

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE COMMUNITY AREA PLAN FOR CHARLOTTE WEST OUTER

WHEREAS, the Charlotte Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan (“Comprehensive Plan”) includes the Vision and Growth Framework for implementation of the planning goals for the City of Charlotte (the “City”) into a living document that integrates community input and best practices that will guide the City’s decision-making and investment in both the near and long term;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan and the Charlotte Future 2040 Policy Map (“Policy Map”) will guide the development and investments made in the City over the next two decades;

WHEREAS, Community Area Plans are the second major implementation item of the Comprehensive Plan adopted by City Council in June 2021, following adopting of the Policy Map by City Council in March 2022;

WHEREAS, the Community Area Plans are organized into four sections: Volume I - Program Guide; Volume II - CAP Policy; Volume III - Implementation; and the Revised Charlotte Future 2040 Policy Map.

WHEREAS, the Community Area Plan for Charlotte West Outer (the “West Outer Plan”) specifically addresses how to better reflect and advance community values and aspirations around land use, urban design, quality of life, transportation, infrastructure, health, safety, and sustainability in the West Outer geography, roughly bounded by Charlotte City limits to the north, Interstate 485 and Charlotte Douglas International Airport to the east, Shopton Road to the south, and the Catawba River to the west.

WHEREAS, municipal zoning enabling statutes require that municipalities adopt and apply zoning regulations in accordance with a comprehensive or land-use plan.

WHEREAS, City Staff undertook a public engagement process consisting of advisory groups, public meetings, solicitation of feedback and comments, to gather input from and educate the community on the West Outer Plan.

WHEREAS, the City Council held a public hearing on the West Outer Plan on May 12, 2025.

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2025, staff provided an update to City Council during their regular business meeting on public engagement efforts, which reached 491,000 people and received 2,520 comments throughout the planning process.

WHEREAS, after an additional public comment period following the public hearing, the Planning Committee of the Planning Commission unanimously recommended adoption of the West Outer Plan, with proposed changes, on June 17, 2025.

WHEREAS, on November 24, 2025, the City Council deferred action on the West Outer Plan.

WHEREAS, after conducting additional community engagement, Planning Staff proposed the following changes:

- ***New policies that provide additional guidance in three key areas:***
 - **Managing neighborhood change** - Policies that balance preserving valued neighborhood characteristics with accommodating growth. These policies support context-sensitive infill development.
 - **Reducing environmental impacts** - Policies that promote environmentally responsible growth and improve transitions between land uses, particularly where neighborhoods and manufacturing areas meet. These policies also encourage future projects and public investments to help reduce existing environmental impacts.
 - **Ensuring infrastructure can support growth** - Policies that align future growth with infrastructure capacity and commit the City to regularly reviewing how development affects transportation services.
- **Minor additions and revisions** that clarify language, strengthen policy intent, and ensure the plans more accurately reflect community priorities.
- **Policy Map changes** that incorporate community feedback while remaining consistent with the citywide mapping approach.

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2026, Planning Staff presented to City Council the proposed changes to the West Outer Plan based on community feedback received through the 2026 engagement opportunities.

WHEREAS, the City Council provided an opportunity for public comment on the proposed changes to the West Outer Plan on March 23, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA:

That Volumes I and II of the Community Area Plan for Charlotte West Outer, with changes as recommended by the Planning Staff, are hereby adopted.

This Ordinance shall become effective April 14, 2026.

This the 13th day of April 2026.