



PLANNING COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Harris, Chuck Blaser

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Amy Brown, Mary Miller, Scott McCullough

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Barbara Clark

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- High Quality Agricultural Land.
 - Discussed the reasons for protecting (policy statements in the chapter should reflect the following reasons):
 - Higher awareness of climate protection, including the correlation between local food production and the reducing fossil fuel emissions and transportation costs.
 - Recognition of a relationship between natural systems & built environment, including the health benefits.
 - May not exist in sufficient amounts in the future to provide food for the population.
 - Goal of establishing a sustainable local food program
 - Discussed the definition and settled on the following:
 - "Land with good soil quality that has 10 or more contiguous acres of Capability Class (non-irrigated) 1 and 2 as defined by the National Resources Conservation Service."
 - Discussed how much high-quality agricultural land to protect and how to protect it:
 - 100% should be protected.
 - Only a single residence and certain accessory structures related to farm production should be allowed on the high-quality agricultural land.
 - There should not be different standards for the City, UGA or rural portions of the county, but instead there should be one standard. Possible consideration might be given to some allowances for high-quality agricultural land in city limits, but infrastructure should not be extended to the site.
 - Protections for high-quality agricultural land should not be included with other environmentally sensitive lands.
 - Barbara Clark presented information on the LESA program from the USDA.
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas.
 - Preserve contiguous amounts of features
 - Utilize high-quality woodlands layer for County

NEXT STEPS:

- Staff will revise the timeline and post on website.
- Staff will email out spreadsheet with breakdown of soils data for county.
- Staff will email meeting notes for CPC review and then post on website.



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- Staff will finalize a draft chapter, get comments from City/County Staff and set up further meeting with CPC to review draft.

FUTURE CPC MEETING DATES:

- Dates to be determined.