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Apex Town Council Improving Quality of Life for Our Community



Hello Neighbors and Friends -

I hope this newsletter finds you safe and well as we transition into this new year. Here are some Town Council highlights from the month of January.

Town Council Meeting News

January 11th - Agenda and YouTube Video

We began our January 11th meeting with a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day <u>Proclamation</u>. Residents were also invited to the Town's MLK Unity March on January 15th and worship service on January 16th at Apex First Baptist Church.

Items on our Consent Agenda included resident re-appointments to serve on the Environmental Advisory Board - EAB (of which I am the Council liaison to this year). I am very much looking forward to working with this group of very knowledgeable residents as they make recommendations to the Council that strengthen environmentally responsible practices that protect, promote, and nurture our community and natural world through advice and program support. Additionally, the EAB meets with applicants during the pre-application phase of a development proposal and makes recommendations for zoning conditions to help mitigate the impact of development on the natural environment.





With public hearings, Council invited citizen input regarding the development of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Budget. We have an on-line <u>survey</u> where residents can offer budgetary feedback through February 4th. Additional comments can be offered via this email address: annual.budget@apexnc.org.

In another public hearing, Council approved an additional \$500,000 gap funding request to DHIC, Inc. for the <u>Broadstone Walk</u> affordable housing project in order to complete the project. Broadstone Walk will include a total of 164 rental units, affordable to those who earn between 40% - 60% of the Raleigh, NC Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Area Median Income (AMI). This project will be the largest one hundred percent (100%) affordable housing project in Town history, with funding support from both local and county governments. The estimated start date of this project will be in the Quarter 2/Quarter 3 timeframe of 2022.

January 25th - Agenda and YouTube Video

We began our January 25th meeting with the presentation of the Peak S.T.A.R. Award, a joint honor given by the Apex Town Council and the Apex Public School Foundation on a quarterly basis where we recognize outstanding performance from our local educators and support personnel. Mr. Scott Chapman, Art teacher at Baucom Elementary, was our January honoree. He was recognized for his Veteran's Day displays and outdoor learning environments that he has created for Baucom students.

This was followed by our <u>Black History Month Proclamation</u> and then <u>Health for Humanity Yogathon 2022 Proclamation</u>.

In Consent Agenda news, Captain Ann Stephens with the Apex Police Department will retire on February 1, 2022. We appreciate her 30 years of service to the Town of Apex, and wish her well in her retirement.

With public hearings, <u>Rezoning Application #21CZ20 3075 Lufkin</u> <u>Road</u> was approved. This project will be a climate-controlled, self-service, indoor only storage facility on approximately 3 acres of property that will include solar roof top panels.

Another public hearing was held to invite input regarding the <u>Town's ADA Assessment and Transition Plan</u>. Since 2020, the Town has been working with Tindale Oliver on the evaluation of all Townowned facilities, programs, and services in an effort to identify any needed changes to comply with the current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations and to generate a Town ADA Transition Plan. The ADA ensures equal opportunity in areas of employment, state and local government services, public accommodations, and telecommunications.

Under ADA, state and local governments are obligated to conduct a self-assessment of their facilities, programs, activities, and services. The assessment and Transition Plan also represent the Town's commitment to being an inclusive and accessible community. The purpose of the Transition Plan is to address any barriers identified in the self-assessment and provide suggested remedies, cost analyses, and a timeline in which to eliminate these barriers.

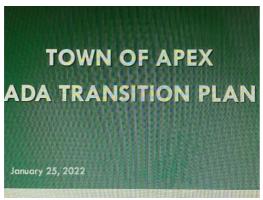






Photo Credit: Town of Apex

Other Information, Community Events, and Outreach

On January 12, I had a virtual meeting with Wake Med officials discussing trends in mental health needs for children and adults, and possible strategies for increased intervention and services.

On the evening of January 12, Council had a work session to discuss a Wake EMS facility to be built off of Apex Barbecue Road. Residents requested that a nearby stub street (Ellerview Stub Street) not be fully extended into their neighborhood as planned by the project and to be paid for by County funds. Residents were

concerned about possible cut-through traffic. Staff did try to come up with some alternative solutions, but at the end of the discussion, Council decided that interconnectivity was important for overall traffic flow and for emergency vehicle services. Neighbors can request a local traffic study after the project is complete should they have concerns with vehicular traffic to help determine if any traffic calming devices are warranted.

Saturday, January 15th was the Apex MLK Unity March. We enjoyed inspirational speakers who challenged us to continue the work for civil rights and equal rights for all.









I listened in on a virtual Q & A program regarding the Peakway Southwest Connector project on January 19th . Here's the $\underline{\text{link}}$ to the hour-long program if you missed it.

On January 20th, I virtually attended the monthly <u>Environmental</u> <u>Advisory Board meeting</u>. Board members met with area developers and provided project recommendations from an environmental stewardship/mitigation perspective.

I virtually attended the monthly Service Groups and Faith Alliance meeting on January 25th sponsored jointly by the Apex Police Department and NC Shield. Our focus this month revisited the status of children and adolescents within the Wake County foster care system, and ways our group could provide additional support during this year.

In closing, I hope you all have a safe and healthy upcoming month. Best wishes, take care, and be in touch if I can be of assistance to you. – Cheryl

Our Vision

 A community unified in the stewardship of our small town charm, natural environment, and a future where all succeed.

Our Mission

 Provide exceptional public service that cultivates opportunity for the individual and community to live, thrive, and reach their peak.

Strategic Goals

- High Performing Government
- Healthy & Engaged Community
- Environment Leadership & Responsible Development
- Economic Vitality
- Safe Community with Reliable Infrastructure

Cheryl4Apex

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