The US 158/Northern Beltway Interchange Plan will be the first plan in a series of beltway interchange plans to be prepared over the next several years. A plan kickoff meeting has been set for January 22 at the Walkertown Library.

The plan area is located south of the planned interchange and shown in green on the map on the right. The area is mostly undeveloped and fairly small—less than 300 acres, with about 200 acres in unincorporated Forsyth County and less than 100 acres in Walkertown.

The kickoff meeting is an opportunity for area residents to provide input on future development at the US 158 interchange. Meeting participants will be asked to share what type of land uses they would like to see at the interchange; where they’d like the most intense development to be focused; and provide input on building scale and placement, and pedestrian, bicycle and transit access.

Input from the kickoff meeting will be used to develop a general design framework and design renderings for review at subsequent meetings. The draft plan will be presented to the Planning Board for adoption at a public hearing in spring 2019. For more information, visit http://www.cityofws.org/Departments/Planning/Corridors-and-Interchanges
2019 Historic Markers Showcase Local Legacies

In December, the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission selected four sites for installation of historic markers—2 City-funded markers, 1 County-funded maker, and 1 applicant-funded marker. The Commission will install the markers and hold unveilings for publicly funded markers in 2019. Markers selected:

- **Lowman Pauling & The “5” Royales.** The “5” Royales began singing gospel in 1942 and later recorded R&B. The group was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2015. Pauling played guitar, sang bass, and wrote music.

- **Liberia, Africa and Salem.** In 1836, Friedrich Schumann freed 17 slaves and funded their passage to Liberia, Africa. After the Civil War, Salem’s Moravian Church established a town, known as Liberia, for freedmen on the former Schumann Plantation. The area later become known as Happy Hill.

- **Asbury Jones & Mary Griffith Jones House.** The house, built about 1853, is located in Lewisville on land that was in the Griffith/Griffith-Jones family line from 1807 to 1985.

- **B.F. Huntley Furniture Co.** Founded in 1906, the company was the largest furniture manufacturer in the south by 1925. Mr. Huntley donated land comprising the main campus of Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and established a trust to benefit the hospital.

Desmond Corley Returns to PDS as Land Use Coordinator

Desmond Corley will fill the Land Use Coordinator position vacated by Aaron King, who became the new Planning & Development Services (PDS) Director in October. As Land Use Coordinator, Desmond will manage the rezoning and development review process and will oversee zoning enforcement and the Inspections permit office. Desmond previously worked in both divisions of PDS—serving as a planner in 2013-14 and as a Zoning Plans Examiner in 2014-16. He has been working in development review for the Town of Cary since 2016.

As a native of Winston-Salem, Desmond is excited about returning home to contribute to making Winston-Salem a top-notch place to live, work, and be entertained. His priorities in his new position will be modernizing and streamlining processes; providing useful information and constructive feedback to citizens and boards in ways that are easy to understand and access; and developing a highly skilled and well-rounded team. He is particularly interested in working to maximize effectiveness and efficiency by collaborating with others.

Desmond is a graduate of Reynolds High School and NC State University. He attended Cornell University’s graduate planning program. Desmond is accredited in both zoning and planning, being a Certified Zoning Officer (CZO) and a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Desmond will start in his new position at the end of January.

UDO Code Assessment Moves Forward

In November, the Planning Board accepted the UDO code assessment report prepared by CodeWright, planning consulting firm. Staff contracted with CodeWright in the fall of 2017 to prepare an assessment of the UDO to include recommendations for making the code more user-friendly.

The first step in implementing the code assessment recommendations will be reorganizing the existing UDO text into a more intuitive 10-chapter format. No changes will be made to the UDO provisions as part of this process, which staff expects CodeWright to complete by the end of February 2019. The Planning Board is anticipated to hold a public hearing on the reorganized UDO in spring 2019, with elected body consideration in the summer of 2019.

Following adoption of the reformatted UDO, staff will select a consultant to develop a uniform set of illustrative ordinance graphics, and will also select a new online code provider capable of offering an improved user experience. These tasks will be completed in fiscal year 2019-20. In the summer of 2020, staff will begin working on a series of minor UDO text amendments identified in the code assessment with work on more significant text amendments taking place at a later date.

Visit www.udoclearcode.com to read the code assessment and learn more about the process.

Want more information?
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