

City of Burlington
Office of Public Information
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PRESS RELEASE

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BURLINGTON ASKS RESIDENTS TO CREATE COMMUNITY VISION

Information gathered at a Community Visioning Workshop will influence Burlington's 20-year Comprehensive Plan

BURLINGTON, NC – The City of Burlington is planning for the future and we want to hear from you! Want more parks or local places to eat and shop? What do you think of Burlington's homes and neighborhoods? Describe your ideal place to live, work and play. This is your chance to help direct the future of Burlington.

The City of Burlington and the RATIO project consultant team will hold a Community Visioning Workshop for *Destination Burlington*, Burlington's first Comprehensive Plan since 1991. **The Community Visioning Workshop will be held on Thursday, May 8th from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Kernodle Senior Center, Rooms A & B, 1535 South Mebane Street in Burlington.** Residents, business owners, and anyone interested in providing their opinion on what makes Burlington a great place to live and what challenges exist to redevelopment are encouraged to participate. Refreshments will be available, and families are welcome.

What is a Comprehensive Plan? It is the vision of what the community wants to become and the steps needed to meet that goal. It is a long-range tool used by those in the community charged with making decisions about redevelopment of commercial and industrial land, roadway corridor improvements, housing diversity, and the protection of natural features, parks and open spaces, among others.

During the workshop, you will be asked to take part in activities to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the community, and to determine a long-term vision for future development and an enhanced quality of life. Following a brief presentation, you and other attendees will work in small groups to map ideas, identify issues, and prioritize goals to achieve the vision. In addition, the project team, working with a steering committee made up of your fellow residents, will be available to answer your questions, discuss opportunities, or hear your comments.

You are also encouraged to subscribe to the project at <http://cityofburlingtonnc.mindmixer.com/> to take a short online priorities survey and to receive meeting notices, summaries, survey results, and drafts of the plan via email.

For this planning effort, the City has hired the project team of RATIO, an urban design + planning firm, joined by RKG Associates, Inc., a market and economic development strategy firm, and Stewart Engineering, a civil engineering firm. The effort is being funded in part by a Community Transformation Grant to the City by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For more information regarding the *Destination Burlington* plan or the Community Visioning Workshop, contact Rachel Hawley, Public Information Officer, at (336) 222-5076 or rhawley@ci.burlington.nc.us; or Paul Lipchak of RATIO at (919) 821-0805 or plipchak@RATIOarchitects.com.

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