

WEDDINGTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 9, 2020

Roots Farm Pre-application Meeting



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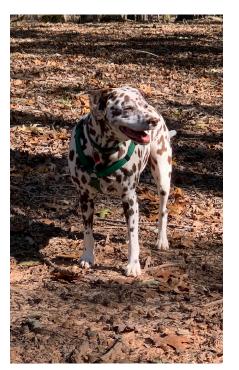
TAKING ROOT

A NEW KIND OF COMMUNITY IS

Welcome to Roots Farm,

an agriculture-centric community built around a working farm that will preserve its rural character, inspiring health and wellness through a connection with nature and all the benefits it provides.











IT WILL HONOR THE PAST

Our Story

Roots Farm is a 330-acre farm in western Union County, of which 215 acres are in the Town of Weddington. The farm includes active crops and over 225 acres of hardwood forest. It will honor the past when people worked the land and cultivated a community of bountiful relationships.

Rather than destroying the natural landscape of Roots Farm and building hundreds of homes on large lots, we are seeking rezoning for an innovative plan that centralizes the homesites, where they are surrounded by gardens, orchards, walking trails and preserved tree canopy. YOU DON'T HAVE TO MOVE MOUNTAINS TO CREATE SOMETHING

Special.







LET THE LAND

DICTATE THE PLAN

The existing natural landscape shapes the design of the community.

Deep Roots

For generations, farmers have grown crops on this land – a legacy that will continue.

Honor the Past

We will build for the future in a sustainable and meaningful way.

Forever Farm

Single ownership ensures our commitment for generations to come.

OUR VISION

VILLAGE

A traditional village life residential community will incorporate green spaces and provide connectivity to the natural landscape.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The intentional focus on community benefit ensures the rewards of enjoying open natural spaces, walking trails, fresh markets, educational classes and community gardens.

SUSTAINABILITY

To preserve our hardwood forest, smaller trees were meticulously handcut, chipped and distributed back into the forest to ensure that it thrives for years to come. Fruits, vegetables, herbs and honey grown and produced on the property with be available to the public through markets and farm-to-table restaurants.

OPEN SPACE

The master plan intentionally plots the majority of the village where the land was cleared years ago with 70% preserved open space, forest, and agricultural fields and orchards. This plan along with sensible development practices allows for the preservation of the land and forest for the community to enjoy.

RURAL RETREAT

A small inn will provide a peaceful escape for visitors to enjoy being surrounded by nature.

A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE

AGRIHOOD

A community farm as the centerpiece of a development

Defined by the Urban Land Institute as single-family, multifamily or mixed-use communities built with a working farm or community garden as a focus, agrihoods offer proven health and environmental benefits to their residents and surrounding communities.

A community farm as the centerpiece of a development fosters community social ties while providing residents with access to fresh, healthy produce and a connection to nature.







AGRIHOOD

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Honoring the rural character of Weddington, Roots Farm is committed to preserving and nurturing its natural surroundings to create a thriving farm-centered community.

AGRIBUSINESS

As a working farm, Roots Farm will provide fresh produce to the community, area restaurants and markets, and hosts specialty farmers such as mushroom farmer Urban Gourmet Farms.

AGRITOURISM

We envision a small inn centered around gardens offering space for the community to gather, a farm-tofork restaurant serving the land's bounty, revitalizing gatherings closer to nature and peaceful respite for neighbors' family members who need a place to stay.



Our goal is to maintain the rural character and connection to the land that represent the harmonious way communities lived generations ago.



Explore

Hike the trails, smell the flowers, enjoy the harvest and engage with the land.



Learn

Educational opportunities and a demonstration kitchen open to the public will provide a closer connection to nature, food and community.

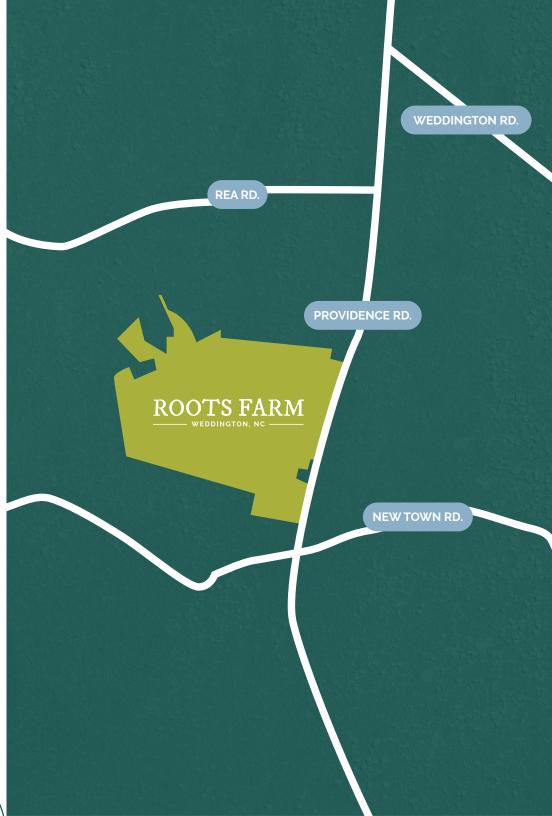
THREE

Unwind

Let nature pamper you with fresh air, farm fresh food and a renewed sense of wonder.

A BREATH OF **FRESH AIR**

Roots Farm is located in western Union County off Providence Road north of New Town Road. Part of the farm is within the Weddington town limits with the remainder in unincorporated Union County.



ROOTS FARM IS A legacy project

AT OUR ROOTS

Roots Farm is a legacy project for local leaders Smoky and Margaret Bissell whose experience planning the outdoor interconnectivity of their previous developments inspired them to preserve a special parcel of land that would promote health, wellness, agriculture and a connection to nature for its residents and surrounding community to enjoy for generations to come.



Current Zoning: R-CD

Property is zoned Residential Conservation District

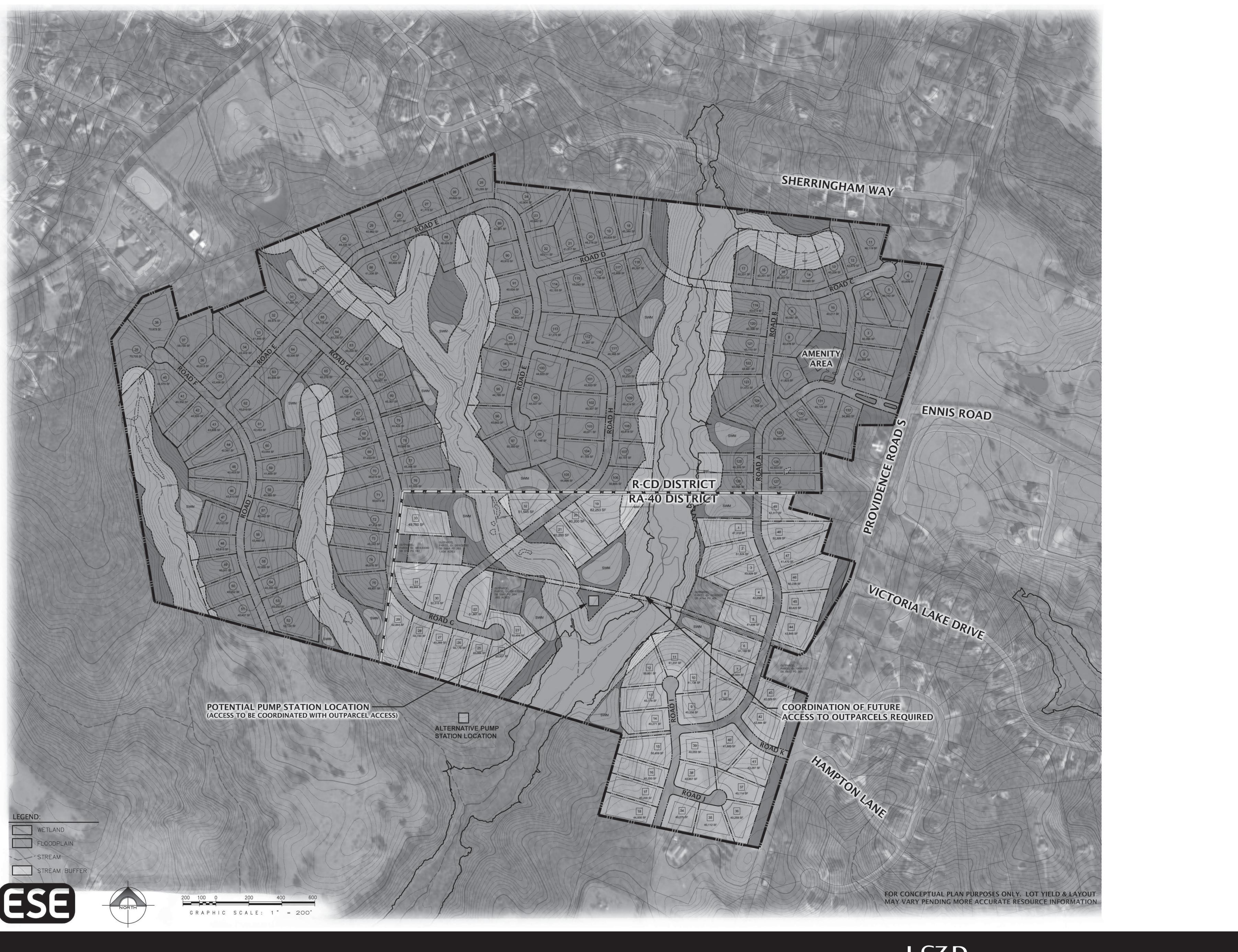
Agritourism is permitted as a conditional use within R-CD

"Agritourism means an agricultural, horticultural or agribusiness operation primarily devoted to the promotion of tourism of said operation for the purpose of enjoyment, education or active involvement in the activities of the farm or operation; provided that said use produces revenues or attracts tourists."





ROOTS FARM HOUSING





Robicsek Farm November 06, 2020

Two-step, parallel process

Text Amendment

- Amend current zoning ordinance provisions to permit the agrihood
- Integration of single-family residential, agricultural, agritourism, and agribusiness
- Establishes high standards for agrihoods regarding minimum of at least 200 acres and 70% required open space

Conditional Rezoning Application

- Establish site-specific standards for Root Farms
- Application will include
 - Development standards
 - Zoning Map
 - Site plan
 - Conceptual plan
 - Illustrative renderings and elevations



Conditional Rezoning

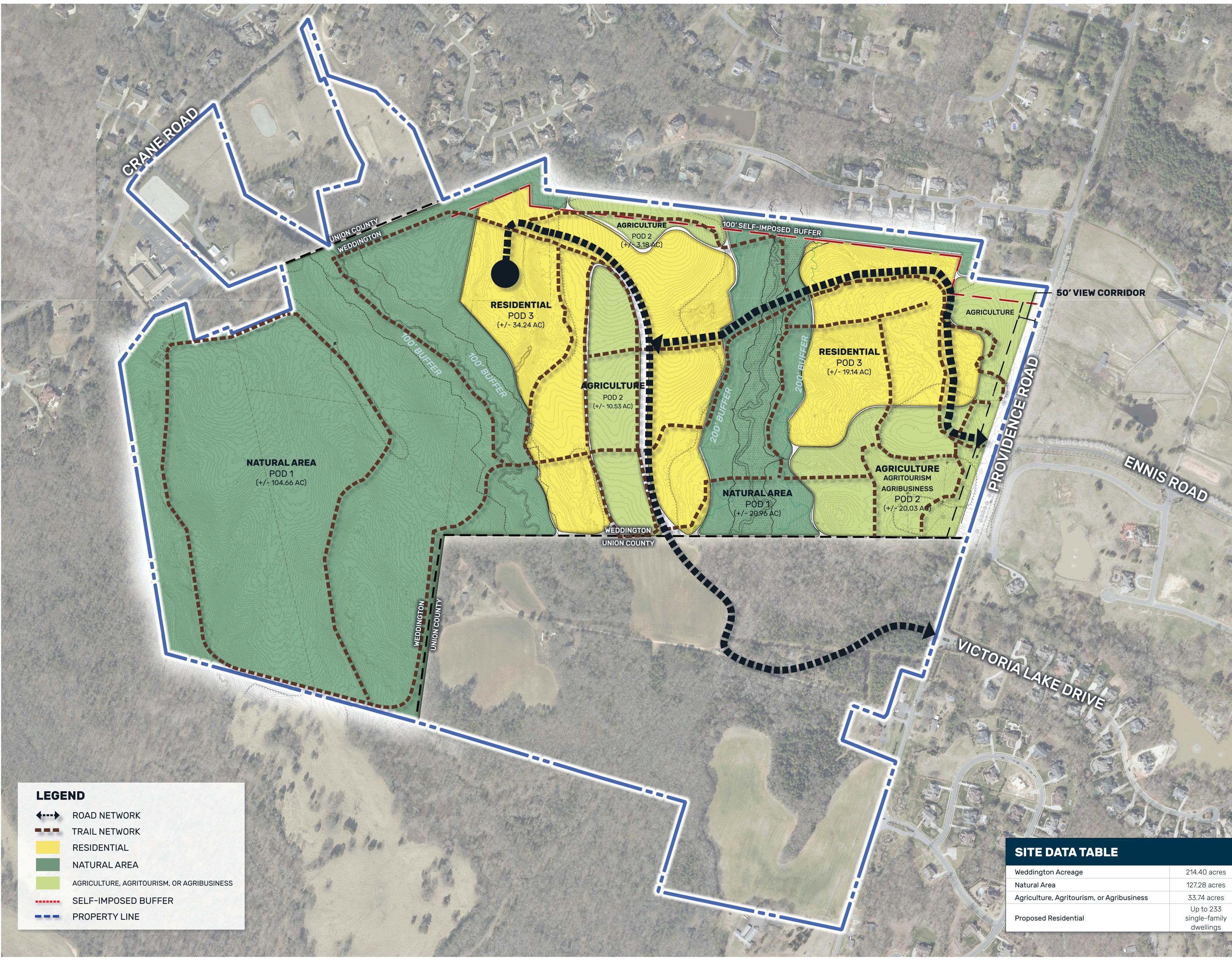
Bubble Plan to govern uses and associated standards by area:

- Natural Areas
- Agricultural Areas
- Agritourism and Agribusiness Areas
- Residential Areas



Conceptual plan and illustrative renderings and elevations provide general depictions of agrihood

This approach provides necessary flexibility to allow the land to drive the establishment of these uses, while being subject to specific standards set out in the development standards





ROOTS FARM AGRIHOOD BUBBLE DIAGRAM UNION COUNTY, NC















ROOTS FARM HOUSING



Illustrative Conceptual Plans November 06, 2020











ROOTS FARM HOUSING



Illustrative Images November 06, 2020





2 ELEVATION- EXTERIOR- SOUTH



4 ELEVATION- EXTERIOR- WEST



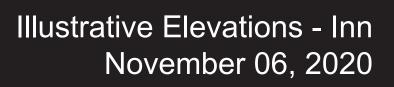
ROOTS FARM HOUSING



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1ST FLOOR RES. 647'-6"





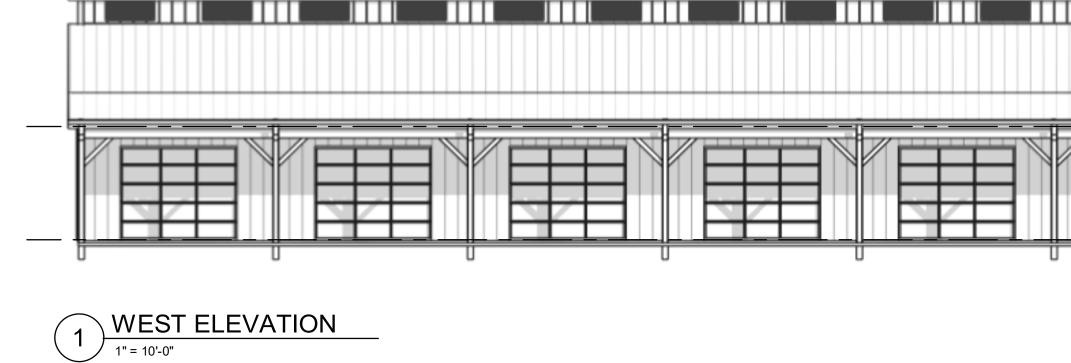


ROOTS FARM HOUSING



1 WEST ELEVATION



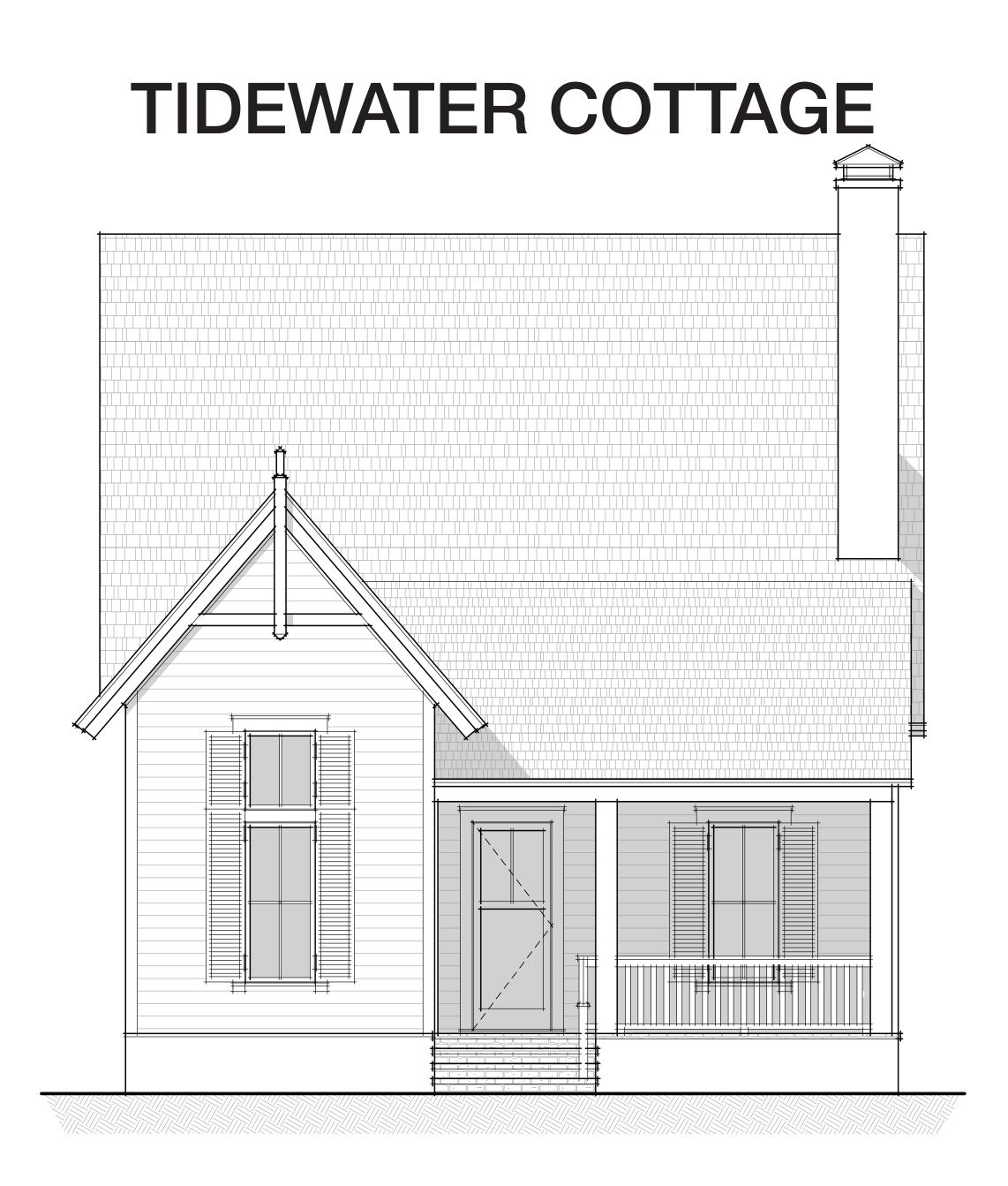












SOUTHERN ANTEBELLUM





ROOTS FARM HOUSING

CREOLE COTTAGE







SOUTHERN FARMHOUSE



SOUTHERN FARMHOUSE









Illustrative Elevations - Housing November 06, 2020

Projected Timeline

- November 11, 2020: Submit text amendment and conditional rezoning applications
- December 7, 2020: Public Involvement Meeting
- December 21, 2020: Planning Board Meeting
- January 11, 2021: Town Council call for Public Hearing
- February 8, 2021: Town Council Public Hearing

