



# 2010 Goals Update

## *Top Tier Goals*

- **WATER – Continue to develop plans to meet countywide water needs**
  - Lower Cape Fear Water & Sewer Authority made presentation April 6, 2010 about Bladen Bluffs Water Treatment Project
  - Tri-party (City, County, PWC) agreement for Franklin Street Parking Garage approved by BOC on June 7, 2010. As part of the agreement, PWC agreed to sell water to the County for rural water service.
  - Gray's Creek Water and Sewer District –
    - BOC approved going with PWC as bulk water provider in September.
    - November 15, 2010: Public Hearing on issuance of bonds for up to \$21 million, subject to passage of referendum on March 15
    - Proposed contract with PWC was been sent to USDA and several issues are being discussed.
    - Initial referendum date of March 15 has been postponed.
    - Joint PWC and BOC meeting set for January 3, 2011 at 11 a.m.
  - Other Public Utilities/Safe Water Task Force Projects
    - Bragg Estates
      - Town of Spring Lake is looking into how they can meet the needs of Bragg Estates residents with a planned lift station.
    - Overhills Park
      - Application for low-interest loan was submitted to USDA but funding was not secured. Additional information was requested, and consulting engineer Hi Marziano is preparing the revised application by the March 2011 deadline.
    - Brooklyn Circle
      - The Commissioners confirmed the final assessment roll for the Brooklyn Circle Waterline Extension Project, which will bring potable, public water to the 100 and 200 blocks of Brooklyn Circle. The service will provide water to 19 structures.
    - Cedar Creek Road water line extension
      - Project has been completed and close-out documents are being prepared for BOC approval of resolution for the assessments.
    - Southpoint Water distribution
      - In September, an application was submitted to the State Construction Grants & Loans Section. No word yet.
      - In November, an approved encroachment agreement from the Department of Transportation for the Bladen County portion of the project was received.



# 2010 Goals Update

## ➤ PUBLIC SAFETY

- Public Safety Task Force – charged with reviewing and making recommendations to improve communications, fire and emergency medical services in Cumberland County
  - Report presented February 16, 2010 looked at funding, standards and operations. Two short-term goals were increased funding to low-wealth fire departments and establishing a consolidated communications center.
  - Task Force meets every other month to discuss issues related to their recommendations. For example, formation of a 17-member Public Safety Commission to develop a system-wide long-range strategic plan; consolidated communications; and closest unit dispatch.
  - In September, Task Force added law enforcement representation and a law enforcement subcommittee established.
- Fire -
  - Based on Task Force recommendation, Commissioners approved Special Fire District Tax increase of  $\frac{3}{4}$  cent (raising tax to 1.25 cents per \$100 valuation) to bring minimum funding for five low-wealth fire departments (Beaver Dam, Bethany, Godwin/Falcon, Stedman and Wade) to \$250,000. Funding increase is to go toward personnel costs.
  - Contracts and financial reporting forms developed for five departments
- 911 Emergency Communications –
  - Hope Mills merged with County 911, leaving two primary Public Safety Answering Points – City of Fayetteville and Cumberland County.
  - Viper – City turned over six of its 800 MHz channel frequencies that it no longer needed to the Highway Patrol, which then assigned them to the County's Viper system to improve communications.
  - City and County staffs are working on an assessment for a consolidated PSAP. The City Manager and County Manager notified City Council and the Board of Commissioners on December 17, 2010 that an action plan, with resource needs, would be ready by April 30, 2011. The following phases have been outlined:
    - Phase One – CAD-to-CAD communications expected to be completed by January 15, 2011
    - Phase Two – Merger of two CAD systems and standardizing protocols and procedures
    - Phase Three – Physical consolidation into one call center



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- EMS – Emergency Medical Services-
  - New EMS chief has redesigned response districts. Nine ambulances are staffed round the clock, with five additional ambulances coming on for 12-hour periods of peak call demand
  - In the process of purchasing seven new ambulances: five new; two replacement
  - In the process of purchasing equipment and implementing automatic vehicle locators for ambulances
- Detention Center – address overcrowding by involving key groups in reviewing population control and the need for expansion
  - Jail summit with stakeholders held on April 30
  - Approved six-tenths cent tax for jail expansion fund
  - Hired Mosely Architects to develop expansion scenarios
  - Kick-off meeting with stakeholders and public held November 23
  - Tours of existing detention facilities with jail staff and architect have occurred and initial planning activities are underway.
- Animal Services
  - Dr. Lauby hired as director
  - Shelter manager with veterinarian technician experience hired
  - Approved funding for eight additional staff, who have been hired
  - Appointed commissioner as liaison to board
  - Adoption hours expanded and adoption rates increased significantly
  - Beginning in January, additional enforcement staff will be working 12-hour shifts to provide continuous coverage, to include nights, weekends and holidays. This now means two people will be on duty.
  - County Attorney is working on revising the Animal Control ordinances, and the City is agreeable to adopting the same revised unified code.
  - Dr. Lauby has been talking and meeting with area citizens in reference to establishing a Friends of the Shelter type organization
  - Since previous report, the recommended Community Outreach/Education Coordinator position was reclassified because of a critical need for office support staff. The Public Information Office will attempt to handle outreach and public education.



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- **JOBS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – promote countywide job creation and retention**
  - Chamber of Commerce provides regular updates; last one in October
  - Approved Economic Development Incentives policy with City and Chamber on June 7, 2010
  - Incentive agreements approved for MBM Hospitality LLC (Embassy Suites project with estimated 160 new jobs) and Strategic Solutions Unlimited Inc. (estimated 50 jobs).
  - Regarding County employee retention, HR continues to work on identifying and addressing any departmental retention issues. County employees received a 2 percent COLA in FY2011
  - BRAC-related Economic Development goals –
    - Prepare to provide school facilities for BRAC-related student population growth once county knows where and when those are needed
      - New Century International Elementary School opened in August
      - QSBs for Gray's Creek Middle School
    - Continue to develop partnerships with key groups to market the area and collect data on incoming residents
      - New Fort Bragg liaison position established for 2011
- **COMMUNICATIONS – Improve overall communications with municipalities, school system and the public**
  - County requests to and from municipalities and/or school board are to be made in writing
  - Joint meeting with City of Fayetteville on November 18
  - Joint meeting with PWC set for January 3
  - County adopted social media policy and is now on Facebook and Twitter
  - Cumberland Matters communications initiative received NCACC award
  - Multimedia specialist to start in Public Information Office on January 3

## *Second Tier Goals*

- **PLANNING – initiate regional planning through consolidation and collaboration with municipalities**
  - FAMPO conducted two studies: the Raeford Road Corridor Study and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Study
  - Approved the Northeast Cumberland Area Land Use Plan in March
  - Approved Cumberland County Working Lands Protection Plan in November
  - North Central Area Citizens Planning Committee is working on a detailed Land Use Plan for the north central area of county, including the Town of Linden.



# 2010 Goals Update

➤ **SCHOOL FORMULA –**

- In September, the BOC deferred consideration of any funding agreement with the Cumberland County Schools until the board has a clear picture of what the state budget will look like and the impact on the county

➤ **FORMER HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- Preliminary schematics completed on remodeling facility to include 911 call center and county administration
- Facilities Committee recommended County investigate marketability options

➤ **PARKS & RECREATION – Provide recreational opportunities within 10 miles of county residents.**

- Town of Godwin and Parks & Recreation received \$150,000 PARTF (Parks & Recreation Trust Fund) grant for Godwin Park
- Initiate discussions with municipalities related to countywide recreation tax set at same rate or other way to equalize funding options
- Parks & Recreation developed project list and recommends a bond referendum to fund facilities designed to produce revenue sufficient to cover operational costs. At joint City/County meeting, the Parks & Recreation Director was given six months to develop a package to present to the joint body.

## *Future Strategic Planning Dates for 2011*

- January 14 – half-day training session for Commissioners, management and department heads on strategic planning
- January 27 – full day strategic planning for Commissioners and management
- February 18 – full day strategic planning for Commissioners, management and department heads
- Sessions will be held at the Crown Center and are offered through NC State University and the Cooperative Extension Service. Facilitators will be Dr. Stan Dixon and Ed Emory.