadar is a junior at Green Hope High School and a perfect scorer on the SAT, a 1600. Yasaswini Vadravu, a junior at Green level High School. Yasaswini is a website development intern dedicated to using her coding skills to help our community. Our mission extends beyond just providing free and nutritious meals, we also are advocating for increasing nutritional standards within the WCPPS. Countless students who rely on school cafeterias aren't receiving the vital nutrients that they need for proper development, energy, focus and academic performance. The main counterargument is that improved nutritional standards would decrease school lunch revenue. However, from our research concerning 330 Minnesota school districts and surveys from local teens, we found that school lunch revenue will not decrease and could potentially increase. It is up to us to minimize the gap between public and private school nutritional standards, the cost of higher quality ingredients is minimal compared to the profound impact on developing America's Future Leaders now I'll pass it off to Suayam."

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Suayam Shah continued:

"Hello everyone, my name is Suayam Shah, and I've been living here in the Apex area for the past decade. As an organization, one of our proudest accomplishments is our partnership with Davis Drive Middle School. Our team started coaching their math counts and science Teams and our students excelled beyond our expectations. In March, one of our math count students placed third at the State level, and the Science Bowl team that we coached won third place at the national competition, but we're not just about stem tutoring, GSA has a mission to focus on something even closer to our hearts. Ensuring that every WCPSS student has access to free and nutritious meals. How many of you in the audience have eaten at a school cafeteria in the past month? Now, we invite you Mayor Gilbert and the Council members to raise your hands if you have eaten inside a school cafeteria in the past month. Exactly, so when was the last time you had stepped foot in the school cafeteria? Not all adults, especially those who manage the education system, are able to experience the problem with school meals present in WCPSS. That's why Panshul and I took the initiative to be able to solve this problem ourselves as teenagers who regularly eat at its school cafeterias. We believe that no student should have to worry about where their next meal is coming from, and we're working hard to make this initiative a reality through a strong relationship with Council Member Sarika Bansal from the Town of Cary, we were able to meet Mrs. Lindsay Mahaffey, Mr. Mahaffey's wife, who is a WCPSS School Board member. She helped us research our cause and learn more. From our conversation with Mrs. Lindsay Mahaffey, we learned that a quality education is fueled by nutritious meals, something that not all students are able to access each and every day. We learned that it takes about \$2 to sponsor one meal, right now we have raised well over \$3,000 allowing us to sponsor 1,500 meals. We are looking to grow this number to be able to sponsor 5,000 student meals by the end of 2024. This is an ambitious goal, but we believe it's possible with your support. Throughout the past month we've been working with Josh Stein, NC's Governor-elect, as well as the vice president for the NCAIA, North Carolina Association of Indian Americans, both expressed their support for our mission, as well as that we've already begun reaching out to local businesses for Partnerships and today, we are here to request the Town of Apex's support in donating to our cause. We are formally requesting the town of Apex to support our mission by donating \$10,000 to go to free meals for WCPSS students. In addition, we would love to work with the town to gain support to help raise nutritional standards in our local WCPSS school system. Our team wants to ensure that our fellow WCPSS students can attend school knowing that they will be able to eat a healthy meal each day. We know that with the support of the Town of Apex and the wonderful people here, we can make a lasting impact in our community. Thank you all for your time and for giving us this incredible opportunity to speak to you all today."

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Mayor Gilbert thanked both speakers and called the next speaker.

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Next to speak was **Dawn Cozzolino** of 3632 Bosco Road:

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"Good evening, Town Council and Mayor Jacques. Mayor Jacques and Councilman Zegerman, thank you so much for reaching out to me on the traffic safety issues that we've

been voicing, I really appreciate this support and look forward to working with the Council and staff. So, I wanted to, I usually have a prop, so this is a new prop for tonight. This is just a regular old water container, but what I'm trying to do here is represent sustainability so I'm trying to practice better practices, not bringing a water bottle here and all those things. But how I'm thinking about how our community could be more sustainable, and what I noticed with the new traffic pattern and of course, everybody's talking about the congestion and so forth, is that I'm thinking twice about what I do because of either costs or because of congestion, hassle, frustration. I might not actually take a shopping trip that I might have planned normally, and I wonder if other people in Apex feel the same way that I do about, you know, making that decision to go out for dinner, making that decision to go to a park, to, you know, make those extra trips that maybe we can't afford anymore or it's too much stress. So, I was doing a little research online, and you know, there was something that was kind of nagging at me: this city structure and this city vision and It's blowing up so guick, and a lot of what I was reading about was something where the city goes into the suburb, right, but they kind of subsidize the city through the suburb, and that's not really an adequate or good growth strategy because it just leads to higher taxes for everybody. It destabilizes the downtown neighborhoods. Longer-term residents relocate, and there's a decline in economic productivity for the downtown, and that's your restaurants, your retail, and other businesses, more in the long term. So, I hope that doesn't happen to Apex. But, again, sustainability, can we think about more natural growth and think about how we treat our environment? Because we're living with that environment, just like our bodies. We're in it for the long haul. Thank you very much."

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Mayor Gilbert thanked the speaker. He closed the Public Forum and moved to Public Hearings.

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[PUBLIC HEARINGS]

PH1 Western Big Branch Area Plan: Encompassing Portions of the Friendship and New Hill Communities

Jenna Shouse, Senior Planner - Long Range, Planning Department gave the following presentation on Western Big Branch Area Plan: Encompassing Portions of the Friendship and New Hill Communities:

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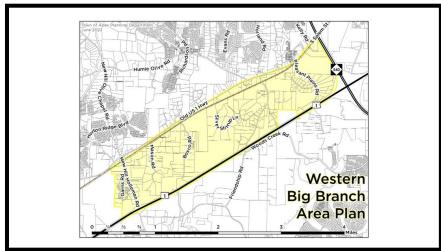
2 3 **[SLIDE 2]**

Overview

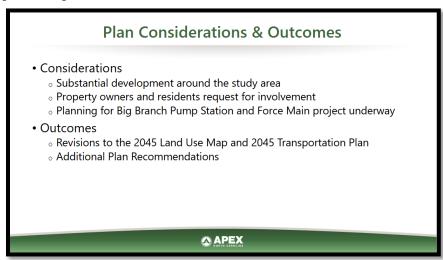
- Plan introduction, outcomes, and process
- Public engagement highlights
 Planning Board & Town Council Updates in September 2023 & May 2024
- Draft Plan public input summary & resulting revisions
- Revised Draft Plan public input summary
- Staff-Recommended Plan recommendations
- Requested motion

APEX NORTH CAROLINA

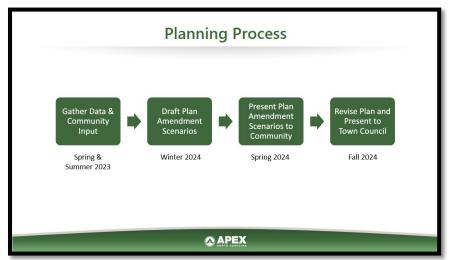
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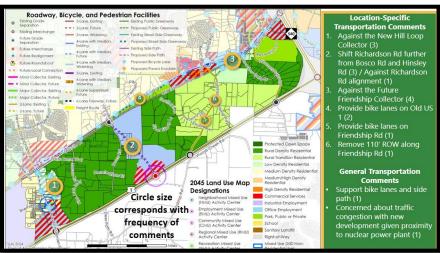


Comments on Additional Plan Recommendations

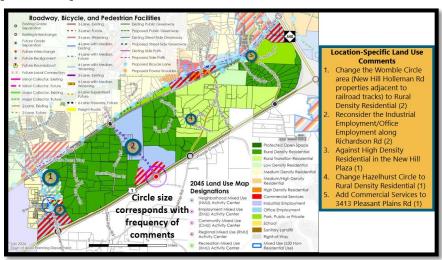
- Support the community-proposed overlay district
- A policy to encourage the preservation of forested areas does not address other environmental issues (climate change, impervious surface, light pollution, etc.)
- Allow VADs and EVADs in Apex
- Provide a 50-foot buffer between VADs/EVADs and new development
- Concerned about traffic and safety at the intersection of Friendship Road and Old US 1
- Economic development along the future Richardson Road corridor and at the future interchange benefits the developer rather than the community

APEX

5 **[SLIDE 9]**



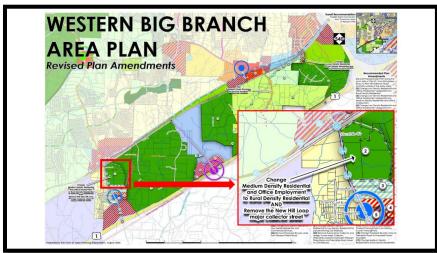
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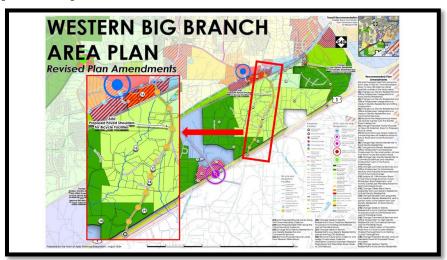
[SLIDE 11]

Revisions Made to the Draft Plan

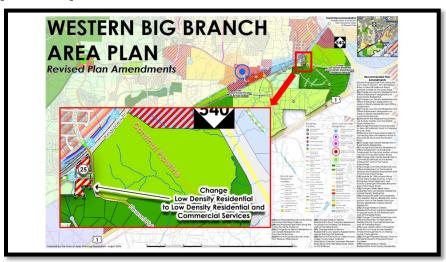
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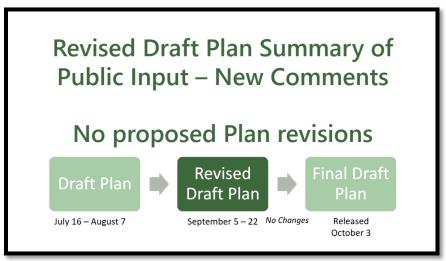
[SLIDE 15]

Additional Plan Recommendations & Text Revisions

- Additional Plan Recommendations
 - Add 4B: Coordinate with Wake County to allow Voluntary Agricultural Districts & Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural Districts within the Apex corporate limits & ETJ
- Plan document text
 - o Remove references to Town water
 - $_{\circ}$ Update Figure 6. Transportation Crashes to include all crash data in the study area from July 2019 June 2024

APEX

1 **[SLIDE 16]**



[SLIDE 17]



5 **[SLIDE 18]**



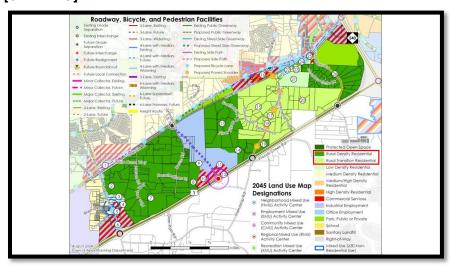
1 **[SLIDE 19]**

Plan Amendment Staff Recommendations

- Generally, low-intensity residential land uses, consistent with current conditions.
 - Primarily Rural Density Residential (1 unit per 5 acres) & Rural Transition Residential (1 unit per acre).
 - $_{\circ}$ Where residential is recommended, lower densities than Wake County portions of study area.
- Anticipate limited roadway improvements due to land uses.
- Maintain future Richardson Road corridor as a key regional connection and economic development opportunity.
- Align Richardson Road/US 1 interchange consistent with regional Hot Spot Study.
- Revise Context Areas map, consistent with plan amendment revisions.

APEX

2 3 [SLIDE 20]



[SLIDE 21]

Additional Plan Recommendations

- Encourage agricultural business and agritourism.
- Encourage development of small-scale downtown near <u>Humie</u> Olive Road/Old US 1.
- Prepare a staff-recommended list of zoning conditions for rural areas for developers to consider.
- Study and potentially invest in turn lanes and a traffic signal at Friendship Road/Old US 1.
- Conduct a feasibility study to improve access to Pleasant Park.
- Review best practices and develop a policy to encourage the preservation of forested areas.

APEX NORTH CAROLINA

[SLIDE 22]

Town Council Requested Motion Adopt the Final Draft of the Western Big Branch Area Plan: Encompassing Portions of the Friendship and New Hill Communities.

Councilmember Zegerman asked if building Friendship Road to a lower spec than the Holly Springs side would create a bottleneck in that area.

Ms. Shouse said there was a two-lane bridge, and there was not a funded project to widen the bridge.

Councilmember Zegerman said that with the development going on the south side of the road, he was concerned having the town's side be narrower would create potential problems if the bridge is widened in the future.

Ms. Shouse said that is a fair concern, and that widening of the Friendship Road was not supported in the rural transition area, and with it being one unit per acre it is not likely that new development would widen Friendship Road.

Shannon Cox, Long Range Planning Manager, said that the Campo Hotspot study looked at Friendship Road Bridge planned to have a four-lane section on Friendship Road that would connect to Richardson Road with an interchange, and that would be the main thoroughfare with the bridge staying two-lane.

Councilmember Zegerman said that would make sense.

Councilmember Gantt said that in the presentation it was mentioned that there were three scenarios and asked if this would be considered scenario one.

Ms. Shouse said yes, they started with scenario one as a starting point based on the public input received.

Councilmember Gantt asked if it was considered removing residential use at 3413 Pleasant Plains Road to support the commercial services for the park nearby.

Ms. Shouse said that they did not discuss removing it completely, she said keeping both allows the option of low density or commercial.

Planning Director Dianne Khin said that if a developer came in and bought up the property along the railroad tracks with low density, they would be likely put the Rec Center on Pleasant Plains Road, but if it were to develop by itself it would likely be a commercial land use.

Councilmember Gantt said a Rec Center would only be for residents of that area.

Director Khin said yes, and that would be captured in the residential option for the zoning.

Mayor Gilbert opened up Public Hearing and invited the first speaker.

First speaker was **Elizabeth Stitt** of 3113 Friendship Road:

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"I wanted to share with you what our view of our area is. We're very appreciative of all the work that we did with Jenna and the Town, but I think one of the reasons that we feel like the low density is going to continue for a period of time, if you think about it from an infrastructure perspective, down along US1 is where the force main is going, and so if I were to extend sewer up to my property, I have to go through eight other people's property to get to mine, and they are smaller residential properties, whereas I have a larger tract. So, if you look at my larger tract, there's not enough developable area to pay for the cost to pull the infrastructure up, and so what's highlighted in the dark blue on your map, these are neighborhoods that have covenants that automatically renew where they cannot subdivide and if they sell, if they change their covenants, it's like 75 to 100% of the landowners. So, if you look at the geography and the lay of the land, these are our low areas. So, if you're going to do gravity-fed sewer, you're going to have to go through these neighborhoods, and it's going to be pretty tough. The conversations I've had with developers are that you're not going to get a lot of development for a long period of time because you have to be able to buy out a lot of land in order to pull the infrastructure up. And when we were working with the community, we had a number of our community members who were not going to support anything around the development because we were proposing one house per acre. They thought that was too dense. So, this was the best compromise that we could come up with our community to get the majority of them to say, "Hey, at least one acre." Most everybody here has an average of three to four acres, so the thought of somebody having only one acre was kind of a shock to some, so we definitely support what the town has put forth. We didn't get everything we wanted, and there's still some things we want to work towards, but overall, we're happy with the plan, and I just want to make sure you guys understood why the infrastructure was a limiting factor and why we ended up with one house per acre. Thank you."

313233

Mayor Gilbert thanked Ms. Stitt and called the next speaker.

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Next to speak was **Dawn Cozzolino** at 3632 Bosco Road:

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"So, as Elizabeth mentioned about the covenants, I actually have one, I didn't know I had one, it was discovered. So, I have eight acres, and I'm only allowed one house on that eight acres. I think it was really thoughtful of the people that started the covenants to think about bridging a community and keeping a community sustainable for a legacy to pass those farms on to generations and generations. So, I think it's kind of interesting how it came about.

And the other thing I'll add is everybody is on well water and septic, we maintain it per all the guidelines. It's not easy, but we do it because we enjoy where we live, we appreciate that, and the tree canopy will inevitably help Apex with their forestry numbers and so forth.

So, I just wanted to say that as well, there were a lot of trade-offs, right? There are things that people who have been living in the area a very long time are used to, and they're used to living the way they're used to living. So, changes are very hard, but I think this proposal keeps a lot of green on the map. So, thank you."

Mayor Gilbert thanked Ms. Cozzolino and closed the public hearing, and moved the item back to Council for discussion.

Councilmember Zegerman thanked the staff and all of the planning for the New Hill and Friendship Community area.

Mayor Pro Tempore Gray commented that that this plan has had a lot of compromise on both sides, and that there has been a lot of conversations about increasing the size of commercial in that area because of its access and closeness to US1. He said that there has been a lot of conversations about placing an overlay that would make it a lot denser in terms of the amount of housing, primarily to help support residents in the Holly Springs area. He said that this is a good compromise and gives those within that area the opportunity to maintain this overall aesthetic and outlook for as long as possible, and when looking at the practicalities, he reminded people that the land use map doesn't really get used until people start selling property, and in this case, there are a lot of things that will prevent a lot of sales in the short term. He said he appreciates what the staff has done, the interactions they have had with the community and the comments from those within the community.

Councilmember Gantt said he would be okay with putting this on ice if people wanted, but in lots of cases things like this end up getting changed if people start selling in the future. He said it's better to plan for the future in case something like that happens.

Councilmember Killingsworth said that she agrees and that this is a combination of staff listening to the community and compromising. She said she is in support of the plan as staff has presented.

Councilmember Mahaffey said that he hopes the community feels that they have had a role in shaping this plan, as it is evident, and he appreciates the efforts of staff in working with them. He said that he approves of the plan and pointed it out as a compromise, and that this plan reflects the priorities of Apex. He said he is in support of the plan.

A **motion** by **Mayor Pro Tempore Gray**, seconded by **Councilmember Mahaffey**, to adopt the Western Big Branch Area Plan: Encompassing Portions of the Friendship and New Hill Communities.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)

- 1 **Mayor Gilbert** thanked staff for the work on the plan. He then moved to New
- 2 Business.
- 3 [NEW BUSINESS]
- 4 NB1 Electric Utilities Updates
- Eric Neumann, Director, Electric Utilities Director gave the following presentation on
 Electric Utilities Updates:

7 **[SLIDE 1]**



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[SLIDE 2]

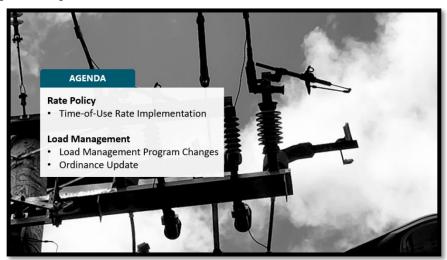


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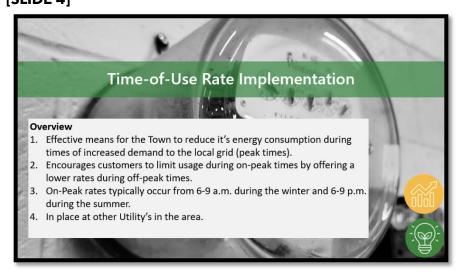
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1 **[SLIDE 3]**



2 [SLIDE 4]



5 **[SLIDE 5]**

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How "On-Peak" Impacts the Town

- Definitions
 - o Demand: The peak amount of power(kW) used at a given time
 - o Energy: The amount of power used over time (kWh)
 - Coincident Peak (CP): The highest average demand for the Town during the hour when the demand is greatest on <u>Duke Energy's</u> system each month
- The Town's power bill based on a both an energy charge and a CP Demand charge
 - o Demand Charge \$22.20/kW
 - o Energy Charge \$0.02514/kWh
- The Town's demand charge is between 50%-66% of the total bill(2-4M per month)

Councilmember Gantt asked if the reason for the difference in the rates in the Western part of the state was because of the power generation and that it was easier to cut on and off.

Director Neumann said they have a different Power Purchase Agreement with Duke Energy because they have the ability to generate and support energy needs in Western Carolina, so they are charged differently.

Councilmember Gantt said in our case the nuclear plant can't turn on and off. **Director Neumann** said that was correct.

[SLIDE 6]

TOU BENEFITS

- Helps reduce load on local and national grid reducing the need for energy providers to run additional power plants to keep up with demand.
- Saves the Town money on the monthly power bill.
- Helps reduce the cost to customer.
- Reduces the amount of reserve capacity needed by the Town's grid.



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[SLIDE 7]

Need for Time-of-Use Rate Implementation

- Impact of EV chargers
 - Large load
 - Level 1: 1.4 to 1.9 kW
 - Level 2: 2.5- ~19.2 kW (a 2.5 ton AC unit is ~2.4kW)
 - Level 3: 50kw+ (Commercial 3 phase applications)
 - $_{\circ}$ Becoming more prevalent
- Time-of-Use will lessen impacts by adjusting behavior
 - $_{\circ}$ Charging EV overnight, setting the delayed charge times found on most EV chargers
 - o Washing and drying clothing outside of on-peak hours
 - $_{\circ}$ Adjusting thermostats based on on-peak times
 - o Preparing food outside of on-peak times

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1 [SLIDE 8]

Proposed Time-of-Use Rate Implementation

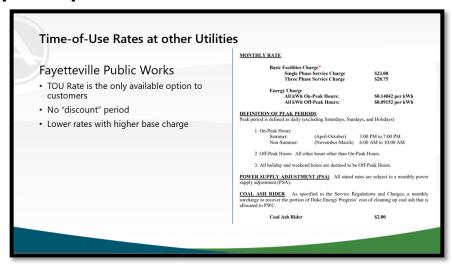
- Proposed rate times (to be verified after rate study)
 - o Summer months 6-9 p.m.
 - o Winter months 6-9 a.m.
- Time frame for implementation
 - After completion of AMI meter replacement (anticipated by December 2025)
- Commercial versus residential Implementation
 - o Required for residential (optional for commercial)

2 [SLIDE 9]

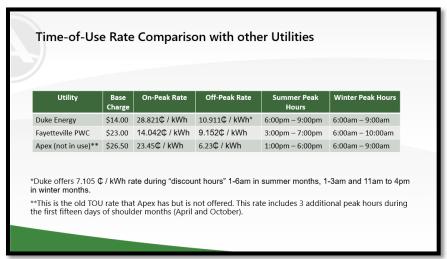
Time-of-Use Rates at other Utilities MONTHLY RATE Duke Energy Offers non-TOU Rates and multiple TOU rate schedules. One includes notified "critical peak days" where on-peak rates increase NC First Revised Leaf No. 502 Effective for service rendered from October 1, 2024 through Sept NCUC Decket No. E-2, Sub 1300, Order dated August 18, 2023 Page 1 of 3 · On-Peak Periods 。 Summer 6:00-9:00pm o Winter 6:00-9:00am • Discount Periods Duke Energy Progress, LLC (North Carolina Only) NC First Revised Leaf No. 502 Superseding NC Original Leaf No. 502 Summer 1:00-6:00am 2. kWh Energy Charge: Winter 1:00-3:00am, 11:00am-4:00pm 28.821¢ per On-Peak kWh 10.911¢ per Off-Peak kWh 7.105¢ per Discount kWh Include Riders on most of their rate schedules which may change a customers bill (the example on the right has 8) For Three-Phase Service The bill computed for single-phase service plus \$9.00

5 **[SLIDE 10]**

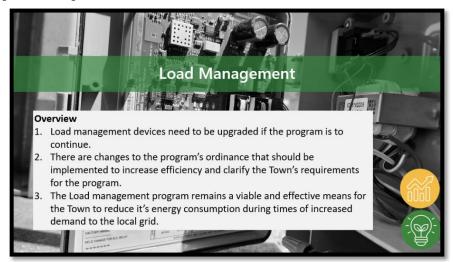
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[SLIDE 11]



[SLIDE 12]



Councilmember Gantt asked if the time use decreases the need for the Load Management Program.

Director Neumann said that it would probably be the reverse if there is a success in the Load Management Program. He said time of use will encourage people to do this naturally, but the Load Management Program is more forced.

Councilmember Gantt said that there would not be a need to force them if they do it themselves based on economics.

Director Neumann said that this would be talked about.

1 [SLIDE 13]

Load Management Program Summary

- Program helps reduce the Town's total electric usage during peak or high-demand hours
- Briefly cycles off the largest electric appliances in homes to reduce the aggregate usage
 - HVAC Unit heat pumps and compressors
 - Water Heaters
 - Heat Strips
- The Town has provided the Load Management switches for new construction since the programs inception
- · Participation is optional
- Customers can select the level of participation for HVAC unit control
 - 。 25%
 - 。 50%
 - o 100%
- Customers were given credits based on their level of participation

Councilmember Gantt asked if the AMI had this built in. **Director Neumann** said no.

[SLIDE 14]

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Load Management Program Status

- Since the inception of the program in the mid 90's over 20,000 load management switches have been installed in the Town. The exact number is unknown due to loss of records over the decades.
- Number of switches currently Installed*

LCR-2000 - ~3400 - Prior to 2006

LCR-2000 - 600 - 2004 to 2006

LCR-5000 - 4,254 - 2006 to June 2013

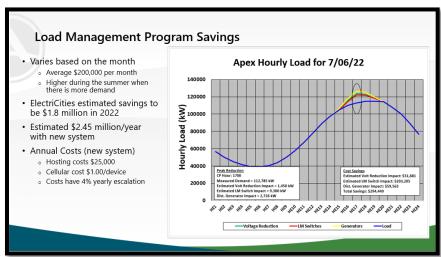
LCR-5600 - 14,296 - June 2013 to 2023

Total: 22,550

 $^{\star}\text{LCR-}2000$ quantities are assumed, all other quantities were provided by the Manufacturer from their records

It is estimated that only 40-50% of these switches are currently operational

1 **[SLIDE 15]**



[SLIDE 16]

Load Management Switch Degradation

- LCR 2000 models have been non-operational for a number of years because they were based on radio frequency technology, which has been abandoned
- The LCR 5000 and 5600 devices utilize paging signals that are slowly losing coverage as the technology is being obsolesced
- HVAC technician often bypass the switches when diagnosing problems and never reconnect the switch
- Age, some existing switches have been in service for 25+ years

5 **[SLIDE 17]**

New Load Management Switch

- Has two-way communications allowing the utility to monitor the devices status and confirm functionality
- Will decrease the number of bypassed switches on the system
- Will be easier to maintain and can send trouble alarms
- Pay off time is 4 -6 years
- Life expectance 15-20 years



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1 [SLIDE 18]

Load Management Proposed Ordinance/Administration Changes

- Remove credits for those participating the program
- Incentivize participation in the program by having a higher rate for those who choose not to participate
- Removal of the 50 and 100% participation level options (only 25% control will be used)
 - Few residents choose these participation levels, and their removal will simplify billing and system management
- Clarification of the customer's responsibility to maintain building wiring
- Requirement of installation of load management devices on new construction and permits over \$10,000

3 **[SLIDE 19]**

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Load Management Proposed Infrastructure Upgrades (CIP Projects)

	FY 25-26	FY 26-27	FY 27-28	FY 28-29	FY 29-30
Professional Services	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000
Equipment	\$965,000	\$965,000	\$965,000	\$965,000	\$965,000
Totals	\$1,565,000	\$1,565,000	\$1,565,000	\$1,565,000	\$1,565,000

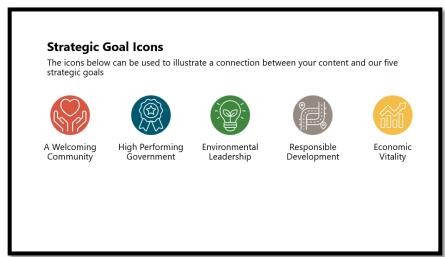
CIP Project Main points:

- The majority of the LCR 2000s are to be replaced in FY 25-26, subsequent years will replace the remaining LCR 5000 & LCR 5600s
- Number of replacements per year (~5000) and costs will be adjusted as the projects progress
- Cost of Professional services is estimated based on current labor rate averages, and the assumed 5,000 device
- Service contract could be extended to help maintain the system yearly to lesson the need for additional town personnel

[SLIDE 20]

Thank you

[SLIDE 21]



Director Neumann asked if there were any questions.

Councilmember Mahaffey said that he is fully in support of this. He said that Duke wants us to do this, and this would be a good investment.

Councilmember Gantt asked how the mandate in Fayetteville worked for this program and if there were any pushbacks.

Director Neumann said that there was push back initially and then it subsided. He said it his highly recommended to switch everyone to time-of-use instead of creating an opt-out system.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if there was any way to know when Load Management is going on in their homes.

Director Neumann said that there is a light on the switch for the mode. He said that they don't run it all the time. He said that it is within a 3-hour window typically 5 days a month. He said that with the new technology there can be texts sent out to let them know when the load management would be happening. He said that they could implement that as a text alert now.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if there was a way to ensure when people get new technology items installed at their homes to ensure they are wired to the load management system.

Director Neumann said that there is not a way in the program to connect to the load management system with alterations/additions on the house, and they have to put a separate device. He suggested that people could set up a charging cycle.

Councilmember Gantt said that hot water heater and HVAC is where the load management system would be connected.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if there was a way to motivate people to program the charging cycle.

Director Neumann said the best way would be to set up time of use rates.

Councilmember Mahaffey said Duke Energy is giving credit for the EV chargers and they are paying people to charge at certain hours. He asked if this was a model that could be used for Apex.

Director Neumann said that the best way for Apex is to incentivize them not to charge during the peak period.

Councilmember Zegerman said that requires a level of awareness and technical understanding.

Director Neumann said that those using the EVs are usually tech savvy.

Councilmember Zegerman asked said there could be some active outreach from the electric department in regards to that.

Councilmember Mahaffey said that it could be some training during the permitting process.

Director Neumann said that with the new system, they will know who is using car chargers based on energy usage patterns, and they could target and market to those for training.

Councilmember Killingsworth said that if they decide to move to time of use that there will be a marketing campaign and communication.

Councilmember Gantt said that if it stays the same throughout that would be good.

Councilmember Mahaffey said that doing comparisons with bills to show people what it looks like with this program before it officially launches.

Director Neumann said that showing people how their activities impact their bills would be a good way to get them interested in the program.

Councilmember Zegerman said that behaviors will adjust. He said that in the future he would like updates where Apex is with evaluating the battery backup capacity cost benefits. He asked if there was a way to enable smart thermostats to force load management.

Director Neumann said they could integrate thermostats similar to what Duke Energy does, but they negate the load management switch on the side of homes. He said if time use does what it should do, it may drive it down where the load management is no longer viable. He said that then people could possibly do this naturally with smart thermostats and smart programming.

Mayor Gilbert thanked Director Neumann for the presentation. He then moved to Town Manager updates.

[UPDATES BY TOWN MANAGER]

Town Manager Vosburg gave an update on the contract that is in place with the third-party related reviewers of the utility issues with Barry Dunn. He said there would be a full scope completed by the end of February. He said that the Tunstall House went out for bid this week. He said that Apex received the 2025 Engineering Excellence Award for Pleasant Park. He said the last item was an update on the detour and Whitehall Manor. He had a report from the Apex Police Department that they have employed the 5 Es: engagement, education, engineering, enforcement and evaluation. He said that there is speed monitoring, and they

1 2 3 4 5	do not believe that there is a speeding issue. He said that the main issue being seen is stop sign violations. He said that they believe that the speed humps are effective. He said they have been meeting with the HOA and so if there are any changes to be made they are committed to that.						
6 7	Councilmember Gantt said that he lives in that area and the neighbors are appreciating the enforcement and the thoughtfulness that has gone into this.						
8	[CLOSED SESSION]						
9 10 11	A motion was made by Councilmember Gantt, seconded by Councilmember Zegerman to enter into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(1) and NCGS §143-318.11(a)(6).						
12	VOTE: UNANIMOUS (5-0)						
13	Council entered into Closed Session at 7:56 p.m.						
14	CS1 Randy Vosburg, Town Manager						
15	NCGS §143-318.11(a)(1):						
16 17 18	"To prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning Chapter 132 of the General Statutes."						
19	CS2 Laurie Hohe, Town Attorney						
20	NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3):						
21 22	"To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve th attorney client privilege between the attorney and the public body."						
23	CS3 Mayor Jacques K. Gilbert						
24	NCGS §143-318.11(a)(6):						
25 26 27 28	"To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee."						
29	CS4 Mayor Jacques K. Gilbert						
30	NCGS §143-318.11(a)(6):						
31 32 33	"To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or						

grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee."

1	CS5 Mayor Jacques K. Gilbert	
2	NCGS §143-318.11(a)(6):	
3 4 5 6	"To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employ or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee."	ee
8	Council returned to open session at 10:43 p.m.	
10	ADJOURNMENT	
11	Mayor Gilbert adjourned the meeting at 10:44 p.m.	
12		
13 14	Jacques K. Gilb Ma	
15 16	Allen Coleman, CMC, NCCCC Town Clerk to the Apex Town Council	
17		
18	Submitted for approval by Town Clerk Allen Coleman and approved on	<u>_</u> .
19		