

Area Meeting Results
February 2004
Things we Like / Things to Protect ^A

Atkinson/Western Area Meeting – Things We Like

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
11	Rural character; Low density development; existing land use; low density development
9	Clean air and water; clean water
7	No traffic congestion; lack of traffic congestion
6	Good schools; schools close to communities
6	Abundant wildlife; abundance of wildlife
5	Open spaces
5	Good, helpful neighbors/strong community
5	Easy access to urban areas
5	National historic park
4	Taxes reasonable
4	Fire and EMT services
4	Commercial areas disbursed; not concentrated and congested like Wilmington
3	Natural setting and features
3	Its quiet
3	Black River Health Center
3	Old homes; Heritage
2	Natural beauty
2	Boating and fishing
2	No light pollution
1	2 newspapers
1	Safe/low crime rate
	No urban sprawl

Attendance = 15

Burgaw/Central Pender Area Meeting – Things We Like

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
6	Wildlife; diverse habitat, game land, water
5	People-friendly
4	Rural, quiet life
3	Rivers, recreation
3	Good schools
2	Low crime
2	Wide open spaces
2	Slow pace
1	Proximity to urban areas

Attendance = 10

Hampstead/US 17 Corridor Area Meeting – Things We Like

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
32	Access to water beached; access to clean water, recreational water; no charge access to beaches; access to family beaches; access to beaches
32	Non-urban character; rural atmosphere; good housing on large lots; sparsely developed; smaller population, rural atmosphere; lot size requirements; rural atmosphere; rural atmosphere; rural atmosphere and easy pace of life; low density
31	Good schools; school system; school system; good schools; good schools
26	Tax rate; relatively lower taxes; modest taxes; relatively small government burden; lower taxes than other counties
25	Golf; recreational opportunities; recreation, golf, fishing, boating; recreation; recreation, fishing, hunting, golf, etc.
19	Proximity to Wilmington; convenient to urban areas but not urban; proximity to Wilmington, other cities
19	Minimum strip development
16	Open space; undeveloped spaces, Lea Island, Holly Shelter; green space; open space
12	Clean water; natural resources, environment, clean air; quality of life, clean air and water
12	Libraries; library system
10	Fire department; fire and rescue unit
8	Relaxed environment
8	Proximity to larger markets
7	I-40; access to I-40, other highways
7	Business opportunities
6	Affordability of housing as compared other areas; affordable housing
6	Low cost of living
5	Lower crime rate; low crime rate; personal safety
4	Many faiths represented by churches; churches
4	Diversity of population; diversity of people
2	Recycling center
2	Friendly people; Camaraderie, friendly; community spirit
2	Access to medical facilities; health care availability
2	Quiet yet near amenities
2	Holly shelter game lands
2	Citizen resources, quality of citizens
2	Lack of infrastructure keeps density low
1	Natural area preservation
1	Live oaks
1	Less traffic than Wilmington; less traffic; less traffic
1	Small government
	Land use planning
	Accessibility of elected officials
	Abundant wildlife

Attendance = 80

Maple Hill Area Meeting – Things We Like

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
38	Present use of the land; natural areas, undisturbed land; woodlands; wildlife and fishing; rural character
30	Rural country living and family oriented; lifestyle; people and living; nice living; quiet and always lived here; community spirit; friendly atmosphere; rural character, natural resources, and beauty; family, community-oriented atmosphere
19	Families have owned property for many generations (heirs); land ownership and home ownership; roots
14	Freedom of property rights
14	Existing lot sizes (being able to maintain existing lots less than 1 acre)
13	Clean air and water; good water quality
13	Like space, not crowded and congested; not congested but close proximity to 2 urban and 2 small town centers; Small urban areas
10	Efforts in providing transportation for the elderly
10	Health services and the Maple Hill pharmacy
9	Peace and quiet
8	Maple Hill Fire Department
7	Availability of county government; personal contact with county offices
7	Home (building) inspections
6	Neighborhood and community atmosphere
5	No 4-lanes on NC 50
5	Racial relationships
4	Independent spirit
4	Not urban like New Hanover County
3	Strong sense of community
3	Little traffic
3	Churches
2	Waterways
2	Safe; sense of safety
2	Farming
2	Like community for current characteristics, leave it as it is
2	People in the community
2	Library system
2	I-40
1	Law enforcement
1	Maple Hill is in the center of the area
1	Schools are available (close)
1	NCDOT services
1	Beaches
	Community is quiet and peaceful, rural characteristics
	Effort being made to respond to low and moderate income housing needs

Attendance = 38

Rocky Point Area Meeting – Things We Like

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
36	Slow pace lifestyle; peaceful and quietness; Peace and quiet; Rural atmosphere; rural, leisure lifestyle; not urban lifestyle
16	I-40; Access to I-40; Quick access to I-40
13	Open space
10	Good quality of primary and secondary schools; like current good schools; secondary and primary school system; schools
9	Good, convenient postal service and mail delivery
8	Safe-low crime; satisfactory law enforcement
8	Proximity to major cities, jobs, and wages; easy access to urban areas
7	Good fire department; Significant EMTs throughout county
6	Racial harmony
6	County water system
5	Friendly people; Friendly people and camaraderie; Pender natives/friendly people
4	Natural resources-trees, river ocean
4	Minimal traffic pollution
4	Services for elderly
3	Clean water
3	Modest tax rate
3	Manageable traffic volume
3	Cultural diversity
3	Open space
3	Location, proximity to urban areas
3	Good Gov't & communication with county officials; such as public meetings & involvement
2	Traditional, low country architecture
4	Community & Our Heritage
2	Current abundance of natural resources
3	Fishing opportunities & Wildlife in the Area
2	Agriculture and forestry
2	Waste disposal facility
1	Control of building codes
1	The national park (battlefield)
1	Diversity of skills
1	Local festivals
1	Close proximity to beaches
1	Reasonable tax rate; modest property tax rate
	Roads
	Abundance of churches
	Reasonable structure of government
	Lack of overcrowding


Attendance = 26

Penderlea/Watha/Willard Area Meeting – Things We Like

Comments
Farming and the farming life-style of the community
Open space and low density development; open space
Existing land use patterns, low density development
Quiet living
Current balance of manufactured housing and conventional housing
Fire services
Community recycling center
Historic heritage of the community, Watha first county seat

Attendance = 6

^A In this table, similar comments are combined and are separated by a semi-colon (“;”). Where comments are combined, the tally reflects total combined votes.

 = Top 10

Area Meeting Results
February 2004
Things to Improve^A

Atkinson/Western Pender Area Meeting – Things to Improve

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
11	Lack of boat access; Lack of access to public trust waters
8	Better paying jobs
8	Encourage balance between conventional and manufactured home development
8	Poor emergency service response in the west including Police, fire and medical.
6	More regulation of hog farms (air and stream pollution)
6	Wetland destruction
5	Family division lot sizes
4	Litter needs to be dealt with
4	Not enough land for business and industry
3	Road drainage; drainage
2	Water and sewer
2	Poor regulations for subdivision roads
2	Lack of awareness of western Pender's resources
2	Rapid growth without adequate planning
2	Hunting from the road right-of-way
2	Timber clear-cutting
2	Paying for services not received (ex. Sewer)
2	Need more opportunity for recycling at convenience centers
1	Multiple vehicle storage (junk yards)
1	Transportation for senior citizens
1	Not many safe places to jog or walk
1	Lack of restriction on motorized watercraft
1	Poor road maintenance

Attendance = 15

Burgaw/Central Pender Area Meeting – Things to Improve

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
10	Sewer and water; drainage
4	Vocational training
3	Haphazard development
3	More jobs, better pay
3	Improve public transportation
2	Enhance health facilities
1	Pig farms
1	Taxes, unreasonable rate
1	Too many mobile homes using joint facilities and locations
	Litter

Attendance = 10

Hampstead/US17Corridor Area Meeting – Things to Improve

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
44	Lack of central water and sewer; no public water and sewer; lack of utilities, water and sewer; lack of water and sewer including fire hydrants; inadequate potable water supply; lack of sewer
38	No alternative to highway 17; lack of Hampstead by-pass; No service roads; no alternate access to Hampstead; traffic congestion and speed; need 2 north and south coastal highways; traffic congestion on rt 17; rt 17 bypass
23	Disparity between taxation and services
20	Need more effective zoning regulations; inadequate zoning; current commercial zoning; lack of business zoning; more zoning like that of Hampstead village; prevent “mega” stores
15	More landscaping in commercial areas; Need for buffers between businesses; lack of aesthetic considerations in commercial areas; inadequate landscaping for new commercial development
13	Parks, recreation areas; lack of recreation facilities for children; lack of parks and recreation facilities; no public parks; inadequate parks
13	Need aesthetically pleasing recycle centers; need recycling facilities for all materials, especially vegetation; no disposal facility for yard waste
13	Speed on highway 17; Poor traffic regulation; lower speed on Rt 17 (35 mph);
13	Lack of public access to waters and rivers; boat ramps; public boat access to AIWW; lack of public access; lack of access to public trust waters on landward side AIWW
10	Uncontrolled commercial development along rt 17; uncontrolled building along highways
8	Job opportunities; lack of business park
8	Filling of wetlands
7	Lack of defined downtown area in Hampstead; Hampstead looks like Ogden; major highway thru middle of town
6	Non-incorporation of Hampstead
6	No public transit to Wilmington
5	Need for more mosquito control
5	Too much litter; litter; Brush dumping
4	Better signage ordinance; code enforcement and improvement of signs
4	Increase fees for developers for schools, roads, and services
4	Need county office on east side; inadequate access to county facilities in eastern Pender
4	Trade schools
4	Not enough physicians accept Medicare
4	Disproportionate representation on county commission and state legislature; inadequate political representation; Lack of proper representation in county
3	Lack of standards in building design
3	Law enforcement outside incorporated areas inadequate; insufficient law enforcement in eastern Pender
3	Overhead power lines
2	Overall county infrastructure plan that is in concert with growth
2	Diversity of retail establishments
2	No local plan for stormwater management
2	Lack of architectural review committee for commercial buildings

2	Policies against strip development
2	More shopping areas; Need more cultural, entertainment opportunities, such as theaters
2	Insufficient markings at school crossings
2	Roadside advertising
2	Too many auto and manufactured homes sales locations
1	No long term waste management plan
1	Many businesses not inter-connected with driveways
1	More public meetings in Hampstead
1	Better road maintenance
1	Too many groups with private agendas
1	No county engineer
1	Loss of significant tree resources to development
	Low wealth county
	Over development
	Distance to health care and hospital
	Garbage collection point
	Bureaucratic Burgaw-speed up answers
	Increase library money
	Better drainage
	Depend on other counties for resources
	Chlorinated water in plastic pipes
	Lack of sidewalks
	Not enough greenspace

Attendance = 80

Maple Hill Area Meeting – Things to Improve

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
47	Poor drainage; drainage problems in creeks; improve drainage; better drainage, clear creeks and ditches
33	High taxes; tax office issues
18	Low number jobs; lack of industry; availability of quality jobs; need “clean” industry; better paying jobs and industrial parks
18	Sewer; lack of sewer system; sewer to improve water quality
15	Low funding for rural communities – housing and recreation areas; improper funding to flood victims
14	County regulations (too many)
12	Low wages; better wages
10	Water quality; debris and litter in waterways
10	More community schools
10	Protect tree resources, particularly significant trees, from development; regulate clear-cutting during development
7	Combined tax and solid waste bill
6	Litter; illegal dumping
6	Beaver dams
6	Lack of good parks and picnic areas; boat ramps
6	Affordable housing; lack of low and moderate income housing

6	County permit fees
6	Services for elderly and working elderly
4	Busing of pre-schoolers
4	Individual property owner rights
4	Long travel distances mean long trips on bus and early hours for public school students; schools too far away
3	Solid waste fees charged for vacant homes and lots
2	Poor NCDOT use of inmates
2	Level of inter-racial church unity
2	Elected officials not responsive
1	Lack of input on garbage fees
1	Resource conservation
	Property valuation process
	Maple Hill unincorporated
	Current levels of zoning
	Current flood zones

Attendance = 38

Rocky Point Area Meeting – Things to Improve

Tally	Issue/Characteristic
24	Tax appraisals; Landowner taxes should be based on actual appraisal rather than estimate; Disparities in tax evaluations; lack of information on property revaluation process
18	Excessive mobile units; more single-family homes and less mobile home parks
17	Drainage-urgent; poor drainage, need to be proactive; driveway accesses causing drainage problems; poor drainage; poor drainage systems; no ditch/creek maintenance for drainage
12	Need more parks and recreation areas; lack of parks and recreation; lack of parks; not able to use school grounds for recreation; more recreation programs; lack of county parks-... recreation
14	Need sewer from 210 south of 133 to accommodate major retail (Walmart, Food Lion, etc.)
9	Outside people...making positions...not in best interest of Pender County natives
8	Disposal site open 7 days a week; need more than 1 disposal site
7	High taxes; taxes too high
7	Lack of good employment opportunities; need more job opportunities with better wages; need more employers; lack of good jobs; lack of industry
7	Lack of customer service from government agencies
6	Need zoning to discourage commercial development in residential areas
6	Too many regulations; over regulation
6	Outlet mall
5	Lack of public transportation; lack public transportation
5	Fees too high; too many fees
5	No lighting on I-40
5	(Too much) time required to get permits – commercial developments
4	Less restrictive building permits
3	County growing too fast for existing infrastructure
3	Satellite fire and EMS at Rocky Point; closer Fire and EMT
3	Strip malls – no plan

3	Lack of incentive package for commercial business
2	Lack of access to DMV services
2	Waste disposal fees too high
2	Problem with truck traffic at rock quarry on NC 210
2	Need more retail stores; Need more restaurants; lack of restaurants; need more retail businesses
2	No speed limit signs on local roads; better traffic control
2	Business-economic zones
2	Lack of access to water
2	Impediment to free enterprise, small business
1	Need more frequent mosquito spraying
1	Lack of ability to pay taxes electronically
1	Need traffic light at 133/Paul's Place
1	Land owner charged one flat fee for disposal instead of each property
1	Lack of higher education
1	Lack of good animal control
1	No individual to seek industry for Pender County; more industrial recruiting
	Need boat access to salt and fresh water
	Lack of construction debris disposal site
	Need more medical services
	Commissioners should hold more informative meetings in their district
	Reduce (too many?) special use permits
	Affordable housing
	Road maintenance


Attendance = 26

Penderlea/Watha/Willard – Things to Improve

Comments
Need community water and sewer
Some areas need drainage maintenance, roadside ditch maintenance
Replace “rescue” squad
More flexible subdivision regulations that allow transfer of family or inherited property.
Need faster electric repairs after storms
Post office in Watha
Need sign on I-40 indicating Exit 390 for Williard/Watha
Exit on I-40 at Camp Kirkwood Rd.

Attendance = 6

^A In these tables, similar comments are combined and are separated by a semi-colon (“;”). Where comments are combined, the tally reflects total combined votes.

 = Top 10