



Town's Work on Character Districts Continues

After hosting two rounds of input from small group discussions in each of three Character Districts, Town staff have started working on text amendments to the Unified Code of Ordinances to address commercial development. A report highlighting the input from the first and second round of discussions can be found at <https://sopinesnc.info/CharacterDistricts>.

The Town will host a public input session on Thursday, March 28 to preview the text amendments and answer questions from interested residents. The session will take place at the E.S. Douglass Center on W. Pennsylvania Avenue at 6pm.

After the public session on March 28th, Town planners will prepare final versions of the amendments for presentation to the Planning Board and ultimately to Town Council for consideration. Both the Planning Board and Town Council meetings are open to the public and provide opportunities for public input.

Defining and codifying character districts is one of the priorities identified by Town Council for implementing the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The purpose of character districts is to help shape future commercial development that "fits in" with the surrounding area. Other priorities being worked include tree protection, expanded use of conditional zoning districts, and accessory commercial units for home businesses and entrepreneurship.

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