

Public Hearing for
City of Fayetteville & Cumberland County
**Consolidated Parks and
Recreation Services**

*Sponsored by
Mayor's Coalition of Cumberland County*

November 13, 2003

HISTORY

- ❑ January, 2002: City-County Liaison Committee recommends reviewing the issues regarding joint delivery of services.
- ❑ February, 2002: The CC Board of Commissioners pass a resolution directing staff to use its best efforts to present a plan to accomplish joint delivery of services by September 2, 2002. Fayetteville City Council endorses a similar resolution.
- ❑ May, 2002: Cumberland County and Fayetteville contract a facilitator from the NC Institute of Government to lead a working group.
- ❑ October, 2002: The group presents three options to the City-County Liaison Committee for joint delivery of services.
- ❑ 2003: A Park Authority concept is supported but lacks a NC model. Developing NC's first would be an enormous undertaking.
- ❑ October, 2003: An "Urban-Rural District" concept is proposed and endorsed by the CC Board of Commissioners and Fayetteville City Council.

PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES

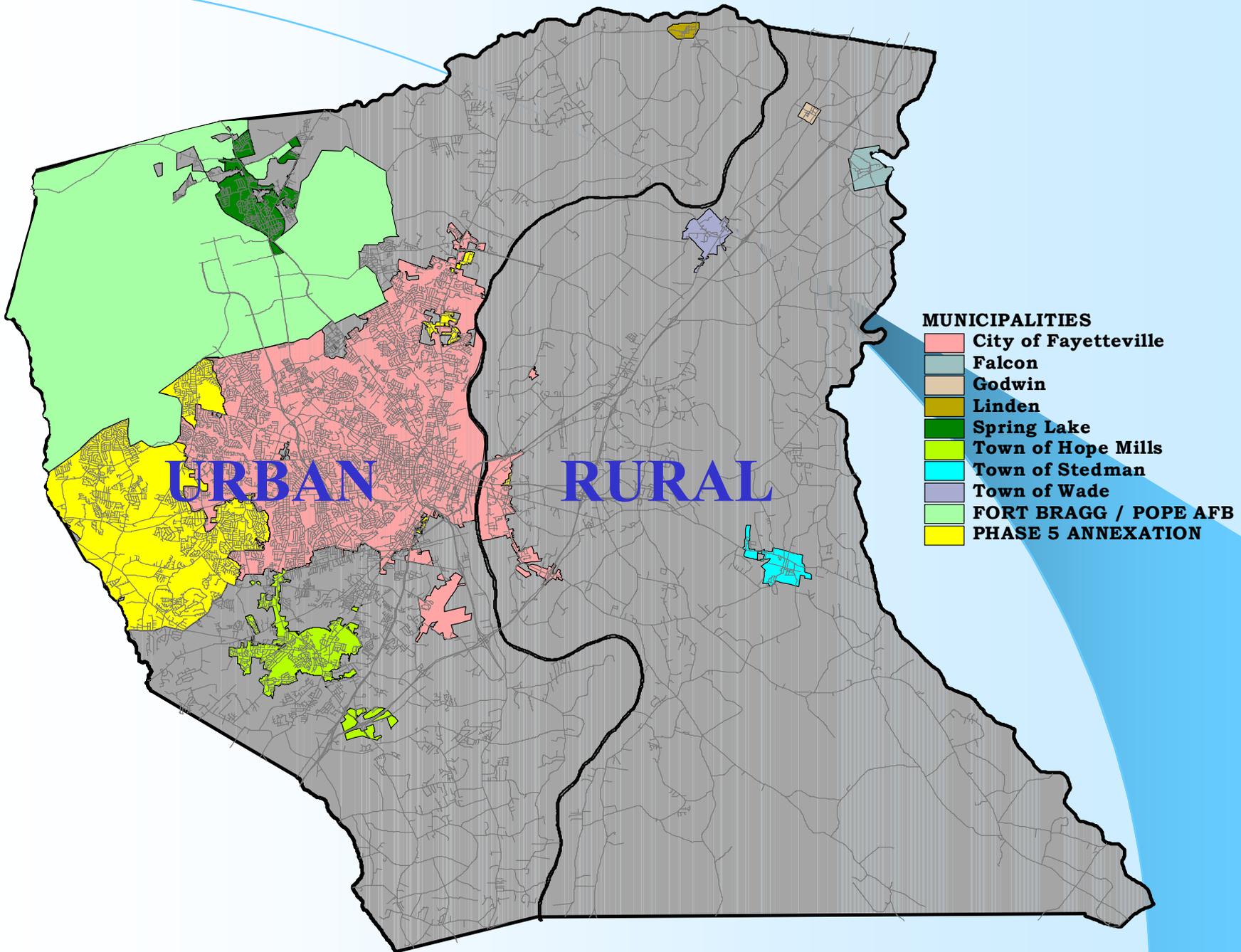
**AN URBAN/RURAL DISTRICT
CONCEPT**

MANAGEMENT:

- ❑ The concept proposes consolidating the delivery of services of the Cumberland County and Fayetteville City Parks & Recreation Systems. The new system would be managed by the City of Fayetteville.

SERVICE DISTRICT:

- ❑ This concept proposes the establishment of one service area with an “urban district”, all areas inside the Fayetteville City limits; and a “rural district”, all participating areas outside of Fayetteville.
- ❑ The district would be flexible. The “urban district” would grow as Fayetteville expands its boundaries. The “rural district” would decrease as Fayetteville extends its limits or if “other districts” are formed. For example; “other districts” could be Hope Mills and/or Spring Lake.



SERVICES:

- ❑ Services provided to the “rural” and “urban” district , respectively, should remain the same.
- ❑ The transition from “rural” to “urban” district, where the service provider would be the same, should therefore be smoother.
- ❑ Ideally, future “urban” district residents should not see an abrupt change in services but the city would gradually implement its “urban” parks and recreation plan.

PERSONNEL:

- ❑ In general, the concept proposes that city and county parks and recreation personnel be assigned as close to current roles as possible and that it be implemented in a way to promote a “unified” team.
- ❑ Proceeding in this manner, efficiencies in operations should be realized over time.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:

- ❑ Fayetteville could continue its capital improvement plans inside and outside its city limits with confidence that its investment will be maintained as it continues its annexations.
- ❑ Cumberland County would continue its current capital improvement plan. Partnering with the city on joint projects would benefit all.

BOUNDARIES:

- ❑ This concept would eliminate shifting programmatic boundaries.
- ❑ Residents should never have to adjust to a new service provider.
- ❑ Most importantly, continuity of recreation services would be assured even with changes in jurisdictional boundaries.

BENEFITS:

- ❑ This concept recognizes Fayetteville's desire to retain its specialized and technical support team (engineering, major construction equipment, etc.) for maintaining and developing the proposed "urban" district and its "Fayetteville: City of the Future" vision.
- ❑ This concept would allow for the development of a countywide master parks and recreation plan. This would create one vision for "urban" and "rural" parks and recreation services.

BENEFITS:

- ❑ When future annexations take place, there would be no need for a transitional “from County to City” parks and recreation service strategy.
- ❑ No resident should experience a break or immediate change in services no matter where they reside.
- ❑ This proposal would meet the objective of the Parks and Recreation Working Group by establishing one service provider to deliver athletic programs; senior programs; non-athletic programs; and to manage facility and maintenance operations.

CONSIDERATIONS :

- ❑ Maintaining and/or enhancing services in the “rural” (County) district.
- ❑ Maintaining and/or enhancing services in the “urban” (Fayetteville) district.
- ❑ Distribution of revenues.
- ❑ Salary equity for employees.

CONSIDERATIONS :

- ❑ A joint vision and master plan with realistic goals and a timetable for “urban” and “rural” district improvements.
- ❑ Disbursement, maintenance and/or use of equipment and assets under the new system.
- ❑ Inter-local agreement with Cumberland County Schools.

CONSIDERATIONS :

- ❑ Current facility use and program agreements with other parties.
- ❑ A procedure for governing bodies to review and approve the system's annual and long term parks and recreation plan.
- ❑ Advisory/Citizen Board representation.
- ❑ Addressing resident complaints.

CONSIDERATIONS :

- ❑ A name for the consolidated system and a location for parks and recreation headquarters.
- ❑ Participation by other jurisdictions/ Hope Mills, Spring Lake, Wade, Falcon, Godwin, Stedman and Linden.