

Name of Committee:	Environmental Review Advisory Committee	
Date of Presentation:	TBD	
Time Period Covered:	January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017	
# of Meetings Held During Period (including any special meeting or community input)	7	
MISSION & GOALS – Summarize concisely the committee’s mission (charge), key goals, objectives and measures below. You may also attach as a separate document, but limit to no more than one page single-spaced.		
<p>The mission of the Environmental Review Advisory Committee (ERAC) is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise the Board of Commissioners on matters affecting the environment and the protection of natural resources in Chatham County. • Provide advice to the County Commissioners on environmental policy and county ordinances, including the watershed ordinance and long-range planning updates. • Assist County staff with peer review of required state and federal environmental permits for projects in the county. • Review State and Federal environmental projects and monitor data on development projects as needed. • Conduct special projects, as requested, to protect the environment. • Recommend initiatives on advancing good environmental stewardship. • Work with the municipal governments of Chatham County and other jurisdictions to cooperate on environmental issues of common concern as appropriate. <p>The Environmental Review Advisory Committee also serves as the Watershed Review Board (WRB).</p>		
ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ACTIVITIES – Summarize concisely below the committee’s major accomplishments and activities of the past year. This should include reports, research, projects, public input, etc. Be sure to identify how they relate to specific goals, objectives or measures. You also may attach as a separate document but limit to no more than one page single-spaced.		
<p>As the ERAC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received briefings and made recommendations regarding coal ash delivery and monitoring at the Charah Brickhaven Facility. • Committee member Vi D’Amato gave a presentation entitled Chatham County Wastewater Management as it Relates to Comprehensive Plan, as previously given to the Chatham County Comprehensive Plan working group. His presentation provided options for distributed waste water treatment as alternatives to central waste water treatment. • Received a presentation from consultants to the Long-Range Planning 		

Committee.

- Received briefing from Jason Sullivan on County Planning. Recommended additional support from GIS to develop a dynamic map of development activities in Chatham County.
- Received presentation from Brian Burkhart on Chatham County's new mixed recycling program.
- Attended fracking presentation by Charles Yull on the Natural Gas Study.
- Provided inputs to the Chatham County Comprehensive Plan.
- Reviewed EIA from Charles Oakley of McAdams regarding proposed rezoning at Polks Landing Rd.
- Toured the Jordan Lake Business Center wastewater treatment system.
- Received presentation by Matt Rutledge of the Triangle Land Conservancy regarding land conservation in Chatham County.
- Reviewed request for stream crossing waiver for Phase 16 of Briar Chapel.

As the WRB:

- Voted to approve a request from Mack Gay, Associates on behalf of Builders FirstSource to allow a density offset for additional impervious coverage for an existing business in the WS-IV PA Watershed District.

BARRIERS & CHALLENGES – Identify any barriers or challenges that make it difficult for the committee to achieve goals or objectives. Limit to the space provided below

- Need to seek approaches, possibly through local media, to raise the profile of Environmental Resources in Chatham County.
- Need process to define triggers that refer Environmental Impact Assessments to the ERAC.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES: Please list any recommendations to the Board of Commissioners related to the changes in the advisory committee's membership, mission, goals, objectives or other related issues.

In addition to its assigned responsibilities, the Committee wishes to continue its monitoring activities of the following issues of environmental interest to Chatham County:

- Hydraulic fracturing impact on neighborhood and county-wide environments
- Chatham Park and other large-scale development projects on County land and infrastructure
- Continue to support improved water quality in Jordan Lake
- Coal ash sites in Chatham County
- Pending revisions to the Chatham County land use ordinances that impact the County environment
- Options of County incentives for innovative wastewater management infrastructures.

Additionally, the Committee wishes to support County staff in their efforts to implement priority environmental recommendations and develop closer relationships with other County boards on relevant environmental issues.

