

When in the Dell

Weekly Newsletter for the Town of Wendell Team



From the desk of Administration: Strategic Planning

Town Manager Marc Collins

Strategic planning is not to be confused with land use planning, financial planning, or even special event planning. Strategic planning answers the question of “what is the vision of the Town?” and establishes the goals to achieve the vision. In order to advance the goals of the Town, strategic initiatives are developed to provide the action steps we can take as an organization in the next couple years.

The Vision Statement for the Town of Wendell

“The Town of Wendell is clean, safe, vibrant, and full service with a diverse population. Our citizen friendly reputation is assured by the quality of our facilities and professional staff who work efficiently to provide great customer service. We have a knowledgeable Town Board

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

We'll let you know Town info in the Department Highlights sidebar. The Town has 6 different departments: Administration, Finance, Planning, Police, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works.

- PLANNING DEPARTMENT:
When is a building permit needed?

The Town of Wendell partners with Wake Co. Government for the intake of construction-related projects. It begins by applying for a permit via [Wake County's Permit Portal](#). Once you've applied, the Town reviews the application to ensure it is complete and schedules the plans for review with Wake County Plan reviewers. When approved, the Town will issue the permit. You may begin your project and schedule inspections accordingly. A building permit is required prior to erecting, constructing, altering, repairing, demolishing, or relocating any building. If there is a change in the type of occupancy inside a building, a building permit would also be required.

When is a building permit not required?

- Single-family, non-structural work that costs less than \$15,000
- Residential accessory structures where no dimension exceeds 12 ft.
- The replacement of windows, doors and exterior siding in residential structures.



who works efficiently to incorporate input from Citizen Advisory Boards and staff to be responsible stewards of our tax dollars, through leveraging, by watching return on investments and maintaining our fund balance”.

From this Vision Statement, five (5) broad policy areas identify the most critical issues facing the community. Each policy goal has specific action initiatives that are prioritized annually to assist in the allocation of resources and staff time to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. The current strategic plan for FY2020 and FY2021 is found in the [Budget Document](#).

The connection of the Strategic Plan and the Budget is critical for our community to realize its Vision. When our community leaders adopt the budget, they are allocating resources to implement the strategic initiatives and ensure alignment between the goals and the resources available. This commitment of leadership to tie their goals to the Budget provides clear policy direction for staff to implement.

- POLICE DEPARTMENT:**
 Capt. Slaughter and Sgt. Hare attended Implicit Bias Training that was hosted by the National Command & Staff College. This course explored institutionalized racism and its effect on the criminal justice system. Impartial policing in the 21st century was addressed as well as community relations. PD recognizes the importance of continued training when it deals with building stronger relationships with our community.

Chief Carter participated in the Wake County Law Enforcement Executives meeting. This meeting includes all Wake County law enforcement agencies in addition to the Wake County District Attorney's Office. These meetings serve as a way for local law enforcement to network and discuss important topics and they discussed new software systems that will be used to upgrade the State's current warrant system and e-citation system.

- FINANCE DEPARTMENT:**
 The contract auditors completed the on-site work for the annual audit required by the Local Government Budgetary and Fiscal Control Act. The audit will be used to complete the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) that will be provided to GFOA for peer review. The Town will receive the audit results later this fall.



An example of the Strategic Plan applied is the recently completed East Campen Row project Downtown pictured. How does the Town decide to transform an unimproved, private dirt alleyway into a space to engage the public, provide additional parking, and encourage private investment? By implementing strategic initiatives of course! Policy direction to evaluate downtown parking, improve special events, and seek opportunities for infill commercial development Downtown lead to a capital improvement project being placed in the budget two years ago and funded last budget. The project is one step towards advancing the policy goal to “promote economic vitality through the development of a vibrant Downtown, economic growth, and unique community character”. And the mural by Matthew Willey definitely adds to our character!

Strategic Plans are developed every two (2) years which allows each unique Board of Commissioners to guide policy direction in the budgets they are seated. As the last Strategic Plan was adopted in 2019, the next strategic plan will be developed and adopted in Spring 2021 to guide the next two budgets. The process to develop the plan starts this month with Town staff reporting to the Commission on advances made over the past two years and identifying likely issues for the next two years.

- PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Public Works completed stormwater repair on Wendell Falls Pkwy. A pipe was found to be collapsed and was degrading drainage coming from Wendell Blvd. The bad sections were removed and new drains were installed.

Public Works began prep work for winter early by emptying the salt bin that normally holds up to 50 tons of roadway salt for ice melting. Repairs were made, new walls constructed, and sealant applied. Fresh salt will be delivered soon.

PW Director Bray and Superintendent Hales along with the project manager for the new Town Hall met with a representative from Mid-Atlantic Associates to conduct an environmental survey on the property to be built upon.

- PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

Tiny Basketball program began this week. Parks & Rec had a total of 15 kids registered for two sessions. This program is used to introduce young children to the game of basketball. We will teach basic fundamentals of the game such as dribbling, passing, shooting and rebounding.

Planning for a modified Treat Trail has begun. Staff has put together a plan to hold this event in a safe manner allowing for social distancing.



We will ask for input from the community in October through digital surveys and the Town website to be sure we listen to your ideas on how to achieve our shared community vision. Management will work with the appointed boards to solicit their input during this time as well. The information will be collected and used to prepare a draft plan to present to the Commission in November and the final version for adoption in December. We are excited to work with the community to develop the shared vision for the next two years!

Yours in service,
Marc Collins, Town Manager

CENSUS 2020 | **Wendell Counts**



COUNT ALL CHILDREN THIS APRIL
SHAPE THEIR FUTURE. START HERE.

Wendell 
FARMER'S MARKET

Every Saturday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Campen & Main

Well in the Dell

Wellness Tips from Wendell's HR Department

5 TIPS FOR HELPFUL COMMUNICATION

BE CLEAR

IF YOU WANT OR NEED SOMETHING, STATE IT CLEARLY AND SIMPLY. NOBODY'S A MIND READER, SO DON'T EXPECT THEM TO PICK UP ON YOUR SUBTLE CLUES AND HINTS.



SPEAK UP

THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST COMMON PROBLEMS IN RELATIONSHIPS. ONE OR BOTH PARTIES DON'T SPEAK UP AND THINGS SLOWLY BUT SURELY ERODE OVER TIME. THEY'RE AFRAID OF CONFRONTATION, OF MAKING WAVES, OF BEING MEAN.



WALK AWAY

YES, SOMETIMES YOU DO NEED TO WALK AWAY. IF THE SITUATION GETS BLOWN OUT OF PROPORTION, IF TEMPERS START TO FLARE, IF NOTHING IS WORKING, YOU MAY NEED TIME TO COOL OFF AND CLEAR YOUR MIND.



CHECK IN

EACH WEEK, OR AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH, CHECK IN WITH YOUR EMPLOYEES, PARTNER OR LOVED ONES. ASK HOW THEY'RE DOING AND IF THEY HAVE ANY CONCERNS OR PROBLEMS YOU CAN WORK ON TOGETHER.



HAVE PATIENCE

REMEMBER THE OLD SAYING, "ROME WASN'T BUILT IN A DAY"? IF THERE'S BEEN A LONGSTANDING PROBLEM OR THE PROJECT IS A BIG ONE, DON'T EXPECT CHANGES OVERNIGHT. IT TAKES TIME TO HEAL, TO CHANGE, TO REACH THE FINISH LINE.

