



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wilmington Chamber Applauds Approval of New Hanover County Comprehensive Plan

Wilmington, N.C. — Approval of New Hanover County’s Comprehensive Plan (*Plan NHC: Charting the Course*) by the county commissioners at their July 11th meeting was a notable achievement in creating the road map that will guide growth in the county for several decades. The board of directors of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and its advocacy partner Business Alliance for a Sound Economy (BASE) applaud the efforts of County Planning staff, the Planning Commission, and County Commissioners for their diligence and hard work in crafting the plan. County staff should also be commended for accepting input from Chamber leaders and members, and for their flexibility in making changes that have created a plan with clearer regulations, with policies and processes which will support job growth, that protects our natural resources, and that helps ensure the continued prosperity of our region.

“Since 2014, the Chamber spent considerable time providing feedback to the City and County as they embarked on comprehensive planning initiatives, giving real-world examples to staff regarding height and density requirements that would be necessary to support market demand and make development projects feasible,” said Chamber Chairman Mitch Lamm. “We also encouraged aligning the overarching goals of the Comprehensive Plan with the Commissioners strategic plan, and for the removal of the Aquifer Sensitivity map and Probable Wetlands map, due to the inaccuracy of the information in them. The majority of the business community’s concerns were addressed, helping create a much-more viable road map to handle the growth that is expected in the region over the next twenty years. We are very pleased with the overall effort to address these issues and believe this is an excellent example of the public and private sectors working in conjunction for the betterment of our community. We look forward to continuing to work with all area stakeholders as the County undertakes writing new development regulations.”

About the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce

The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce is the largest membership-based business association in Southeastern North Carolina. The Chamber’s mission is to ensure economic prosperity throughout our region. This is accomplished by: creating a diverse, inclusive organization that serves as a strong voice for businesses in the Greater

Wilmington area; offering unique membership benefits, services and education; and challenging government officials to address long term community and business interests.

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