SUMMARY OF PLANNING BOARD ACTION

Subject:

Land Use Management Ordinance Text Amendment – Resource Conservation District Stream Determination and Field Verification Criteria

Meeting Date:

September 2, 2003

Recommendation:

The Board recommended approval of the text amendment, with additional comments to be transmitted to the Council.

Vote:

8 - 1

Aye: Rebecca Boyles, Coleman Day, Timothy Dempsey, Thatcher Freund,

Sally Greene, Suzanne Haff, Nancy Milio, Ruby Sinreich

Nay: Nancy Gabriel

Issues Raised and Additional Votes:

1. The Planning Board suggests that the Council explore options for using available experts in the fields of stream geology, hydrology, and biology as a resource for advice in the event of disputed stream determinations.

- 2. That the "Internal Guidance Manual" of the NC Division of Water Quality, referred to in Recommendation #3 of the Committee's report, be incorporated into the Land Use Management Ordinance by reference.
- 3. The Planning Board suggests that the Council focus special attention on how wetlands can best be protected as a component of Resource Conservation District regulations.
- 4. In a separate motion, the Board voted 9-0 to ask that the Vice Chair, when making a report to the Council this month on the Rusch Road Rezoning/Special Use Permit applications, comment about wetlands issues that were raised during this Resource Conservation District discussion.
- 5. The Board also voted 9-0 to recommend to the Council that the new Resource Conservation District definitions and criteria be reviewed one year after they are put in place.

Explanation of Dissenting Vote:

The dissenting member did not agree with the majority of the Board on the proposed involvement of a panel of experts in disputes over stream determinations.

Prepared by:

Sally Greene, Vice-Chair, Chapel Hill Planning Board & Sally Greene, Vice-Chapel Hill Planning Board & Sally G