



## Legislation Text

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File #: [23-0326], Version: 1

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### **Open a Legislative Hearing to Adopt *Shaping Our Future: A Transportation and Land Use Initiative* as an Amendment to the Town's Comprehensive Plan, *Chapel Hill 2020*.**

#### **Staff:**

Caroline Dwyer, Transit Planning Manager  
Matt Cecil, Transit Development Manager  
Diedra McEntyre, Principal Planner

#### **Department:**

Transit  
  
Planning

**Overview:** Chapel Hill Transit's (CHT) North-South Bus Rapid Transit (NSBRT) project leverages a significant federal investment to meet Council's Complete Community and Climate Action priorities. The NSBRT enjoys high levels of support, locally and regionally; is a key component of the region's transportation strategy and long-term vision; and plays a role in the University's transportation and sustainability plans. NSBRT is also much more than a transit investment; it is an investment in active transportation, safety, congestion mitigation, equity, environmental stewardship, smart growth, and economic development.

In 2020, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) awarded CHT nearly \$600,000 through the "Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development Planning" grant program. CHT initiated transit-oriented development (TOD) planning for the NSBRT corridor in 2022. At the request of Council, staff coordinated TOD planning with the Land Use Management Ordinance (LUMO) audit and update and development of Chapel Hill's Complete Community Strategy.

*Shaping Our Future: A Transportation and Land Use Initiative (Shaping Our Future)* aligns with, and is guided by, adopted plans and Council policy directives. *Shaping Our Future* incorporates robust community engagement, a market analysis, an accessibility analysis, illustrative TOD station area concepts, and implementation recommendations providing staff and Council with a starting point for discussions and decisions related to the ongoing LUMO update.

Adopting *Shaping Our Future* amends the Town's comprehensive plan, *Chapel Hill 2020*, by integrating best practices for more sustainable land use and development, promoting equitable economic and community development, and catalyzing great placemaking in locations with the best transit access, which, collectively, will help implement Council's vision for a Complete Community.



#### **Recommendation(s):**

That the Council 1) open the legislative hearing to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan with *Shaping Our Future: A Transportation and Land Use Initiative* and its recommendations, receive public comments, and continue the hearing to May 10, 2023; and 2) provide any additional input on *Shaping Our Future: A Transportation and Land Use Initiative* dated April 2023

#### **Decision Points:**

Does the Council agree with the following steps:

- Update the Town's Comprehensive Plan with *Shaping Our Future: A Transportation and Land Use*

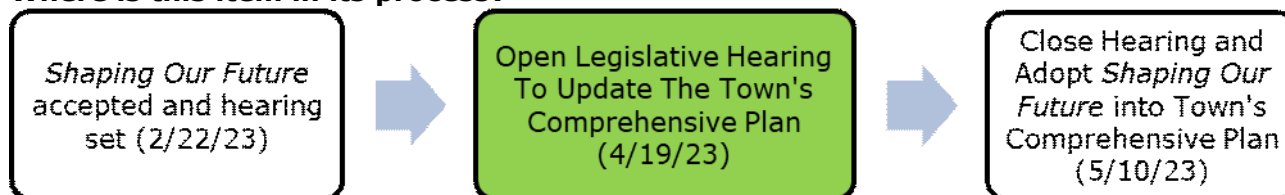
*Initiative*

- Implement some or all the recommendations of *Shaping Our Future: A Transportation and Land Use Initiative* as part of the ongoing Land Use Management Ordinance (LUMO) update

**Key Issues:**

- This discussion item is submitted concurrently with a request submitted by staff to open a hearing to adopt the Complete Community Strategy as an amendment to the Town's Comprehensive Plan, *Chapel Hill 2020*; both items are scheduled to return to Council for a final action on May 10, 2023
- Planning Commission: At Planning Commission's April 4, 2023 meeting, the Commission unanimously recommended that Council adopt and incorporate *Shaping Our Future* into the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

**Where is this item in its process?**



**Attachments:**

- Technical Report
- Staff Presentation
- Draft Resolution
- *Shaping Our Future: A Land Use & Transportation Planning Initiative*, amendment to Chapel Hill 2020
- Planning Commission Recommendation

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**The Agenda will reflect the text below and/or the motion text will be used during the meeting.**

**PRESENTER:** Caroline Dwyer, Transit Planning Manager

- Introduction and preliminary recommendation
- Recommendation of the Planning Commission
- Comments from the public
- Comments and questions from the Mayor and Town Council
- Referral to the Manager and Attorney
- Motion to recess the Legislative Hearing to May 10, 2023

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Council 1) open the legislative hearing to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan with *Shaping Our Future: A Transportation and Land Use Initiative* and its recommendations, receive public comments, and continue the hearing to May 10, 2023; and 2) provide any additional input on *Shaping Our Future: A Transportation and Land Use Initiative* dated April 2023.