



# Public Comment Summary

## Northeast Neighborhood Kickoff Meeting, December 4, 2006

Over 100 participants attended the Northeast Neighborhood Kickoff Meeting held on December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Olive Branch Baptist Church. These participants worked with the planning team to identify key likes and dislikes for the neighborhood. Participants worked in three groups to identify the key assets of the neighborhood and issues that should be addressed in the neighborhood plan. A summary of these comments is provided here. The neighborhood issue comments (second column) are grouped by the type of neighborhood issue (first column). Specific ideas for addressing neighborhood issues are also listed (last column).

Key Neighborhood Issues	Specific Comments	Ideas & Solutions
<p>Community Self-Image &amp; Pride</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Like the togetherness here, especially when the DuBois Center was a school</li> <li>▪ I like my home here</li> <li>▪ My roots are in this neighborhood, including Massenber store and my family home</li> <li>▪ Born and raised here</li> <li>▪ Like friendliness of the neighborhood, know everybody here</li> <li>▪ Neighborhood has the right leadership—needs to be activated</li> <li>▪ I like the people and the potential, what it can be</li> <li>▪ Don't get rid of this older neighborhood</li> <li>▪ Support this neighborhood with new infrastructure</li> <li>▪ Area does not have a subdivision or "cookie cutter" mentality</li> <li>▪ This area has the potential to be a vibrant, walkable community</li> <li>▪ Area is a safe place for a school</li> <li>▪ Value historical aspects of neighborhood</li> <li>▪ Strong sense of community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Need liaison to represent homeowners, provide collective voice to Town Hall</li> <li>▪ Human Relations Council is resource for neighborhood</li> </ul>

Key Neighborhood Issues	Specific Comments	Ideas & Solutions
Neighborhood Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ People drive 60 miles per hour through the streets</li> <li>▪ There is a lack of police presence by the railroad tracks</li> <li>▪ Police drive by but don't stop in the neighborhood</li> <li>▪ Some areas of neighborhood serve as sources of crime and cause problems</li> <li>▪ Significant number of crime reports on North Taylor Street</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Speed bumps and speed limit signs</li> <li>▪ Provide stop sign at Juniper Avenue and Allen Road</li> <li>▪ Prohibit parking on sidewalks</li> <li>▪ Prohibit speeding on Taylor Street, Walnut Avenue, and Pine Avenue with speed bumps or other features</li> <li>▪ Provide crosswalks at key intersections</li> <li>▪ Increase street lighting in neighborhood, especially at Alston-Massenberg Center</li> </ul>
Neighborhood Appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Trash pickup/sanitation problems in neighborhood</li> <li>▪ Flooding occurring by church and on Franklin Street</li> <li>▪ Need to standardize zoning</li> <li>▪ Need home improvements, but no structural changes</li> <li>▪ Area at corner of White and Spring streets is overgrown</li> <li>▪ Abandoned cars are an eyesore</li> <li>▪ Bulk trash often stays near curb, isn't picked up</li> <li>▪ Need greater upkeep of cemeteries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Require clean-up fines for absentee landlords</li> <li>▪ Town could reclaim abandoned buildings</li> <li>▪ Improve street cleaning service</li> <li>▪ Screen the railroad tracks and beautify the area along White Street</li> <li>▪ Fine people who leave bulk trash along street for extended periods of time</li> <li>▪ Develop community gardens</li> <li>▪ Create partnerships with families who have connection to cemeteries – encourage flowers to be put out on a regular basis</li> <li>▪ Send flyers to explain bulk pickup process</li> </ul>
Transportation and Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Need greater access to local grocery store</li> <li>▪ Need public bus system</li> <li>▪ Need north-south pedestrian access from Pine Avenue to Wait Avenue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cab system could provide special service to senior/disabled persons</li> <li>▪ Create greenway or walking path from Pine Avenue to White Avenue</li> </ul>
Home Ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rentals are maintained differently than owner-occupied housing</li> <li>▪ Homeownership creates pride in area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Would like to see townhomes developed on Juniper Avenue and Allen Road; Would not like additional public housing</li> <li>▪ Halifax development in Raleigh is an example of the type of development that could be created in the neighborhood</li> </ul>

Key Neighborhood Issues	Specific Comments	Ideas & Solutions
DuBois Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Important resource for the neighborhood</li> <li>▪ Former school is important piece of history for neighborhood</li> </ul>	Potential uses for site could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ office complex</li> <li>▪ cultural arts center</li> <li>▪ recreational center</li> <li>▪ job training/placement center</li> </ul>
Jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Need jobs for youth and others that are located in or near neighborhood</li> <li>▪ Need commercial opportunities such as a grocery and medical facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conduct an economic assessment of the neighborhood</li> <li>▪ Promote neighborhood businesses</li> <li>▪ Create job training program</li> <li>▪ New development in neighborhood could employ residents</li> </ul>
Recreation Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Need additional recreational facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Renovate Alston-Massenberg Center</li> <li>▪ Provide improvements to Ailey Young Park, such as lighting, seating, and picnic tables</li> </ul>

**Are there other issues not listed here that should be addressed? Please contact a Planning Team Member and let them know! Contact information is available at [www.wakeforest.gov/neneighborhoodplan.aspx](http://www.wakeforest.gov/neneighborhoodplan.aspx)**