

MEMORANDUM
ROCKY MOUNT PLANNING BOARD
Norman Y. Chambliss, III (Chairman)

03/18/03

**To: Mayor & City Council Members
City of Rocky Mount, N.C.**

From: Norman Y. Chambliss, III

Subject: Comprehensive Plan

After months of review, the City of Rocky Mount Planning Board is pleased to forward to you the attached document titled TOGETHER TOMORROW, a Tier 1 Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan for the City of Rocky Mount, N.C. During the March 11, 2003 planning board meeting, the Planning Board voted to recommend to the City Council that this document be adopted as our official Tier 1 Comprehensive Plan.

It is also our pleasure as a board, to compliment the staff of the Department of Planning and Development for their tireless effort in drafting and "fine tuning" this document. As you are well aware, this document is the result of many months of hard work and dedication of the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. That committee was appointed by the Rocky Mount City Council for the purpose of gathering information, vision, ideas and direction from a cross section of our culturally diverse community. Many public meetings were held and many voices were heard. For that reason, I feel that the plan clearly addresses the vision of the community as a whole. The Steering Committee, under the chairmanship of John Gessaman and Joseph J. Ray should be complimented for their effort and, more important, their results.

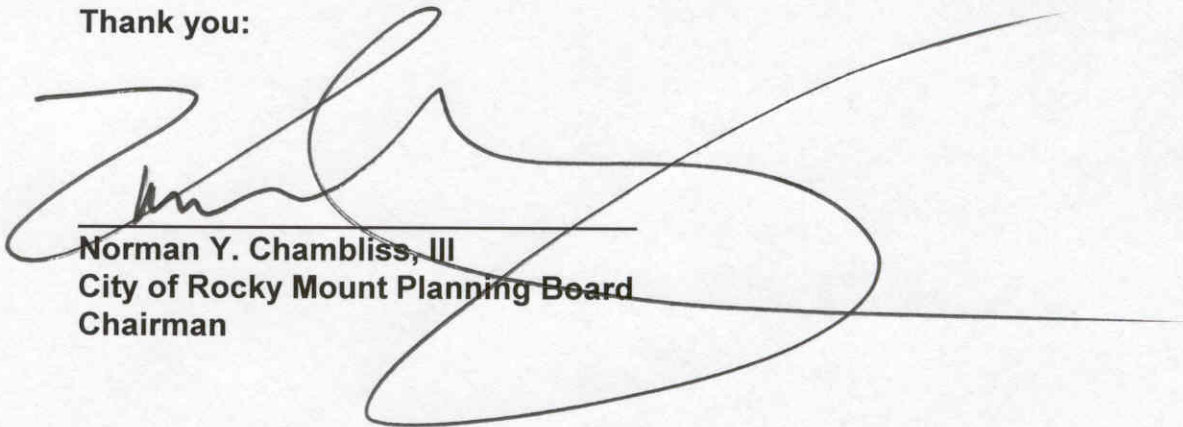
The Planning Board also took its responsibility to study and critique the plan seriously. Many special meetings and workshops were held in order to better educate the Planning Board members on the broad directions outlined in the Tier 1 plan. The Planning Board has voted to recommend that the plan, as submitted on this date, be adopted. It is an effective Tier 1 plan. At my request, the Planning Board has asked that the City Council accept our recommendation for approval subject to further review of the following topics:

1. Study methods and processes to deal with street widening and roadway improvements in a more expeditious manner.
2. Study additional ways to encourage sound development in the Edgecombe County area(s) of our City in order that the east side of Rocky Mount has an equal opportunity to enjoy positive growth.
3. Study the forecast of need for 8000 additional acres of land area in order to achieve our growth plan through the year 2025.
4. Provide ample opportunity for public review of the official document by placing the text on the City of Rocky Mount Web page and hard copies of the plan in convenient locations.

We anticipate that the staff will hold a series of work sessions during the next 12 months during which we will deal with some or all of these issues.

In closing, let me state again that it is with pride and pleasure that the City of Rocky Mount Planning Board forwards this document to the Rocky Mount City Council with our recommendation that the plan be adopted.

Thank you:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is highly cursive and loops around the line.

Norman Y. Chambliss, III
City of Rocky Mount Planning Board
Chairman