

12 East Street Pittsboro, NC 27312 420 McKinney Parkway Lillington, NC 27546



November 16, 2018

[Name] [Address]

Dear: [Name]

You have been contacted several times over the past year about a joint effort by Chatham and Harnett counties to locate the county boundary line, and you were identified as a property owner who may be affected by changes that could go into effect sometime in the future.

During this effort, Chatham County and Harnett County hosted two community meetings to address property owner concerns. The two counties have also been working with the North Carolina Geodetic Survey office to conduct field work and research in determining the exact location of the county boundary line so that uncertainties are resolved. That work is now complete, and both counties will consider adopting the boundary line as prepared by the North Carolina Geodetic Survey office.

As a reminder, uncertainty with the location of county boundary lines is not uncommon in North Carolina. Today's technology can locate boundary lines much more precisely and uncover discrepancies in those boundaries. These discrepancies can create issues when it comes to tax assessment, property value, deed recordation, zoning, building permitting, public safety, board of elections and the school system. Resolving the uncertainties will allow both county governments to address issues with development and clarify delivery of services along the line.

Please refer to the attached map that shows your property in relation to the location of the county line (red) as surveyed by the North Carolina Geodetic Survey office. Some properties may move from one county to the other, and some may be split by the county line. Please refer to frequently asked questions enclosed here.

The next step is for the boards of commissioners of both Chatham and Harnett counties to consider agreement of the boundary line as surveyed by the North Carolina Geodetic Survey office. Should both boards agree to the county boundary line, changes related to your property will go into effect on January 1, 2019.

This action will be considered at the following meetings:

## **Chatham County Board of Commissioners**

Monday, December 3, 2018 at 6 p.m. Historic Chatham County Courthouse 9 Hillsboro St. Pittsboro, NC 27312 Harnett County Board of Commissioners Monday, December 3, 2018 at 9 a.m.

County Administration Building 420 McKinney Parkway Lillington, NC 27546 To find additional information or ask specific questions, you can contact:

Nick Haffele Chatham County 12 East Street Pittsboro, NC 27312 919-545-8469 nicholas.haffele@chathamnc.org

Sincerely,

Nicholas C. Haffele

Nick Haffele, Manager Geographic Information Services

Clint Williams Harnett County 305 W. Cornelius Harnett Blvd., Suite 100 Lillington, NC 910-893-7523 cwilliams@harnett.org

Clint William

Clint Williams, Administrator GIS/E-911 Operations

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

If the county boundary line bisects my property, how will the property be assessed for tax *purposes*? The portion in Chatham County will be taxed in Chatham County while the portion in Harnett County will be taxed in Harnett County. This means you will get two tax bills each year. If your house or other buildings have the county boundary line going through it, the tax assessors in each county will decide which county taxes that building.

If the county boundary line bisects my property, will that affect the ability to make improvements or develop the property? The county boundary line does not reduce the area in which you can make improvements or develop your property. You will still be able to make improvements or develop the property across the boundary line. When developing across the county boundary line, Chatham and Harnett counties will coordinate with the property owner to ensure which local development regulations apply.

*Will changes to the county boundary line on my property affect the agricultural tax deferment on my farm land?* No. The location of the jurisdictional lines, like a county line, have no impact on current or future agricultural tax deferment for farm lands. Even in situations where the county line bisects a farm.

If my property moves from one county to the other, will the school age children in my household be required to attend the new county school system? No. As part of this process, state law was enacted that allows school age children to remain in their current school system through high school graduation. This includes siblings in the household who are not yet school age.

How will the public records show the location of my property (or a portion thereof) has been moved into a new county? A survey/map depicting the county boundary line will be recorded in the Register of Deeds Office of each county. A document will also be recorded which references the map and provides ownership designation, tax parcel number, and other identifying information for each parcel. This will enable any person who undertakes a title search of the public records to learn that your parcel or a portion of it has been transferred to or from the other county. No action is required by you, nor is there any cost to you.

*How will this change affect my voter registration?* If the assessment of your house changes counties, then your voting precinct will change counties. The Chatham County and Harnett County boards of elections will work together to identify and notify all registered voters whose voter registrations may be affected by the changes in property assessments. Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 163-82.15A, these voter registrations will be changed to the appropriate county.

*Will my property be rezoned if it moves to the other county? What can I expect of the zoning process?* Yes, your property will be rezoned consistent with neighboring properties in your new county. A large-scale zoning process will be used to rezone affected properties. You will be notified when this process begins. The process includes a report to the Planning Board and legislative action by the Board of Commissioners.

*Will public safety officials (fire, police, EMS) be notified of these changes to ensure no interruptions in service to my property?* Both counties will work closely with all emergency response agencies to ensure that each affected address is keyed into the appropriate 911 database. Once this is done, calls for emergency assistance will be routed to the appropriate agency. You will continue to dial 911 in case of an emergency.

When will the changes in my property become effective? The Chatham and Harnett County boards of commissioners will take action on the affected properties at their respective board meetings on Monday, December 3, 2018. The anticipated effective date for the changes is January 1, 2019.