



NCAPA Legislative Committee

2011 – 2012 Legislative Agenda

PRIMARY AGENDA

- **Community Planning**

Create and Promote legislation requiring that all NC localities prepare (and keep up to date) Comprehensive Plans that include minimum elements (to be clarified) and authorize dedicated new funding sources to help communities prepare these Comprehensive Plans. These changes are essential for communities to adequately monitor, predict and address local growth, environmental protection and infrastructure issues.

- **Sustainability**

Provide the recently created and appointed Sustainable Communities Task Force with the funding and resources necessary to support sustainable initiatives at the local level state-wide. Pursue external funding sources including federal grants and non-profit foundations for regional plans and demonstration projects such as green infrastructure pilots. Promote collaboration between State agencies to improve efficiency and coordinate efforts aimed at promoting sustainability. Promote the development and adoption of green energy sources.

- **Infrastructure Funding (including transportation)**

Authorize dedicated new funding sources to help communities address the current infrastructure crisis and meet growing service demands for transportation, water and sewer service, affordable housing, schools, parks, and other community facilities. Decisions on funding mechanisms should be allowed at the local level rather than through special legislation at the state level. New funding sources beyond the sales and property tax are needed so a 21st century infrastructure can be built to accommodate the rapid population growth of North Carolina. Transportation funding at the state level should use a data-driven, modally-agnostic process to set priorities.

SECONDARY AGENDA

- **NCDOT/Federal Transportation Funding**

Establish equitable funding for multi-modal transportation facilities and facility maintenance. Funding for transportation facilities and maintenance is critical for the future economic health of North Carolina.

Funding a wide variety of transportation options is critical to the health of our environment and citizens. Funding formulas and project selection criteria should be equal for all transportation projects: transit, highway, bike, pedestrian, rail, or air. Our goal is to ensure that sound transportation planning practices and project implementation are enabled.

- **Growth Strategies (including Multi-modal Transportation and Green Communities)**

Provide clear state authorization for a range of important land use management strategies that allow communities to support healthy and environmentally-friendly growth. These strategies are necessary to allow communities to address local growth issues, changing economic development demands, and changes in transportation behavior as they seek to build communities that can serve their residents while accommodating increasingly limited public resources.

- **Affordable Housing**

Authorize major new funding and policies to help communities provide adequate affordable housing and ensure that all residents have a safe, decent, affordable place to live. Options for affordable housing include 1, 2, and 3 bedroom condominiums and apartments. Options are for home ownership and rental – especially for state and local employees

STANDING/STUDY COMMITTEES

- **Healthy Communities**

Promote legislation for planning and infrastructure investment for North Carolinians in all communities to provide safe, convenient amenities that help lead more active lives. Partner with public health organizations and Eat Smart Move More. Promote the availability of healthy eating opportunities by promoting community-supported agriculture, community gardens, and efforts to address “food deserts” in disadvantaged communities.

- **Disaster/Hazard Comprehensive Planning**

Promote planning, provide guidance, and develop policy towards comprehensive disaster planning. This includes but is not limited to issues such as climate change and sea level rise, fire, hurricane, and man-made disasters in local, regional and state hazard assessments, infrastructure planning, construction, and long term funding decisions.