

Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report

Lynchburg Planning Commission

Planning Commissioners:

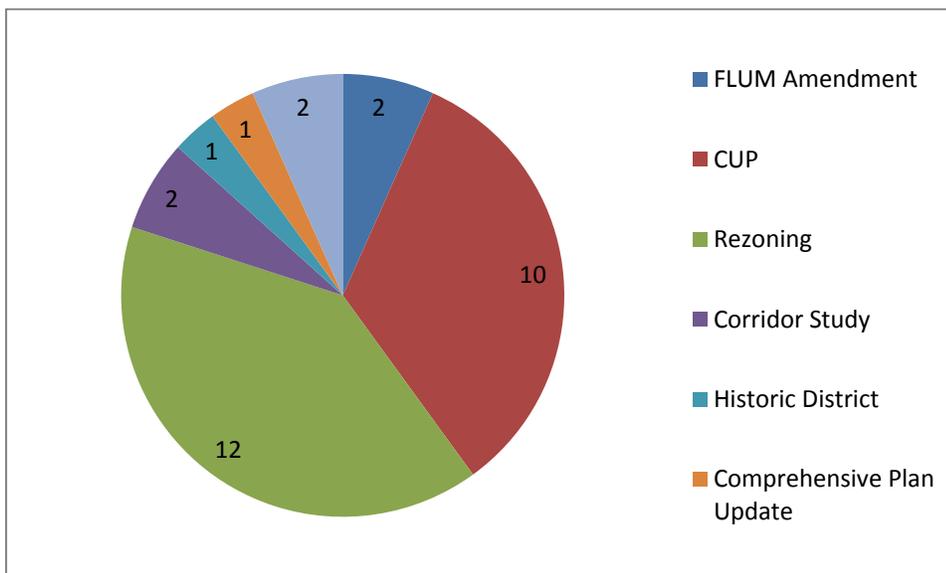
Gerry Swienton, Chair
Alex Johnston, Vice-Chair
Robert "Cham"bliss Light, Jr.
Mark Lowe
Nancy Marion
William Mays, Jr.
David Perault

Summary:

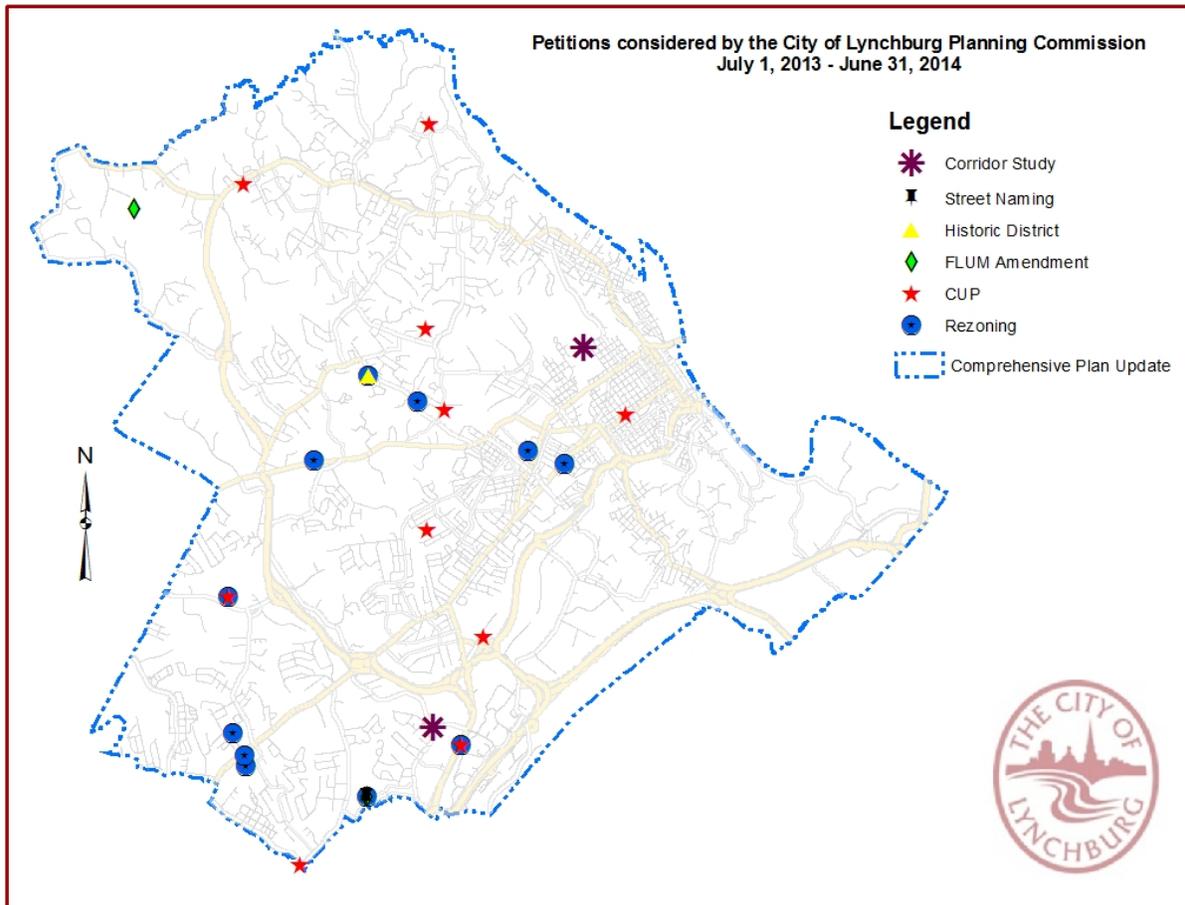
This is the tenth (10th) annual report outlining the implementation of the *Comprehensive Plan* and the activities of the Planning Commission. The report covers July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

The Planning Commission considered and forwarded to City Council thirty (30) petitions from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

Petitions forwarded to City Council:



Petition locations:



Highlighted petitions:

- Wards Ferry Road Corridor Study – July 10, 2013
- Conservation Easement – Future Land Use Map Amendment – January 8, 2014
- Growing Tinbridge Hill Neighborhood Plan – January 22, 2018
- Timbrook Apartments - Rezoning for one hundred ninety-two (192) apartments – 200 and 218 Timbrook Place – February 26, 2014
- Rosedale - Rezoning & CUP for mixed use commercial and residential development – 1220 Graves Mill Road – February 26, 2014
- Village at Dreaming Creek, Phase I – Rezoning for retail development – 7814 – 7908 Timberlake Road – March 12, 2014
- Kirkley Apartments – CUP for one hundred fifty-six (156) apartments – 5212 Woodall Road and 2900 Candler's Mountain Road – March 26, 2014
- Village at Dreaming Creek, Phase II – Rezoning for two hundred seventy (270) apartments – 7824, 7906 and 8022 Timberlake Road – June 11, 2014
- Locust Thicket – Rezoning & Historic District Designation – June 11, 2014

Comprehensive Plan:

The *Comprehensive Plan 2013-2030* was adopted by Council on January 14, 2014. The plan which is an update to the 2002-2020 plan; establishes a clear vision for the future of Lynchburg, identifies goals, towards achieving that vision, creates policy guidance for public and private decision-makers, and identifies tasks that need to be pursued to make the Plan's vision and goals a reality.

The development of the updated plan involved the input of hundreds of citizens in more than a dozen community workshops, focus groups and interviews. The Planning Commission conducted two public hearings on the *Comprehensive Plan 2013-2030*; June 4 and October 3, 2013. The resulting, reorganized, simplified plan reflects the guidance of the previous plan with emphasis placed on developing and maintaining neighborhoods as an integral part of the quality of life in the city.

Chapter 4: Plan Implementation lists a "Plan Implementation Program" as Exhibit 4-1. This implementation Program identifies tools (codes, ordinances, regulations and policies) to implement action items; sets a general time frame, assigns responsibility and correlates implementation measures with specific plan policies. Since a full year of plan implementation has not occurred, the Planning Commission should review in 2015.

Zoning Ordinance:

The current *Zoning Ordinance* was adopted in 1978 in response to the 1976 annexation of portions of Bedford and Campbell Counties. The City of Lynchburg in 2014 and its vision of 2030 are much different than when the Ordinance was last comprehensively rewritten in 1978. While substantive portions of the Ordinance have been updated and are valid, this regulatory document is no longer shaping the city as envisioned by the *Comprehensive Plan 2013-2030*.

The Planning Commission immediately started work on rewriting the *Zoning Ordinance* following the adoption of the *Comprehensive Plan 2013-2014* in January 2014. Much of the Commission's work not related to individual petitions has focused on attending public forums and providing guidance to the City's Planning Consultants and staff.

The following is the anticipated schedule for completion of the *Zoning Ordinance* revisions:

- October 8, 2014 – Planning Commission work session
- October 14, 2014 - Planning Commission / City Council joint work session
- November 10, 2014 – Public forums
- November 12, 2014 – Planning Commission public hearing

Miscellaneous:

Newly appointed Planning Commission members continue to attend the Certified Planning Commissioners' Program (CPC). The CPC provides Planning Commission members with the basic foundation of planning, law, history and the ability to render legally defensible planning decisions.

The CPC is divided into two (2 day) classroom sessions and one home study session.

Past Planning Commission Members:

The adopted Comprehensive Plan 2013-2030 and the process of rewriting of the Zoning Ordinance would not have been possible without the civic mindedness, dedication and volunteerism of past Planning Commissioners:

Dr. Rick Barnes

Rev. Dr. James Coleman

Ms. Laura Hamilton

Mr. Ted Hannon

Mr. Kevin Hooper

Ms. Karen Kennedy

Rev. Dr. Andy Sale