# **Edneyville Community Plan**



Adopted May 11, 2010

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners adopted the Henderson County 2020 Comprehensive Plan on July 6, 2004. The Comprehensive Plan identified the need to plan for individual communities within the County.

The Edneyville Community Plan is a community-specific comprehensive plan outlining future goals related to:

- Natural and Cultural Resources,
- Agriculture,
- Housing,
- Community Facilities and Public Services,
- Transportation,
- Economic Development,
- Land Use and Development, and
- Community Character and Design.

The process for developing the Edneyville Community Plan began with the adoption of a Community Plan Charter by the Board of Commissioners on February 20, 2008. On April 7, 2008, the Board of Commissioners appointed the Community Planning Committee. The Committee consisted of nine (9) community residents (including one (1) liaison from the Henderson County Planning Board) and an ex-officio member representing the City of Hendersonville. The Committee held meetings from May 2007 through September 2009 resulting in an estimated 36 meeting hours. During this period the Committee also gathered public input through two (2) public input sessions and an online survey.

The purpose of the Edneyville Community Plan Advisory Committee was to serve in an advisory role to the Board of Commissioners whereby it would recommend policies specific to Edneyville. The Committee formed goals and objectives for each element of the Plan based on input solicited from the public, and information provided by County staff and relevant experts. The following is a summary of the Plan's goals and objectives. More details and information may be found within the plan.

#### 3.1. Natural and Cultural Resources (p. 9-16)

#### N1. Protect Water Quality within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Restore impaired streams (303d list) and support water quality protection and restoration programs. Public and private groups should work together to restore and protect the water quality of Clear Creek. Landowner consent would be necessary for projects.
- Consider implementing stream buffer incentives. Allow incentives (including density bonuses) where new developments voluntarily provide undisturbed stream buffers of significant width.
- Consider identifying and incorporating stormwater management standards and requirements. Note: It may be appropriate to implement stormwater standards on a countywide basis rather than within one or several communities.
- Adopt an open space plan. The plan should identify areas preferred to be left as open space and encourage voluntary protection of those land (including National Heritage Areas).

#### N2. Protect Land Quality within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Consider only permitting conservation subdivisions within the Edneyville Planning Area.
- Limit cutting on ridges and slopes. The County should minimize development on designated steep slopes and limit cuttings on ridges and slopes related to development. Any limits should allow cutting associated with proper forestry management.

- Consider providing incentives for reforesting cleared areas of land, especially those on ridges and slopes.
- Minimize development on designated steep slopes.
- Promote ecotourism. National Heritage Areas and proposed open space plan allow for ecotourism promotion.

### N3. Create incentives/opportunities for preservation of historic and cultural sites within the Edneyville Planning Area.

#### 3.2. Agricultural (p.17-22)

#### A1. Reduce farmland loss within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Consider establishing a farmland protection fund.
- Consider establishing and supporting a local land link program.
- Support an estate tax waiver or deferment for agricultural lands intended to remain in agriculture. The County should support any necessary changes in State law to permit waiver.

#### A2. Promote development regulations sensitive to agriculture in the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Require subdivision applicants adjacent to voluntary agricultural districts obtain or review information regarding farming practices.
- Consider implementing a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program. A TDR program allows a farmer to voluntarily be compensated for his ability to develop without having to develop the farmland itself. The County should support any necessary changes in State law to permit this program.

#### A3. Expand and diversify agricultural markets within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Create an agritourism plan and increase the promotion of agritourism in the Edneyville Planning Area.
- Establish an agricultural directional signage program.
- Consider establishing a local tailgate market or markets in the Edneyville Planning Area provided area farmers are interested.
- Promote local food campaigns.
- Consider establishing or supporting the establishment of an agricultural heritage museum.
- Continue working with local farmers to identify high value crops and educate them on crop diversification.
- Support existing or proposed agricultural research operation centers.

#### A4. Link local farms to schools.

- Encourage agriculture/horticulture curriculums and programs in local schools.
- Support educational opportunities at Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC).

### A5. Expand agricultural enterprises' access to economic development and promotion programs and support services.

#### 3.3. Housing (p. 23-28)

### H1. The County should lead affordable housing efforts, and encourage the equitable distribution of affordable housing throughout the County and its municipalities.

- Establish locational criteria for accessing any County established or supported affordable housing trust fund. Criteria should be provided to consider the location of the proposed affordable housing in relation to existing affordable housing.
- Encourage incorporating energy efficiency standards in new residential development.

### H2. Improve development standards for manufactured homes and existing manufactured home parks within the Edneyville Planning Area.

• Prohibit new manufactured home parks within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Consider requiring improvements to existing manufactured home parks within the Edneyville Planning Area.
- Consider establishing a County-funded voluntary removal program for abandoned or dilapidated manufactured homes.

#### H3. Expand and diversify housing options.

- Zone property with appropriate infrastructure (water and/or sewer) to allow "age in place" residential development.
- Preserve housing stock and increase housing opportunities at major intersections and transit centers.

#### 3.4. Community Facilities and Public Services (p.29-36)

### CFPS1. Community facilities and public services should be strategically located in areas identified as local commercial, industrial and office institutional.

#### CFPS2. Schools should function as a focal point for the community.

- Integrate public school, recreation, transportation, and public transit planning.
- Schools should be available for community use.
- Consider establishing site selection and design criteria for new schools.

### CFPS3. Improve the level of service provided by existing and proposed parks and recreation facilities and programs within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Construct multi-purpose fields at the existing Edneyville Community Park in addition to the proposed fields at the new Edneyville Community Center.
- Conduct community specific assessments to determine warranted parks and recreation facilities and programs in each community.

### CFPS4. Form a community and regional greenway network connecting public recreational facilities within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Expand the proposed greenway to connect all Planning Area park and school facilities.
- Greenways should include bike trails to facilitate on and off-road movement from NCDOT designated bike routes.
- Greenways should be designed to increase the safety of users and adjacent property owners.
- Consider establishing a greenways fund.

## CFPS5. Consider providing a Satellite Sheriff's Office in the Edneyville Planning Area at the main Edneyville Fire Station or another location determined to be appropriate by the County.

CFPS6. Public water and public sewer should be extended into areas identified as local commercial, industrial and office institutional.

#### **3.5.** Transportation (p. 37-42)

#### T1. Improve the transportation network in the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Improve and increase public information related to NCDOT projects, plans, and processes to engage the public.
- The County, through its involvement in the French Broad River MPO, should prioritize projects within the Edneyville Planning Area in accordance with Plan goals.
- Improve identified intersections based on recommended studies and identify new roads or improve existing roads that would provide a bypass of key intersections along US Highway 64 East.
- Consider implementing more stringent access management standards along all or part of identified corridors in an effort to provide safety and reduce traffic congestion.
- Facilitate safer automobile movement on Fruitland Road and US Highway 64 East during school peak hour traffic.
- Improve bike trail network throughout the Edneyville Planning Area and paving along identified corridors.

- Promote tourism along the US Highway 64 East North Carolina Scenic Byway or "Black Mountain Rag."
- Support public transit expansions in the Edneyville Planning Area when feasible.

#### 3.6. Economic Development (p. 43-48)

- E1. Direct commercial and industrial growth to areas where community facilities and public services are present or anticipated.
- E2. Support the development of the industrial sector of the economy within the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - Work with the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development and others to promote Industrial/Business Park Development in the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - Promote manufacturing, research and development, and clean/"green" industries within Industrial zoning districts in the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - Expand manufacturing training opportunities available at Blue Ridge Community College to provide a more competitive workforce.
- E3. Address economic development in the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - Continue to develop County economic plans focused on job creation.
  - Support utility scale alternative energy development (wind turbine/wind mill/solar panel farms) at appropriate locations within the Edneyville Planning Area.

#### 3.7. Land Use and Development (p. 49-56)

#### **LUD1. Residential Zoning District Map Amendments**

- Residential District One (R1). R1 should replace R2R zoning in the western portions of the Edneyville Planning Area. Future R1 zoning may be appropriate if facilities and services become available.
- Prohibit additional manufactured home parks within the Edneyville Planning Area.

#### LUD2. Commercial, Office Institutional and Industrial Zoning District Map Amendments

- Local Commercial (LC). R2R zoning should replace LC zoning between Townsend and Gilliam Roads. LC zoning should be applied at: US Highway 64 East/Fruitland Road intersection; US Highway 64 East/Home Place Drive intersection; Fruitland/Terry's Gap/South Mills Gap/Old Clear Creek Roads intersection; along US Highway 64 East, within portions of the Edneyville Inn Subdivision and on property across from Centipede Lane; and along US Highway 64 East, along property east of Lancaster Road.
- Community Commercial (CC). CC zoning should be applied along US Highway 64 East from east if Ida Rogers Drive to the US Highway 64 East/South Mills Gap Road intersection. CC zoning should not extend further east or west on US Highway 64 East in this vicinity.
- Office Institutional (OI).
- **Industrial** (**I**). I zoning should be applied between Townsend and Gilliam Roads and should be implemented at the request of the property owner(s).
- Mixed-use development should be encouraged in identified commercial zoning districts in the Edneyville Planning Area.

#### 3.8. Community Character and Design (p. 57-60)

### CCD1. Promote development compatible with the rural character and natural setting of the Edneyville Planning Area.

- Identify community character features and involve community organizations in the promotion of their preservation or enhancement.
- Adopt lighting regulations for nonresidential uses in the Edneyville Planning Area.

#### CCD2. Establish an Edneyville Planning Area Overlay District.

• Establish design standards for nonresidential uses in the Edneyville Planning Area Overlay District. Design standards should be established to ensure nonresidential development is unified and cohesive, consistent with the rural character and natural setting of the Edneyville Planning Area. These standards should apply to all nonresidential uses/developments.

CCD3. Promote redevelopment and adaptive reuse of existing abandoned nonresidential structures.

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#### SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION TO THE PLANNING AREA

#### **Purpose**

County officials, local organizations, and the community at large developed the Henderson County 2020 Comprehensive Plan (hereinafter "Comprehensive Plan"). The Henderson County Board of Commissioners adopted the Comprehensive Plan on July 6, 2004. A principal recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan is the detailed study of individual communities within the County. The order these community planning areas would be studied was determined based on anticipated growth and relation to the Growth Management Strategy (established by the Comprehensive Plan). The Comprehensive Plan recommends undertaking the Edneyville Community Plan as one of the initial plans due to the area's marked growth in recent years.

The Edneyville Community Plan is a community-specific comprehensive plan that outlines future goals related to Land Use and Development, Community Character and Design, Natural and Cultural Resources, Agriculture, Housing, Community Facilities and Public Services, Transportation, and Economic Development.

#### **Process**

The plan development process began with the adoption of the Edneyville Community Plan Advisory Committee Charter by the Board of Commissioners on February 20, 2008. On April 7, 2008, the Board of Commissioners appointed the Committee. The Committee consisted of nine (9) community residents (including one (1) liaison from the Henderson County Planning Board) and an ex-officio member representing the City of Hendersonville. The Committee's purposes were to advise the Board of Commissioners by recommending policies specific to the Planning Area. The Committee met for the first time on May 6, 2008.

The Committee gathered public input through two (2) public input sessions and an online survey. The County held the initial public input session on May 20, 2008 at Edneyville Elementary School. Approximately 26 community residents participated in the meeting by discussing the strengths of, concerns for, and 15-year vision for the community. To solicit additional input the County also provided an online survey available from May 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008. Complete survey results are provided in the document, *Edneyville Community Plan Supplemental Materials*, on file at the Henderson County Planning Department.

The Committee held 17 successive meetings following the initial public input session during which the Committee reviewed each Plan element. The Committee formed goals and objectives for the elements based on input from the public, and information from County staff and relevant experts.

The County held a second public input session on October 27, 2009 to allow residents to comment on the Plan. The Committee then held its final meeting to review the public input and finalize the Plan. The Committee presented the Plan to the Planning Board at a joint meeting held December 17 2009. With Planning Board support, the Committee presented the Plan to the Board of Commissioners on March 1, 2010. The Board of Commissioners held a workshop to discuss the Plan on May 11, 2010. The Board of Commissioners adopted the Edneyville Community Plan May 11, 2010.

#### Planning Area Boundary

The Planning Area is located in the eastern portion of Henderson County and includes just over 29,300 acres of land (12.21% of the County acreage and 14.32% of the County's jurisdictional acreage). The

Planning Area's northern boundary follows Bank Mountain ridge, lying south of Bearwallow and Little Bearwallow Mountains. The eastern boundary follows Henderson County's border with Rutherford and Polk Counties. The southern boundary falls between Sugarloaf Road and US Highway 64 East. The City of Hendersonville and its Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) define the southwestern boundary. Locust Grove Road generally provides the western boundary (See Map 1, Planning Area Boundary (p. 61)).

#### Historical Overview, Community Beginnings

The Edneyville and Fruitland communities' post-American Revolution history marks the earliest colonial settlement of Henderson County. Following his loss at the Battle at Kings Mountain in October 1780, Mr. William Mills, then a British loyalist (Tory), hid from the American Revolutionaries in the eastern portion of Henderson County. Mills thereafter became an American Revolutionary Officer. As an officer, Mills later received a land grant for a large tract in what is now northeastern Henderson County and which falls within the Planning Area.

Mills and his family, along with other colonialists, would struggle to lay the foundation for permanent colonial settlement on lands close to the Cherokee. In November of 1785, the State of North Carolina and the Cherokee entered into an agreement known as the Hopewell Treaty. The treaty attempted to settle the controversy on the western boundary of European settlement. The Hopewell Treaty border passed through what are today the communities of Flat Rock, Dana, and Fruitland. The Cherokee did challenge the land holdings of the early settlers of these communities, including Mills.

Fruitland first received its name in the late 1780's. In 1787, Mills planted fruit trees on his tract, naming his land and the surrounding area "Fruitland". The United States government provided official recognition of the Fruitland placename when, on May 31, 1883, it established the Fruitland post office with David Merrell as Postmaster. Mills also named other Planning Area landmarks including: Bearwallow Mountain, Ball Top, Point Lookout, and Sugarloaf Mountain.

Edneyville received its name from settlers from the eastern part of the North Carolina. The Edney family left England in 1692 to settle in Pasquotank County, NC. Descendants of these original colonial settlers included brothers Samuel and Asa Edney born in the 1760's. The Edney brothers moved to Henderson County from Pasquotank County between 1790 and 1792, arriving shortly after William Mills. Samuel and Asa married two (2) of William Mills five (5) daughters, Asa marrying Sarah, and Samuel marrying Eleanor. Samuel and Eleanor Edney's first son was born in the area in November 25, 1794. Asa and Sarah Edney settled on lands adjacent to Clear Creek.

Edneyville, as a placename, was officially recognized by the United States government in 1828 when Samuel Edney established a private post office for the area. United States Postal Service archives show, "Edneyville, Samuel Edney appointed 15 April 1828". The establishment of this Post Office is significant because it was possibly the only arrangement between an individual and the government in United States history. The establishment of the Edneyville Post Office marked the earliest record applying the name Edneyville to the area. Samuel Edney operated the post office at no government expense until a regular office was established in 1842, at which time his son James Edney was appointed Postmaster to the branch (January 21, 1842).

The communities of Edneyville and Fruitland were among the earliest in Henderson County, being officially recognized by the United States government for over 180 years and 125 years respectively. In perspective, the City of Hendersonville was established as the County Seat and first official town in Henderson County in 1847 (approximately 162 years ago).

#### SECTION 2. DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE PLANNING AREA

#### Demographic Trends

**Population and Growth.** Demographics and current trends for the Planning Area were derived from United States Census data (1970 County, 1990 and 2000 Block Group, and 2006 American Communities Survey) and Henderson County government data. The United States Census (hereinafter "Census") identified the number of households for Block Groups. The demographic estimates for the Planning Area were extrapolated from this data by comparing Henderson County government residential structure data to Census Block Group household data. The Planning Area's 2008 estimated population is approximately 6,063 persons, some 5.9% of the estimated County population (103,510 persons) (See Table 2.1).

Table 2.1. Planning Area Population, Persons and Households 2008					
Persons	6,063				
Households	2,682				
Persons/Household	2.26				

Source: Census data (1970 County and 2006 American Communities Survey) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

The Planning Area experienced substantial population growth in the 10-year period from 1990 to 2000 (See Table 2.2). Data extrapolated from the Census (1990 and 2000 Block Group) indicate the Planning Area experienced a net gain of 1,862 persons and an overall 48.1% increase in population. In comparison, Henderson County experienced a 28.7% increase in population during the same period. The Planning Area population gain accounts for 9.4% of the total population increase for the County during this period (See Tables 2.2 and 2.3).

The household increase in the Planning Area was equivalent to the population increase (48.1%) during the 10-year period from 1990 to 2000. The number of households within the County grew at a rate that exceeded population growth during the same period. As a result, the average persons per household held constant in the Planning Area during this 10-year period, exceeding that of the County in both 1990 and 2000 (See Tables 2.2 and 2.3).

Table 2.2. Planning Area Population, Persons and Households 1990 to 2000									
Year 1990 2000 Net Change Percent Change (%									
Persons	3,873	5,735	1,862	48.1					
Households	1,583	2,344	761	48.1					
Persons/Household	2.45	2.45	0	0					

Source: Census data (1990 and 2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Table 2.3. Henderson County Population, Persons and Households 1990 to 2000									
Year 1990 2000 Net Change Percent Change (%)									
Persons	69,285	89,173	19,888	28.7					
Households	28,709	37,414	8,705	30.3					
Persons/Household	2.41	2.38	-0.03	-1.2					

Source: Census data (1990 and 2000 County).

Data indicate the Planning Area population grew 2.4% during the period from 2000 to 2006, a significant decline from the previous 48.1% increase experienced from 1990 to 2000. The County population grew more quickly with a 12.3% increase in population during the period from 2000 to 2006. The number of households continued to increase in the Planning Area and County, reducing the average persons per household for both (See Tables 2.4 and 2.5).

Table 2.4. Planning Area Population, Persons and Households 2000 to 2006								
Year 2000 2006 Net Change Percent Change (%)								
Persons	5,735	5,871	136	2.4				
Households	2,344	2,575	231	9.9				
Persons/Household	2.45	2.28	-0.17	-6.8				

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group and 2006 American Communities Survey) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Table 2.5. Henderson County Population, Persons and Households 2000 to 2006									
Year	2000 2006 Net Change Percent Change (%								
Persons	89,173	100,107	10,934	12.3					
Households	37,414	43,907	6,493	17.4					
Persons/Household	2.38	2.28	-0.10	-4.3					

Source: Census data (2000 County and 2006 American Communities Survey).

**Population Composition.** The composition of the population (age, race, ethnicity, income, and origin) is provided by Census Block Group data. In 1990 the Planning Area was comprised of all or portions of the following Census Tract Block Groups: 99.01 (1, 2, 3, and 4); 99.02 (1 and 2); 99.03 (1); 99.04 (1, 2, and 3); and 99.05 (2) (See Figure 2.1). In 2000 the Planning Area was comprised of all or portions of the following Census Tract Block Groups: 99.01 (1, 2, and 3); 99.02 (1, 2, and 3); 99.03 (1); 99.04 (1, 2, and 3); and 99.05 (2). County data indicate the Planning Area portion of Census Tract 99.02, Block Group 3 does not contain any residences. Data from this Census Tract Block Group is not included in demographic tabulations.

**In-Migration and Change in Housing.** Planning Area in-migration during the period from 1995 to 2000 (25.0%) equaled that experienced in the County as a whole. This did reflect an increase in the rate of in-migration in the Planning Area when compared to the period from 1985 to 1990 (See Table 2.6). The Planning Area and County both saw a decline in the percent of persons living within the same household when comparing the periods of 1985 to 1990 and 1995 to 2000. The percent of persons living in the same household within the Planning Area (53.3%) was just below that of the County (54%) during the period between 1995 and 2000 (See Table 2.7).

Table 2.6. In-Migration*, 1985 to 2000					
Percent of Population					
Place	1985 to 1990	1995 to 2000			
Henderson County	23.6%	25.0%			
Planning Area	18.3%	25.0%			

<sup>\*</sup>In-migration refers to those that moved into the listed place from outside Henderson County.

Source: Census data (1990 and 2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Table 2.7. Change in Housing, 1985 to 2000							
	Percent of Persons Living in the Same House Between						
Place	1985 and 1990 1995 and 2000						
Henderson County	56.5% 54.0%						
Planning Area	· ·						

Source: Census data (1990 and 2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

**Age of Population.** The populations of the United States, County, and Planning Area are composed primarily of residents aged 35 to 64. The United States, County, and Planning Area are composed secondarily of those aged 20 to 34 (See Figure 2.1 and Table 2.8).

The Planning Area population is generally younger than the County population. School-aged children (aged 19 or younger) make up 26.5% of the population in the Planning Area, higher than the percentage of school-aged children in the County (22.7%). Additionally, 21.7% of the County's population is aged 65 or older, while only 14.1% of the Planning Area population is this age or older (See Figure 2.1 and Table 2.8).

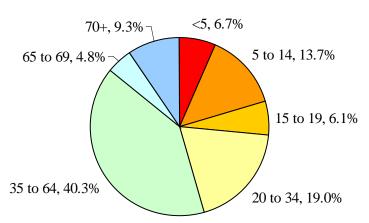


Figure 2.1 Planning Area Age of Population 2000

Table 2.8. Planning Area Age of Population 2000								
		Age						
Place*	<5	5 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 34	35 to 64	65 to 69	70+	
United States	6.8%	14.7%	7.1%	20.8%	38.3%	3.4%	9.0%	
Handargan County	5,007	10,499	4,709	14,667	34,950	4,929	14,412	
Henderson County	(5.6%)	(11.8%)	(5.3%)	(16.4%)	(39.2%)	(5.5%)	(16.2%)	
Dlanning Area	387	785	351	1,089	2,313	276	534	
Planning Area	(6.7%)	(13.7%)	(6.1%)	(19.0%)	(40.3%)	(4.8%)	(9.3%)	

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

The Planning Area saw the most significant growth in the population under age five (5). No group saw a decline in population between 1990 and 2000. Age groups showing the least percent change include those 15 to 19, 20 to 34, and 70 or older (See Table 2.9).

Table 2.9. Planning Area Age of Population 1990 to 2000								
Age	Age 1990 2000 Net Change Percent Change (							
Under 5	190	387	197	103.7				
5 to 14	487	785	298	61.2				
15 to 19	291	351	60	20.7				
20 to 34	882	1089	206	23.4				
35 to 64	1430	2313	883	61.8				
65 to 69	175	276	101	58.0				
70+	418	534	116	27.6				

Source: Census data (1990 and 2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

**Population Race and Ethnicity.** The population in the County and Planning Area is predominantly White (See Table 2.10). Data extrapolated from 2000 Census Block Groups indicate 5,001 White persons, 499 Hispanic or Latino (of any race) persons, 89 Black or African-American persons, and 149 persons of another race or ethnicity reside within the Planning Area. The Planning Area includes a larger percentage of Hispanics/Latinos (of any race) than the County (8.7% versus 5.5%) (See Table 2.10). Census Tract 99.03, Block Group 1 contains the largest percent of Hispanic or Latino persons in the Planning Area, with 24.3% of the population within this Tract falling into this category.

Table 2.10. Planning Area Race and Ethnicity 2000							
	Percent						
	Hispanic or Black or						
		Latino (Any	African-				
Place	White	Race)	American	Other*			
<b>Henderson County</b>	89.7	5.5	2.8	2			
Planning Area	87.2	8.7	1.5	2.6			

<sup>\*</sup> Other includes: American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, Asian, other Pacific Islander, Individuals of two (2) or more races, or any other unlisted race.

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

**Population Income and Poverty.** In 1999, approximately 51.6% of Planning Area households earned less than \$35,000 (See Table 2.11). The median household income during the same year for the Planning Area was \$31,494 while for the County it was \$38,109 (approximately 20% higher). The projected 2006 median household income for the Planning Area is \$34,357 while for the County it is \$41,573. In both 1999 and 2006, only Tract 99.04, Block Group 2 and Tract 99.05, Block Group 2 had median incomes exceeding the County's. These Block Groups account for only 17.6% of the Planning Area population (See Table 2.12).

Table 2.11. Planning Area Household Income 1999								
	Percent (%)							
	Less	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$45,000	\$60,000	\$75,000	
	than	to	to	to	to	to	to	
Place	\$10,000	\$24,999	\$34,999	\$44,999	\$59,999	\$74,999	\$99,999	<b>\$100,000</b> +
<b>Henderson County</b>	8.4	21.5	15.6	13.6	14.8	10	8.5	7.7
Planning Area	10.0	24.4	17.2	13.9	15.2	7.9	6.4	5.2

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Table 2.12. Planning Area Median Household Income 1999 and 2006				
Median Household Income				
Place	1999 2006*			
Henderson County	\$38,109	\$41,573		
Planning Area	\$31,494	\$34,357		

<sup>\*</sup>Assumes a 9.09% increase in median household income based on the increase experienced for the County from 1999 to 2006.

Source: Census data (2000 County and 2006 American Communities Survey) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

The Census Bureau defines poverty level based on income, family size, and family composition. In 1999, households with two (2) adults and two (2) children were in poverty when their income was \$16,895 or less. The Planning Area experiences a higher rate of poverty than the County as a whole. In 1999, approximately 13.1% of Planning Area households had incomes below poverty level compared to the County with approximately 9.7% below poverty level (See Table 2.13).

Table 2.13. Planning Area Poverty Status 1999						
	Income in 1999 Below Poverty Income in 1999 at or Above Poverty					
	Le	vel	Level			
Place	Persons Percent		Persons	Percent		
<b>Henderson County</b>	8,670	9.7%	80,503	90.3%		
Planning Area	847	13.1%	4,866	86.9%		

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Within the Planning Area a larger percentage of children (those under age 18) are below poverty level than in the County as a whole (See Table 2.14).

Table 2.14. Planning Area Population Below Poverty Status, By Age, 1999					
	Age				
Place	<18	18 to 64	65+		
Handargan County	2,719	4,283	1,524		
Henderson County	(31.9%)	(50.2%)	(17.9%)		
Dlanning Avec	307	419	120		
Planning Area	(36.3%)	(49.5%)	(14.2%)		

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

The 1999 Planning Area population accounted for only 6.4% of the total County population; however the Planning Area population below poverty level accounted for 9.8% of the County population below poverty level.

#### **Demographic Projections**

Planning Area demographic projections were derived from Census data (1970 County, 2000 Block Group Data, and 2006 American Communities Survey) and Henderson County government data. The Census identifies the number of households for Block Groups. The demographic estimates for the Planning Area were extrapolated from this data by comparing Henderson County government residential structure data to Census Block Group household data.

Trends indicate the Planning Area will experience substantial population growth in the 20-year period from 2000 to 2020 (See Table 2.15). Data indicate the Planning Area will experience a 28.4% increase in population by 2020. In comparison, Henderson County will likely experience a 41.9% increase in population during the same period. The Planning Area population gain will account for only 4.4% of the projected total population increase for the County (See Tables 2.15 and 2.16).

Table 2.15. Planning Area Growth 2000 to 2020							
Year         2000         2006         2010         2015         2020         Growth 2000 to 2020         Percent Change 2000 to 2020 (%)							
Persons	5,735	5,871	6,263	6,790	7,363	1,628	28.4
Households	2,344	2,575	2,794	3,094	3,426	1,082	46.2
Persons/Household	2.45	2.28	2.24	2.19	2.15	-0.30	-12.2

Source: Census data (1970 County and 2006 American Communities Survey) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Table 2.16. Henderson County Growth 2000 to 2020							
Growth Percent 2000 to Change 200							
Year	2000	2006	2010	2015	2020	2020	to 2020 (%)
Persons	89,173	100,107	107,029	116,358	126,500	37,327	41.9
Households	37,414	43,907	48,378	54,613	61,652	24,238	64.8
Persons/Household	2.38	2.28	2.21	2.13	2.05	-0.33	-13.8

Source: Census data (1970 County and 2006 American Communities Survey) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

The number of households within the Planning Area is projected to increase more quickly than the population will grow through 2020. The average persons per household is projected to be reduced in the Planning Area and the County over this period; however, the average household size in the Planning Area (2.15 persons per household) is projected to continue exceeding that of the County (2.05 persons per household) in 2020 (See Tables 2.15 and 2.16).

#### SECTION 3. EDNEYVILLE COMMUNITY PLAN

#### 3.1. NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

#### Sensitive Water Resources

**Broad and French Broad River Basins.** The Eastern Continental Divide (ECD) is the boundary which separates the Gulf of Mexico and Gulf of St. Lawrence drainage basins from the drainage basins that flow directly into the Atlantic Ocean. Until 1763, the official end of the Seven Years' War (French and Indian War), the ECD represented the boundary between British and French colonial possessions. Those lands to the west of the ECD, claimed by the French, were lost to the British in the war.

The ECD passes through the County and Planning Area (See Map 2, Sensitive Natural Areas (p. 62)). This boundary separates two river basins (the land surface drained by streams and creeks flowing into one another, eventually into a single large river). The consists of 19,673 acres (67.12%) in the French Broad River Basin and 9,639 acres (32.88%) in the Broad River Basin.

**Mud Creek Watershed.** The Mud Creek Watershed is part of the French Broad River Basin. This is the largest watershed located entirely within Henderson County (See Figure 3.1.1). The watershed does contain degraded streams with reduced water quality. Currently underway is the Mud Creek Watershed Restoration Project whose purposes it is to restore degraded streams and improve water quality. Some 19,550 acres (66.7%) of the Planning Area are in this watershed.

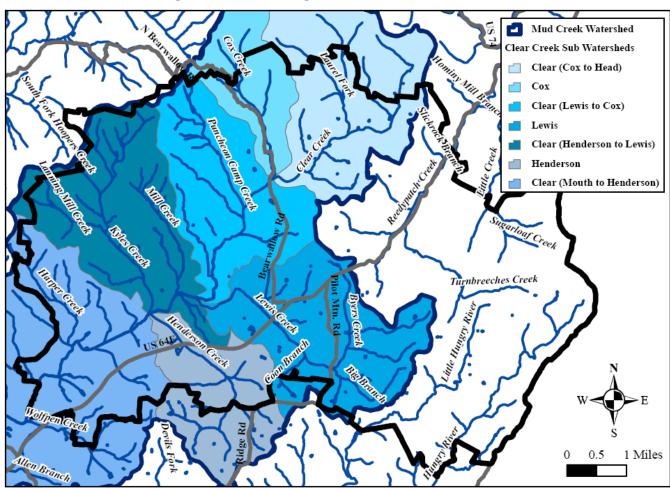


Figure 3.1.1. Planning Area Mud Creek Watershed

**Stream Classifications.** The US Clean Water Act (specifically Section 303(d)) requires states list waters that do not meet established quality standards. Clear Creek appears on the North Carolina Division of Water Quality's (NCDWQ) 2006 list of North Carolina Impaired Waters (Published June 19, 2007). Streams are degraded by altering the stream and surrounding area (removal of riparian vegetation, channelization, dikes, and other alterations); and adding contaminants to the stream including sediment (from disturbed stream banks, unpaved roads, and others), polluted stormwater runoff (primarily in more urbanized areas), wastewater discharges, potential hazardous spills, pesticides, and stream access by livestock.



View of Clear Creek, looking south from Bearwallow Road. Clear Creek is classified as a Trout Water but is also impaired.

Clear Creek is considered impaired because of the poor health of its biological communities. The Volunteer Water Information Network (VWIN) has monitored the water quality of Clear Creek for several years. According to VWIN, the Clear Creek watershed and subwatersheds are more heavily agricultural and developed than other County watersheds, resulting in increased surface runoff. Turbidity, total suspended solids, and nutrient concentrations are generally higher in Clear Creek than other creeks because of increased runoff. Data show Clear Creek's water quality continuing to decline.

NCDWQ also classifies streams based on their ability to support: (1) trout on a year-round basis and, (2) trout propagation. These streams are classified "Trout Waters." There are 107.7 miles of perennial streams in the Planning Area and 49.2 miles are classified as trout waters (46.68% of streams). These streams include all or portions of the following: Big Branch, Bold Branch, Byers Creek, Camp Judaea Lake, Clear Creek, Coon Branch, Cox Creek, Harper Creek, Henderson Creek, Hungry River, Kyles Creek, Laurel Fork, Lewis Creek, Little Creek, Little Hungry River, Puncheon Camp

Creek, Reedypatch Creek, Slickrock Branch, Sugarloaf Creek, Turnbreeches Creek and other unnamed tributaries. The Trout Waters classification protects these streams by applying more stringent water quality standards.

The Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Regulations of Chapter 200A, Land Development Code (hereinafter "LDC"), limit land-disturbing activities within 25 feet of classified trout waters. Certain exclusions to these restrictions apply including agriculture, foresting/timbering, and any land disturbing activity over which the State has exclusive regulatory jurisdiction.

Even with protective measures, sedimentation and the resulting increased turbidity (the measurement of the visual clarity of a water sample) remain a particular concern in trout waters. Clear Creek's turbidity is generally higher than other creeks. Trout eggs can withstand only small amounts of silt before the likelihood of hatching is greatly reduced. Clear Creek shows turbidity levels increasing over time which could threaten trout waters viability.

**Flood Lands.** Planning Area floodplains and floodway are principally located around Clear Creek (in the western portion of the Planning Area (including its tributaries of Kyles, Henderson, and Lewis Creeks) and Reedypatch Creek (in the eastern portion of the Planning Area). A floodway includes the

stream channel and the adjacent areas that carry the deepest and fastest waters associated with a flood event. A 100-year floodplain is defined as having a 1% chance of flooding in a given year while the 500-year floodplain is defined as having a 0.2% chance of flooding in a given year. Approximately 3.62% of the Planning Area falls within flood lands (See Table 3.1.1 and Figure 3.1.2).

Table 3.1.1. Planning Area Flood Lands							
Total Percent of							
Flood Designation	Acreage	Acreage Planning Area (%) County Flood Lands (					
Floodway	147.00	0.50	3.80				
100-Year Floodplain	886.72	3.02	15.80				
500-Year Floodplain	29.48	0.10	4.30				
Total	1,063.20	3.62	23.90				

Source: Henderson County Flood Damage Prevention data (2008).

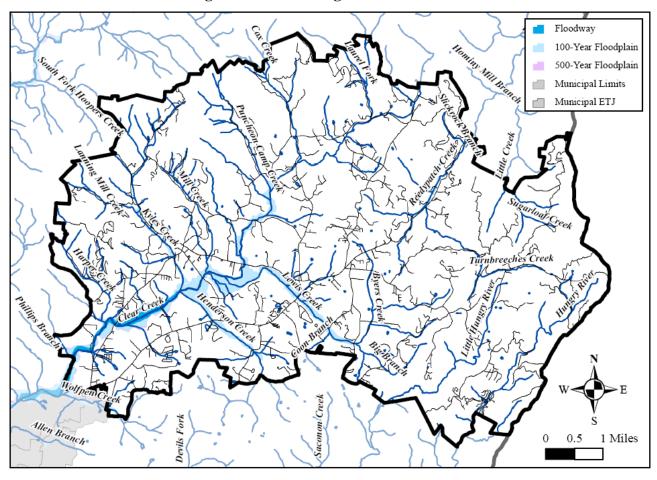


Figure 3.1.2. Planning Area Flood Lands

The Flood Damage Prevention regulations of the LDC: (1) do not restrict development in the 500-year floodplain, (2) limit development in the 100-year floodplain (in terms of fill and structure elevation), and (3) prohibit fill or placement of structures in the floodway.

Wetlands. Wetlands are defined by soil saturation and plant and animal life. Wetlands include swamps, marshes, and bogs. The Planning Area contains approximately 60.95 acres of palustrine wetlands (dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents (species that remain standing during the period between growing seasons), emergent mosses, or lichens). These wetlands contain a number of

grasslike plants (cattails, bulrushes, saw grass, sedges) and true grasses (reed, manna grasses, slough grass, and whitetop) (See Map 2, Sensitive Natural Areas (p.62)).

**Trends.** The Planning Area contains significant water resources but water quality is threatened. Fertilizers/pesticides, livestock waste, sediment, stormwater, and wastewater are increasingly entering streams because of standard land development and use practices. Each of these substances degrades water quality. Fertilizers and pesticides cause algae overgrowth, increased cloudiness, and fish kills. Livestock wastes introduces additional nutrients, bacteria, and pathogens. Sediment, the principal pollutant of North Carolina streams, buries aquatic organisms, clogs fish gills, reduces water clarity, and blocks light to aquatic plants. Stormwater and wastewater introduce additional nutrients, bacteria, pathogens, and chemicals.

Developing land can also substantially degrade water quality. Development typically increases impervious surfaces which increases the amount of stormwater entering streams and increases the number of flood events. Development that alters stream courses, reduces or removes vegetation, and fills or modifies flood lands can: (1) reduce the ability of a stream to accommodate the increased velocity and force of floodwaters, (2) damage streambanks, (3) result in scouring or sediment loading of the stream; and (4) result in flooding events that last longer and cover larger areas of bottomland

The cumulative impact of existing practices and new development pressure will continue to degrade Planning Area water quality. As development continues, monitoring and protecting the quality and quantity of water resources in the Planning Area will be essential to prevent further degradation or depletion of water resources.

#### Sensitive Land Resources and Protected Species

**Protected Mountain Ridges and Steep Slopes.** Protected mountain ridges and steeply sloping lands are primarily located in the northern and eastern portions of the Planning Area. The North Carolina

General Assembly authorized the Protected Mountain Ridge regulations of the LDC. These regulations apply to all mountain ridges whose elevation is 500 or more feet above the elevation of an adjacent valley floor (See Map 2, Sensitive Natural Areas (p. 62)). Structures located on a protected mountain ridge cannot have a vertical height of more than 40 feet (measured from the top of the foundation) and cannot protrude at its uppermost point above the crest of the ridge by more than 35 feet.

The Planning Area also contains steep slopes (See Figure 3.1.3 and Table 3.1.2). The LDC reduces density by one-half (½) for those portions of a tract with a slope of 60% or greater (where such slope areas of the tract account for 10% or more of the tract).



View of mountain ridges, looking north toward US Highway 64 East and Whiteside, Piney and Bald Top Mountains. Bald Top and Piney Mountain contain Protected Mountain Ridges.

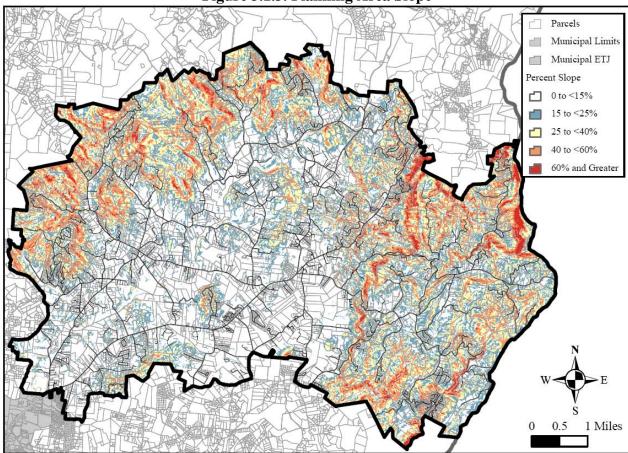


Figure 3.1.3. Planning Area Slope

Table 3.1.2. Planning Area Slope							
Percent Slope (%) Total Acreage Percent of Planning Area Lands (							
0 to <15	12,511.68	42.49					
15 to <25	5,725.60	19.44					
25 to <40	6,179.53	20.98					
40 to <60	4,100.97	13.93					
60 and Greater*	931.21	3.16					

\*These slopes are regulated by the County through LDC density reduction standards. Source: Henderson County slope data (2008).

**Environmentally Sensitive Sites.** The Planning Area contains many environmentally sensitive sites, with four (4) designated as Significant Natural Heritage Areas by North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (See Map 2, Sensitive Natural Areas (p. 62)). These four (4) privately owned sites include:

<u>Bald Top Mountain</u>. Significant due to its high quality Chestnut Oak Forest, High Elevation Red Oak Forest, and unusually diverse High Elevation Granitic Dome.

<u>Bead and Lace Falls</u>. Significant due to its high quality Spray Cliff community along one of the most scenic falls in the County. The falls are surrounded by good quality Rich Cove Forest and Chestnut Oak Forest. The rare Wood Sedge (See Table 3.1.3) occurs here.

<u>Cloven Cliffs/The Pinnacles</u>. Significant due to its high quality Montane Acidic Cliff, Carolina Hemlock Bluff, and Boulderfield Forest communities., and good quality Pine-Oak/Heath. The rare Biltmore Sedge occurs at this site.

<u>Lost Colony Coves/Raven Cliffs</u>. Significant series of coves, cliffs, and waterfalls which support good quality Rich Cove Forest, Montane Acidic Cliff, Spray Cliff, Carolina Hemlock Forest, and Pine-Oak/Health communities. Longstalk Sedge is found here.

**Protected Species.** Using the Natural Heritage Inventories occurrence data, several protected state and federal plant and animal species have been noted, historically observed, or have habitat in or near the Planning Area (see Table 3.1.3).

Table 3.1.3. State and Federal Protected Species Located within the Planning Area						
			Protecti	on Status		
<b>Common Name</b>	Scientific Name	Kingdom	State*	Federal		
Broadleaf Coreopsis	Coreopsis Latifolia	Plant	SR	-		
Lobed Spleenwort	Asplenium pinnatifidum	Plant	SR	-		
Northern Peatmoss	Sphagnum capillifolium	Plant	SR	-		
Prickly Ground Pine	Dendrolycopodium dendroideum	Plant	SR	ı		
Smooth Blue Aster	Symphyotrichum laeve var. laeve	Plant	SR	ı		
Swamp Bluegrass	Poa palustris	Plant	SR	-		
Virginia Mountain Mint	Pycnanthemum virginianum	Plant	SR	-		
Virginia Stickseed	Hackelia virginiana	Plant	SR	-		
Wood Sedge	Carex leptonervia	Plant	SR	ı		
Black-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus erythropthalmus	Animal	SR	-		
Lampshade Spider	Hypochilus coylei	Animal	SR	ı		
Least Weasel	Mustela nivalis	Animal	SR	-		
Mountain Heartleaf	Hexastylis contracta	Plant	Endangered	Of Concern		
Mountain Sweet Pitcher Plant	Sarracenia jonesii	Plant	Endangered	Endangered		
White Fringeless Orchid	Platanthera integrilabia	Plant	Endangered	Candidate		

\*SR: Significantly Rare.

Source: North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (2007).

Conservation Easements. The Planning Area contains conservation easements held by Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy (CMLC) and the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation. CMLC holds a conservation easement for a 312.36 acre portion of the Planning Area, in and around Wethero Mountain. The Planning Area also includes 37.68 acres of a 1,568 acre conservation easement, now held by the State, located in/around World's Edge. World's Edge contains waterfalls, sheer cliffs, forests and views that make its protection a priority (See Map 2, Sensitive Natural Areas (p. 62)).

**Trends.** Land resources in the Planning Area are limited. Approximately 11,920 of the Planning Area's 29,300 acres (40%) are vacant. Development trends and future pressures, if not properly managed, could negatively affect these limited resources.

#### Cultural and Historical Resources

Colonial settlers arrived in the Planning Area shortly after the American Revolutionary War. Many of these early colonial families still make their home in the area. A number of important cultural and historical resources from over 200 years of colonized history are within the Planning Area. The Planning Area contained 24 sites with structures estimated as being 100 years old or older (A photographic inventory of these structures is provided in the document, *Edneyville Community Plan Supplemental Materials*, on file at the Henderson County Planning Department). During the drafting of this Plan, one of the identified structures has been demolished as noted in the *Edneyville Community Plan Supplemental Materials*. Among the identified structures and cemeteries are the following (See Map 3, Cultural and Historic Sites (p. 63)):



<u>Unknown</u> <u>Confederate</u> <u>Soldier</u> <u>Gravestone</u>. Cemetery contains the burial site of an unknown confederate soldier along with a story plaque (See Map 3 (C1) and photos left ).

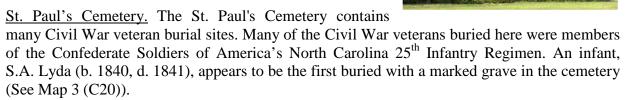
<u>William Mills Cemetery</u>. The cemetery contains a large number of fieldstones. The first individual buried with a marked grave in the cemetery appears to be Baila Lewis (d. 1809). William Mills (d. 1837), one of the original colonial settlers of the County, is buried here (See Map 3 (C23)).

<u>Coston Family Cemetery</u>. The burial site of several members of the Edney family, including Eleanor Edney, who appears to be the first buried with a marked grave in the cemetery (b. 1768, d. 1842)).

Samuel Edney (b. 1765, d. 1844), one of the original settlers of the County, is also buried here (See Map 3 (C6)).

Rhodes/Lyda Cemetery. This is the burial site of a number of World War II and Civil War veterans (See Map 3 (C19)).

St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The church is an historical landmark in the area established in the 1800's (See Map 3 (17) and photo right).



**Trends.** Historical and cultural sites important to the Edneyville Community and County are being lost due to decay, lack of knowledge of the site or its historical significance, and development pressures. Many historic structures are also in close proximity to major roads and expansion and widening of these roads may pose a threat to the preservation of these structures.

#### Natural and Cultural Resources Goals and Objectives

#### Goal N1. Protect Water Quality within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- N1.1 Restore impaired streams (303d list) and support water quality protection and restoration programs. Public and private groups should work together to restore and protect the water quality of Clear Creek (an impaired stream). Landowner consent would be necessary for projects. The County should consider:
  - 1. Using wetlands/bioretention areas to address non-point source water contaminants, and
  - 2. Educating developers/landowners about on-site stormwater management techniques.
- **N1.2 Consider implementing stream buffer incentives.** The County should consider offering significant incentives (including density bonuses) where new developments voluntarily provide undisturbed stream buffers of significant width.

- N1.3 Consider identifying and incorporating stormwater management standards and requirements. The County should consider:
  - 1. Requiring or offering incentives for using low impact development (LID) techniques in new developments/uses of land;
  - 2. Offering incentives for applying LID techniques to existing developments/uses of land;
  - 3. Tailoring regulations for stormwater management based on percent slope; and
  - 4. Establishing specific principles and practices for managing stormwater runoff associated with open uses of land.

Note: It may be appropriate to implement stormwater standards on a countywide basis rather than within one or several communities.

- **N1.4 Adopt an open space plan.** The Comprehensive Plan sets forth a Future Land Use Map that should be the starting point for developing an open space plan. The plan should identify areas preferred to be left as open space and encourage voluntary protection of those lands. To encourage voluntary protection the County should:
  - 1. Establish a fiscally sustainable land conservation fund and purchase property through fee simple or bargain sale acquisition,
  - 2. Encourage dedicating identified lands to conservation agencies or the County, and
  - 3. Seek development agreements for new developments on lands identified by the plan.
- Goal N2. Protect Land Quality within the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - N2.1 Consider only permitting conservation subdivisions within the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - N2.2 Limit cutting on ridges and slopes. The County should discourage cutting on ridges and slopes related to developments to prevent destabilization and preserve scenic natural beauty. The County should consider limiting cutting on lots containing ridges and slopes by applying building envelope regulations. Any limits should allow cutting associated with proper forestry management.

    Figure 3.1.4. Slope Measurement
  - N2.3 Consider providing incentives for reforesting cleared areas of land, especially those on ridges and slopes.
  - **N2.4 Minimize development on designated steep slopes.** See Figure 3.1.4 for measurement of slope (not to scale).
  - **N2.5 Promote ecotourism.** Ecotourism focuses on the natural environment as a means of attracting tourists. The Planning Area's designated National Heritage Areas and proposed open space plan (See Objective N1.4) will allow for ecotourism promotion.

14.04°=25% 14.04°=35% 24.23°=35% 35 24.23°=35% 25 24.23°=25% 25 25 25

Goal N3. Create incentives/opportunities for preservation of historic and cultural sites within Edneyville the Planning Area. Incentives and opportunities should be made available to owners of historic and cultural sites willing to participate in preservation efforts. The County should support preservation efforts by: helping secure public or private funding, identifying incentives for the protection of properties and structures, educating property/structure owners about these incentives, and encouraging, whenever possible, the use of these historic and cultural sites for educational purposes.

#### 3.2. AGRICULTURE

**Agricultural Lands.** Approximately 18,689 acres (63.76%) of the Planning Area is agricultural land (horticultural and forestlands are included in this category) (See Map 4, Agriculture (p. 64))<sup>1</sup>. Data used to identify the amount of land in agriculture include: (1) United States Department of Agriculture data (2004 Farm Services Agency and 2008 Census of Agriculture data); and (2) Henderson County data (2008 tax parcel and voluntary agricultural district data).<sup>2</sup>

Table 3.2.1. Planning Area Agricultural Lands						
	Acreage					
	Agricultural		Percent of Total Acreage in			
Place	Lands	Total	Agricultural Lands			
Henderson County	87,929.90	240,099.79	36.62%			
Planning Area	18,689.00	29,311.87	63.76%			

Source: USDA FSA data (2004) and Henderson County data (tax parcel and voluntary agricultural district (2008)).

The Planning Area contains a significant portion of the County's agricultural lands; containing 12.21% of the County's land but approximately 21.25% of its agricultural land (See Table 3.2.2).

Table 3.2.2. Planning Area Percentage of Agricultural Lands				
A avecas in A aniquity rel I ands	Planning Area	18,689.00		
Acreage in Agricultural Lands	87,929.90			
Percent of County Agricultural Lands in Planning Area 21.25%				

Source: USDA FSA data (2004) and Henderson County data (tax parcel and voluntary agricultural district (2008)).

**Agricultural Production.** The Planning Area contributes to the County's agricultural prominence. Agricultural operations within the Planning Area produce apples, cattle, corn, sod, strawberries, and tomatoes. The Planning Area also includes vineyards and nurseries. Recent trends also indicate farmers are diversifying crops and products to remain competitive. County production ranks as follows:

Apple Production. First in the State annually, and a leading producer of apples in the southeast;

Vegetable Production. Second or third in the State annually;

Corn for Silage. Seventh in the State in tons produced (2006); and

Cattle. Fifth in Western North Carolina (2006).

In terms of cash receipts, the County was the second most lucrative in the State in terms of cash receipts for crops (2005) and the 21<sup>st</sup> most lucrative in the State in terms of total cash receipts from agriculture (2005). The largest County commodity is ornamentals with over 55 acres of greenhouse-grown crops, 2,000 acres of sod, and 3,000 acres of landscape trees/shrubs, producing over 100 million dollars in gross sales annually.

The County is active in preserving its agricultural prominence. In 1991, the County adopted a Farmland Preservation Ordinance to: (1) encourage voluntary preservation and protection of farmland from nonfarm development; (2) increase awareness of local farm locations; (3) educate the public

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Actual acreage in agricultural land may be higher than data indicates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) data include Farm Services Agency (FSA) program (conservation, loan, credit and disaster) data and Census of Agriculture data (conducted each five (5) years). Henderson County data include tax parcel data (all land classified as "agriculture-horticulture" and "forestland") and voluntary agricultural districts (all active participants in the program).

about local farms; and (4) recognize the importance of agriculture to the economic and cultural life of the County. The ordinance established the voluntary agricultural district program requiring purchasers

of subdivided properties (within a specified distance of district lands) be notified of nearby district designations. The ordinance does not regulate the conversion of farms into developed lands.

The County also participates in a present use value taxation program where it taxes eligible lands on the present use value instead of the market value. Present use value (the value of the land in its current use) is only applied to agricultural, horticultural, or forestland. Not all agricultural land is eligible and must meet requirements related to: (1) time of application, (2) ownership, (3) size, (4) income, (5) management, and (6) any other requirement established by North



Carolina General Statutes. This program reduces property tax burden, ultimately reducing development pressure.

Finally, the County has provided in the LDC a 5% density bonus for those conservation subdivisions preserving active agricultural lands.

**Apples.** The Planning Area has long been associated with and identified by its apple growing industry. William Mills, the first colonial settler of Henderson County, planted the first fruit trees (among them apple) in the Planning Area in 1787. Mills earned the nickname "Billy Apple Seed" because, by planting these first trees, he began the apple growing industry in the County. The Edneyville, and Fruitland communities offer ideal apple growing conditions given their climate and terrain.

The apple growing industry developed slowly in the 1800's primarily due to poor means of transporting apples for long distances outside of the County. In the late 1800's, the first railroad in the County was built, with the first steam engine arriving in the original Hendersonville Depot in 1879. After the arrival of the railroad, apple growers began expanding their markets, hauling apples and other produce into nearby South Carolina counties and beyond. The apple growing industry was booming, becoming the most prominent County crop by the early 1900's. By the mid-1930's apple sales amounted to approximately 200,000 dollars in revenue annually. The apple industry grew slowly but steadily until it saw a second period of rapid growth in the late 1950's and 1960's.

In 1952, the County contained approximately 180,000 apple trees. These trees were almost exclusively located in the Planning Area and the immediately surrounding communities. Apple growers with many trees were looking for new technologies to increase productivity including speed sprayers and automatic pruners. Andy Lyda is credited as being the first apple grower to purchase a large speed sprayer in the 1950's.

In 1958, Gerber Products Company selected Skyland, North Carolina as a location for a processing plant. Gerber changed Henderson County apples harvesting with its arrival. The company introduced harvesting apples in bins and the 20 bushel bin box. Over the next decade, the apple market in the County would shift largely from a fresh fruit market to an apple processing market. Although the plant closed in 1998, apple growers continue to use the 20-bushel bin box introduced by the company.

In 1959, several apple growers organized the first apple-packing house and cold storage plant in the County owned by growers, the Western North Carolina Apple Growers Cooperative. At its height, the

cooperative had approximately 50 members and within a given year could pack and store more than 100,000 and 150,000 bushels respectively. Apple growers now primarily use the cooperative for cold storage.



Apple growers also began modifying their growing practices, including changes in tree spacing. Reductions in tree spacing allowed for industry expansion. Since the 1930's per acre tree planting rates increased tenfold (See Table 3.2.3). Apple production per acre also increased dramatically as a result.

The apple growing industry remains an important aspect of the Planning Area's agriculture, heritage and economy. Within the Planning Area

alone, over 150 commercial and 30 hobby farmers participate in the apple growing industry. Family farming remains prominent with names like Barnwell, Coston, Creasman, Dalton, Edney, Enloe, Freeman, Gilbert, Henderson, Hill,

Jackson, Justice, Justus, Lamb, Lancaster, Laughter, Liese, Lively, Lyda, Merrill, Moore, Moss, Nix, Rhodes, Staton, and Stepp continuing to be associated with Henderson County apples.

The County in 2007 contained an identified 6,146 apple bearing acres, 1,167,740 apple-bearing trees, and a potential full crop yield of 4,299,127 bushels (average of 700 bushels per acre). The County produced 80% of NC apples in 2006, pulling in a total of 17.5 million dollars in income (within the average 15-20 million dollars seen annually). The County's apple market is once again largely a fresh fruit market.

Table 3.2.3. Henderson County Apple Tree Spacing							
Apple Trees 1930's Today							
Spacing Within Rows 30-35 feet 10-15 feet							
<b>Separation Between Rows</b> 30-35 feet 16-20 feet							
<b>Planting Rate Per Acre</b>	40-50 trees	400-500 trees					

Source: Blue Ridge Farm Direct Market Association, www.ncapples.com

**Trends.** Despite the prominence of agricultural lands in the Planning Area, trends show declining agricultural lands in the County. According to the USDA Census of Agriculture, the County has seen an estimated 35.93% decline in total agricultural acreage during the 20-year period between 1987 and 2007 (See Table 3.2.4). Agricultural lands are declining because of: (1) parcelization, (2) scattered development pattern, (3) farmers' inability to compete successfully for land because of increased land value, (4) the loss of farmers due to age and lack of heirs interested in continuing farming, and (5) the economic hardships of farming.



Agricultural lands within the Planning Area and County are on the decline.

Once agricultural land is developed, its agricultural value is reduced significantly if not permanently lost. Agricultural lands are lost piece be piece to development because of parcelization (when a farm is divided multiple times into smaller tracts that are more easily sold and developed). Parcelization is part of the problems created by scattered development (occurring adjacent to existing agricultural lands). Scattered development makes farming more difficult in that farming practices and effects (dust, smells, sprays, noise, etc.) may be difficult to mitigate and can cause tension between neighboring residential uses and the farm. Individuals associated with the development may also negatively affect the farm through their own activities including

trespassing, vandalism and theft. Adjacent development may result in increased property values making it more difficult for farmers to compete successfully for valuable agricultural land.

Table 3.2.4. Henderson County Agricultural Census Data							
		Acreage by Census Year*					ercent Change
Place	1987	1987 1992 1997 2002 2007				Total (%)	Average Annual (%)
<b>Henderson County</b>	59,232	52,281	44,511	48,619	37,947	-35.93	-1.80

<sup>\*</sup>The acreage included herein may not include all land actively involved in agriculture as the USDA Census of Agriculture is a survey and is based on individual responses. Information available from the USDA FSA indicates additional acreage clearly not included by the USDA Census of Agriculture.

Source: USDA Census of Agriculture (1987, 1992, 1997, 2002 and 2007).

The overall decline in agricultural land is also the result of selling farms to developers. A farmer's age and lack of heirs combined with the economic hardships of farming often results in the sale of farms. In 2007, the average age of a Henderson County farmer was 57.2 (USDA Census of Agriculture). Given the aging population, this issue will likely remain a cause of agricultural land loss.

Development trends and future pressures, if not properly managed, may negatively affect agriculture.

#### Agricultural Goals and Objectives

#### Goal A1. Reduce farmland loss within the Edneyville Planning Area.

- **A1.1.Consider establishing a farmland protection fund.** The County should consider establishing a farmland protection fund dedicated to protecting agricultural land in the County (including its municipalities). The fund should be used to preserve farmland and acquire easements from property owners on a voluntary basis. This fund should be supported by donations/grants from Federal, State, County, municipal, non-profit, and private sources.
- **A1.2.Consider establishing and supporting a local land link program.** Land link programs function to match retiring farmers without heirs to beginning farmers without land. Beginning farmers often lack financial resources to farm because they cannot afford to purchase farmland.

A land link program would identify farmland available for lease-to-own or identify farmers willing to turn farmland over to a beginning farmer in order to avoid capital gains tax.

- A1.3.Support an estate tax waiver or deferment for agricultural lands intended to remain in agriculture. The County should support any necessary changes in State law to permit waiver.
- Goal A2. Promote development regulations sensitive to agriculture in the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - **A2.1.Require subdivision applicants adjacent to voluntary agricultural districts obtain or review information regarding farming practices.** This requirement may increase dialogue and cooperation between farmers and developers. This information gathered should be conveyed to subsequent landowners to increase their understanding of the potential impacts of ownership adjacent to a farm.
  - **A2.2.Consider implementing a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program.** A TDR program allows a farmer in a "sending area" to sell development rights to a developer who uses them in a "receiving area". The sending and receiving areas are designated by the County. For example, a developer in a receiving area may purchase the number of lots a farmer in a sending area could develop under applicable zoning. In this way a farmer is compensated for his ability to develop without having to develop the farmland itself. The County should support any necessary changes in State law to permit this program.
- Goal A3. Expand and diversify agricultural markets within the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - A3.1.Create an agritourism plan and increase the promotion of agritourism in the Edneyville Planning Area. Agritourism focuses on agriculture as a way to attract tourists. Agritourism includes, but is not limited to, seasonal agricultural events (festivals, petting zoos, community fairs), self-guided tours (farm tours, barn tours), and "u-pick" farms.

The County Travel and Tourism Department should:

- 1. Increase its promotion of agriculture/agritourism, and
- 2. Devote a significant portion of its funding to this promotion.

The County should encourage farmers participating in agritourism to participate in NCDOT's agritourism signage program. This program allows for the advertisement of agritourism farms (as defined by NCGS and that meet North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA and CS) requirements) along interstates and other roads provided the farm falls within 15 road miles of the exit/interchange.

- **A3.2.Establish an agricultural directional signage program.** The County should seek NCDOT approval for the establishment of an agricultural directional signage program. This program would provide additional signage opportunities beyond those available through NCDOT for agritourism signage (See Objective A3.1). Permitted signs should:
  - 1. Promote local agriculture only;
  - 2. Include information only on the farm name(s), product(s) direction(s), and distance(s);
  - 3. Be installed in the right-of-way provided NCDOT approval of the program; and
  - 4. Be installed at the farmer's expense.
- A3.3.Consider establishing a local tailgate market or markets in the Edenyville Planning Area provided area farmers are interested. The establishment of a tailgate market should occur without County funds being used to construct or operate a facility.

- **A3.4.Promote local food campaigns.** Local food campaigns promote local food products through restaurants, local grocery and other stores, and farmers markets.
- A3.5. Consider establishing or supporting the establishment of an agricultural heritage museum in the County.
- A3.6. Continue working with local farmers to identify high value crops and educate them on crop diversification.
- **A3.7.Support existing or proposed agricultural research operation centers.** The County should support the expansion of the existing Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center and encourage the development of additional research operation. Studying additional crops is recommended.

#### Goal A4. Link local farms to schools.

- **A4.1.**Encourage agriculture/horticulture curriculums and programs in local schools. The County should promote programs that build relationships between local farms and schools. The County and School Board should:
  - 1. Maintain or expand agriculture/horticulture curriculums in middle and high schools;
  - 2. Maintain or increase support for organizations like Future Farmers of America (FFA) and FFA's Career Development Events or Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs;
  - 3. Work with the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP) and other organizations to encourage farm to school programs;
  - 4. Structure curriculums to permit farm internships for academic credit;
  - 5. Expand nutritional education and school garden programs;
  - 6. Increase agricultural field trips;
  - 7. Encourage schools serve local food.
- **A4.2.Support educational opportunities.** Blue Ridge Community College has existing programs and classes, for example, business and accounting, that may be beneficial to farmers. BRCC should expand programs/classes/training sessions and other educational opportunities for farmers. Topics may include farm business planning, law (tax and local), and computer skills training, among others. These programs should be properly advertised and marketed to farmers.
- Goal A5. Expand agricultural enterprises' access to economic development and promotion programs and support services.

#### 3.3. HOUSING

**Existing Housing Stock.** The Planning Area contains 2,566 residential units with the oldest existing residential unit built in 1835 (See Figure 3.3.1 and Map 5, Housing Stock 1930-2007 (p. 65)). Over half of these units were built in the past 27 years (1981 to the present) with the greatest amount of residential development occurring during the 10-year period from 1991 to 2000. During this 10-year period an average of 47 units were built/placed annually. From 2001 to 2007, an average of 57 residential units were built/placed each year. If this rate of building/placement continues, an estimated 571 units will have been built/placed from 2001 to 2010.

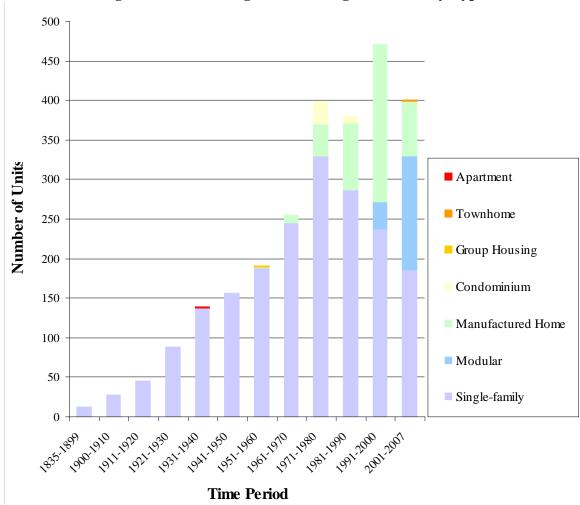


Figure 3.3.1. Planning Area Housing Year Built by Type

The Planning Area contains 6.12% of all residential structures in the County. The predominant residential structure type in both the Planning Area and County are traditional (stick built) and modular single-family residential structures. Data indicate traditional and modular single-family residential structures account for 80.33% of all County residential structures. These structures account for 82.54% of all Planning Area residential structures (See Tables 3.3.1 and 3.3.2).

The Planning Area contains a number of manufactured (singlewide and multi-section) single-family residential structures. Approximately 15.82% of all permanent residential structures in the Planning Area are manufactured compared to the County's 9.18% (See Tables 3.3.1 and 3.3.2). The Planning Area contains 10.57% of all manufactured residential structures (real property) in the County (See Tables 3.3.1 and 3.3.2).

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Table 3.3.1. Planning Area Residential Structures 2007			
Residential Structure Type		Number	Percent (%)
Single-Family	Traditional	1,940	75.60
	Modular	178	6.94
	Manufactured <sup>3</sup>	406	15.82
Condominium		38	1.48
<b>Group Housing</b>		2	0.08
Townhouse		1	0.04
Apartment		1	0.04
Duplex		0	0.00
Total		2,566	100

Source: Henderson County Building Services data (2007) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Table 3.3.2. Henderson County Residential Structures 2007			
Residential Structure Type		Number	Percent (%)
Single-Family	Traditional	32,762	78.25
	Modular	871	2.08
	Manufactured <sup>3</sup>	3,842	9.18
Condominium		1,871	4.47
<b>Group Housing</b>		14	0.03
Townhouse		884	2.11
Apartment		1,524	3.64
Duplex		103	0.25
Total		41,871	100

Source: Henderson County Building Services data (2007) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

**Manufactured Home Parks.** Manufactured homes within manufactured home parks are not considered real property. The number of spaces within existing manufactured home parks may not reflect the status (occupied/vacant) of the spaces. The Planning Area contains 25.04% of all manufactured home park spaces in the County (See Table 3.3.3). In comparison the Planning Area contains only 12.21% of the County's land and only 5.86% of the County's population. It is possible that an additional 1,050 manufactured homes are located within the Planning Area not accounted for elsewhere in this section.

Table 3.3.3. Manufactured Home Parks			
	Manufactured Home Parks		
			Average Number of
Place	Total Number	Spaces	Spaces per Park
Henderson County	568	4,194	7
Planning Area	97	1,050	11

Source: Henderson County Tax Assessor data (2008) and Property Addressing data (2008).

<sup>3</sup> Manufactured homes within manufactured home parks are not considered real property, are not identified by structure data, and are therefore not included in these calculations.

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**Residential Building Permits.** From 2005 to 2007, 8.61% of all County residential building permits were issued in the Planning Area. The Planning Area and County have seen a decline in the percent of residential building permits issued for manufactured homes during the period (See Tables 3.3.4 and 3.3.5). In 2005, approximately 47.92% of Planning Area residential building permits were issued for manufactured homes (dropping to 24.73% by 2007).

Table 3.3.5. Planning Area Residential Building Permits Issued				
	Residential Building Permits Issued (Number and Percent)			
	Traditional, Modular	Manufactured (Singlewide		
Year	and Multifamily*	and Multi-section)**	Total	
2005	50 (52.08%)	46 (47.92%)	96	
2006	63 (62.38%)	38 (37.62%)	101	
2007	70 (75.27%)	23 (24.73%)	93	
2005-2007	183 (54.95%)	107 (32.13%)	290	

<sup>\*</sup> Excludes remodeling.

Source: Henderson County Building Services data (2007) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Table 3.3.4. Henderson County Residential Building Permits Issued				
	Residential Building Permits Issued (Number and Percent)			
	Traditional, Modular and	Manufactured (Singlewide		
Year	Multifamily*	and Multi-section)**	Total	
2005	909 (76.64%)	277 (23.36%)	1,186	
2006	939 (83.39%)	187 (16.61%)	1,126	
2007	905 (85.78%)	150 (14.22%)	1,055	
2005-2007	2,753 (74.40%)	614 (16.60%)	3,367	

<sup>\*</sup> Excludes remodeling.

Source: Henderson County Building Services (2007) data with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Residential building permits for manufactured homes are issued at a higher rate in the Planning Area than countywide. From 2005 to 2007, 17.43% of all residential building permits for manufactured homes were issued for properties in the Planning Area.

**Approved Residential Lots.** The Planning Area contains 193 approved but unrecorded residential lots. These approved lots are within active major subdivisions (approved under Chapter 170 and revised Chapter 200A, LDC) and minor subdivisions (approved since the adoption of Chapter 200A, LDC). An additional 175 lots within these subdivisions are recorded, but only 38 of these lots currently contain a residential use. In total, approximately 330 lots within these subdivisions (including both recorded and unrecorded lots) could be developed with single-family residential structures. It is possible that these lots could contain accessory residential structures not accounted for in the projected 330 units.

**Housing Tenure.** Housing tenure in the Planning Area and County is comparable. Within the Planning Area, approximately 79.02% of occupied structures are owner occupied and 20.98% are renter occupied (See Table 3.3.6).

<sup>\*\*</sup> New, replacement and relocation permits for manufactured homes.

<sup>\*\*</sup> New, replacement and relocation permits for manufactured homes.

Table 3.3.6. Planning Area Occupied Residential Structures by Tenure Type 2000						
	Total Occupied		Occupied actures		Occupied ctures	
	Residential	Percent		Percent		
Place	Structures	(%)	Total	(%)	Total	
Henderson County	37,414	78.80	29,483	21.20	7,931	
Planning Area	1,775	79.02	1,402	20.98	372	
Source: Census data (2000 Blo	Source: Census data (2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.					

Housing tenure by population indicates that, within both the Planning Area and County, approximately four (4) in five (5) individuals reside in owner occupied housing (See Table 3.3.7).

Table 3.3.7. Planning Area Population by Tenure Type 2000						
		Reside in Owner Reside in Renter				
		<b>Occupied Housing</b>		<b>Occupied Housing</b>		
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	
Place	Population	(%)	Population	(%)	Population	
<b>Henderson County</b>	89,173	78.49	69,992	21.51	19,181	
Planning Area	5,735	79.39	4,553	20.61	1,182	

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Affordable Housing. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the agency responsible for federal housing programs. HUD defines housing as "affordable" when a household earning at or below 80% of the area median household income puts no more than 30% of its income toward a mortgage payment or rent. Within this group are those households with low income (income equivalent to between 51 and 80% of the area median household income), very low income (income equivalent to between 31 and 50% of the area median household income), and extremely low-income (income equivalent to less than 30% of the area median household income). A household paying more than 30% of its gross income for housing costs is "cost burdened". A household paying more than 50% of its gross income for housing costs is "extremely cost burdened".

Housing affordability determination by HUD typically accounts for mortgage payment, taxes, insurance, and utilities. Calculations included in this section do not take into account taxes, insurance and utility costs given the difficultly to determine these costs. Table 3.3.8 affordable housing price estimates reflect housing prices just beyond "affordable".

Table 3.3.8. Henderson County Housing Affordability for Low and Median Income Households 2006						
	Low Income Household					
Henderson County		Monthly	Affordable Monthly Housing	Estimated Affordable		
Household Income	Income	Income	Payment	Housing Price*		
Median Income	\$41,573	\$3,464	\$1,039	\$164,972		
Low Income	\$21,202 - 33,258	\$1,767 - 2,771	\$530 - 831	\$84,134 - \$131,976		

<sup>\*</sup> Assumes no money down, a 6.5% interest rate, and 30-year mortgage. Price determined based on HUD recommendations that no more than 30% of monthly income go toward a mortgage payment. Taxes, insurance and utility costs were not included in these calculations given difficultly in determining these costs. The affordable housing price does not account for or include private mortgage insurance (PMI) costs. Due to these exclusions, the estimated affordable housing price is likely just beyond "affordable".

Source: Census data (2000 and 2006 County and 2000 Block Group) and Henderson County parcel data (2007) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

In 2006, a County household earning \$41,573 was a median income household. A median income household could afford a home with a maximum value of \$164,972. The average assessed housing value in the County (\$257,171) is 155.89% of the affordable cost. The Planning Area average assessed housing value (\$150,158) is affordable to a County median income household.

In 2006, a County household earning less than \$33,258 was a low-income household. A household earning at the top of this category (\$33,258) could afford a home with a maximum value of \$131,976. The average assessed housing value in the County (\$257,171) is 194.86% of the affordable cost. The Planning Area average assessed housing value (\$150,158) is beyond affordability to a County low income household (representing 113.78% of the affordable cost).

The Planning Area's median household income (\$34,357) is approximately 17.36% lower than the median household income for the County. Planning Area median income is lower therefore an affordable home for a Planning Area median income household is also lower (\$136,336). The Planning Area average assessed housing value (\$150,158) is beyond affordability to a median income Planning Area household (representing 110.14% of the affordable cost). Over 50% of the Planning Area's households cannot afford an average valued Planning Area home.

**Trends.** The Planning Area is experiencing an expansion of its housing stock with trends showing an increase in the number of houses built/placed each decade. Housing affordability will be an issue in the Planning Area and the County as housing costs continue to increase. Ensuring an adequate stock of affordable housing in the future depends largely on future incomes and housing costs.

# Housing Goals and Objectives

Goal H1. The County should lead affordable housing efforts, and encourage the equitable distribution of affordable housing throughout the County and its municipalities.

- **H1.1.Establish locational criteria for accessing any County established or supported affordable housing trust fund.** The CCP recommends the establishment of an affordable housing trust fund. Criteria should be provided to consider the location of the proposed affordable housing in relation to existing affordable housing. Funds should:
  - 1. Be available to projects located in an effort to avoid undue concentration or clustering of affordable housing.
  - 2. Not be available where an undue concentration or clustering of affordable housing would occur at any of the following scales: County, Planning Area, or limited area.
- H1.2.Encourage incorporating energy efficiency standards in new residential development. Standards (building orientation, appliance efficiencies (water and energy), landscaping location, etc.) increase long term affordability by reducing operation, maintenance, and sustainability costs.
- Goal H2. Improve development standards for manufactured homes and existing manufactured home parks within the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - H2.1.Prohibit new manufactured home parks within the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - **H2.2.Consider requiring improvements to existing manufactured home parks within the Edneyville Planning Area.** The County should develop an amortization schedule that would require existing manufactured home parks within the Planning Area:
    - 1. Provide buffering consistent with the requirements for new manufactured home parks,

- 2. Provide additional landscaping, and
- 3. Pave any existing unpaved internal roads.

Establishing an amortization schedule allows the manufactured home park owner to recoup the value of the park over this specified period. At or before the scheduled end of the amortization, the owner may choose to come into compliance with these requirements or discontinue the manufactured home park use.

Note: This does not apply to individual manufactured/mobile homes not part of a manufactured home park.

**H2.3.Consider establishing a County-funded voluntary removal program for abandoned or dilapidated manufactured homes.** Financial assistance should cover a significant portion of the total demolition and disposal costs. The County should establish a fund to provide grants for the voluntary removal of dilapidate mobile homes and manufactured homes.

# Goal H3. Expand and diversify housing options.

**H3.1.Zone property with appropriate infrastructure (water and/or sewer) to allow "age in place" residential development.** The Planning Area's sense of community is the result of individual citizen's lifelong investments in the community. Extended care facilities (nursing home, assisted living hospice residential care, etc.), when located within a community, provide individuals an opportunity to "age in place". This benefits the community and citizen because invested residents can stay in their community and receive necessary services.

Office Institutional (OI) zoning should be applied in the Planning Area because special use permits are not required for extended care facilities in this district. The County should consider developing additional design standards for these developments to allow them to blend in with the surrounding less dense community.

**H3.2.Preserve housing stock and increase housing opportunities at major intersections and transit centers.** The County should preserve the existing housing stock and increase housing opportunities near transit centers (transit-oriented development) and major intersections to increase public transportation options that are both convenient and affordable.

### 3.4. COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES

### **Public Schools**

The Planning Area falls completely within the Apple Valley Middle and North Henderson High School districts. The Planning Area contains portions of the following elementary school districts: Edneyville, Clear Creek, Dana, Fletcher, and Sugarloaf (See Figure 3.4.1).

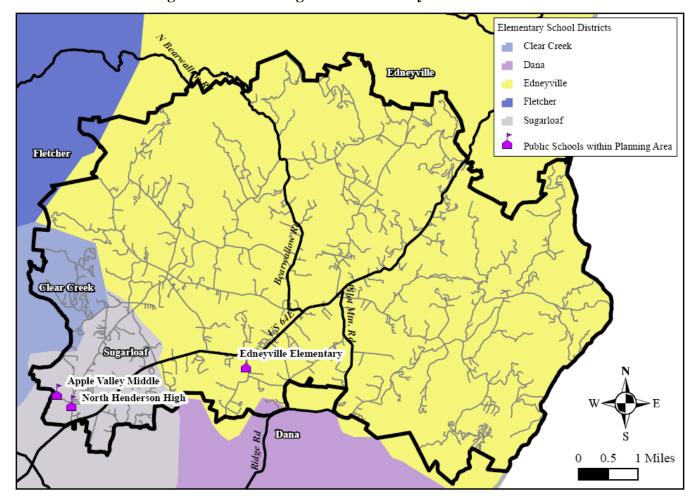


Figure 3.4.1. Planning Area Elementary School Districts

Those schools located within the Planning Area currently serving the County include Edneyville Elementary, Apple Valley Middle, and North Henderson High Schools (hereinafter "Planning Area Schools"). These three (3) schools currently exceed state capacity. Of the other elementary schools serving the Planning Area, Fletcher Elementary will likely exceed state capacity during the 2010-2011 school year. All other elementary schools serving the Planning Area are projected to remain within state capacity through 2013-2014 (See Table 3.4.1).

Table 3.4.1. Current School Capacities and Projected Populations									
			20 1	v					
	Cap	acity	Memb	ership		Projecti	ions* (200	9-2014)	
Schools	State	Core	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
<b>Elementary Schools</b>									
Clear Creek	648	723	683	505	510	524	546	574	588
Dana**	648	688	552	492	499	506	513	528	546
Edneyville	512	674	631	606	610	607	626	624	643
Fletcher***	648	696	663	568	641	719	742	770	808
Sugarloaf	648	723	N/A	468	495	509	524	532	540
Middle Schools									
Apple Valley***	654	847	815	828	900	990	1003	1023	1020
High Schools									
North Henderson***	895	1110	954	995	1049	948	945	1060	1092
Blue = Well within State Capacity  Yellow = Approaching Capacity  Purple = Over State Capacity				acity					

<sup>\*</sup> Projected growth is calculated by the kindergarten growth over the past eight (8) years.

**Planning Area Schools.** The first school in the Planning Area, "Edneyville School", was established in the early 1900's as a "subscription school" (where a subscription was paid for each child that

attended). The first accredited graduating class from the school consisted of eight (8) students and held its commencement in 1928. By 1938, the graduating class grew to include 39 students.

Edneyville Elementary School became established when, over the next 22 years, the surrounding schools of Barnwell, Bat Cave, Chestnut Grove, Ebenezer, Fruitland, Hickory, Liberty, and Middle Fork were consolidated. This consolidation resulted in the original Edneyville Elementary School. The current structure housing the Edneyville Elementary School was established in 1970 (a few miles west of the original siting of the school). Apple Valley Middle and North Henderson High Schools share a campus and were established in 1993.

All three (3) Planning Area Schools exceed the state average school size (see Table 3.4.2). The average students per class in Edneyville Elementary and Apple Valley Middle range from 19 to 23 (See Table 3.4.3).

In the 2006-2007 school year, the State Board of Education recognized both Edneyville Elementary and Apple Valley Middle Schools as North Carolina Schools of Distinction. The State Board of Education recognized North Henderson High as a School of Progress. Student academic achievement and the

number of students performing at or above grade level determine the recognition received (See Table 3.4.4).



<sup>\*\*</sup> Completion of Phase II calculated into capacity.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Numbers reflect additional growth projected from the Fox Glenn and Stone Crest Developments (2008-2011) Source: Henderson County Public Schools data (2008).

Table 3.4.2. School Size, Comparing Planning Area Schools to State Average

	State				
School Type	Average	Planning Area School			
Elementary	510	Edneyville	606		
Middle	666	Apple Valley	828		
High	989	North Henderson	995		

Source: Henderson County Public Schools data (2008).

North Carolina ABC Program end-of-grade tests (math and reading) results for Planning Area Schools show that pass rates for Planning Area Schools exceed State pass rates in both White and Hispanic categories. Edneyville Elementary and Apple Valley Middle pass rates for White students fall below district pass rates. North Henderson High Schools pass rates for Hispanic students also fall below district pass rates

Table 3.4.3. Average Students per **Class Edneyville Elementary and Apple Valley Middle** Grade **Students per Class** Kindergarten 19 **First** 20 **Second** 21 22 **Third Fourth** 22 **Fifth** 20 21 Sixth 21 Seventh 23 **Eighth** 

Source: Henderson County Public Schools data (2008).

(See Table 3.4.5). Table 3.4.5 shows, in red, where Planning Area Schools' pass rates fall below that of either the district or State.

Table 3.4.4. State Board of Education Recognition						
School	State Board of Education Recognition	Students Performing at or Above Grade Level	Student Academic Achievement			
Edneyville Elementary	NC School of Distinction	80-90%	Overall positive increase			
Apple Valley Middle	NC School of Distinction	80-90%	Overall positive increase			
North Henderson	School of Progress	60-80%	"High growth" amount of learning achieved			

Source: Henderson County Public Schools data (2008).

Table 3.4.5 North Carolina ABC Program End-of-Grade Tests (Math and Reading) Planning Area Schools Passing Rate as Compared to District and State Passing Rates\*

Percent of Students	Elementary Schools		Middle Schools			High Schools			
Passing by				Apple			North		
Race/Ethnicity	Edneyville	District	State	Valley	District	State	Henderson	District	State
White	76.9	81.3	75.9	76.3	81.3	75.9	80.5	80.2	77.0
Hispanic	71.2	62.6	52.5	66.9	62.6	52.5	56.9	58.5	55.0

Source: Henderson County Public Schools data (2008).

#### Recreation

**Edneyville Park (Existing).** The County currently operates one (1) park in the Planning Area. Edneyville Park is located at the corner of Firehouse Road and US Highway 64 East, behind the Edneyville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. According to the Henderson County Parks and Recreation Department, the County acquired the 3.41 acres of land for the Edneyville Park through donation by the



Edneyville Grange. The park currently includes a picnic area (available for rent), basketball courts, tennis courts, playgrounds, walking paths, and public restrooms (See Map 6, Recreation and Multimodal Transportation (p. 66)).

Edneyville Community Center and Park. The Edneyville Community Center and associated proposed park are located at the intersection of Ida Rogers Drive and US Highway 64 East. The center and park are the result of a cooperative effort between the Edneyville Community Center Association (which purchased and donated the land) and County. The center consists of a 5,335 square-foot structure with meeting rooms, restrooms and kitchen. Approximately 15.12 acres of land surround the center and are proposed to contain multipurpose fields, a walking trail and playground equipment. A baseball field and an enclosed gym with pool are included in future plans for the site (See Map 6, Recreation and Multimodal Transportation (p. 66)).



**Greenways.** The Comprehensive Plan identifies possible sites for greenways (which serve as an alternate link between residential communities, recreational areas, nonresidential centers and open spaces) in the Planning Area. These sites were initially identified by the Apple County Greenway Commission whose purposes are to promote and facilitate the planning, development, and maintenance of greenways in the County. There are currently no built greenways in the Planning Area.

The proposed greenways identified in the Comprehensive Plan are generally located along streams and railroad lines. The currently proposed greenways connect the Planning Area to the Town of Fletcher and City of Hendersonville. Proposed greenways follow: (1) Crab Creek (largely within its floodplain) into Hendersonville and (2) Kyles Creek to Terry's Gap Road and into Fletcher (the Fletcher Community Park) (See Map 6, Recreation and Multimodal Transportation (p. 66)).

#### Libraries

The Edneyville Branch Library first opened to the public in 1989 in a mobile classroom. In January 1999, the Edneyville Branch Library opened in its current building, located at the intersection of Firehouse Lane and US Highway 64 East. The new library consists of a main room (3,000 square feet) and "reading porch" (500 square feet which is screened). In 2007, the door count for the library was 16,552 people. The County currently has two (2) staff members operating the library.



## **Emergency Services**

**Fire Protection.** The Planning Area contains the following fire districts: Bat Cave, Dana, Edneyville, Fletcher, Gerton, and Mountain Home (See Figure 3.4.2).

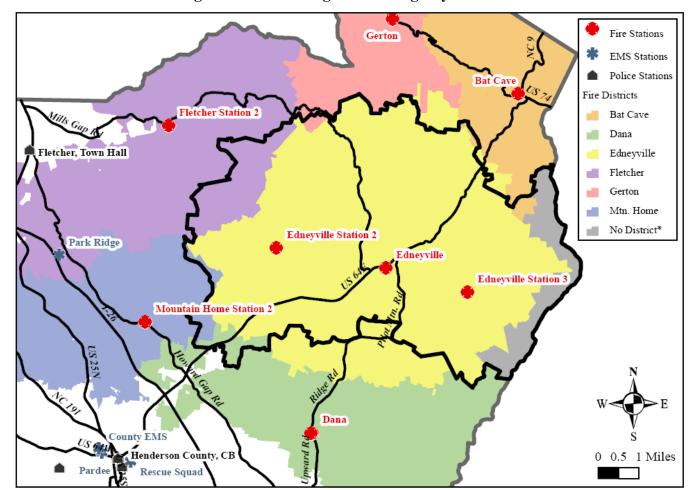


Figure 3.4.2. Planning Area Emergency Services

The Edneyville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department serves most of the Planning Area. The department has one (1) main and two (2) substations within the Planning Area. Locations include: the main station (Firehouse Lane and US Highway 64 East); Substation 2 (Dried Apple Lane and Fruitland Road); and Substation 3 (Sugarloaf Mountain and Gilliam Mountain Roads). The main station is approximately 7,000 square feet and the two (2) substations are each approximately 3,000 square feet in size. The department currently has 48 volunteers and 13 trucks that serve an area of approximately 26,077 acres. One (1) paid firefighter staffs the main station around the clock as a first responder.

There is currently no fire service tax district in the easternmost portion of the Planning Area. Fire departments from surrounding fire districts respond to emergencies in the portions of the County without fire service tax district designation.

**Emergency Medical Services (EMS).** The Planning Area contains an EMS station within its main Edneyville Fire Station (Firehouse Lane and US Highway 64 East).

**Law Enforcement.** There is no satellite Sheriff's Office in the Planning Area. The Sheriff's Department covers the Planning Area by allocating two (2) patrolmen within the general area 24 hours a day. The 911 Emergency Center, servicing the entire County, has four (4) to five (5) people per 12-hour shift. Nine (9) people work at the detention center, located in the City of Hendersonville.

### Public Water and Sewer

**Public Water.** The City of Hendersonville supplies public water to portions of the Planning Area. The waterlines principally run along US Highway 64 East, its major intersections, and its adjacent residential subdivisions. The waterline running along Bearwallow Road is currently under construction (See Figure 3.4.3). Other limited private water systems may also exist. Private companies generally maintain the infrastructure for these systems, often supplying water through community wells.

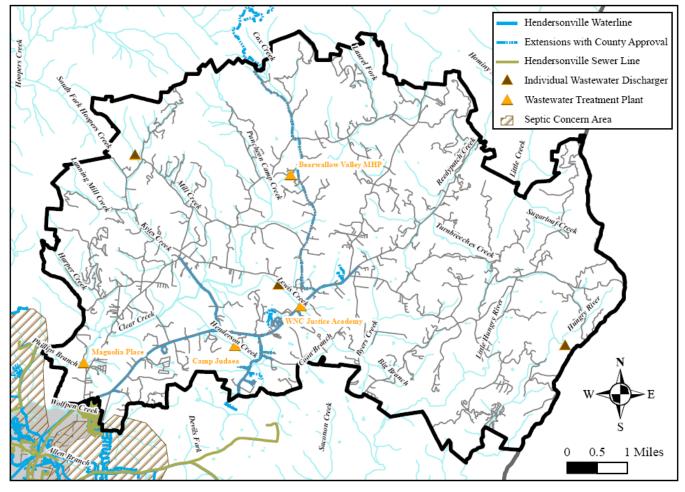


Figure 3.4.3. Planning Area Water and Sewer

**Public Sewer.** Public sewer does not currently serve any portion of the Planning Area. The closest sewer line serves Brittany Place Apartments located off US Highway 64 East and within the City of Hendersonville's jurisdiction. There are currently four (4) permitted wastewater treatment plants in the Planning Area. These plants are permitted and annually inspected by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) (See Figure 3.4.3).

#### Solid Waste

There are approximately 30 private municipal solid waste haulers in the County. The County contracts with Waste Management to transfer construction/demolition and municipal solid waste from the Stoney Mountain Landfill off Stoney Mountain Road to a landfill in Palmetto, South Carolina.

**Recycling.** Planning Area residents may drop off recyclables at the Stoney Mountain Landfill. Recyclables are sent to private companies located in either Charlotte, NC or Greenville, SC. Individual private waste collection companies may transport certain recyclables to Asheville, NC as well. The

County employs an Environmental Programs Coordinator whose responsibility it is to examine improvements to and expansion of the existing recycling program.

#### **Trends**

As the Planning Area continues to develop, demand for and on public services and community facilities will increase. Proper management of development is necessary to ensure community facilities and public services remain adequate in the future.

# Community Facilities and Public Services Goals and Objectives

Goal CFPS1. Community facilities and public services should be strategically located in areas identified as local commercial, industrial and office institutional. Community facilities and public services should provide and/or extended to these areas identified the Plan. Nonresidential zoning is applied at these areas. Providing facilities and services at centralized target areas preserves the rural character of the broader Planning Area.

Goal CFPS2. Schools should function as a focal point for the community.

- CFPS2.1. Integrate public school, recreation, transportation, and public transit planning. Schools should be incorporated in pedestrian system (greenways, trails and sidewalks), recreation, transportation, and public transit plans.
- **CFPS2.2. Schools should be available for community use.** Edneyville Elementary, Apple Valley Middle, and North Henderson High Schools should serve as focal points for the Planning Area community. Planning Area facilities are currently available for public use. Current school policy permits:
  - 1. General public access to outdoor school facilities when not otherwise occupied by school functions.
  - 2. Limited use of indoor facilities, with main office approval and associated fees.

Henderson County Schools should reevaluate its indoor facilities use policy and should:

- 1. Simplify the use approval process, and
- 2. Reduce or eliminate use fees.

Making school facilities more accessible to the community would generate more community support of schools.

CFPS2.3. Consider establishing site selection and design criteria for new schools. Schools serving the Planning Area currently or will soon exceed capacity. New schools will need to be established to serve the growing community. Site selection and design criteria should be established to ensure the best possible location and design for future schools. Criteria should require consultation with other County departments about potential site sharing and cooperative use. Sites which offer no opportunity for site sharing or cooperative use should not be considered.

Goal CFPS3. Improve the level of service provided by existing and proposed parks and recreation facilities and programs within the Edneyville Planning Area.

CFPS3.1. Construct multi-purpose fields at the existing Edneyville Community Park in addition to the proposed fields at the new Edneyville Community Center.

- CFPS3.2. Conduct community specific assessments to determine warranted parks and recreation facilities and programs in each community. The County should provide additional facilities, programs and support staff/volunteers to meet the needs of each community's population.
- Goal CFPS4. Form a community and regional greenway network connecting public recreational facilities within the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - **CFPS4.1. Expand the proposed greenway to connect all Planning Area park and school facilities.** The Comprehensive Plan proposed greenway would connect Apple Valley Middle and North Henderson High School and the existing Edneyville Park. The greenway should be modified to provide connections to Edneyville Elementary School and the new Edneyville Community Center.
  - CFPS4.2. Greenways should include bike trails to facilitate on and off-road movement from NCDOT designated bike routes.
  - **CFPS4.3.** Greenways should be designed to increase the safety of users and adjacent property owners. To increase the visibility of the users, greenways should be: (1) generally located near major corridors, and (2) adequately lit.
  - **CFPS4.4.** Consider establishing a greenways fund. The County should consider establishing a fund, or create a greenways capital plan, dedicated to providing greenways throughout the County. The fund should be supported by donations/grants from Federal, State, County, municipal, non-profit, and private sources. The County could consider the following alternative funding sources:
    - 1. Accepting private easement donations,
    - 2. Establishing bonds,
    - 3. Using all or a percentage of recreational facilities fees and concessions, and
    - 4. Using available State programs (including the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, Clean Water Management Trust Fund, and Adopt-A-Trail program).

The County may also consider requiring easements be granted to the County when a property along a proposed greenway applies for new development approvals.

Goal CFPS5. Consider providing a Satellite Sheriff's Office in the Edneyville Planning Area at the main Edneyville Fire Station or another location determined to be appropriate by the County.

Goal CFPS6. Public water and public sewer should be extended into areas identified as local commercial, industrial and office institutional.

#### 3.5. TRANSPORTATION

**North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Public Roads.** NCDOT maintains the majority of public roads in the state (including over 79,000 miles of roadway and some 77% of the entire public road system). Most state departments of transportation do not maintain the majority of public roads and instead delegate road maintenance authority to municipalities and/or counties. Henderson County does not currently maintain any roads for public purpose.

**Regional Planning Process.** NCDOT coordinates much of its transportation planning efforts for the County through the French Broad River Municipal Planning Organization (MPO). Henderson County is part of this MPO which also includes Buncombe and Haywood Counties and the municipalities within each of the three counties. Henderson County, like all local governments in the MPO, participates in the preparation and prioritizing of project lists for the:

- (1) "Comprehensive Transportation Plan for French Broad River MPO and Rural Areas of Buncombe, Haywood and Henderson Counties" (hereinafter "Comprehensive Transportation Plan") which serves as a vision for the future transportation system (adopted January 18, 2008);
- (2) "Transportation 2030: The Long Range Multi-Modal Plan for Buncombe, Haywood, and Henderson Counties" (hereinafter "Long Range Multi-Modal Plan") which identifies transportation improvements and programs to be carried out over the next 25 years; and
- (3) "Transportation Improvement Program" (hereinafter "TIP") which lists projects proposed for the next seven (7) years.

Beyond the MPO process, Henderson County also works directly with NCDOT engineers (district and county) to provide feedback on and track progress of project within the County.

Henderson County also has an appointed Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). The TAC is comprised mostly of MPO representatives who meet regularly to: (1) discuss local transportation issues; (2) receive updates from the NCDOT district engineer regarding TIP and secondary road project progress; and (3) take public input regarding transportation related concerns and issues.

**Regional Transportation Network.** The regional transportation network is composed of roadway facilities generally classified by NCDOT into the following categories:

<u>Freeways/Interstates</u>. Roads forming the principal avenue of communication between major regions of a country including direct connections between capital cities (with restricted access).

<u>Expressways</u>. Roads forming the principal avenue of communication for regional movement between an urbanized area and adjoining communities (normally has restricted access).

<u>Major Arterial or Boulevard.</u> Roads forming an avenue of communication for movement: (1) between important centers; (2) between important centers and interstates, regional roads, key towns and/or commercial areas; or (3) of an arterial nature within a rural area.

<u>Minor Arterial.</u> A safe all weather surface for moderate volumes of local through traffic with a high seasonal and heavy vehicle component. The main function of these roads is to provide access to abutting property.

<u>Local.</u> A safe all weather surface for moderately low volumes of local access traffic at moderate speeds. This is the minimum standard for school bus routes and sealed local roads. Roads may be of single lane sealed width.

<u>Collector.</u> A safe most weather gravel surface for low volume local light vehicular access traffic to one (1) or more dwellings at moderate speeds, with dry weather travel for all types of

vehicles. This may also include a dry weather surface only for the daily use of immediate residents. In either case this may be single lane.

The Planning Area does not contain any freeways/interstates or expressways. The most significant roads in the Planning Area are Major and Minor Arterials; however, no roads are more than two (2) lanes. An east-west Major Arterial, US Highway 64 East, connects the Planning Area to Hendersonville and Bat Cave/Chimney Rock. This corridor serves as the central connector of the Planning Area. The Planning Area is connected to Fletcher by Bearwallow/North Bearwallow Road which extends north-northeast. The remaining corridors within and extending beyond the Planning Area provide its transportation network.

Traffic variations within the transportation network depend upon local driving conditions and time of year. Traffic volumes are higher throughout the County during summer months because of added recreational and seasonal traffic. Over the last three (3) years, traffic volumes on major roads generally declined in the outlying portions of the County, and increased around the urban center. Because of its relatively sparse population, the region is generally free of traffic congestion.

**Regional Transportation Network Challenges.** The regional transportation network faces challenges in that it is: (1) rural, (2) isolated from a major urban center, (3) under development pressure, and (4) restricted by scarce financial resources. The scarcity of financial resources is the most significant challenge in that funding to support roadway operations, roadway maintenance, transit services, and safe bicycle/pedestrian travel access is extremely limited.

The following are the major issues for the region:

<u>Shortfall in Revenues</u>. A shortfall in revenues needed to implement an adequate pavement rehabilitation program and make needed improvements to roads, highways and bridges.

<u>Addition of Substandard Roads</u>. State maintenance funds are fiscally impacted when already substandard roads are added to the maintained roadway inventory.

<u>Lack of Transportation Services</u>. There is a need for transportation services to ensure mobility and reasonable access for all age and income groups. This needs to be addressed despite limited funding sources, extensive travel distances and high regional operating and fuel costs.

<u>Lack of Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities</u>. There is a need for bicycle and pedestrian facilities to provide safer environments and better connectivity for non-motorized travel.

**Recommended Potential Improvements to Roadway Facilities.** The recently completed Comprehensive Transportation Plan recommends potential improvements to roadway facilities affecting the Planning Area. These are not necessarily included in the Long Range Multi-Modal Plan or TIP. The following are those recommended road improvements by the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (See Map 7, NCDOT Comprehensive Transportation Plan (p. 67)):

<u>Project C8 – US Highway 64 East: Howard Gap Road (SR 1006) to Fruitland Road (SR 1574).</u> This segment of US Highway 64 East marks its transition between a multilane arterial and a two-lane rural highway. As development moves east, traffic will increase (from an estimated 17,000 vehicles per day (vpd) in 2005 to 26,300 vpd in 2030), and eastward widening is anticipated. To preserve the safety and capacity of this transition area, some enhancements seem prudent particularly in light of: (1) the proposed Balfour Parkway connection, (2) improvements to Fruitland Road, and (3) the identification of the Fruitland Road intersection as a commercial area in the Comprehensive Plan.

The recommendations are to preserve capacity and minimize crash potential by converting the two-way left turn lane to a median where appropriate. Further recommendations include

maintaining access management and providing intersection and signalization upgrades as warranted. This should be coordinated with projects C15 and C37 (See below).

<u>Project 15 – US Highway 64 East: Fruitland Road (SR 1574) to Gilliam Road (SR 1577).</u> This portion of US Highway 64 East marks the beginning of the eastward transition to a two-lane rural highway. As the eastern portion of the County grows, traffic will increase along this segment of US Highway 64 East. The Comprehensive Plan identifies several commercial areas along this corridor, including one at Fruitland Road. Just as important as traffic growth is the preservation of existing roadway capacity. Without careful management of access, increases in driveway connections and turning traffic will decrease capacity while increasing crash potential.

The recommendations are: although widening this portion of US Highway 64 East to a four-lane median divided boulevard would be the surest solution for providing a high level of service, it is not clear that this is warranted in this situation. This project should be coordinated with projects C8 and C37.

Project C37 – Fruitland Road (SR 1574): US Highway 64 East to north of Lancaster Road. Several factors contribute to the significant traffic growth forecast for Fruitland Road. The Comprehensive Plan identifies commercial centers at both ends of this facility, one at US Highway 64 East and one at Terry's Gap Road/Mills Gap Road. Furthermore, Fruitland Road serves as the main route to Interstate 26 and to westbound US Highway 64 East for most development along Terry's Gap Road, along Mills Gap Road, and areas north and east. By 2030, traffic is expected to increase (from 5,000 vehicles per day (vpd) in 2005 to 12,500 vpd) and will exceed the maximum capacity of the existing road.

The recommendations are to add turn lanes, widen lanes/shoulders, and improve geometrics and intersection operations as appropriate. This project should be coordinated with highway projects C8 and C15. The long-range transportation plan previously identified this project.

North Carolina Scenic Byways. NCDOT has designated 51 North Carolina Scenic Byways to give

residents and visitors a chance to experience the beauty, history, geography and culture of NC while raising awareness for protection and preservation. The State selects the byways to portray the State's diverse natural, historic, and cultural qualities while providing safe and interesting alternate travel routes. Motorists will see little or no development along the routes, enhancing the natural character and quality of the byways.

The County contains all or portions of three (3) of the 51 designated North Carolina Scenic Byways. The Planning Area contains a portion of the "Black Mountain Rag" which is named from the old fiddle tune (See Map 6, Recreation and Multimodal Transportation (p. 66)). The byway is approximately 31 miles long and runs through Henderson, Buncombe and Rutherford Counties. The byway includes portions of US Highway 64 East, US Highway 74A and North Carolina Highway 9 and connects the communities of Edneyville, Bat Cave, Chimney Rock, Lake Lure, and Black Mountain.

Public Transportation. An existing fixed-route transit system serves the County (See Map 6,



Recreation and Multimodal Transportation (p. 66)). The Edneyville Route is a one (1) vehicle fixed-route service transit system operating on weekdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. This system connects to the County's three (3) other vehicle fixed-route service transit systems. The three (3) additional routes operate on weekdays between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. The transit system serves primarily to connect the municipalities of Hendersonville and Fletcher. Eligible citizens of the Planning Area and County (senior citizens and disabled persons) may use paratransit (the rural van service) upon request. Paratransit is operated by Apple Country Transit and is available during the same operation days/hours as the fixed-route service. Federal and State grants and County

and municipal contributions fund the transit system.

Bike Routes. NCDOT designated bike routes in the Planning Area include all or portions of: US



Highway 64 East, Pilot Mountain Road, St. Paul's Road, Bearwallow Road, South Mills Gap Road, Terry's Gap Road, and Old Clear Creek Road (See Map 6, Recreation and Multimodal Transportation (p. 66)). These designated bike routes contain no dedicated bike facilities (bike lanes or paved shoulders) because most of these roads: (1) are extremely rural in nature, (2) have a low volume of traffic, (3) lack adequate shoulders, and (4) have poor geometrics. NCDOT cautions route users that these roads do not contain special accommodations. The most heavily traveled road segments include "Share the

Road" signs.

Since receiving bike route designation, the characteristics of the roads may change, reducing the safety of cyclists and drivers alike. In these cases, improvements to the roads (the addition of bike lanes or paved shoulders) may be necessary. Painted bike lanes along road shoulders may be added when a roadway is widened, geometrics are improved, or road resurfacing is scheduled. The designation of a bike facility (bike lane) should occur during the design phase for a planned improvement to a road.

**Funding Policies.** Transportation funding policies in Western North Carolina allow for limited capital improvement and maintenance projects. These limited funds require that State and regional authorities determine how the funding will be used by prioritizing projects. This means certain needed projects will not necessarily be funded immediately. TIP regional shares are maximized for: (1) regional road rehabilitation projects; (2) matching State funds with federal programs; and (3) interregional projects (as justifiable). The regional system infrastructure will deteriorate unless additional funding sources are identified. The State continues to seek new ways of funding projects and may eventually turn over a portion of its roadways to the County. Funding sources and programs (federal, state and local<sup>4</sup>) are available to fund French Broad River MPO transportation improvements.

Local funding sources include: (1) State Gas Taxes, (2) Motor Vehicle In-Lieu Fees, and (3) Powell Bill Funds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Federal funding sources include: (1) Surface Transportation Program, (2) Transportation Enhancement, (3) Highway Bridge Program, (4) Highway Safety Improvement Program, (5) Federal Lands Highway Program, (6) Section 130/Highway Safety Improvement Program, (7) Emergency Relief Program, (8) FTA Section 5310 Capital for Elderly and Disabled Transportation, (9) FTA Section 5311 Public Transportation for Rural Areas, (10) FTA Section 5311f Intercity Bus for Rural Areas, (11) Federal Airport Improvement Program, (12) Jobs Access Reverse Commute, and (13) New Freedom Program.

State funding sources include: (1) State Transportation Improvement Program, (2) Traffic Congestion Relief Program, and (3) State Highway Operations and Protection Program. Minor funding programs include: (1) Environment Enhancement and Mitigation, (2) AB1475 - Safe Routes to School (SR2S), (3) Bicycle Transportation Account, (4) Pedestrian Safety Program, and (5) Transportation Development Act Funds.

# Transportation Goals and Objectives

- Goal T1. Improve the transportation network in the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - T1.1.Integrate transportation, public transit, recreation and school planning.
  - T1.2.Improve and increase public information related to NCDOT projects, plans, and processes to engage the public.
  - **T1.3.The County, through its involvement in the French Broad River MPO, should prioritize projects within the Edneyville Planning Area in accordance with Plan goals.** The Comprehensive Transportation Plan recommends the following improvements to US Highway 64 East: C15 (improvements to US Highway 64 East Fruitland Road to Gilliam Road) and C8 (improvements to US Highway 64 East Howard Gap Road to Fruitland Road). Improvement C15 should be prioritized over C8.

The Comprehensive Transportation Plan recommended improvements to Fruitland Road (improvement C37) is also supported.

- **T1.4.Improve identified intersections based on recommended studies.** The conditions of the following intersections pose automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian safety concerns and should be studied and improved:
  - 1. Fruitland Road/US Highway 64 East (improvements to capacity and access);
  - 2. Pace Road/US Highway 64 East (the addition of signalization and turn lanes);
  - 3. South Mills Gap Road/US Highway 64 East (improvements);
  - 4. Gilliam Mountain Road/St. Paul's Road/US Highway 64 East (improvements to visibility);
  - 5. South Mills Gap Road/Terry's Gap Road/Fruitland Road/Old Clear Creek Road (improvements to the existing three-way stop servicing a four-way intersection).
- T1.5.NCDOT should seek to identify new roads or improve existing roads that would provide a bypass of key intersections along US Highway 64 East.
- **T1.6.**Consider implementing more stringent access management standards along all or part of identified corridors in an effort to provide safety and reduce traffic congestion. On identified corridors, the County could apply driveway cut regulations above NCDOT standards. These regulations would preserve or improve level of service. County regulations could:
  - 1. Increase driveway cut spacing requirements,
  - 2. Increase sight visibility requirements for driveway cuts, and
  - 3. Limit driveway cuts within vertical and horizontal curves.

Identified Planning Area corridors include: Fruitland Road (near its intersection with US Highway 64 East) and US Highway 64 East.

- T1.7.Facilitate safer automobile movement on Fruitland Road and US Highway 64 East during school peak hour traffic. The County should consider:
  - 1. Changing existing school entrances/exits to provide safer automobile movement at the Fruitland Road/US Highway 64 East intersection;
  - 2. Providing a traffic control officer during effective "school zone" hours;
  - 3. Requesting extension of the closed loop signal to the Fruitland Road intersection; and
  - 4. Requesting right turn signalization at the slip lane from Fruitland Road to US Highway 64 East.

Peak hour traffic information should be included in the proposed Fruitland Road/US Highway 64 East intersection study.

- **T1.8.Improve paving along identified corridors.** US Highway 64 East should be resurfaced and have lanes widened through the Planning Area. Lancaster Road should be paved. Townsend Road should also be paved to:
  - 1. Provide a convenient Fruitland Road/US Highway 64 East intersection bypass, and
  - 2. Accommodate increased traffic volumes should the immediate vicinity be rezoned as recommended, and
  - 3. Provide an alternate access during flooding events where Fruitland and Gilliam roads are not passable.
- **T1.9.Improve bike trail network throughout the Edneyville Planning Area.** The County should work to expand the bike trail network and connect it to proposed greenways.
- **T1.10. Improve facilities on NCDOT designated bike routes.** Planning Area corridors with NCDOT designated bike routes need to be improved to facilitate safer bike and automobile travel. The County should work with NCDOT to provide bike lanes on roads with NCDOT bike route designations. All portions of US Highway 64 East and St. Paul's Road, with designated bike routes should include bike lanes. On other designated bike routes, where bike lanes cannot be provided:
  - 1. Speed limits should be reduced,
  - 2. Shoulders should be widened, and
  - 3. Short (100 yard) bike lane segments referred to as "climbing lanes" should be added (to allow vehicles to safely pass cyclists) especially on uphill road segments.
- **T1.11. Promote tourism along the US Highway 64 East North Carolina Scenic Byway or "Black Mountain Rag."** The County should work with NCDOT to move existing State provided byway signage (increasing the visibility of existing signage) and should request additional byway signage to increase awareness of the US Highway 64 East North Carolina Scenic Byway designation referred to as the "Black Mountain Rag." The County Travel and Tourism Department should actively promote scenic byways located within the County. The County should work with NCDOT to seek signage along I-26 directing traffic to the "Black Mountain Rag".
- **T1.12.** Support public transit expansions in the Edneyville Planning Area when feasible. The Planning Area is currently serviced by the Green Transit Route and this service should be expanded.

#### 3.6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

External factors drive market trends and industry changes for local economies. These factors play a significant role in shaping and determining the economic direction of the region, County and Planning Area. The economy's foundation is built on its natural environment and citizens. The Planning Area's economy derives its energy and intelligence from its citizens.

Employment and economic trends for the region, County and Planning Area were compiled from Census data (2000 Block Group Data and 2006 American Communities Survey) and 2008 data from the North Carolina Employment Securities Commission (hereinafter "Employment Securities Commission"). Demographic estimates for the Planning Area were extrapolated by comparing Henderson County government residential structure data to Census Block Group household data.

**Workforce.** The workforce includes employed and unemployed workers aged 16 years or older. In 2006, the Planning Area contained 5.9% of the County's population and 6.7% of its workforce. The Planning Area participation rate (percent of the workforce as compared to the total population) is higher than the County participation rate (53.5% and 45.2% respectively) (See Table 3.6.1).

Table 3.6.1. Workforce Population 2006						
Place	Total Population	Workforce Population	Participation Rate			
<b>Henderson County</b>	100,107	46,929	46.9%			
Planning Area	5,871	3,142	53.5%			

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group Data and 2006 American Communities Survey) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

The ability of the Planning Area workforce to remain flexible and competitive is based on skill set and skill level. Skill set/level result from education, training and work experiences. The Census provides data regarding formal education level. The Planning Area population may be at a disadvantage in the employment market, when compared to the broader County population which experiences higher rates of diploma and advanced degree attainment (See Table 3.6.2).

Table 3.6.2. Educational Attainment for the Population Aged 25+ (2000)						
Place Henderson County Planning Area						
Total Population Aged 25+		65,039	3,915			
	None	433 (0.7%)	48 (1.2%)			
Schooling	Some, No Diploma	10,522 (16.2%)	803 (20.5%)			
	High School Diploma*	18,972 (29.2%)	1,476 (37.7%)			
	Some College, No Degree	14,761 (22.7%)	774 (19.8%)			
	Associate's	4,655 (7.2%)	346 (8.8%)			
Dograd	Bachelor's	10,150 (15.6%)	332 (8.5%)			
Degree	Master's	375 (5.8%)	88 (2.3%)			
	<b>Professional School</b>	1,269 (2.0%)	33 (0.9%)			
	Doctorate	522 (0.8%)	15 (0.4%)			

<sup>\*</sup> This category also includes those passing high school equivalency exams.

Source: Census data (2000 Block Group) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

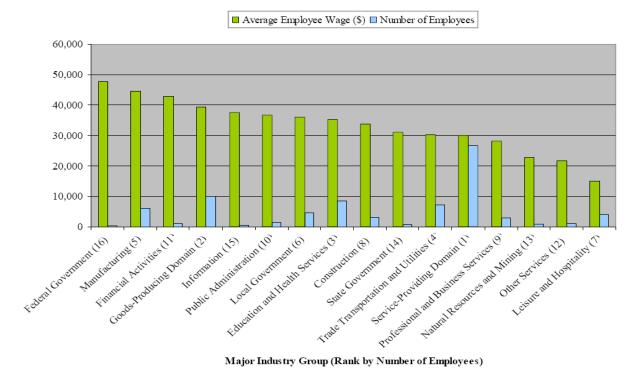
County Employment by Major Industry Group. According to the Employment Securities Commission, Henderson County experienced a 5% increase in total employment from 2000 to 2007. Significant growth (relative to the original number of employees in the industry) occurred in the construction, education and health services, financial activities, and leisure and hospitality industries. Significant decline (relative to the original number of employees in the industry) occurred in the manufacturing, federal government, natural resources and mining, and goods-producing domain industries (See Table 3.6.3).

Table 3.6.3. Henderson County Employment by NCESC Major Industry Group 2000 and 2007					
	Total Numb	er Employed			
Major Industry Group	2000	2007	Percent Change (%)		
Construction	2,184	3,130	43		
Education and Health Services	6,819	8,455	24		
Financial Activities	981	1,135	16		
Leisure and Hospitality	3,492	4,060	16		
Public Administration	1,261	1,433	14		
Local Government (Total)	4,011	4,529	13		
Service-Providing Domain	23,857	26,695	12		
Other Services	978	1,063	9		
State Government (Total)	616	673	9		
Information	363	393	8		
Trade Transportation and Utilities	6,996	7,029	<1		
Professional and Business Services	2,969	2,957	>-1		
Goods-Producing Domain	11,137	10,000	-10		
Natural Resources and Mining (includes Agriculture)	965	812	-16		
Federal Government (Total)	283	224	-21		
Manufacturing	7,988	6,059	-24		

Source: North Carolina Employment Securities Commission (2008).

A manufacturing, federal government, and goods-producing domain industries employment decline is significant for the County as these are three (3) of its top four (4) highest paying industries (See Table 3.6.3 and Figure 3.6.1).

Figure 3.6.1. Henderson County Average Wage by NCESC Major Industry Group 2007



The average wage for County employees increased in all major industry groups. The service-providing domain, which is ranked first in number of employees, saw a 20% increase in wages, to an average wage of \$29,928. The federal government industry, which employs the fewest County citizens, experienced the most significant wage increase to \$47,736 (See Table 3.6.4).

Table 3.6.4. Henderson County Average Wage by NCESC Major Industry Group 2000 and 2007						
	Wa	ges				
Major Industry Group	2000	2007	Percent Change (%)			
Federal Government (Total)	\$32,084	\$47,736	49			
State Government (Total)	\$23,816	\$31,096	31			
Public Administration	\$28,298	\$36,712	30			
Professional and Business Services	\$22,494	\$28,072	25			
Information	\$30,248	\$37,562	24			
Natural Resources and Mining (includes Agriculture)	\$18,473	\$22,802	23			
Local Government (Total)	\$29,224	\$36,088	23			
Education and Health Services	\$28,981	\$35,271	21			
Financial Activities	\$35,832	\$42,885	20			
Other Services	\$17,992	\$21,625	20			
Service-Providing Domain	\$25,035	\$29,928	20			
Construction	\$28,590	\$33,799	18			
Manufacturing	\$37,966	\$44,595	17			
Goods-Producing Domain	\$34,438	\$39,451	15			
Trade Transportation and Utilities	\$26,427	\$30,295	15			
Leisure and Hospitality	\$13,903	\$14,942	1			

Source: North Carolina Employment Securities Commission (2008).

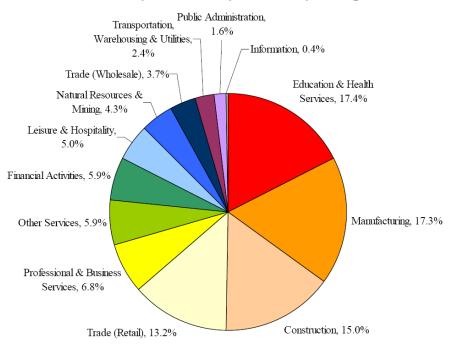
Planning Area Employment by Major Industry Group. The Employment Security Commission does not provide Planning Area specific data; however, the Census (2000 County and 2006 American

Communities Survey) provides information on employment by major industry group. Census major industry groups vary from Employment Security Commission classifications.

According to Census data, 50% of the Planning Area workforce is working within one (1) of three (3) major industry groups: education and health services, manufacturing, or the construction industry (See Figure 3.6.2).

Education and Health Services. Approximately 17.4% of the Planning Area workforce is involved in education and health services. This industry ranks eighth in the County in terms of average employee wage (\$35,271) (See Figure

Figure 3.6.2. Planning Area Population Aged 16+ within Workforce by Census Major Industry Group 2006



3.6.1). Projections for the region indicate approximately 26% more individuals will be employed in education and health services by 2016 (See Table 3.6.5).

<u>Manufacturing.</u> Approximately 17.3% of the Planning Area workforce is involved in manufacturing. This industry ranks second in the County in terms of average employee wage

(\$44,595) (See Figure 3.6.1). Projections for the region indicate approximately 8% of positions currently available in the manufacturing industry will be eliminated by 2016 (See Table 3.6.5).

<u>Construction.</u> Approximately 15% of the Planning Area workforce is involved in construction. This industry ranks ninth in the County in terms of average employee wage (\$33,799) (See Figure 3.6.1). Projections for the region indicate approximately 25% more individuals will be employed in construction by 2016 (See Table 3.6.5).

**Employment Projections.** The Employment Securities Commission provides projected employment by major industry group for a four (4) county area (Henderson, Buncombe, Madison, and Transylvania). Regionally, most major industry groups anticipate expansion (See Table 3.6.5).

Projections indicate three (3) major industry groups (information, natural resources and mining, and manufacturing industries) will reduce employment by 2016. Among these, the manufacturing industry and information industry are currently ranked among the top five (5) highest average wage industries in Henderson County (See Figure 3.6.1). Reduction of employment opportunities in the manufacturing industry group could have a significant impact on the Planning Area workforce given the number of residents (17.3%) working in this industry.

Industries within the region projected to expand 25% or more by 2016 are professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, education and health services, and construction

Table 3.6.5. Projected Employment by NCESC Major Industry Group for Henderson, Buncombe, Madison and Transylvania Counties

	Total E	Percent	
Major Industry Group	2006	2016	Change (%)
Professional and Business Services	15,390	21,230	38
Leisure and Hospitality	20,460	26,180	28
Education and Health Services	38,910	48,950	26
Construction	10,190	12,710	25
Services-Providing	132,390	161,370	22
Financial Activities	5,590	6,690	20
Other Services (Nongovernment)	7,650	8,870	16
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	31,540	35,590	13
Government	10,760	11,780	9
Goods-Producing	31,570	32,490	3
Information	2,090	2,080	-0.5
Natural Resources and Mining (includes Agriculture)	1,650	1,610	-2
Manufacturing	19,730	18,170	-8

Source: North Carolina Employment Securities Commission, 2008

industries. None of these industries ranks among the top five (5) highest average wage industries in Henderson County. The education and health services industry employs the largest percentage of the Planning Area workforce (17.4%). Construction ranks third in Planning Area employment (15% of the workforce). The expansion of these industries may increase: (1) demand for employees in these industries, (2) opportunities for those employed/experienced in these industries, and (3) wages as employers compete to attract the most qualified employees. Growth in the professional and business service and leisure and hospitality industries will affect the Planning Area less given that only 6.8% and 5.0% (respectively) of the Planning Area workforce participates in these industries. The benefits from the expansion of these industries will be limited as they are among the bottom four (4) lowest average wage industries (See Figure 3.6.1).

Industries expanding employment will help offset reductions in other industries; however, growing industries may not provide wages equivalent to or better than shrinking industries.

**Industry Projections.** Henderson County actively seeks industries that will locate in the area and provide economic benefit to its citizens. International, national and regional trends affect the County's ability to compete for industries. Recent trends, including increased fuel and transportation costs and weakened U.S. dollar may provide the County with a competitive edge in terms of luring industries.

Increased fuel and transportation costs mean many companies which have been largely centralized are now looking to move closer to the markets they serve. This will require divested risk and increased diversification. The County is strategically positioned between several large metropolitan markets and is within 800 miles of one-half of the U.S. population.

The weakening U.S. dollar means international companies view the nation as being "on sale". International companies see the advantage to locating in the U.S. because they have increased purchasing power for real estate and reduced labor costs. The County offers these advantages

The manufacturing industry is projected, regionally, to see a decline in employment. The County may be able to maintain or expand its current manufacturing industry workforce given some key advantages the County has with respect to manufacturing. Overall the County has maintained a stable manufacturing workforce which exceeds the rates experienced at the State and national level. The workforce possesses the necessary skills to fill manufacturing jobs. Additionally, a number of employees in the construction industry have manufacturing backgrounds and experiences. Blue Ridge Community College offers a variety of manufacturing training opportunities, providing educational opportunities to the existing manufacturing workforce and those seeking employment in these industries. Recent growing industries in the County have included metal fabrication, plastics, auto parts, and advanced manufacturing which are expected to continue expanding in the near future.

Renewable energy installation/fabrication and leisure/hospitality industries are growing in the County. The jobs made available within leisure/hospitality often do not offer wages that meet County cost of living needs. Increased disparity between wages and cost of living in the County will not be beneficial to its economy in the long term.

The Planning Area, its opportunities for industry placement, and its workforce will play a significant role in major industry and employment trends within the County.

**Trends.** The Planning Area currently contains a number of commercial businesses but few industrial businesses. Industrial and commercial development in the Planning Area would create new employment opportunities for Planning Area and County citizens. Development of industry could negatively affect the Planning Area if not properly managed.

## Economic Development Goals and Objectives

Goal E1. Direct commercial and industrial growth to areas where community facilities and public services are present or anticipated. Nonresidential zoning designations occur at community facilities and areas where public services are available. Nonresidential development should be located in nodes along US Highway 64 East and primary intersections along Fruitland Road.

Goal E2. Support the development of the industrial sector of the economy within the Edneyville Planning Area.

**E2.1.**Work with the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development and others to promote Industrial/Business Park Development in the Edneyville Planning Area. The Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development (HCPED) developed an Industrial/Business Park Study in 2006. Industrial (I) zoning is supported at an alternative location. The HCPED should promote this area for industrial/business park development.

Note: Industrial zoning recommendations should be implemented at the request of the property owner.

E2.2. Promote manufacturing, research and development, and clean/"green" industries within Industrial zoning districts in the Edneyville Planning Area.

- E2.3.Expand manufacturing training opportunities available at Blue Ridge Community College to provide a more competitive workforce.
- Goal E3. Address economic development in the Edneyville Planning Area.
  - **E3.1.Continue to develop County economic plans focused on job creation.** Economic plans should include strategies to provide jobs for today's workforce and the workforce in the future. These plans should include recommendations to promote jobs the existing population is qualified to fill.
  - E3.2. Support utility scale alternative energy development (wind turbine/wind mill/solar panel farms) at appropriate locations within the Edneyville Planning Area.

### 3.7. LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

**Existing Land Use and Development and Current Zoning.** The Planning Area contains various land uses as classified by the County Tax Assessor's Office (See Table 3.7.1 and Figure 3.7.1). The principal class of Planning Area land is present use value. In the present use value program taxes are assessed based on the value of land in its current use (agricultural, horticultural, or forestland) instead of market value (See Table 3.7.2).

Table 3.7.1. Acreage by Land Use Classification					
Land Use Classification Approximate Acreage Percent of Total Acrea					
Present Use Value (Agriculture-Horticulture)	12,030.92	41.76			
Residential	8,345.83	28.97			
Vacant Land	6,430.94	22.32			
Auxiliary Improvement	620.49	2.15			
Agriculture-Horticulture	445.75	1.55			
Commercial	419.66	1.46			
Governmental	133.00	0.46			
Unclassified	119.23	0.41			
Warehouse	100.62	0.35			
Commercial-Light Industrial	43.49	0.15			
Religious	40.48	0.14			
Educational	25.35	0.09			
Cellular Tower	24.30	0.08			
Industrial	19.34	0.07			
Cemetery	9.64	0.03			
Utilities	<u>≤</u> 1.98	0.00			

Source: Henderson County Tax Assessor data (October 2007).

Table 3.7.2. Land Use Classification of Present Use Value Acreage						
Land Use Classification Approximate Acreage Percent of Total Acreage (%)						
Residential	5,567.31	46.27				
Vacant Land	5,486.89	45.61				
Auxiliary Improvement	648.45	5.39				
Conservation Easement	300.21	2.50				
Agriculture-Horticulture	28.06	0.23				

 $Source: Henderson\ County\ Tax\ Assessor\ data\ (October\ 2007).$ 

Table 3.7.3. Residential Acreage by Residential Land Use Subclass						
Residential Land Use Subclass Approximate Acreage Percent of Total Acreage (						
Single-Family (Traditional)	6,131.76	73.47				
Manufactured Home	1,075.18	12.88				
Manufactured Home Park	447.37	5.36				
Manufactured Home (Real Property)	397.00	4.76				
Condominium	159.51	1.91				
Leasehold	115.32	1.38				
Single Family (Modular)	9.64	0.12				
Property Owner's Association	7.68	0.09				
Duplex	2.12	0.03				
Multifamily	0.24	0.00				

Source: Henderson County Tax Assessor data (October 2007).

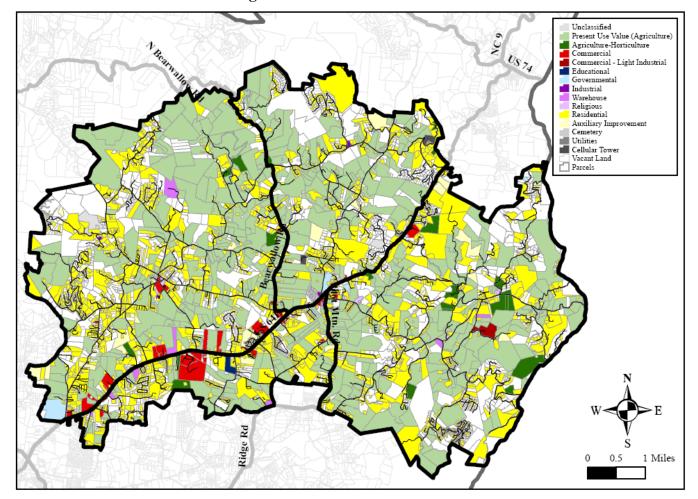


Figure 3.7.1. Land Classification

The Planning Area includes four (4) general use zoning districts (See Map 8, Official Zoning (p. 68) and Table 3.7.4). Zoning districts include three (3) residential zoning districts and one (1) commercial zoning district.

Table 3.7.4. Current Zoning Composition						
Zoning District Total Acreage Percent of Total Acreage						
Residential District One (R1)	103.35	0.35%				
Residential District Two Rural (R2R)	11,626.90	39.67%				
Residential District Three (R3)	17,282.08	58.96%				
Local Commercial (LC)	300.12	1.02%				

Source: Henderson County Official Zoning Map (October 2008).

**Residential Land Use and Development.** Residential lands account for approximately 28.97% of classified lands in the Planning Area (See Figure 3.7.1). Planning Area residential lots average 3.05 acres in size, indicating a low-density development pattern. Approximately 98.98% of the Planning Area is zoned residential (See Table 3.7.4).

Single-family (traditional and modular) residential uses account for 73.59% of all residential uses (See Table 3.7.3). There are 2,118 single-family residences in the Planning Area (2007). All zoning districts applied in the Planning Area allow single-family residential use. Manufactured home, manufactured home park, and manufactured home (real property) residential uses account for approximately 23% of all residential uses (See Table 3.7.3). Manufactured housing is the second most prevalent residential

use. All residential zoning districts applied in the Planning Area allow multisection manufactured homes. Only the R2R and R3 zoning districts allow singlewide manufactured home parks.

Commercial Land Use and Development. Planning Area commercial uses primarily occur along US Highway 64 East but occur elsewhere in the Planning Area (See Figure 3.7.1). Commercial or commercial-light industrial land uses account for approximately 1.61% of classified lands in the Planning Area (See Table 3.7.1). Planning Area commercial uses include retail sales and services, produce stands, and offices, among other uses (See Table 3.7.6).

Table 3.7.6. Nonresidential Uses within the Planning Area					
Land Use*	Occurrences	Locations**			
Retail Sales and Services	16	A(1,3,7), B(4,7), C(5,9,14,16,19), D(2,3,11), H1, I2, M1			
Food Manufacturing	14	A(10,13), C(6,9,20,22), D(1,4), F(1,2), G(1,2,3), K1			
Warehousing and Storage	13	A6, B5, C(4,11,18), D(5,7,8), E2, I3, J1, L1, N1			
Produce Stand	9	A(4,5,7), B9, C(6,9,20), D(10,11)			
Office	8	A(3,8,11), B(2,10), C(1,10), E1			
Self-Storage Warehousing	5	B(1,6), C(3,21), D9			
Automobile and Equipment Service	4	C(5,7,17), N1			
Convenience Store	3	C(8,12,15)			
Manufacturing and Production Operations	3	C19, D(3,6)			
Fuel Pumps	2	C(8,15)			
Recreational Vehicle Park	2	A(2,12)			
Single-Family Residences (Rental Cabins)	2	B8, E3			
Camp	1	B3			
Childcare Facility	1	C2			
College	1	II			
Marina (Boat Storage and Repair)	1	C13			
Motel/Hotel	1	A9			

<sup>\*</sup> Identified by July 2008 windshield survey. Categorized based on LDC Table of Permitted/Special Uses (§200A-62).

Many existing commercial uses are within one (1) of six (6) LC zoning districts. These LC zoning districts were designated on September 19, 2007 with the LDC adoption of the LDC. The LC zoning district provides for a variety of retail sales and services, public and private administrations, offices, and other uses done primarily for sale or profit at a local or neighborhood scale (single tenant structures allowed up to 10,000 square feet). The LC zoning district allows a business up to 30,000 square feet in size (where it is the principal tenant in a multitenant structure). The Planning Area contains five (5) nonresidential structures exceeding the 30,000 square foot limit (See Table 3.7.7).

Table 3.7.7. Heated Square Footage of Nonresidential Structures containing Nonresidential Uses Located on Parcels Identified as Nonresidential within the Planning Area					
Heated Square Footage (sq. ft.) Number of Properties					
0 to <10,000	52				
>10,000 to <30,000 16					
>30,000 to <80,000 4					
>80,000 1					
Source: Henderson County parcel data (Octobe	er 2008).				

<sup>\*\*</sup> Locations identified in the Commercial, Industrial and Warehouse Land Use Inventory Insets Map in the document, *Edneyville Community Plan Supplemental Materials*, on file at the Henderson County Planning Department).

**Industrial Land Use and Development.** Eight (8) parcels in the Planning Area contain industrial uses (See Figure 3.7.1 and the Commercial, Industrial and Warehouse Land Use Inventory Insets Map in the document, *Edneyville Community Plan Supplemental Materials*, on file at the Henderson County Planning Department). Four (4) of the industrial uses are within an LC zoning district. The LC zoning district does not permit these uses because of use type (warehousing and storage (B5 and D7)) or size (manufacturing and production operation greater than 10,000 square feet (D3 and D6)). Given preexisting status in the zoning district, these operations may expand but with some limitations.

The Industrial (I) Zoning District is not applied within the Planning Area. This district allows for industrial and heavy commercial development compatible with adjacent development and the surrounding community. The I zoning district minimizes conflict between land uses because its regulations seek to minimize the impact industrial uses have on the environment and surrounding uses.

**Vacant/Undeveloped Lands.** Vacant/undeveloped lands are the third most prevalent lands in the Planning Area, accounting for approximately 22.32% of classified lands (6,430.94 acres). Vacant lands occur throughout the Planning Area with the largest contiguous tracts located in the northern and eastern portions of the Planning Area (See Figure 3.7.1). The majority of Planning Area vacant lands (4,467.59 acres) are located in the R3 Zoning District (See Table 3.7.8).

Table 3.7.8. Zoning Districts and Vacant Land						
Zoning District	Total Acreage	Vacant Land Acreage by District	Percent of Zoning District Acreage Vacant			
R1	103.35	0.00	0			
R2R	11,626.90	1,936.27	16.65			
R3	17,282.08	4,467.59	25.85			
LC	300.12	27.07	9.02			
Total	29,312.45	6,430.94	22.32			

Source: Henderson County Tax Assessor data (October 2007).

**Build-Out Scenarios.** The Planning Area is largely undeveloped with low-densities and limited nonresidential (commercial, office institutional and industrial) activity. The average lot size within the Planning Area is 4.92 acres and provides an overall density of less than one (1) unit per every 10 acres (See Table 3.7.9).

Table 3.7.9. Current Zoning, Lots, Residences, and Density							
Zoning District	Number of Existing D  Total Acreage* of Lots   Lot Size   Residences   (unit						
Zoning District R1	Total Acreage* 89.54	2	44.77	()	(units/acre) 0.00		
R2R	11,252.05	2,610	4.31	1,405	0.12		
R3	16,649.92	3,038	5.48	1,134	0.07		
LC	233.21	87	2.68	27	0.12		
Total All	28,224.72	5,737	4.92	2,566	0.09		
<b>Total Excluding LC</b>	27,991.50	5,650	4.95	2,539	0.09		

<sup>\*</sup> This total acreage is lower than for the entire Planning Area as the acreage calculation is exclusive of right-of-way). Source: Henderson County Official Zoning Map (October 2008), Henderson County data (parcel data (October 2008) and Building Services data (2007)) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Projecting future development in the Planning Area involves considering existing conditions and applying specific assumptions. The following apply to the three (3) build-out scenarios provided herein:

- (1) Existing zoning boundaries remain unchanged;
- (2) Current parcel boundaries remain unchanged until such time as the property is developed;
- (3) Highest density as identified (standard, conservation or maximum) is applied; and
- (4) Existing site-specific conditions and limiting factors (topographical considerations, a parcel's ability to provide adequate water supply or sewage disposal systems, or any deed restrictions, restrictive covenants or conservation easements) are not able to be fully accounted for and are not taken into consideration.

Within each table (Table 3.7.10, 3.7.11, 3.7.12), build-out scenarios include total units with or without accessory residences and the amount of development which would occur in addition to existing development. Options showing the impact of residential development in the LC Zoning District are also included. These projections are for informational purposes only and are not intended to accurately predict the total build-out or future population of the Planning Area.

**Projected Build-Out at Standard Residential Density.** Build-out at standard residential density is more likely than the other scenarios provided (See Table 3.7.10). Approximately 21,088 additional residential units would be required to reach standard residential density (assuming none of the units have accessory residences (which are allowed)). By the year 2140 (within 132 years), the Planning Area would reach full build-out with 23,654 residences and a population of 50,857 persons. This would be an average density of one (1) unit per each 1.24 acres of land.<sup>5</sup>

Table 3.7.10. Projected Build-Out at Standard Residential Density						
						f Additional en Existing
			Tota	l Units	Resi	dences
		Number of	No	With	No	With
	Density	Existing	Accessory	Accessory	Accessory	Accessory
<b>Zoning District</b>	(units/acre)	Residences	Residences	Residences	Residences	Residences
R1	4	0	358	716	358	716
R2R	1	1,405	10,991	21,982	9,586	20,577
R3	0.66	1,134	11,407	22,814	10,273	21,680
LC	4	27	898	1,796	871	1,769
Total All 2,566 23,654 47,308 21,088 44,7						44,742
Total Exclu	ding LC	2,539	22,756	45,512	20,217	42,973

Source: Census data (1970 County and 2006 American Communities Survey) and Henderson County data (parcel (October 2008) and structure (2007)) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Tables 3.7.11 and 3.7.12 project build-out accommodating for higher density alternatives including seeking a conservation subdivision bonus and/or maximum residential density. These scenarios are possible and would yield much higher densities in the Planning Area. Both options would extend the timeframe for build-out further into the future.

Build-out, when applying the conservation subdivision option at standard residential density (See Table 3.7.11), would result in an average density of one (1) unit per 0.54 acres of land.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Assuming the following: (1) persons per household remains constant from 2020 forward (2.15 persons per household); (2) population growth continues to trend based on Census data (See Table 2.16); and (3) each residential unit accommodates only one (1) household:

Table 3.7.11. Projected Build-Out at Standard Residential Density with the Conservation Subdivision Option*						
						f Additional en Existing
			Tota	l Units		dences
		Number of	No	With	No	With
	Density	Existing	Accessory	Accessory	Accessory	Accessory
<b>Zoning District</b>	(units/acre)	Residences	Residences	Residences	Residences	Residences
R1	4	0	446	892	446	892
R2R	1	1,405	13,077	26,154	11,672	24,749
R3	0.66	1,134	13,370	26,740	12,236	25,606
LC	4	27	1,131	2,262	1,104	2,235
Total .	2,566	28,024	56,048	25,458	53,482	
Total Exclu	ding LC	2,539	26,893	53,786	24,354	51,247

<sup>\*</sup>Assuming the receipt of a 20% bonus for setting aside a minimum of 51% of the property in open space. Source: Census data (1970 County and 2006 American Communities Survey) and Henderson County data (parcel (October 2008) and structure (2007)) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

Build-out, when applying maximum residential density using the conservation subdivision option (See Table 3.7.12), would result in an average density of one (1) unit per 0.56 acres of land.

Table 3.7.12. Projected Build-Out at Maximum Residential Density*					
<b>Zoning District</b>	Maximum Density (units/acre)	Number of Existing Residences	Total Units	Number of Additional Units Given Existing Residences	
R1	16	0	1,426	1,426	
R2R	2	1,405	23,028	21,623	
R3**	0.66	1,134	26,740	25,606	
LC	16	27	3,476	3,449	
Total All 2,566 54,670 52,104					
Total Exclu	<b>Total Excluding LC</b> 2,539 51,194 48,655				

<sup>\*</sup>Assuming the following: (1) maximum density applies only to those lots which could contain at least five (5) dwelling units under standard density; (2) applying standard residential density with the conservation subdivision option and including accessory residences to all lots which could not contain at least five (5) dwelling units per acre; and (3) the receipt of a 20% bonus for setting aside a minimum of 51% of the property in open space for the conservation subdivision option.

Land Use Trends and Zoning Application. Large tracts of agricultural and rural lands have comprised the Planning Area since the late 1700's. During the last several decades, development pressure has converted these agricultural and rural lands to other uses (principally residential). This conversion occurred quickly. Over one-half of the Planning Area's residential units were built within the last 27 years (See Section 3.3 Housing). Nonresidential (commercial, office institutional and industrial) uses and necessary supporting infrastructure are already expanding into the Planning Area.

The City of Hendersonville provides public water service mainly along US Highway 64 East (See Section 3.4 Community Facilities and Public Services). No public sewer is currently available within the Planning Area. Properties along US Highway 64 East have the highest development pressure and include competing residential and nonresidential (commercial, office institutional and industrial)

<sup>\*\*</sup>Maximum residential density is not available in R3. Only assumptions two (2) and three (3) above apply. Source: Census data (1970 County and 2006 American Communities Survey) and Henderson County data (parcel (October 2008) and structure (2007)) with extrapolations by Henderson County Planning Staff.

interests. Most nonresidential and dense residential development is occurring along this major corridor, where water service exists and where it is anticipated sewer service will be extended in the future. Conversely, most vacant tracts are located in the more rural areas where water and sewer infrastructure are not present and are not anticipated to be provided in the near future.

The Planning Area's current development pattern reflects the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan Growth Management Strategy (GMS). The GMS recommends directing new development to areas with available services and infrastructure. This protects sensitive natural areas and agricultural lands from development and allows more dense residential and nonresidential development in areas with services/infrastructure. Zoning district designations should reflect GMS recommendations.

Residential zoning recognizes the constraints of the land by applying density restrictions. The County permits more dense development where appropriate services and infrastructure are available. A lack of appropriate services and infrastructure limits commercial and industrial development as well. The lack of office institutional and industrial zoning and the application of only one (1) type of commercial zoning further limits nonresidential development in the Planning Area.

Identification of key areas to focus services and infrastructure (See Section 3.4, Community Facilities and Public Services) coupled with careful application of residential, commercial, office institutional, and industrial zoning district designations will guide land use and development trends in the future.

### Land Use and Development Goals and Objectives

## Goal LUD1. Residential Zoning District Map Amendments.

- **LUD1.1.Residential District One** (1). Replace R2R zoning in the western portions of the Edneyville Planning Area with R1 zoning. This zoning district should follow the Urban Services Area boundary as identified by the Comprehensive Plan. This district should be extended beyond this boundary only to: meet Lancaster Road, meet existing LC zoning along US Highway 64 East, or prevent split zoning. To prevent spot zoning small portions of R2R zoning, located immediately outside the Planning Area and to the west should also be rezoned (See Map 9A (p. 70)).
- **LUD1.2. Future Residential District One (R1) zoning application.** R1 zoning district designation may be appropriate elsewhere in the Planning Area if facilities and services (public water and sewer) become available and topography is not a concern. R1 zoning may be appropriate in areas immediately surrounding:
  - 1. Schools (to increase the ease of access and use of school facilities);
  - 2. Nonresidential zoning and development (to provide housing near principal employers); and
  - 3. Recreation/transportation infrastructure including transit system routes, trails, greenways, and parks.
- **LUD1.3. Residential District Two (2) Rural.** Replace Local Commercial (LC) zoning between Townsend and Gilliam Roads with R2R zoning (See Map 9B (p. 71)). Commercial zoning should be applied elsewhere within the Planning Area in concentrated clusters.
- **LUD1.4. Prohibit new manufactured home parks within the Edneyville Planning Area.** The Planning Area has a large number of manufactured home parks and spaces. The County should not permit additional manufactured home parks within the Planning Area.

- Goal LUD2. Commercial, Office Institutional and Industrial Zoning District Map Amendments.
  - **LUD2.1.Local Commercial (LC).** To preserve small local businesses, local scale commercial development should be the Planning Area's principal type of commercial development. LC zoning should be applied in the following areas:
    - 1. US Highway 64 East/Fruitland Road intersection and US Highway 64 East/Home Place Drive intersection (See Map 9A (p. 70));
    - 2. Fruitland/Terry's Gap/South Mills Gap/Old Clear Creek Roads intersection (See Map 9B (p. 71));
    - 3. US Highway 64 East/Gilliam Road intersection (See Map 9B (p. 71));
    - 4. Along US Highway 64 East, within portions of the Edneyville Inn Subdivision and on property across from Centipede Lane (See Map 9C (p. 72)); and
    - 5. Along US Highway 64 East, along property east of Lancaster Road (See Map 9D (p. 73)
  - **LUD2.2. Community Commercial (CC).** CC zoning should be applied along US Highway 64 East from east if Ida Rogers Drive to the US Highway 64 East/South Mills Gap Road intersection (See Map 9D (p. 73)). Applying CC zoning to this area will concentrate community-scale commercial development and provide service to the broadest community. CC zoning should not extend further east or west on US Highway 64 East in this vicinity. CC zoning should not be applied elsewhere unless recommended by a revised or subsequent Edneyville Community Plan. CC zoning should be the most intense commercial zoning applied within the Planning Area.
  - **LUD2.3.Office Institutional (OI).** OI zoning should be applied in the vicinity of the Gilliam Road/Fruitland Road intersection (See Map 9B).
  - **LUD2.4. Industrial (I).** I zoning should be applied between Townsend and Gilliam Roads (See Map 9B (p. 71)). The recommendations of the Industrial/Business Park Study are not supported by the Plan. Industrial (I) zoning should not be applied to the recommended properties at this time but should be implemented at the request of the property owner(s). I zoning may be appropriate elsewhere in the Planning Area, however, the provision of the identified acreage should sustain immediate industrial needs in the Planning Area. Future I zoning should be applied where the visual impact on the surrounding area will be mitigated first and foremost by topography.
  - **LUD2.5. Future Local Commercial (LC) and Office Institutional (OI) zoning application.** LC and OI zoning district designation may be appropriate elsewhere in the Planning Area if facilities and services (public water and sewer) are available and topography is not a concern. LC and OI zoning should occur at identified Community Service Center nodes noted in the Growth Management Strategy of the Comprehensive Plan.
  - LUD2.6. Mixed-use development should be encouraged in identified commercial zoning districts in the Edneyville Planning Area.

### 3.8. COMMUNITY CHARACTER AND DESIGN

**Existing Rural Character.** The citizens of the Planning Area uphold its "rural character". Defining rural character is difficult given that different people have different interpretations of the meaning of "rural". When an area

has rural character it generally contains a large amount of farmland, woodland, and undeveloped open spaces combined with low-density residential development patterns and limited nonresidential development. The Planning Area's rural character is unique from other areas of the County, resulting from both its natural setting and the historical interaction of its citizens with the environment.

The Planning Area's natural setting is unique because of its topography and climate. Its lower elevations contain a number of creeks, valleys and rolling hills. Higher mountain ranges to the north serve as a backdrop that frames the scenery below (see Section 3.1, Natural Resources). When the first settlers arrived in the late 1700's they recognized the uniqueness of the area's elevation and climate and found it ideal for farming (See Section 1, Introduction and 3.2, Agriculture). Agricultural land use, particularly apple farming, remains central to the rural character of the Planning Area. The low-density development pattern (See Section 3.7, Land Use and Development) helps preserve the rural character by protecting farmlands, woodlands and open spaces.

Another defining characteristic of the Planning Area's rural character is its strong sense of community and the community gathering places that facilitate interaction and community building. Churches have long served as gathering sites for the community. The community remains actively involved in acquiring spaces/funding for to establish more community gathering places. This includes the Edneyville Branch Public Library, Edneyville Park, and new Edneyville Community Center (currently under construction) (See Section 3.4, Community Facilities and Public Services). Local businesses also play a key role in keeping the community connected.

Nonresidential (commercial, office institutional, and industrial) development has, until recently, been limited (See Section 3.7, Land Use and Development). Existing nonresidential uses, located principally along US Highway 64 East, are a mix of strip developments, gift shops, produce stands, gas stations, and warehouses. Many of the

nonresidential uses reflect the rural character of the community by locating in traditionally agricultural or residential structures, utilizing similar building materials and architectural styles (including brick), and similar color pallets (red, green, white and yellow). Existing nonresidential development patterns



help preserve the rural character of the Planning Area.

**Preserving Rural Character.** Preserving the rural character of the Planning Area will become more challenging as development pressure increases. The community's definition of rural character is essential to its preservation. By identifying the qualities that create the rural character of the area, a community can then seek to identify how it may be preserved. Rural character preservation in the Planning Area can be achieved by protecting open spaces and agricultural lands (See Sections 3.1, Natural Resources and 3.2, Agriculture), limiting density in a majority of the area (See Sections 3.3, Housing and 3.7, Land Use and Development), and applying appropriate design standards.

**Existing Design Standards.** Rural community character is impacted by residential and nonresidential (commercial, office institutional and industrial) uses and developments. The LDC provides regulations to address landscaping, buffering, and signage.

Article V (Landscape Design Standards) requires buffering, parking lot landscaping, street trees, and screening/fencing. Buffers of varying width and plant material are required to separate industrial, commercial (including office institutional), and residential development. Where parking of ten (10) or more spaces is proposed, parking lot landscaping is required and the amount of plant material increases for each five (5) parking spaces. When no buffer is required along the property lines of a development and parking is proposed within 20 feet of the property line, a planting strip is also required. Nonresidential development (commercial and industrial) may be required to plant street trees (where a major subdivision of land occurs). Screening and fencing is also required for specific nonresidential uses. Tree credits may be used to meet these standards and preserve existing on site trees.

Article VI (Off-Street Parking and Loading Standards) provides requirements and standards for the rate of off-street parking. This section does not provide any requirements for parking lot orientation.

Article VII (Sign Regulations) provides requirements and standards for signage. The following signs are prohibited under the current regulations, signs: (1) placed in the right-of-way (except as erected for governmental purposes); (2) resembling and/or obscuring traffic signals; (3) obstructing access to drives, doors, walks, windows, fire escapes or fire escape routes; (4) which are animated and/or flashing; (5) on the surface of lake/river water (except those navigation and warning signs); (6) on vehicles parked and located for the purposes of displaying such sign, where such vehicle is either a part of the sign or sign structure; and (7) billboards (an outdoor advertising sign 380 feet in area or greater). Signs which do not require sign permits (provided they comply with applicable sign standards) include: (1) agricultural produce, (2) commemorative, (3) construction, (4) directional, (5) flags/insignia, (6) governmental, (7) home occupation, (8) outdoor advertising, (9) political, (10) property identification, (11) real estate, (12) regulatory, (13) religious institution, (14) temporary event, (15) temporary, and (16) private vehicle sale signs. For signs requiring permits, sign area and height limitations are based on sign type and applicable zoning district.

Many existing nonresidential developments and uses in the Planning Area were developed prior to the implementation of these regulations and were not required to conform to these standards. Any new development must comply with the requirements outlined in the LDC.

### Community Character and Design Goals and Objectives

Goal CCD1. Promote development compatible with the rural character and natural setting of the Edneyville Planning Area.

CCD1.1.Identify community character features and involve community organizations in the promotion of their preservation or enhancement. Publish and distribute to interest groups (developers, neighborhood associations, community action groups, land conservation agencies,

etc.) maps of community features that should be preserved or enhanced, including any areas preferred for acquisition. Community organizations should publicize and seek support for preservation and enhancement of identified community character features.

CCD1.2. Adopt lighting regulations for nonresidential uses in the Edneyville Planning Area.

The County should adopt lighting regulations to mitigate the negative impacts of lighting and

preserve the Planning Area's rural character and natural setting. Lighting mitigation standards should be enforced to prevent light from nonresidential property from shining onto residential property.

# Goal CCD2. Establish an Edneyville Planning Area Overlay District.

CCD2.1. Establish design standards for nonresidential uses in the Edneyville Planning Area Overlay District. Design standards should be established to ensure nonresidential development is unified and cohesive, consistent with the rural character and natural setting of the Planning Area.

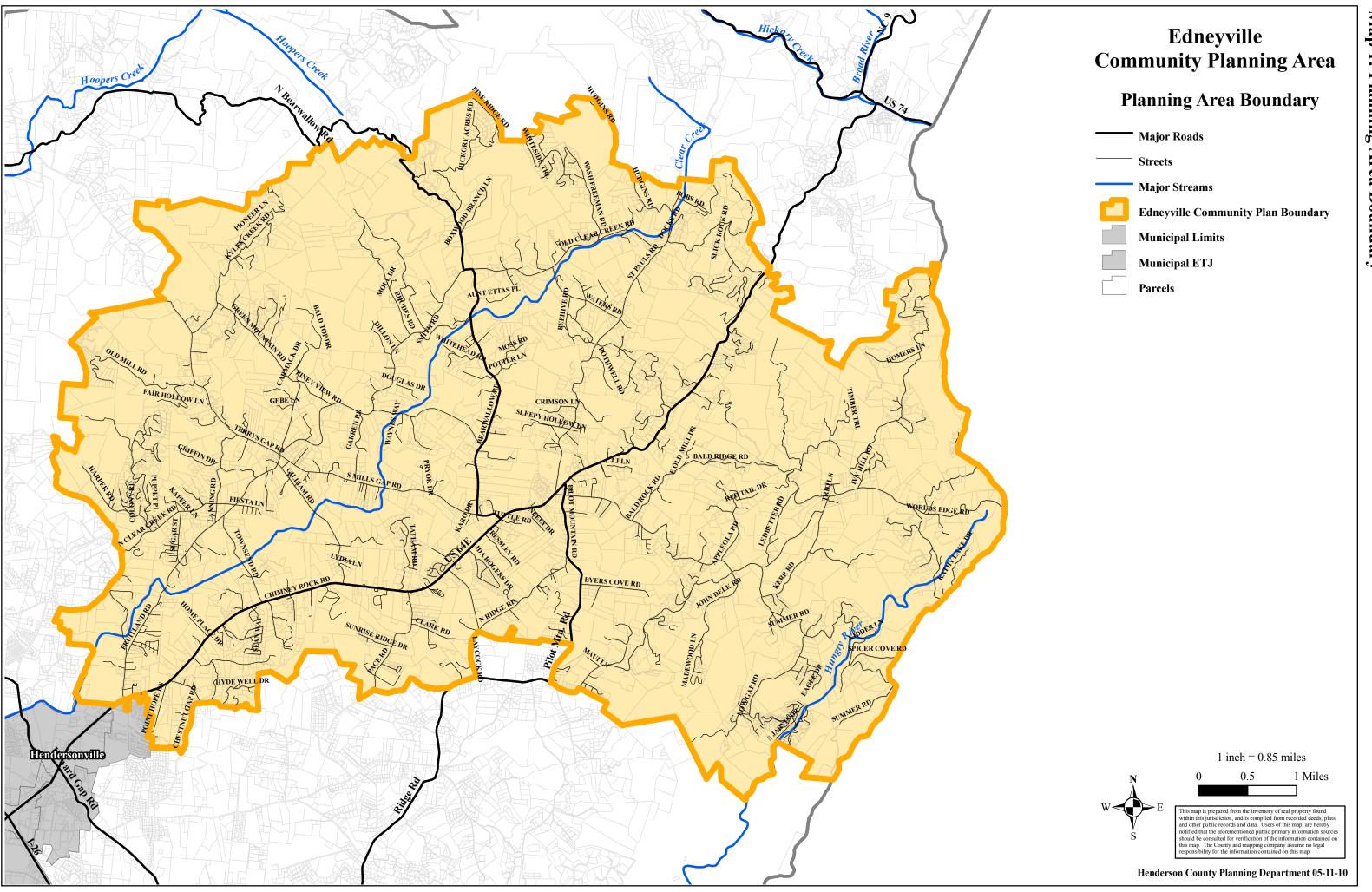
The following standards should apply to all nonresidential uses/developments:

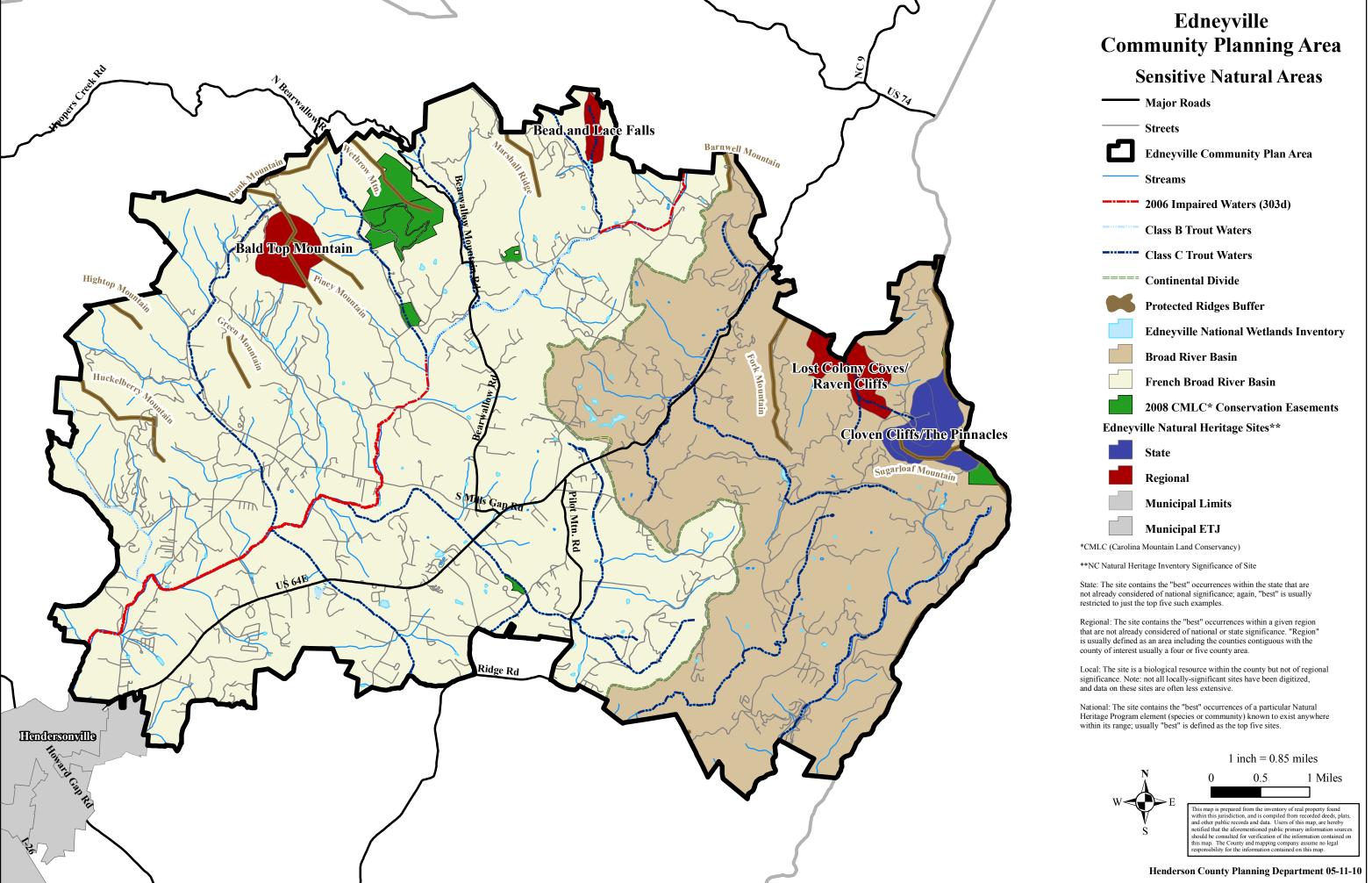
- 1. *Roofs*. Parapet walls and decorative (3-dimensional) cornices shall be provided to screen flat roofs and any associated roof top equipment.
- 2. *Trash Collection and Mechanical Equipment*. Trash collection and mechanical equipment shall be incorporated into structure design and enclosed/screened from public view. Structural screens/enclosures shall coordinate with other onsite structures for a unified appearance.
- 3. Landscaping and Screening. Self-Storage Warehousing shall be screened on all sides visible from a public street (with the exception of the point of vehicular access) with a Screen Class Four (4) (See §200A-150). Alternatively, any façade visible from a public street shall be designed with windows, entrances, arcades, arbors, awnings, trellises and vines along no less than 50 percent of any façade visible from the street.
- 4. *Parking Lot Lighting*. Adequate parking lot lighting shall be provided to increase public safety in the parking lot. Parking lot lighting structures shall be no taller than height of the shortest structure serviced by the parking lot. Full cutoff or cutoff lighting fixtures shall be used.

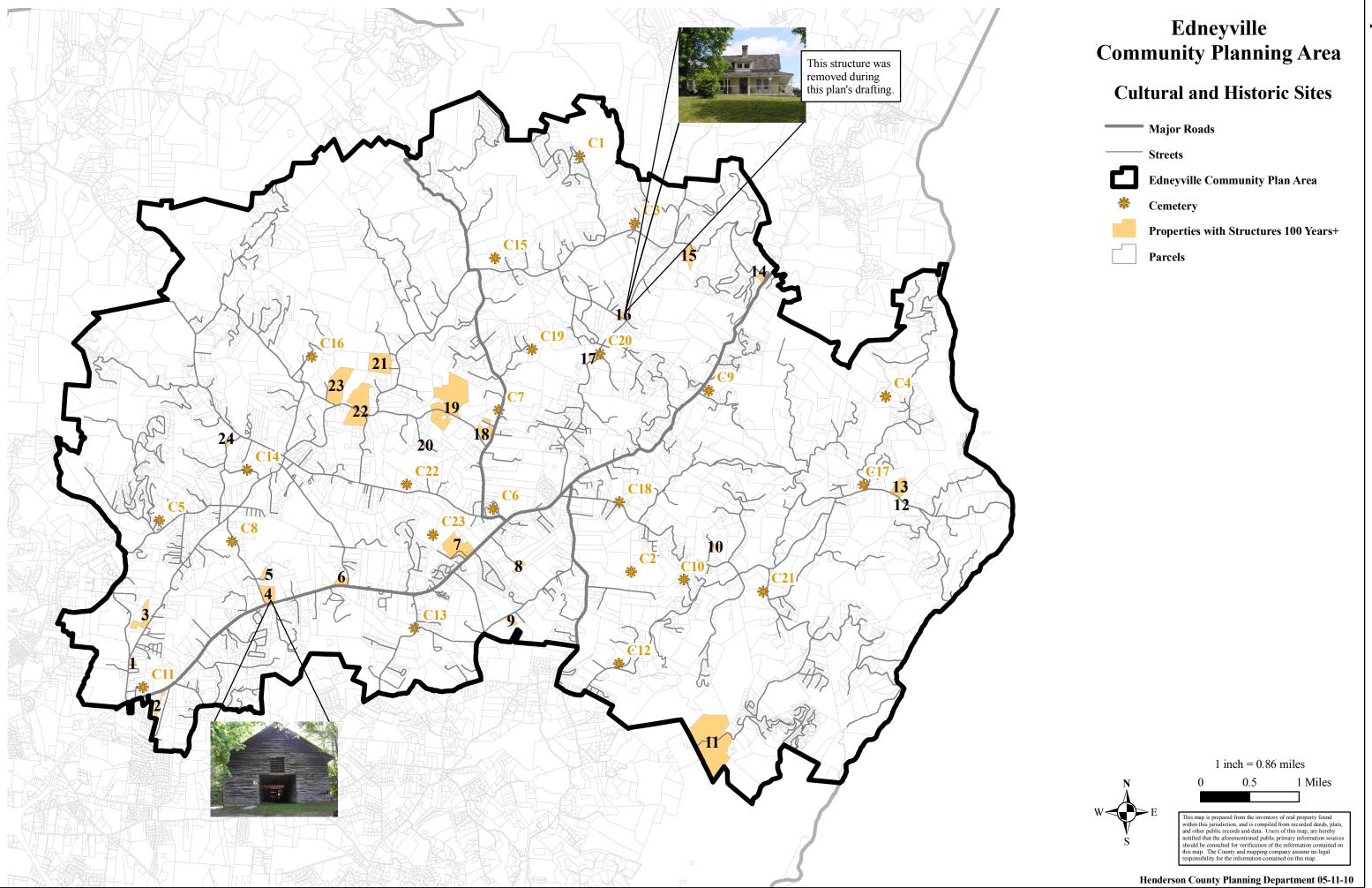
The following standards should apply to nonresidential uses/developments (excluding industrial uses/developments) containing more than 15,000 square feet of floor area:

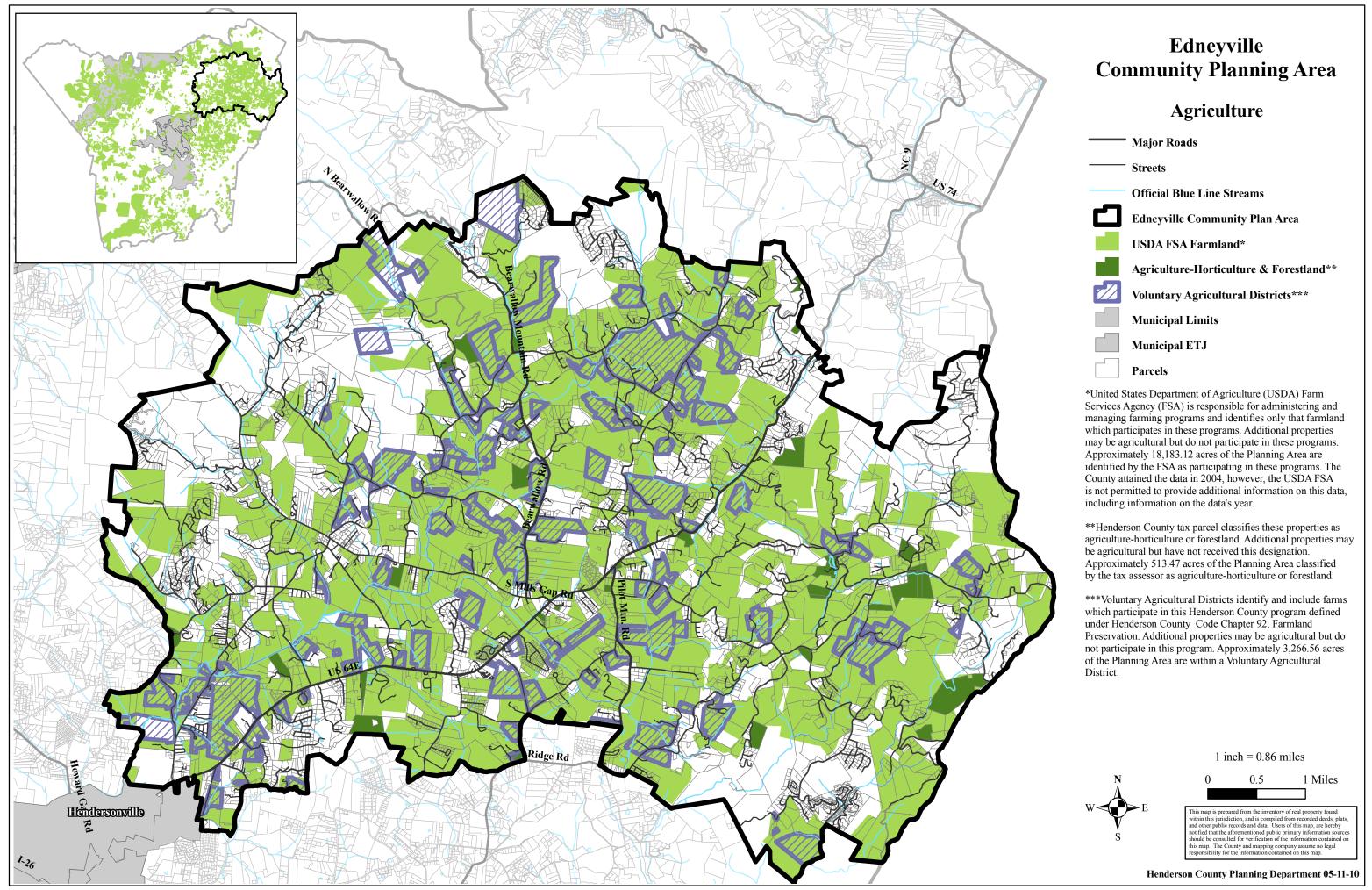
- 1. Façade Materials. No unfinished block or plywood shall be permitted on any façade facing a public street. Decorative block is permitted on a façade facing a public street. Natural materials (brick, stone (native and manufactured), wood (clapboard/shingles), stucco, etc.) are preferred on façades. Materials which are not preferred for façades include: light gauge vinyl siding, unpainted aluminum siding, wood composition board, and asphalt shingles. Fluorescent/neon finishes should be avoided.
- 2. *Articulation*. Vertical and horizontal articulation (bump ins/outs) shall be required where any blank wall (those without windows and doors) facing a public street exceeds 50 feet in length. Blank walls should be avoided by using windows/doors, trellises, arcades, material changes, awnings or other similar features.

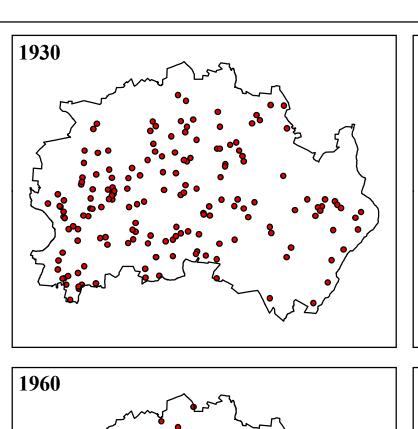
Goal CCD3. Promote redevelopment and adaptive reuse of existing abandoned nonresidential structures. Existing abandoned nonresidential structures should be reused and adapted for new nonresidential or residential development where possible.

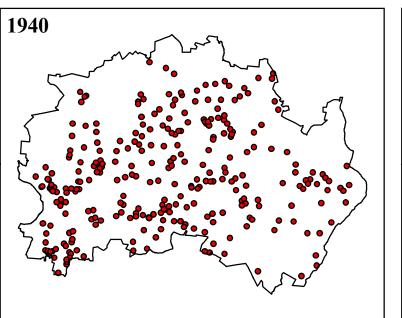


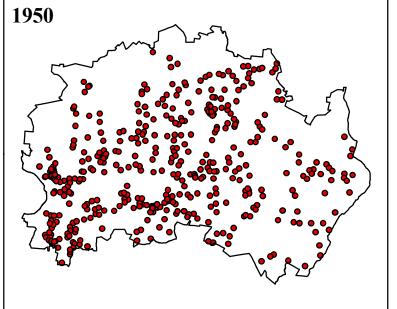








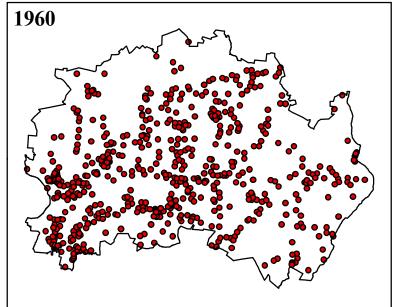


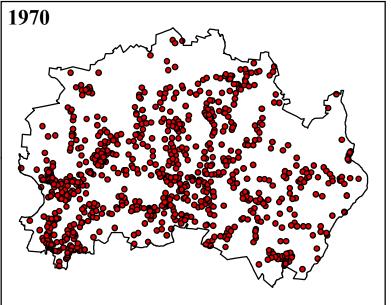


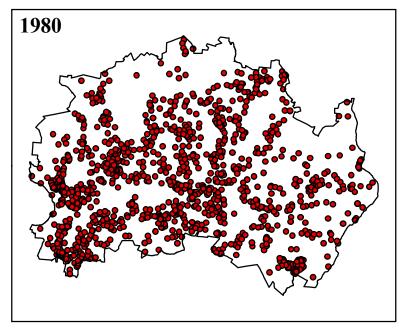
### Ednevyille Community Planning Area

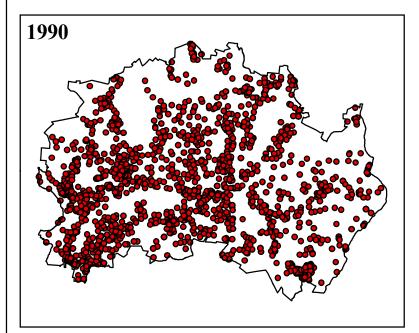
Housing Stock 1930-2007

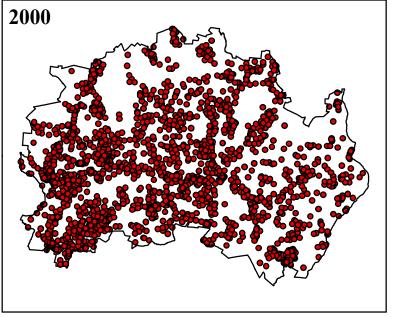
- Edneyville Community Plan Area
- **Residential Structures**

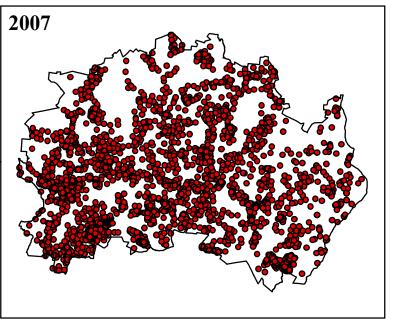


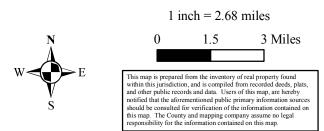




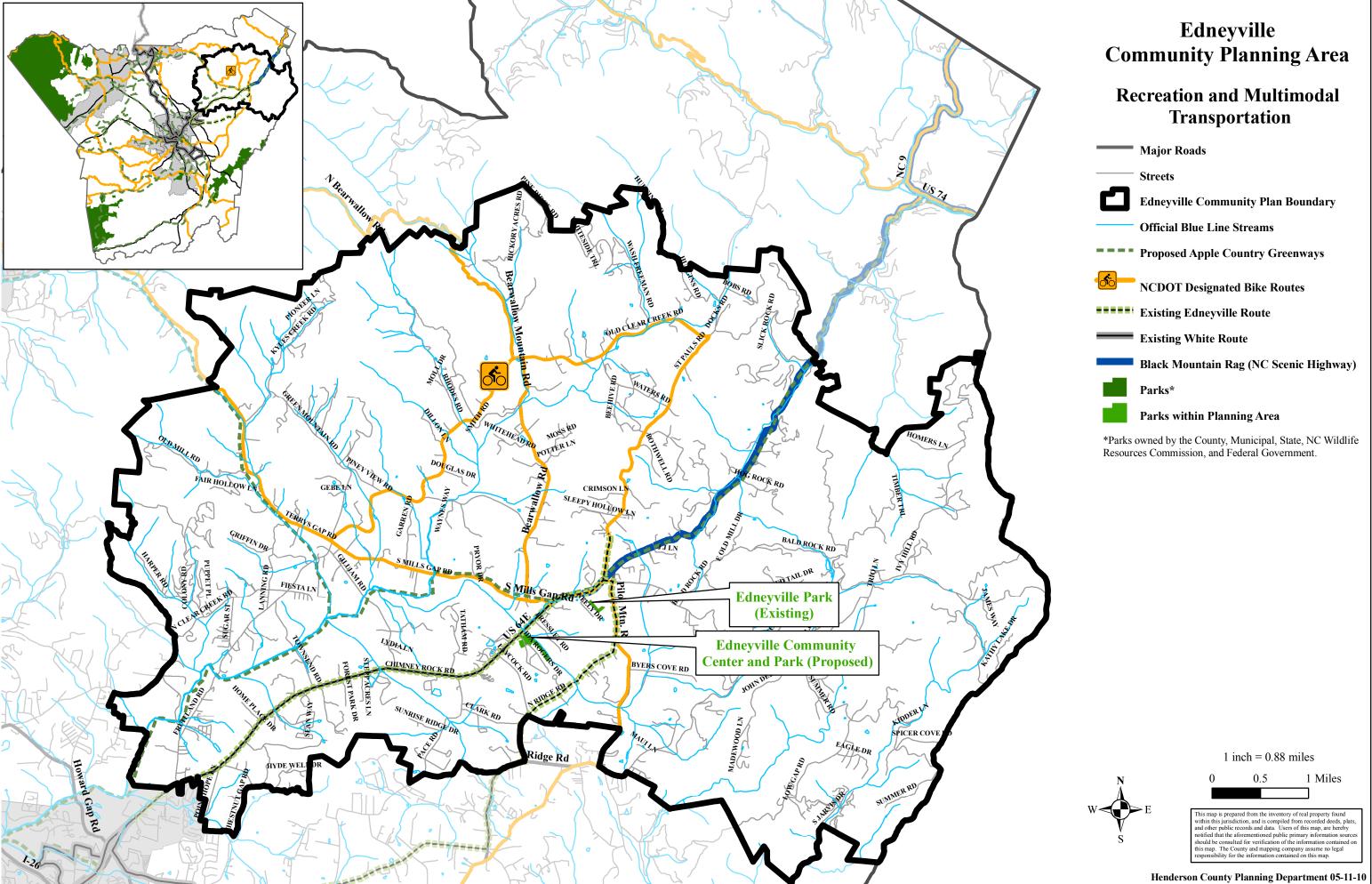


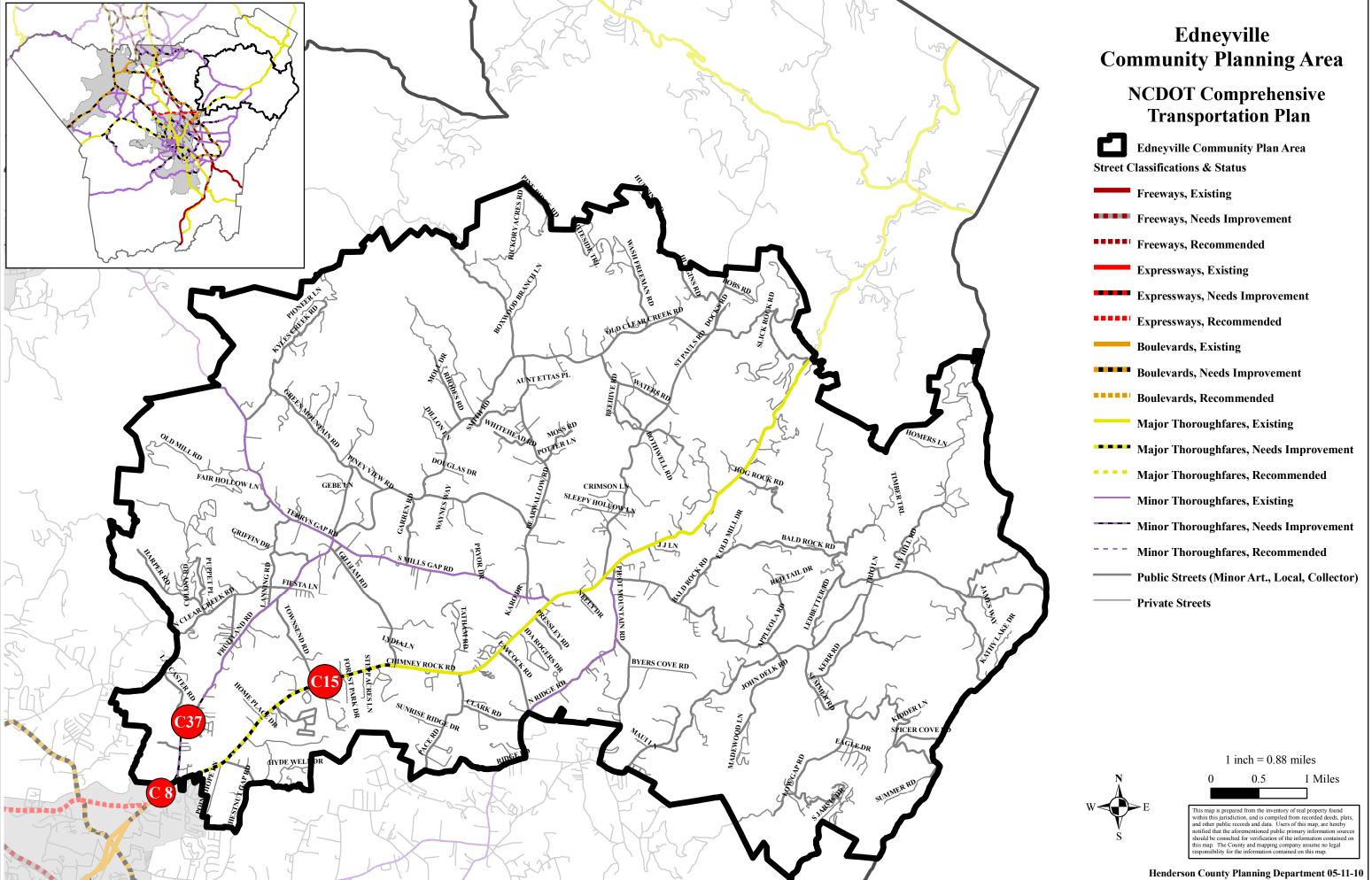


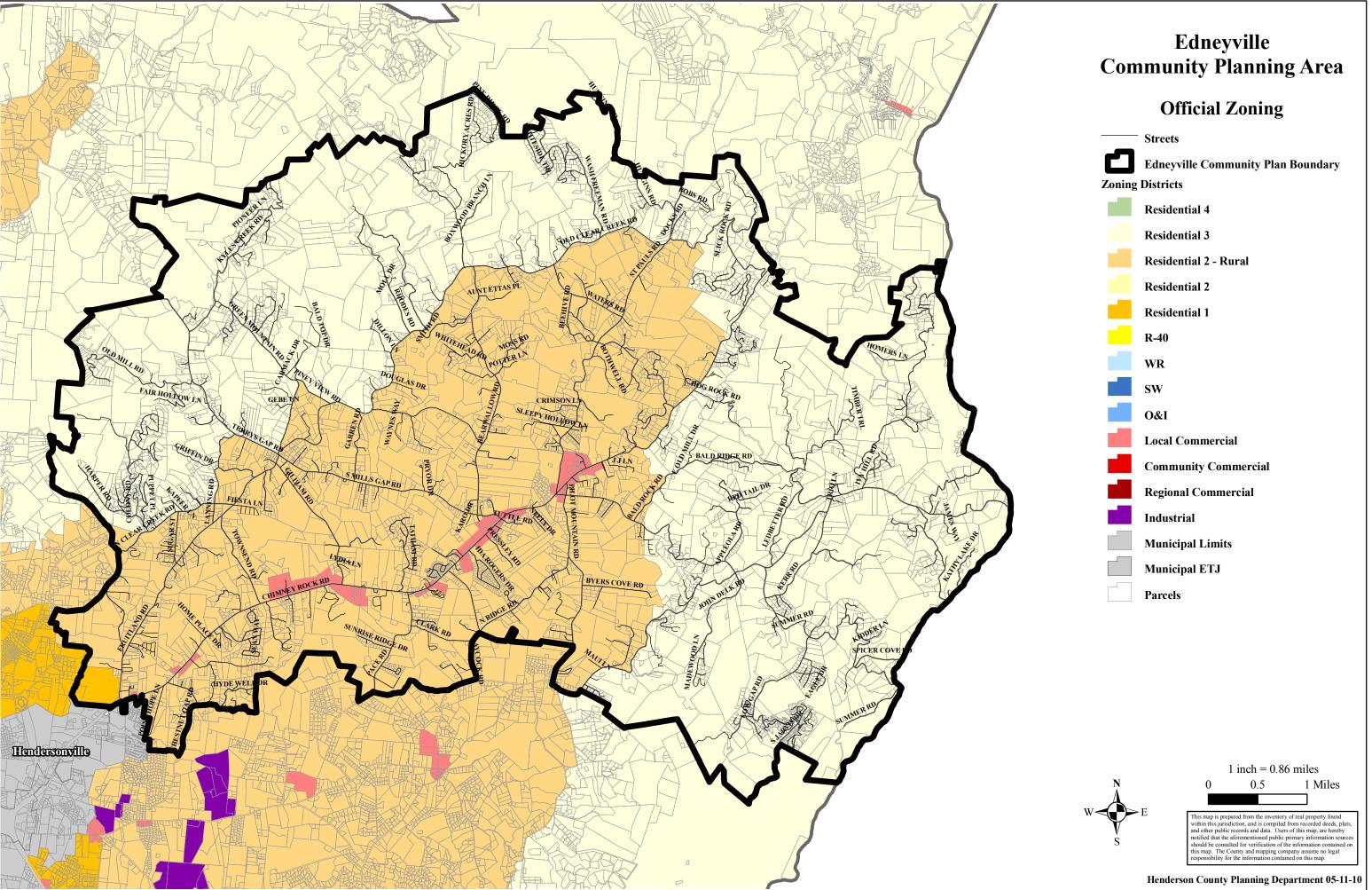


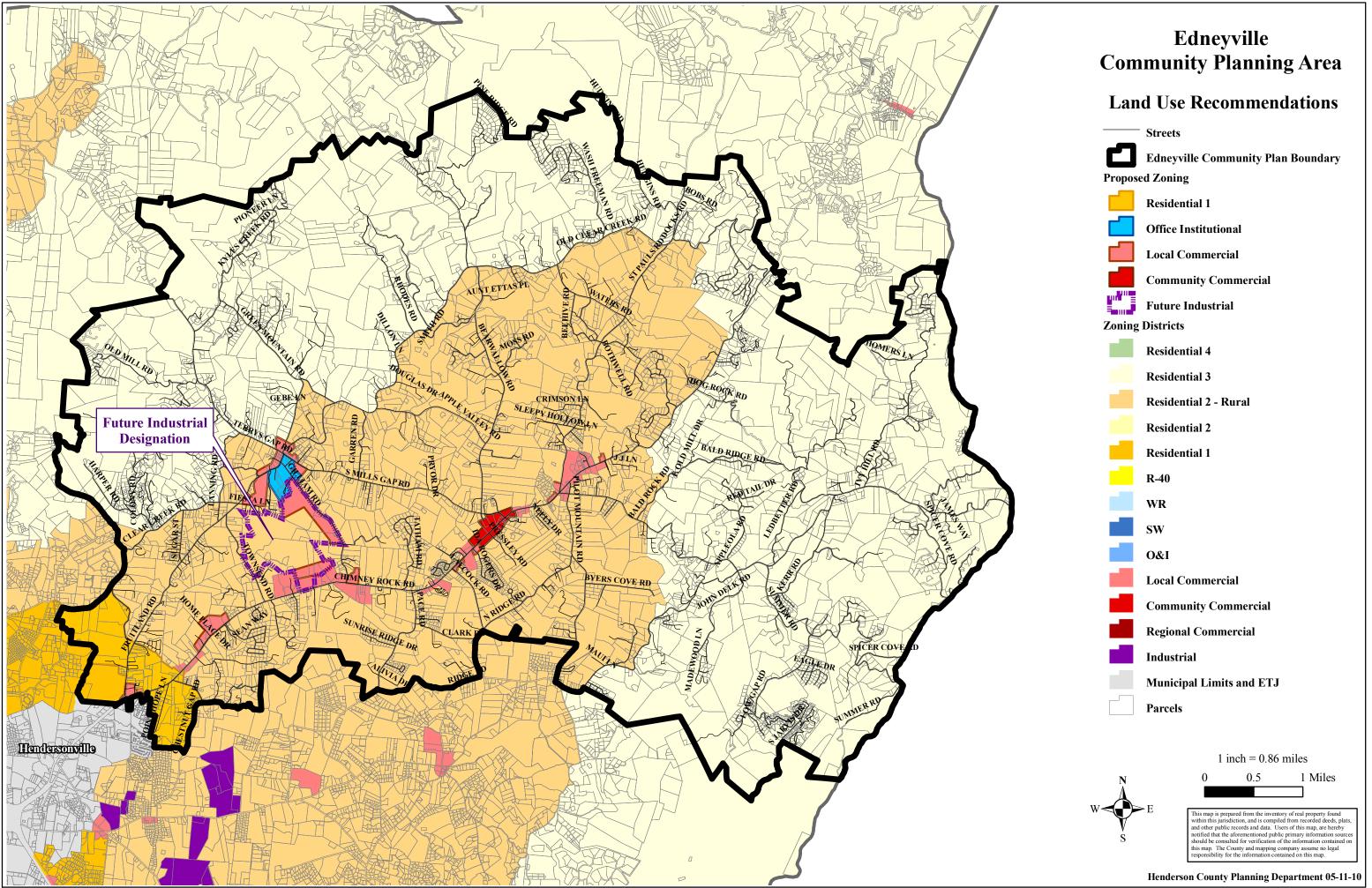


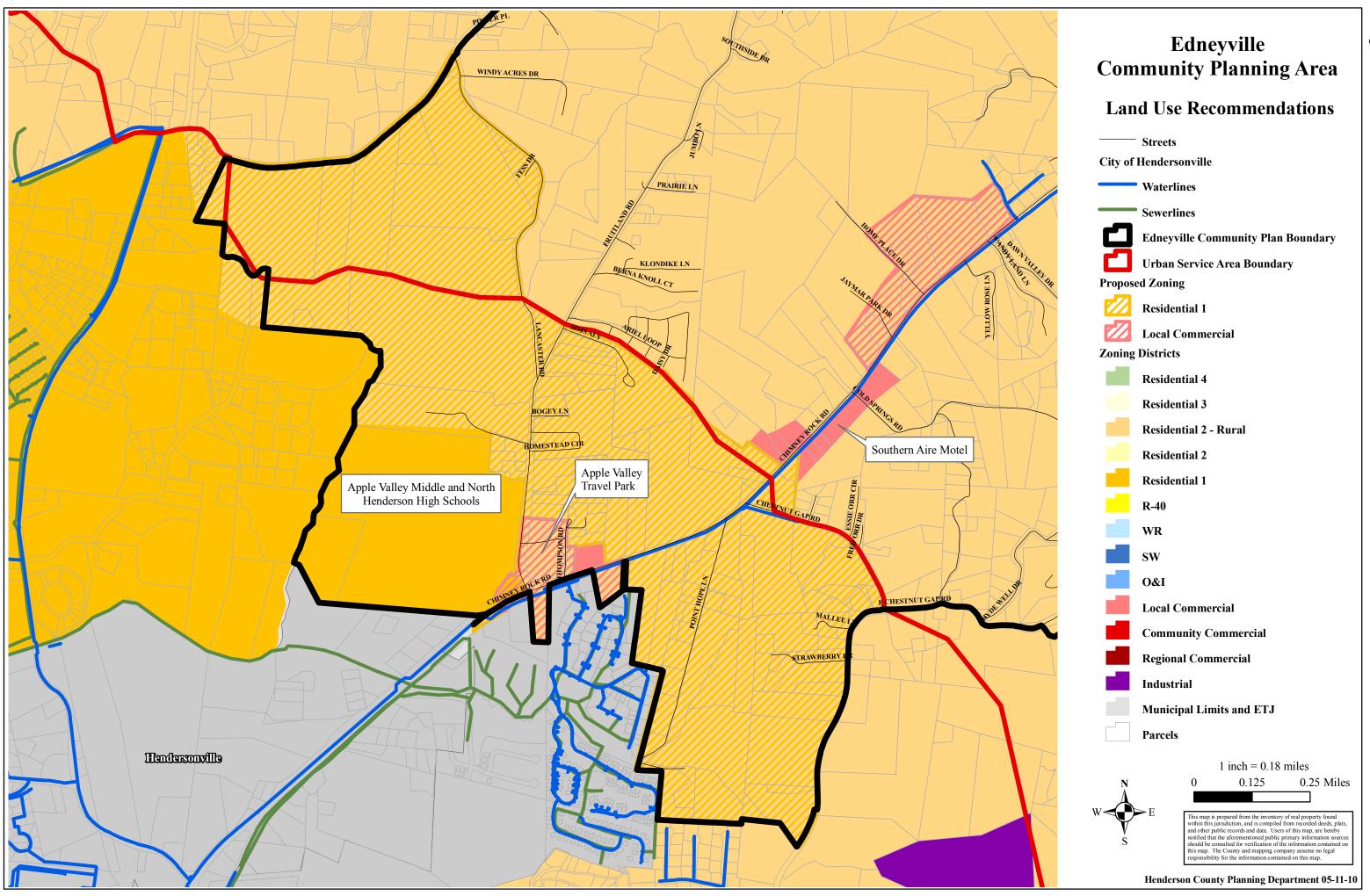
**Henderson County Planning Department 05-11-10** 

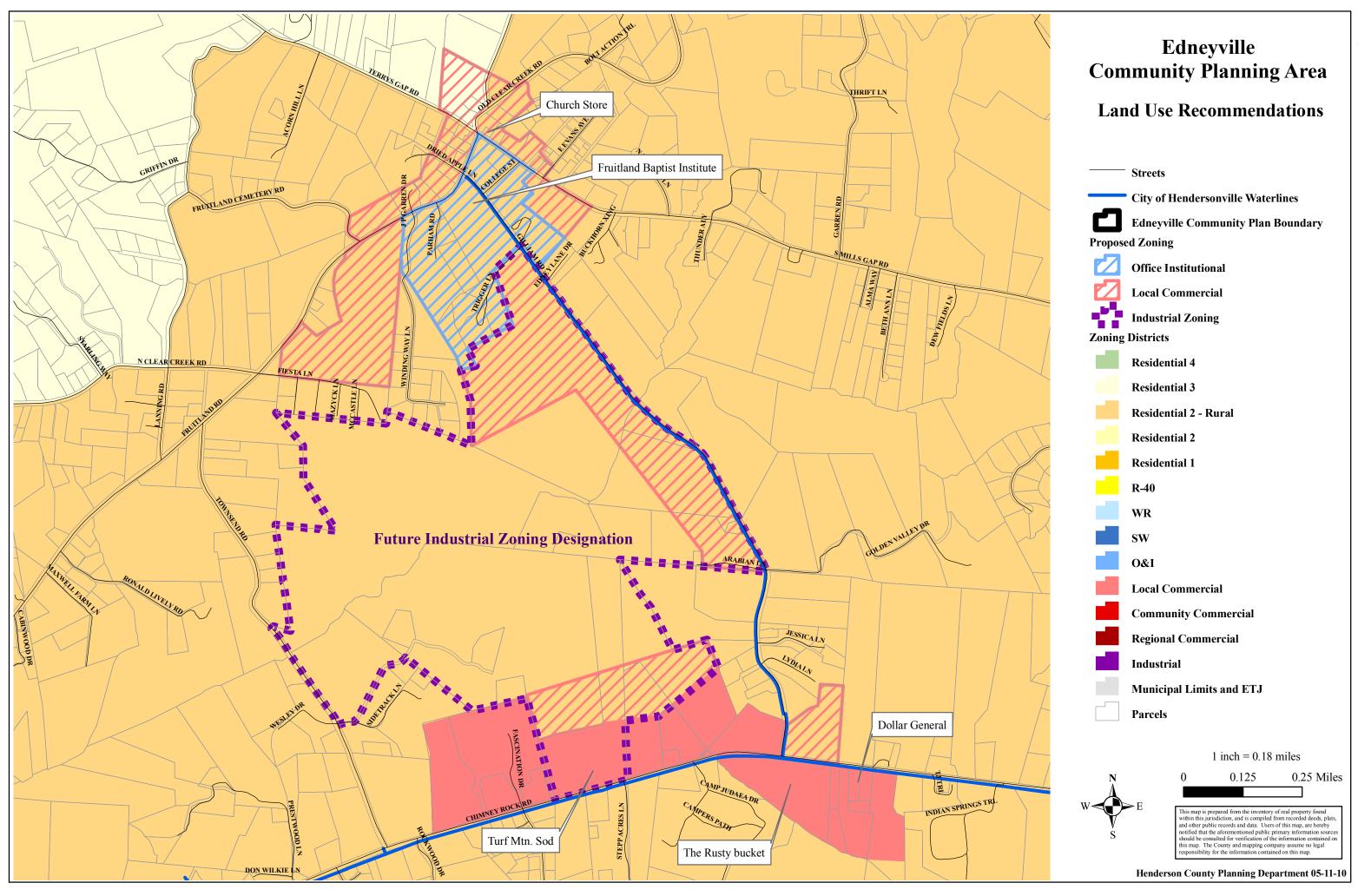


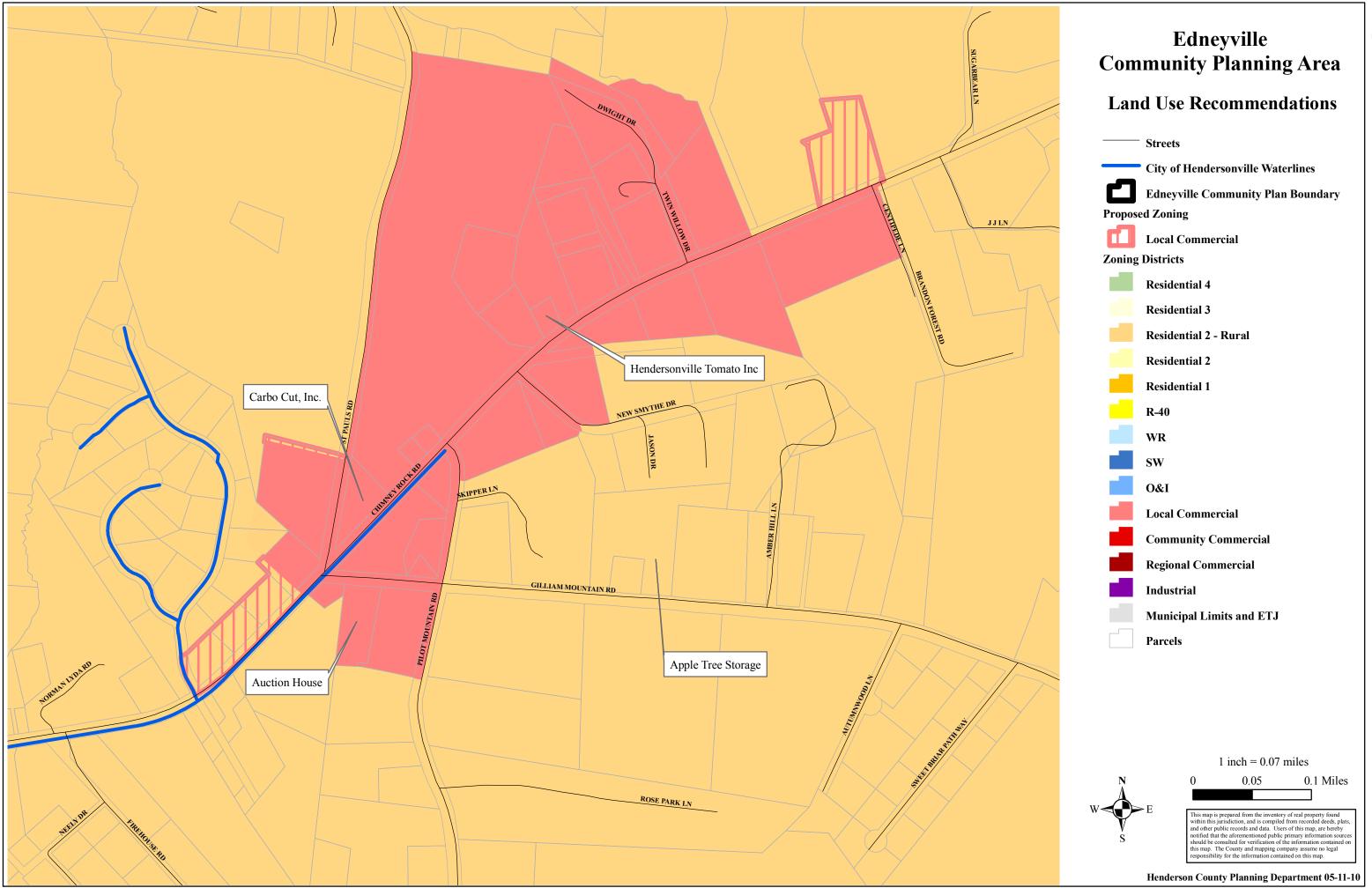


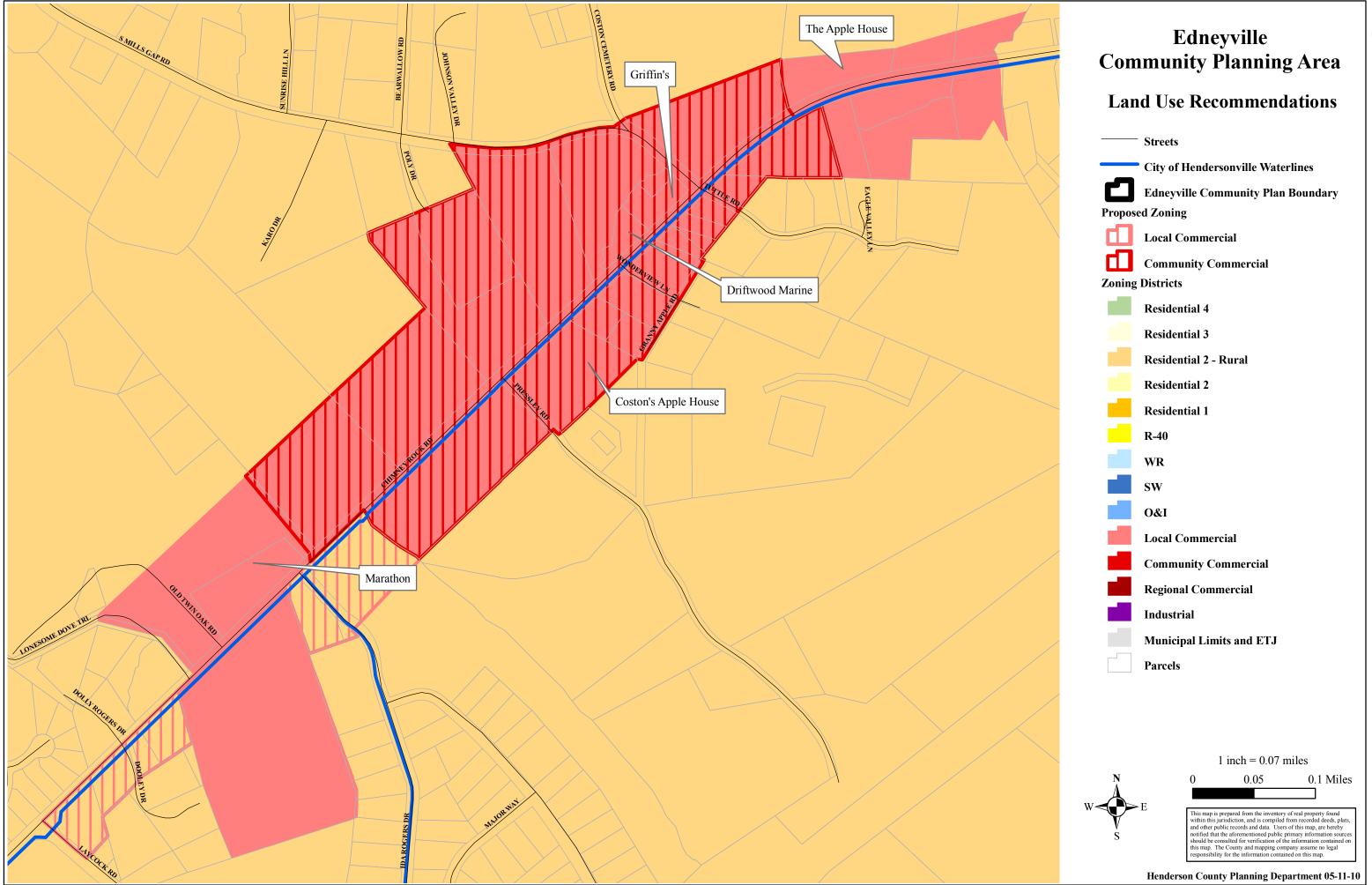












# **Edneyville Community Plan Supplemental Materials**



Adopted May 11, 2010

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#### PUBLIC INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY

#### Public Input Meeting 1

The County held an initial public input session for the Edneyville Community Plan on May 20, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at the Edneyville Elementary School. Approximately 26 Edneyville residents, including the Community Plan Advisory Committee, attended the meeting. After reviewing meeting format and ground rules the residents were divided into three (3) facilitated groups of 8 to 9 people. The facilitators asked and recorded responses to the following three questions:

- 1. What are the strengths of the Edneyville Community?
- 2. What are your concerns for the Edneyville Community?
- 3. What do you hope to see/envision for the Edneyville Community in 15 years?

Following group discussion the facilitators posted the responses for residents to cast votes. Each of the 26 citizens in attendance had the opportunity to cast three (3) votes for the issue or issues of highest importance. Of the 26 residents and committee members, it appears 22 voted, casting 65 votes. Table 1 indicates those comments which received votes and the number of votes received. Table 2 includes all comments made at the public input meeting. The comments are organized into the following broader categories: Natural and Cultural Resources, Agriculture, Affordable Housing, Community Facilities and Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Economic Development, Land Use and Development, Community Character and Design, Sense of Community, Community as related to the Rest of the County, Citizens, and Other.

#### Public Input Online Survey

The County solicited additional public input for the Plan by online survey from May 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008. Seventeen (17) Edneyville residents participated in the online survey. The citizens responded to the following questions:

- 1. What is your Zip Code?
- 2. What are the strengths of the Edneyville Community?
- 3. What are your concerns for the Edneyville Community?
- 4. What do you hope to see/envision for the Edneyville Community in 15 years?

Tables 3 through 6 include the responses/comments received.

#### Public Input Meeting 2

The County held an second public input session on October 27, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. at the Edneyville Community Center. At this meeting the public had the opportunity to review and provide input on the Draft Edneyville Community Plan prepared by the Edneyville Community Plan Advisory Committee. Approximately 40 Edneyville residents, including the Community Plan Advisory Committee, attended the drop in session. The Community Plan Advisory Committee considered the comments provided by the public on November 10, 2009, before sending forward its Draft Plan to the Planning Board and Board of Commissioners for their consideration.

Table 1. Public Input Meeting Comments Receiving Votes						
Topic	Strengths	Votes	Concerns Votes		15 Year Vision	Votes
Natural & Cultural	Natural Beauty	2			Limited Clear Cutting on Ridges and Slopes to Preserve Viewsheds	2
Resources	Scenic Beauty	2			Preserve Scenic Beauty	1
	Farming/Apple Orchards	8	Possible Conflicts Between New Residents and Agriculture	3	Larger Local Agriculture Markets	2
Agriculture	Agriculture*	2	Preserving Agricultural Integrity and Community identity	1	Maintain Balance of Agriculture and Residential	1
			Loss of Farmland	1		
Community Facilities &			Getting Fair Share of County Money	1		
Public Services			Lack of Public Infrastructure	1		
	Limited Traffic/Lack of Congestion*	1	Lack of Bike Lanes/Narrow Roads	4	Improvements to Road Infrastructure/Accessibility	2
Transportation			US Highway 64 Traffic	3		
			Need for Traffic Light at US Highway 64 and Pace Road Intersection	1		
Economic Development					Agritourism/Tourism Promoted	2
Land Use &	Low Density*	2	Being the "Undesirable" End of the CountyTaking Uses other Communities Do Not Want	9	Limited Change We Like it the Way it is	3
Development/ Community Character &	Limited Commercial Development	1	New Developments	1	Controlled Growth	2
Design	Rural Character/Culture/ Nature of Area*	1	Shooting Range	1	Limited Development	1
			Lack of Manufactured Home Park Landscaping	1	Local Businesses Still Around	1
Citizens	Spirituality/Faith	1	Newcomers vs. Old Families	1		

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates that this item appeared in two separate groups.

Topic	Strengths	Concerns	Future
*	J		Limited Clear Cutting on Ridges and
	Natural Beauty (2)	Effect of Growth on Well Water	Slopes to Preserve Viewsheds (2)
	Scenic Beauty (2)	Green Space	Preserve Scenic Beauty (1)
Natural and	Cultural Identity (Identity		
Cultural	as a Community)		Limited Clear Cutting in Valleys
Resources	Good water quality/Water resources		Ridge Protection
	Proximity to Mountains		radge i lotection
	Rich Heritage		
	Scenery		
	Farming/Apple Orchards	Possible Conflicts Between New	
	(8)	Residents and Agriculture (3)	Larger Local Agriculture Markets (2)
		Preserving Agricultural Integrity	Maintain Balance of Agriculture and
Agriculture	Agriculture* (2)	and Community identity (1)	Residential (1)
	Bub's Barn	Loss of Farmland (1)	Financial Support for Farmers
		Agriculture vs. Housing	Produce Market
			Remain Agricultural
Affordable		Availability of Affordable Housing	
Housing		Getting Fair Share of County	
	Library	Money (1)	
	Emergency Services	Lack of Public Infrastructure (1)	
Community		Availability of County	
Facilities and	Schools	Services/Law Enforcement	
<b>Public Services</b>		Criticism of Community Center	
		Infrastructure Matching Growth	
		Internet/Broadband/Cable TV	
		Access	Re-use of Rail Lines for Things like Bike
Recreation	Golf Course	Lack of Children's Activities	Trails
	Limited Traffic/Lack of	Lack of Bike Lanes/Narrow	Improvements to Road
	Congestion* (1)	Roads (4)	Infrastructure/Accessibility (2)
			Beltway (I-26, Howard Gap Road,
		US Highway 64 Traffic (3)	Upward Road)
		Need for Traffic Light at US Highway 64 and Pace Road	
		Intersection (1)	Lower Speed Limits on Highways
Transportation		, ,	Provide Safety/Bike Lanes/Designated
		Loud Traffic and Noise	Bike Trails
		Peak School Traffic at North	Safe Access to Residences/World's Edge
		Henderson  Dublic Transportation	Recreational Area
		Public Transportation Speed Limits too High on Rural	Safety of Roads Maintained or Improved
		Roads	
		Not Having Comparable Land	
	Tourists/Tourism Industry	Prices to the Rest of the County	Agritourism/Tourism Promoted (2)
			Bank
Economic Development			Mom and Pop Stores
Development			No big box stores
			Promote Green Industry
			Supermarket

	Table 2. All Public Input Meeting Comments				
Topic Strengths		Concerns	Future		
	Low Density* (2)	Being the "Undesirable" End of the CountyTaking Uses other Communities Do Not Want (9)	Limited Change We Like it the Way it is (3)		
	Limited Commercial Development (1)	New Developments (1)	Controlled Growth (2)		
Land Use and	Rural Character/Culture/ Nature of Area* (1)	Shooting Range (1)	Limited Development (1)		
Development & Community	Churches/Many Churches*	Lack of Manufactured Home Park Landscaping (1)	Local Businesses Still Around (1) Avoid High Density Cookie Cutter		
Character and Design	Clean	Balanced Zoning Regulations	Development		
		Manufactured Homes	Clean Up/Code Enforcement		
		No Community Center	Commercial Building Standards		
		Outdoor Firing Range	Contained/Clustered Commercial		
			Control and Plan Growth Limited Centralized Commercial		
			Development		
	Common Goals/Togetherness		Community Balance and Friendliness		
	Community Pride		Maintain Spiritual/Historical Values		
Sense of	Sense of Community*				
Community	Strong Presence in				
	Community				
	Unique in the Community				
Community as it Relates to the		Being Overlooked/Not Being Involved			
Rest of the		Loss of High School Identity			
County		Poorest Part of the County in Terms of Income			
	Spirituality/Faith (1)	Newcomers vs. Old Families (1)	Compromise for Common Goal		
	Diversity	Poverty			
	Family/Family-oriented*	Some Retirees Not Supporting Children and Education			
	Friendliness				
	Hard Working				
Citizens	Long-term Residency/Investment in Community				
	Margaret				
	People				
	Strong Church				
	Membership				
	Strong Values				
	Summer Residents				
	Close to Cities	Barking Dogs			
Other	Proximity to Commercial	Excessive Semi-Automatic			
	Services and Nature	Gunfire			

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates that this item appeared in two separate groups. (#) Indicates the number of votes this item received.

Table 3. Edneyville Survey Responses: What is your Zip Code?			
Zip Code	Percent of Respondents (Count)		
28731	5.9% (1)		
28732	0.0% (0)		
28756	0.0% (0)		
28792	94.1% (16)		

	Table 4. Edneyville Survey Responses: What are your Community's Strengths					
	Response	Response Date				
1	Strong commitment to family, farming, natural beauty.	6/24/08 6:58 pm				
2	Tradition, Family Values, Dedication and preservation of the land	6/18/08 2:19 pm				
3	The primary strength of the community is its people, most of whom were born and raised here. They, for the most part, have great respect for the land and many earn their living from that land. The second strength of this community is the beauty of the land. From rolling hills in Peaceful Valley to the rugged woodlands of Bearwallow Mountain to the farmlands and orchards that dot the area, no other section of Henderson County is so blessed with beauty. The last strength I'll list is that the area is still to be discovered. While we do have our communities, gated and otherwise, we remain a beautiful rural community.	6/5/08 7:09 pm				
4	Edneyville has remained rural and is still beautiful. We are using our solidarity as a community to supervise development and growth, hoping to keep a visual balance with the financial one. We are a working class/farming community, unimpressed with titles and money.	6/2/08 3:15 pm				
5	Rural farmland. Apple Country, good honest hard working people.	5/23/08 1:18 pm				
6	Good neighbors, not too many rules about property use	5/23/08 9:47 am				
7	Hard working, honest people	5/18/08 7:40 pm				
8	20 years ago the face of the community was represented as a tight nit group of families and friends that you went to church and school with the demographic of this part of the county has significantly changed to one of a more transient culture	5/16/08 10:36 pm				
9	Large number of native citizens. Mountains. Agriculture.	5/16/08 9:57 pm				
10	Natural beauty	5/16/08 3:51 pm				
11	Rural character	5/16/08 2:57 pm				
12	The ability of the citizens to work together to raise funds and develop plans for community wide activity.	5/16/08 10:58 am				
13	Not overdeveloped and a quiet rural community	5/16/08 8:29 am				
14	Location	5/10/08 11:42 am				
15	Safe place to live neighbors you can count on	5/6/08 12:58 pm				

	Table 5. Edneyville Survey Responses: What are your Concerns for your C	community?
	Response	Response Date
1	That because of the poor apple crop the last several years developers will swoop in and entice families that have lived here for generations to sell out their heritage. Then there'll be a bunch of McMansions occupied by part time residents who think because they are paying taxes, they have a right to dictate how things should be to life long residents.	6/24/08 6:58 pm
2	Loss of community values Investment land overdevelopment "Trailer Park" development lack of commercial zoning	6/18/08 2:19 pm
3	1) No Fire Range in Police Academy. Too many houses. 2)Need Grocery/ Shopping/Store/Tail Market/Office/Service business near Post Office as Central Area - there No Flood stageTo save GAS and distance driving to Hendersonville	6/17/08 1:09 pm
4	My major concern is that growth in our area spoils its beauty and way of life. I pass more cows that cars going to work in Hendersonville. While I don't expect it to stay that way forever, I do hope that growth comes with great wisdom and planning.	6/5/08 7:09 pm
5	We are independent and do not want to be overly regulated; however, new landowners as well as those who are cashing in on their grandfather's farm need to stop and consider esthetics and the importance of our local history. People who have more money should be taxed more; farmers and blue collar workers should be taxed less. Edneyville should NOT become a community for the privileged; nor should it become a trash dump.	6/2/08 3:15 pm
6	Too many developments coming in and tearing up our beautiful land and the farmers selling out Too much growth at a very fast pace. Too fast to keep up with	5/23/08 1:18 pm
7	Need sidewalks, widen some of the roads	5/23/08 9:47 am
8	Rapid decrease of farm/forest land high cost of living	5/18/08 7:40 pm
9	My concern is that without proper zoning and enforcement of immigration laws, the community will continue a steady decline, and no one will want to consider it as a place to raise a family, buy a summer home, or start a business. I think the community center, if implemented properly is a step in the right direction. However, consider that the old-guard is dying out and being replaced with a less than genuine, and more transient sub-culture.	5/16/08 10:36 pm
10	Excessive development.	5/16/08 9:57 pm
11	Outdoor Firearms Range at NC Justice Academy, Continued enforcement nuisance ordinance, overdevelopment, water quality and erosion control, stop steep slope development, development moratorium needs to be in place.	5/16/08 3:51 pm
12	Trashy housing Area could use recycling center	5/16/08 2:57 pm
13	Large scale development which will ruin the rural character of the area. As land owners quit farming and put their land up for sale, there should be some guidance for development which will retain the farm image.	5/16/08 10:58 am
14	That the planning committee will not leave us alone and let us enjoy living on our land with the freedom that we should have as American citizens and that they will make rural areas like downtown Hendersonville. We live in the country not town for a reason.	5/16/08 8:29 am
15	Loss of farming, overdevelopment of land	5/10/08 11:42 am
16	Overdevelopment leading to traffic issues, increased crime and overcrowding in schools. Too many trailer parks that decrease property values.	5/6/08 12:58 pm

T	able 6. Edneyville Survey Responses: What do you hope to see your community lo	ook like in 15 years?
	Response	Response Date
1	Undeveloped, rural and farm based.	6/24/08 6:58 pm
2	Corridor commercial development with restrictions on storefront and advertising (Hilton Head style). Infrastructure planned for ingress and egress to housing developments, commercial centers (avoid the North/Apple Valley [situation]) Protection of floodplains and waterways. Protection and preservation of farmlands and scenic and natural environments.	6/18/08 2:19 pm
3	Become Edneyville TownGrocery /Shopping/Store/Tail Market/office/service business = SAVE GAS	6/17/08 1:09 pm
4	The major hope I have is the development of a central commercial area. I believe one of the major responsibilities of the planning group will be to determine where "Edneyville" will be. We eventually will have a large grocery store, bank, restaurants, shops and such. We need to define where they will be congregated. Without this Chimney Rock Road will become as bad as Spartanburg Highway. Strip mall after strip mall with no unified look or feel. Once that's done, we can start looking at the outlying areas. I would also like to retain as much open area as possible. The openness is so much of the beauty of this area, it would be a shame to loose it to subdivision after subdivision.	6/5/08 7:09 pm
5	More residential/commercial development along main road (Hwy 64), and less on mountain tops and on country roads. No more decrease in agricultural land.	6/2/08 3:15 pm
6	Just like it is now, just cleaned up a little, apple orchards, and farms, but get rid of all the junk and trash that has littered our beautiful Edneyville	5/23/08 1:18 pm
7	Pretty close to the way it is now other than cleaning up some of 64, adding sidewalks, new community center which we are working on	5/23/08 9:47 am
8	Still a farming community with some control of mobile homes/manufactured housing more protection of greenways and forest lands	5/18/08 7:40 pm
9	Clean up the trashlittering the side of the road. I hope that we will be able to provide a destination for cyclists and mountain bikers, as there is some wonderful scenery and awesome trail building opportunity. A greenway system linking our community with the greater Hendersonville community is an absolute must to begin to attract business, families and overall sustainable, positive growth	5/16/08 10:36 pm
10	Lots of apple orchards and less development.	5/16/08 9:57 pm
11	Less mobile homes, less trash, less developments, more green space, protected ridges, no clear cutting.	5/16/08 3:51 pm
12	Rural	5/16/08 2:57 pm
13	Continued apple and vegetable farming in most of the area with tasteful development with the maintenance of "green space" to prevent the area from looking congested.	5/16/08 10:58 am
14	Just like it is, rural and not a house on every piece of land with cement every where and hundreds and thousands of people everywhere	5/16/08 8:29 am
15	Incorporated township	5/10/08 11:42 am
16	I'd like to see some of the eyesores gone such as abandoned businesses and trailers that are falling apart but are still being lived in	5/6/08 12:58 pm

#### CULTURAL AND HISTORIC SITES PHOTO INVENTORY\*



- \* See Edneyville Community Plan Map 3: Cultural and Historic Sites. Structures are identified as being built over 100 years ago. Photos are not available for the following sites due to inaccessibility and other factors; however, a description of the site is available below as possible:
  - 5. Residence with accessory structures, located on Sidetrack Lane.
  - 7. Residence with adjacent manufactured home park, located on Twin Oaks Drive.
  - 10. Residence with one (1) accessory farm structure and apple orchard, located on Tarheel Blue Lane.
  - 11. Property inaccessible due to private gated drive.
  - 20. Residence with accessory farm structures.

The structure identified as 16 has, since the drafting of the plan began, been removed.

Edneyville Community Plan Supplemental Materials









May 11, 2010













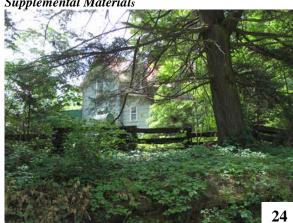








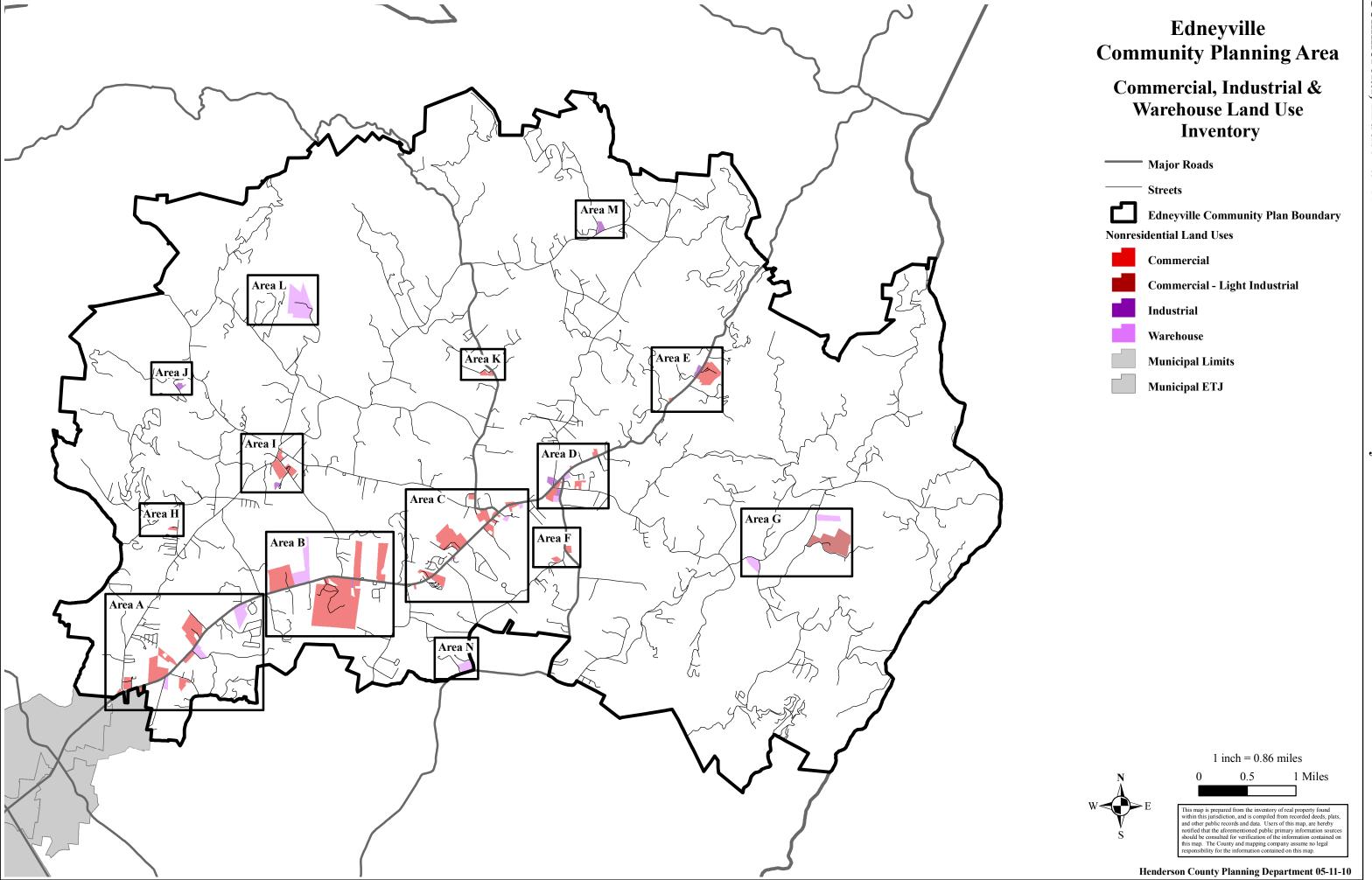




## COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL & WAREHOUSE LAND USE INVENTORY

	Table 7. Commercial, In	dustrial & Warehouse Land Use Inventory	
Site	Name	Description	Heated Sq. Ft.
A01	Now & Then	Retail Sales & Services (Thrift Store)	2,400
A02	Apple Valley Travel Park	Recreational Vehicle Park	1,248
A03	1. Nappier & Turner Construction Co, Inc 2. Gifted Hands	Office (Construction Company)     Retail Sales & Services (Hair Salon)	1,496
A04	Mountain Fresh Orchards	Produce Stand	5,033
A05	O.C. Barnwell & Sons	Produce Stand	5,200
A06	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	92,500
A07	Grandad's Apples	Produce Stand/Retail Sales & Services (Gift Shop)	6,000
A08	Apple Country Realty	Office (Realtor)	2,892
A09	Southern Aire Motel	Motel/Hotel	7,530
A10	Freeman's Apple House	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	12,440
A11	Apple Valley Animal Hospital	Office (Veterinary Clinic)	2,273
A12	Jaymar Travel Park	Recreational Vehicle Park/Manufactured Home Park	6,455
A13	Herbert Staton Apples	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	5,132
B01	Eastland Development Inc.	Self-Storage Warehousing	12,672
B02	Turf Mountain Sod/Pittillo Dairy Agriculture	Office	5,280
B03	Camp Judea	Camp	12,744
B04	The Rusty Bucket	Retail Sales & Services (Gift Shop)	2,400
B05	Warehouse/Distribution Center	Warehousing & Storage	8,360
B06	Apple Country Storage	Self-Storage Warehousing	20,420
B07	Dollar General	Retail Sales & Services (Dollar Store)	9,100
B08	Cabins For Rent	Single-Family Residences (Rental Cabins)	1,440
B09	Lyda's Produce Stand	Produce Stand	2,696
B10	Carter Financial Services	Office (Tax)	3,072
C01	Splawn Electric & Heating Inc	Office (Specialty Contractor)	2,550
C02	Children United Child Care	Childcare Facility	1,958
C03	Taylor's Mini Storage	Self-Storage Warehousing	6,900
C04	WNC Apple Growers, Inc.	Warehousing & Storage	59,712
C05	1. Apple Annie's Café 2. Sam's Car Fix	Retail Sales & Services (Restaurant)     Automobile & Equipment Service	3,554
C06	Jimmy Nix & Sons	Produce Stand/Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	6,850
C07	Main Line Automotive	Automobile & Equipment Service	2,400
C08	Edneyville General Store     Marathon	1. Convenience Store 2. Fuel Pumps	11,896
C09	Coston Agriculture Apple House	Produce Stand/Retail Sales & Services (Gift Shop)/Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	6,000 432
C10	Apple Cooperative	Office/Outdoor Storage	540
C11	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	30,134
C12	La Esperanza Mexican Store	Convenience Store	3,000
C13	Driftwood Marine	Marina (Boat Storage & Repair)	4,000
C14	Old World Pizza/Happy Days Diner	Retail Sales & Services (Restaurants)	5,952

	Table 7. Commercial, Industrial & Warehouse Land Use Inventory					
Site	Name	Description	Heated Sq. Ft.			
C15	1. Griffin's 2. Exxon	1. Convenience Store 2. Fuel Pumps	(C14 & C15)			
C16	Fairview Mobile Wash Inc.	Retail Sales & Services (Manufactured Home Cleaning Service)	2,400			
C17	S+K Engines	Automobile & Equipment Service	6,020			
C18	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	10,140			
C19	Sign Xpress	Retail Sales & Services/Manufacturing & Production Operations	1,200			
C20	The Apple House	Produce Stand (Gift Shop)/Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	8,480			
C21	Devine Space	Self-Storage Warehousing	10,050			
C22	Don Laughter & Sons	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	11,550			
D01	Packing House	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	7,360			
D02	Auction House	Retail Sales & Services (Auction House)	10,338 (between D02 & D05)			
D03	Frame To Go	Retail Sales & Services/Manufacturing & Production Operations	45,036			
D04	Packing House	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	3,572			
D05	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	10,338 (between D02 & D05)			
D06	Carbo-Cut, Inc	Manufacturing & Production Operations (Machine Tool)	10,242			
D07	Mona Lisa	Warehousing & Storage (Food Products)	22,475			
D08	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	21,020			
D09	Apple Tree Storage	Self-Storage Warehousing	6,000			
D10	Hendersonville Tomato Inc	Produce Stand	1,860			
D11	Hillbilly Trading Post	Produce Stand/Retail Sales & Services (Gift Shop)	14,020			
E01	Old Orchard	Office (Lot Sales)	1,600			
E02	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	3,150			
E03	Hideaway Park	Single-Family Residences (Rental Cabins)	8,339			
F01	North State Orchards	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	26,800			
F02	Ridgeview Apple Packers/UAP Distributors	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	16,264			
G01	The Mack Jackson Orchards	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	3,762			
G02	Blue Ridge Mountain Water	Food Manufacturing (Spring Water Bottling Company)	2,004			
G03	Packing House	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	4,212			
H01	Marketta's	Retail Sales & Services (Hair Salon)	3,120			
I01	Fruitland Bible Baptist Institute	College	56,786			
I02	Church Store	Retail Sales & Services	1,080			
I03	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	7,980			
J01	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	2,720			
K01	Apple Wedge Packers & Cider	Food Manufacturing (Packing House)	6,464			
L01	Warehouse	Warehousing & Storage	1,368			
M01	Ledbetter Hand Woven Mats/Agriculture	Retail Sales & Services	3,240			
N01	Warehouse/Auto Repair	Warehousing & Storage/Automobile & Equipment Service	2,432			





#### REFERENCES

<u>The Heritage of Henderson County Volume I and II</u>. Spartanburg: The Reprint Company Publishers, 1985.

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