

## Public meeting seeks comments on plans for Denver intersection

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County officials are looking to map out the future growth for the interchange of N.C. 16 and N.C. 150, and they want to hear from the public throughout the planning process.

Led by the Lincoln County Planning Board, the initiative will specifically seek to plan for the future development and transportation needs of the area, with input from both property owners and interested citizens.

To kick off the project, a public meeting is being conducted at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Lebanon United Methodist Church on Lebanon Road in Denver. This will be the first opportunity for residents in attendance to see the area, hear background information and offer suggestions.

"When interchanges are built, developers seek to purchase those lands to make stores convenient to their customers," noted a press release from planning officials about the event.

Catawba County has already approved development plans that were submitted for its side of the interchange and is constructing sewer lines to the area.

"This planning effort will consider current transportation conditions and development to help guide future land uses and offer solutions for the existing transportation network," officials said. "Planned development can increase the investments, provide positive long-term economic impacts and thereby reduce the tax impacts to the residents. It is also the goal of the plan to limit traffic congestion and similar undesirable impacts to the existing residents in the area."

While the plan will not specifically establish new zoning regulations, it will help set forth adaptive guidelines and future tasks that need to occur.

In an effort to keep citizens informed throughout the planning process, expected to take nine months, a special webpage will be posted to the Lincoln County website.

For more information, contact the Planning Department at (704) 736-8440.