

# Appendix W

## Visioning Session

As part of the Planning Board's efforts to develop a land use plan and update the town's land use ordinances, on January 11, 2005 a public forum was held at Benton Hall in North Wilkesboro. The purpose of the meeting was to gather public input on future land use and development issues facing North Wilkesboro. The meeting was well attended with over 30 citizens providing input into the process. In addition to a solid core of interested citizens, members of the town board of commissioners and planning board attended along with several town employees and members of the media.

Also, a special thanks is extended to Benton Hall staff, Karen Reynolds and the Public Works Department of the Town for assistance in setting up the meeting space and for their hospitality.

## Results

### Map Exercises:

Each participant was asked to respond to the following questions by placing a sticky dot at the location on a map that reflected their feelings about the following land use issues in North Wilkesboro. The number highlighted in **Red** indicates the highest value per category. The "No Data" values were not considered.

#### 1. SHOW WHERE YOU LIVE

	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>%</b>
Central Town/Downtown	9	31
Finley Park Area	3	10
Highland Park Area	4	14
<b>Outside Town Limits (ETJ)</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>45</b>

#### 2. SHOW YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN NORTH WILKESBORO

	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Central Town/Downtown</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>62</b>
Greenway Area	3	10
Hospital Area	3	10
North Town	2	7
Other	1	1

#### 3. SHOW YOUR LEAST FAVORITE PLACE IN NORTH WILKESBORO

	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Hwy 115 (In-town)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>
Hwy 268 (In-town)	2	7
North Hwy 18 (In-town)	2	7

West D Street	5	17
Smoot Park Industrial Area	2	7
North Town	3	10
Outside Town	3	10
No Data	7	25

**4. SHOW YOUR FAVORITE PLACE TO WALK IN NORTH WILKESBORO**

	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>%</b>
Greenway	11	39
Central Town/Downtown	17	60
North Town	1	1

**Survey of Needs Exercises:**

*Each participant was asked to respond to the following questions by placing a sticky dot at the location on a map that reflected their feelings about the following land use issues in North Wilkesboro. The number highlighted in Red indicates the highest value per category.*

	Much Less	Less	Same	More	Much More	TOTAL REPOSSES
Cooperation Between Town and County				3	24	27
Population Growth			1	13	14	28
Downtown Revitalization			1	6	22	29
Historic Preservation			2	11	16	29
High Skill Industry			1	4	24	29
Traditional Industry		1	3	19	5	28
Affordable Housing				21	7	28
Sidewalks			3	15	11	29
Commercial/Retail				7	22	29
Residential Development			1	22	6	29
High Density Residential		1	15	10	3	29
Recreation/Open Space			10	13	5	28

**Identify and Rank Exercise:**

*Each participant was asked to write down issues that they feel the strongest about relating to growth and development of the town. Once written down, the responses were displayed and then voted on by the rest of the crowd as to their importance in developing the future plans for the town. The responses and corresponding votes are listed and ranked below from the most to least votes.*

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b># VOTES</b>
Merger of the Towns	11
Improve Town Entrances	10
Redevelop American Drew Property	8
Redevelop Movie Theatre	8
Two-Way Main Street	8
Increase Job Growth	8
Extend Greenway	7
Refurbish Downtown Buildings	7
Encourage Vibrant Downtown	7
Encourage More Retail Restaurants	5
Encourage More Efficient Road System	5
Stop Demolition of Buildings	4
Provide Good Senior Housing	4
Encourage Adult Daycare Facilities	4
Enforce Speed Limits	4
Improve Senior Programs	3
Non-Political Hospital	2
Stop Speeding	2
268 Improvements	2
Beautify the Yadkin River	2
Completion of CBD Loop Road	2
Offer Small Business Incentives	2
Offer Perks for Existing Businesses	2
Increase Money for Tourism	1
Having a Downtown Theme	1
Improve Highway Signs	1
Improve Condition of Streets	1
More Strict Zoning Measures	1
Encourage Wilkes Towers to Reopen as Hotel	1
Redevelop Downtown Park	1