

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	September 4, 2012
Title:	Refer Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan Amendment to the Planning Commission
Department:	Planning and Zoning
Staff Contact:	Jeffrey A. Harvey
Board Committee/ Other BACC:	N/A
Staff Recommendation:	Approval
Budget Impact:	N/A
Time Sensitivity:	N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

1.	Background Report	5.	Frequently asked questions
2.	Proposed Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment with Sending and Receiving Area Map	6.	Proposed Ordinance O12-02
3.	Sending Area Zoning Map	7.	Proposed Resolution R12-03
4.	Receiving Area Zoning Map	8.	Proposed Resolution R12-284

<input type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Business	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unfinished Business
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Work Session
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Add-On

REVIEW:

X	County Administrator	<i>Keith C. Dayton for AJR</i>
X	County Attorney	<i>Charles L. Thumate</i>

DISTRICT:	Aquia and Hartwood
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BACKGROUND REPORT

The Board is asked to consider referring a new Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) ordinance and Comprehensive Plan (Plan) amendment to the Planning Commission for a public hearing and its recommendation.

On July 3, 2012, staff provided the Board with an update on the TDR program. At that meeting, the Board established a Committee consisting of Supervisors Milde, Snellings, and Thomas, to review the recommendations of the Planning Commission for a new TDR program. The Committee met on July 25, 2012, and August 14, 2012, recommending adjustments to the Planning Commission's version of the TDR program. The recommended changes included: adding A-1, Agricultural zoned properties, 20 acres or larger in size, as eligible sending properties; clarify language regarding residual rights and the ability to add accessory buildings to properties that have severed development rights; replacement of any existing building would not count against the ability to add accessory buildings; clarify that existing lots with plat restrictions requiring use of public sewer and water utilities would be eligible to sever development rights and such lots would be eligible for severing at least one development right; remove limitations on the percentage of development rights that can be used for a development in a receiving area; allow for the use of partial development rights for tax abatement purposes only; and remove provisions for a time limit for which all development rights must be severed. Due to the nature and extent of the changes to the Planning Commission's recommendations, an additional public hearing would be required by the Planning Commission. Proposed Resolution R12-284 refers the latest version of the proposed TDR Ordinance and Plan Amendment to the Planning Commission for a public hearing and its recommendation. Below is a summary of the proposed Plan Amendment and Ordinance as recommended by the Committee.

BACKGROUND

On September 6, 2011, the Board referred a draft TDR program to the Planning Commission for its review and recommendation. The Planning Commission studied the issue throughout the fall of 2011. On December 5, 2011, the Planning Commission voted against the TDR Ordinance. In 2012, the Board again asked the Planning Commission to review the proposed TDR program. After reviewing the previous TDR Ordinance, using it as a starting point, and editing the TDR Ordinance and Plan amendment, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on June 20, 2012. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the TDR Ordinance and Plan amendments, voting 6-1 (Mr. Hirons voted no).

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT SUMMARY

The proposed amendment modifies Chapter 3 of the Plan to incorporate amendments to the textual document and to adopt a new map entitled, Figure 3.8, "Transfer of Development Rights Sending and Receiving Areas" (Attachment 2). The proposed map generally depicts the area south of Aquia Creek, east of the CSX Rail Line, and north of Potomac Creek, that are designated as Agricultural/Rural and Park on the Plan's Land Use Map, as a sending area for TDR, and the land designated as the Courthouse Urban Development Area (UDA), as the receiving area for TDR. The proposed amendment further describes sending areas as properties zoned A-1, Agricultural or A-2, Rural Residential, comprised of existing separate or contiguous parcels that are: (1) twenty (20) acres or larger in size and designated as Agricultural/Rural land use on the Land Use Map in the Plan; or parcels two (2) acres or larger in size and designated as Park on the Land Use Map in the Plan; and (2) in existence as of the effective date of the TDR ordinance. Under the proposed amendment, the sending areas could send up to an estimated 913 development rights to the receiving area. The text of the Plan is also proposed to further describe receiving areas as properties which are in the A-1, Agricultural; R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development-1; PD-2, Planned Development-2; Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development (PTND); or Urban Development (UD) zoning districts.

For non-residential purposes, the proposed amendment provides that one (1) residential development right, severed from a sending area, will be deemed the equivalent of the right to construct either one dwelling unit, or up to three thousand (3,000) square feet of commercial space in a receiving area, provided that commercial uses are allowed in that receiving zoning district.

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT SUMMARY

Proposed Ordinance O12-02 (Attachment 6) identifies administrative procedures for a TDR program. It establishes eligibility criteria for properties in the program. It also establishes a process for reviewing applications, and for determining the number of development rights, for any given potential sending area property. A process is created to sever development rights, and track development rights, through the use of development rights certificates. Zoning categories for receiving areas are identified and expanded density ranges are identified for potential receiving properties.

Sending Areas

Potential sending properties must be zoned A-1, Agricultural or A-2, Rural Residential, and be located in a sending area as designated on the Comprehensive Plan map included in Attachment 2; designated agricultural, rural, or park in the Comprehensive Plan; and be a separate parcel or contiguous parcels (i) comprised of at least twenty (20) acres, or (ii) designated as park comprised of at least two (2) acres. The sending area is identified as land located east of the CSX rail line, north of Potomac Creek, and south of Aquia Creek. Attachment 3 depicts zoning for that area.

Receiving Areas

Potential receiving properties must be zoned either A-1, Agricultural; R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development-1; PD-2, Planned Development-2; Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development (PTND); or Urban Development (UD), and be located in the receiving area as designated on the map (Attachment 2); be located within the Urban Services Area (USA); and be included in an assessment of the infrastructure in the receiving area that identifies the ability of the area to accept increases in density and its plans to provide necessary utility services within a designated receiving area. In order to accommodate TDRs, receiving area densities could be increased (for A-1 zoned property) to 4.0 dwellings per acre and 14.0 dwellings per acre (for R-1 zoned property). The location of those properties is generally shown on the Zoning Map (Attachment 4). The density of 4.0 dwellings per acre would accommodate single-family detached homes. The density of 14.0 dwellings per acre could accommodate townhomes or multi-family homes. Receiving area densities could be increased for PD-1 and PD-2 zoned property to 12.0 dwellings per acre. Receiving area densities could be increased (for UD zoned property) to 15.0 dwellings per acre.

Virginia Code § 15.2-2316.2(B)(10) specifies that the receiving area capacity must be equal to or greater than the potential number of development rights that may be severed from the sending area (913 transferred development rights). This means that the existing zoning districts within the receiving areas must, through the proposed increased density limits, be able to receive all of the potential development rights under current by-right zoning conditions without rezoning of properties. Based on current estimates, it appears that when applying the increased densities as described above, the existing acreage in the receiving areas can accommodate the potential 924 transferred development rights.

By-Right Development

TDR would be a by-right activity. As described in proposed Ordinance O12-02, no rezoning would be required to achieve higher densities. Negotiation of proffers and other development considerations would not be applicable to TDR dwelling units. The development process would be the same as for by-right zoned properties. Public notice would be provided when either a preliminary subdivision plan or final site plan is submitted to the County for review and approval. TDR dwelling units may be subject to transportation impact fees, utility pro-rata fees, and utility connection fees that are required for normal by-right development. Since the receiving area is located within the USA, connection to public utilities for sewer and water would be required. Answers to frequently asked questions about TDR are provided (Attachment 5).

Key Points of the Ordinance

Specific key features of the ordinance include:

- Identify sending areas and receiving areas for the TDR;
- Allow development rights to be transferred from qualifying properties zoned A-1, Agricultural or A-2, Rural Residential;
- Allow development rights to be transferred to properties zoned A-1, Agricultural; R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development-1; PD-2, Planned Development-2; PTND, Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development; and UD, Urban Development, in the designated receiving area;
- Increase the residential density in the A-1, Agricultural zoning district from a minimum lot area of 3.0 acres without TDR development, to a maximum density of 4.0 single-family detached dwellings per acre with TDR development;
- Increase the residential density in the R-1, Suburban Residential, zoning district from an allocated density of 1.5 dwellings per acre without TDR development to a maximum density of 14.0 dwellings per acre with TDR development;
- Increase the residential density in the PD-1, Planned Development-1 zoning district from an allocated density of 7.0 dwellings per acre without TDR development to a maximum density of 12.0 dwellings per acre with TDR development, to include townhouses and multi-family dwellings;
- Increase the residential density in the PD-2, Planned Development-2 zoning district from an allocated density of 3.25 dwellings per acre without TDR development, to a maximum density of 12.0 dwellings per acre with TDR development to include townhouses and multi-family dwellings;
- Increase the residential density in the UD, Urban Development, zoning district for single-family dwellings from 4.0 dwellings per gross acre to a maximum density of 7.0 dwellings per gross acre with TDR development, including townhouses and multi-family dwellings;
- Establish yard, minimum lot size, maximum height, and minimum lot width requirements in the A-1, Agricultural; R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development-1; PD-2, Planned Development-2; PTND, Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development; and UD, Urban Development zoning districts for TDR developments, where applicable;
- Establish permitted uses in the A-1, Agricultural; R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development-1; PD-2, Planned Development-2; PTND, Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development; and UD, Urban Development zoning districts for TDR developments;
- Establish maximum floor area ratios and open space ratios in the PD-1, Planned Development-1, and PD-2, Planned Development-2 zoning districts for TDR developments;
- Establish floor area ratios in the UD, Urban Development zoning district, for TDR developments;
- Reduce the minimum gross tract area for PTND, Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development zoning district, from 75 gross tract acres without TDR development, to 20 gross tract acres for TDR developments;

- Increase the allocated gross tract density for the PTND, Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development zoning district, from 10.0 dwellings per gross tract acre without TDR development to 12.0 dwellings per gross tract acre with TDR development;
- Decrease the open space ratio for the PTND, Planned Traditional Neighborhood zoning district from 0.25 without TDR development to 0.20 with TDR development;
- Allow the owner of severed development rights to apply to the Commissioner of the Revenue for a real estate tax abatement for a period of up to twenty-five (25) years in exchange for retiring all or a part of the development rights where a fraction of a development right can be used for the abatement;
- Establish criteria for eligible sending properties, including (1) designation as a sending area on the Sending and Receiving Areas Map in the Plan; (2) designation in the Plan for agricultural, rural, or park uses; (3) zoned A-1 or A-2; and (4) a separate parcel or contiguous parcels that are comprised of at least 20 acres, and a parcel comprised of at least two (2) acres and designated as Park on the Land Use Map in the Plan, and in existence on the effective date of Article XX of proposed Ordinance O12-02;
- Establish criteria for eligible receiving properties, including (1) designation as a receiving area on the Sending and Receiving Areas Map in the Plan; (2) zoned A-1, Agricultural; R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development-1; PD-2, Planned Development-2; PTND, Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development; or UD, Urban Development; and (3) located within the Urban Services Area by the Plan;
- Provide that severed development rights can be converted to commercial development rights at a maximum of 3,000 square feet of commercial floor area per residential development right provided that commercial uses are allowed in that zoning district;
- Provide that any receiving property will be included in an assessment of the infrastructure in the receiving area that identifies the area's ability to accept increases in density and the plans to provide necessary utility services in that receiving area;
- Establish the manner and criteria that will be used to calculate and determine the number of development rights that can be transferred from a sending property, including subtraction from the gross area of the property for any areas comprised of hydric soils or steep slopes exceeding twenty-five percent (25%);
- Provide that the calculations to determine development rights shall also subtract the portion of the sending property that is comprised of easements or rights-of-way for public roads or, if there are no such easements or rights-of-way for public roads, to also subtract five percent (5%) of the gross acreage of the sending property prior to determining the number of development rights that are eligible to be severed from a sending property;
- Establish development and use limitations for sending properties after development rights are transferred;
- Provide that the Director of Planning and Zoning will be responsible for administering and implementing the TDR Program;
- Describe the legal instruments, and the approval and recordation process, required to transfer development rights, including (1) the issuance of a Determination of Development Rights Document to establish the number of development rights that can be transferred from a particular sending property; (2) the application, which shall include a certificate of title, a title company report, or a title company policy, none of which may be dated more than 30 days before the date of the application, submitted by a property owner who proposes to sever development rights from a sending property in the sending area; (3) the approval and recordation of a TDR Certificate to sever development rights from a sending property; (4) the approval and recordation of a covenant to which the County is a party to restrict the development rights and uses on a sending property after development rights have been transferred; and (5) the extinguishment of development rights held under a TDR Certificate after those development rights have been utilized on a preliminary subdivision plat or final site plan approved by the Director of Planning and Zoning;
- Establish development approval procedures for receiving properties to which development rights are transferred; and

- Specify that the use of the portion of a sending property from which development rights have been severed shall be limited to agricultural and forestal uses with reforestation uses for parcels 20 acres or greater in size, provided that any new building to be constructed on that portion of the sending property shall not exceed 6,000 square feet in size and must support such agricultural or forestal uses. Existing buildings can be replaced without counting towards the 6,000 square feet limit. Also, the severance of development rights from a sending property shall not deprive the owner of such sending property of the right to use that portion of the sending property from which development rights have been transferred for parks, campgrounds, and related camping facilities, if the above uses were permitted by-right on the sending property prior to the transfer of development rights. If in support of park, campgrounds, and related camping facility uses, any new buildings shall be limited to a cumulative size of 2,000 square feet. The term "campgrounds" would not include any use by travel trailers, motor homes, and similar vehicular type structures.

Proposed Resolution R12-284 would direct the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing and provide its recommendations on the proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan. Since proposed Ordinance O12-02 was initially drafted, changes have occurred to the Zoning Ordinance, which are not reflected in the current draft of proposed Ordinance O12-02. Resolution R12-284 would also direct the Commission to work with staff to incorporate all Zoning Ordinance amendments adopted by the Board since proposed Ordinance O12-02 was initially drafted through the time the Commission authorizes the public hearing. This would ensure that proposed Ordinance O12-02 reflects the current Zoning Ordinance when the Commission holds the public hearing and the proposed is referred back to the Board. Lastly, proposed Resolution R12-284 would direct the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing and make its recommendations and modifications (as contemplated above) to the Board within sixty (60) days.

Staff recommends approval of proposed Resolution R12-284 to refer the latest version of the TDR program to the Planning Commission for a new public hearing and its recommendation. Staff further requests direction from the Board as to whether a fee should be established for the TDR application and should the fee be established concurrently with adoption of proposed Ordinance O12-02 (Attachment 6).

The Land Use Plan

Without the upgrades, approval should not be given for rezonings because the impact of the development would not be sufficiently mitigated by the developer.

Locations

In order to meet the state mandate for the creation of UDAs, encourage smart growth, and reduce the impact of unintended and negative impacts upon I-95 and commute times for Stafford residents, Stafford County has included seven (7) UDAs (or urban villages) within the comprehensive plan at residential and commercial densities that meet the state legislation.

Two of the UDAs (Courthouse and Southern Gateway) are the central portions of existing Stafford Redevelopment Areas encompassing 2,532 dwelling units (1/2 of the planned units within the RDAs should be developed in substantial conformance with the requirements of State Code Section 15.2-2223.1). The UDAs should follow the same model as that which is envisioned within the redevelopment plans with specific standards and features to enhance quality of life and reduce environmental impacts.

Two of the UDAs (Leeland Town Station and Brooke Station), encompassing 1,870 of the required dwelling units, are located at existing rail stations. The Eskimo Hill UDA, consisting of 879 units, is located nearby with required road and VRE lot upgrades to facilitate access. In order to reduce the impact of those who commute north but choose not take rail, the Comprehensive Plan provides for the construction of 3,400 new commuter parking spaces at three new locations and one existing location serving the UDAs, which together with VRE lot upgrades provides an additional 3,900 commuter parking spaces.

Furthermore, ~~1,835 units within the UDAs (all of the 870 units in Brooke Station and 7 % of the other UDAs)~~ up to 913 units ~~should~~ could be made possible by the transfer of development rights from properties outside the UDAs if a TDR program is adopted. For residential purposes, 1 residential development right in the sending area is equivalent to one residential development right in the receiving area. For non-residential purposes, 1 residential development right in the sending area is equivalent to the right to construct 3,000 square feet of commercial space in the receiving area.

Form-Based Codes

The use of Form-based Code will be necessary as Stafford County continues its evolution. For the purposes of this 20 year view, Form Based Code will be defined by the following:

Form-based codes address the relationship between building facades and the public realm, the form and mass of buildings in relation to one another, and the scale and types of streets and blocks. The regulations and standards in Form-based codes, presented in both diagrams and words, are keyed to a

regulating plan *that designates the appropriate form and scale (and therefore, character) of development rather than*

Transfer of Development Rights

The Board of Supervisors adopted the Transfer of Development Rights Ordinance, O12-02, on _____, establishing a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program in Stafford County.

The purpose of the TDR program is to provide a mechanism by which a property owner can transfer residential density from sending areas to receiving areas and/or to a transferee without relation to any particular property through a voluntary process intended to permanently conserve agricultural and forestry uses of lands, reduce development densities on those and other lands, and preserve rural open spaces and natural and scenic resources. The TDR program is intended to complement and supplement County land use regulations, resource protection efforts, and open space acquisition programs. The TDR program is intended to encourage increased residential and commercial density in areas that can better accommodate this growth with less impact on public services and natural resources.

Sending Areas are defined as those areas from which development rights are authorized to be severed and transferred to a receiving area or transferee without relation to any particular property. Figure 3.8, the Sending and Receiving Areas Map, shows the sending areas, outlined in blue, which is land located east of the CSX line, north of Potomac Creek, and south of Aquia Creek. In order to qualify as a sending area, property shall be:

- (1) Designated for agricultural, rural, or park land use(s), in the Comprehensive Plan;
- (2) Located in areas designated as sending areas on the Map entitled "Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Sending and Receiving Areas" in the Comprehensive Plan;
- (3) Zoned A-1 (Agricultural) or A-2 (Rural Residential) on the Zoning Map;
- (4) Located within a sending area on the Sending and Receiving Areas Map; and

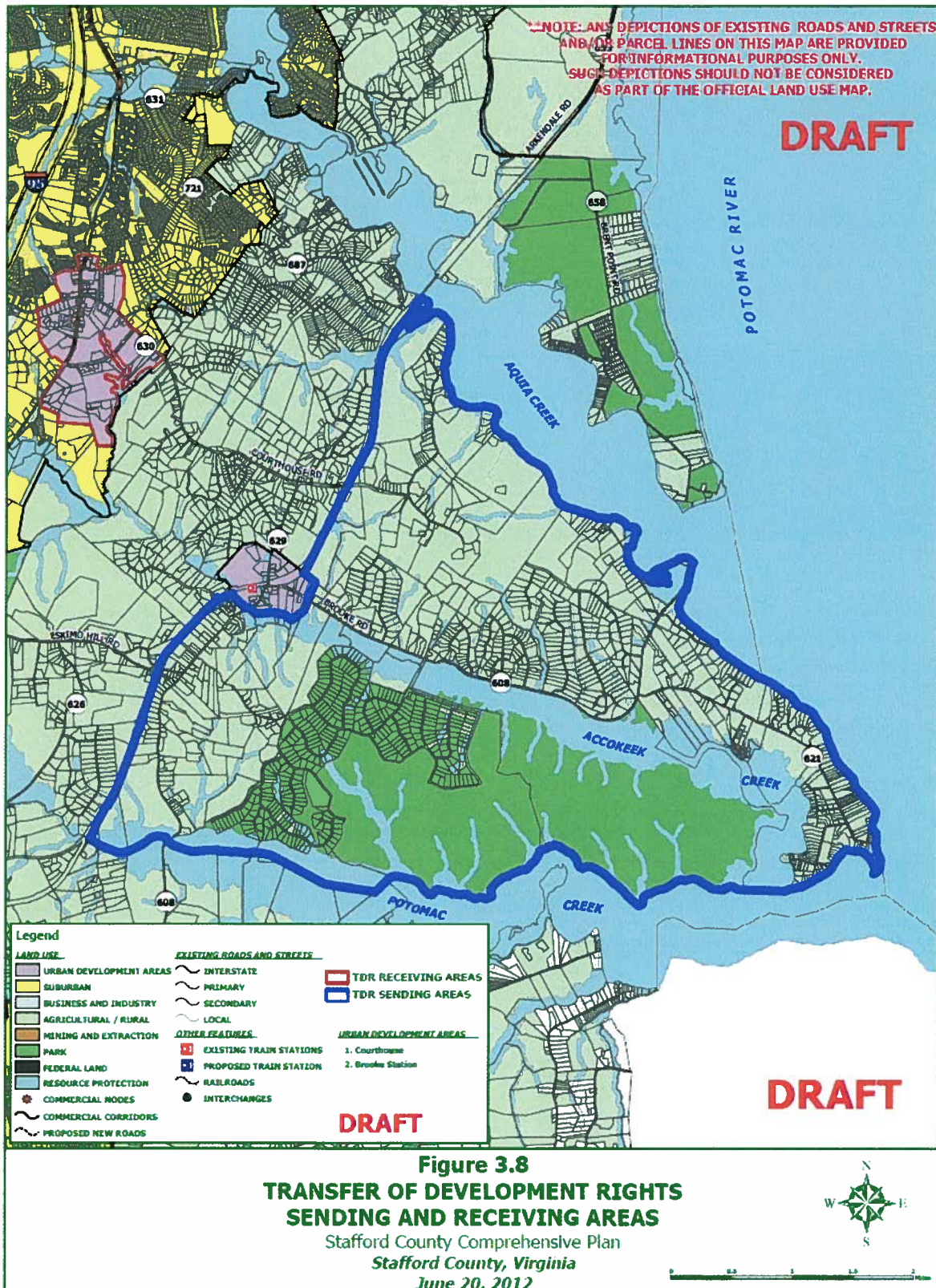
The Land Use Plan

- (5) A separate parcel or contiguous parcels that are comprised of: (1) at least twenty (20) acres, or (2) are designated as Park on the Land Use Map in the Comprehensive Plan and comprised of at least two (2) acres, and (3) in existence on the effective date of the Transfer of Development Rights Ordinance.

Receiving Areas are defined as areas authorized to receive development rights transferred from a sending area. Figure 3.8 shows the receiving area, outlined in red, which is the Courthouse Urban Development Area. In order to qualify as a receiving area, property shall be:

- (1) Located in one of the following zoning districts: A-1, Agricultural, R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development -1, PD-2, Planned Development -2, PTND - Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development; and UD, Urban Development;
- (2) Located within a receiving area on the Sending and Receiving Areas Map;
- (3) Located within the USA by the Comprehensive Plan; and
- (4) Designated as part of a UDA by the Comprehensive Plan.
- (5) Included in an assessment of the infrastructure in the receiving area that identifies the ability of the area to accept increases in density and the plans to provide necessary utility services within any designated receiving area.

Under the TDR program, the sending area could send up to 913 units and the receiving area could potentially accommodate up to 924 future units. The success of the TDR program may alter the number of units built in the rural areas but it will not change the number of units in the overall Comprehensive Plan.



****NOTE: ANY DEPICTIONS OF EXISTING ROADS AND STREETS AND/OR PARCEL LINES ON THIS MAP ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. SUCH DEPICTIONS SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE OFFICIAL LAND USE MAP.**

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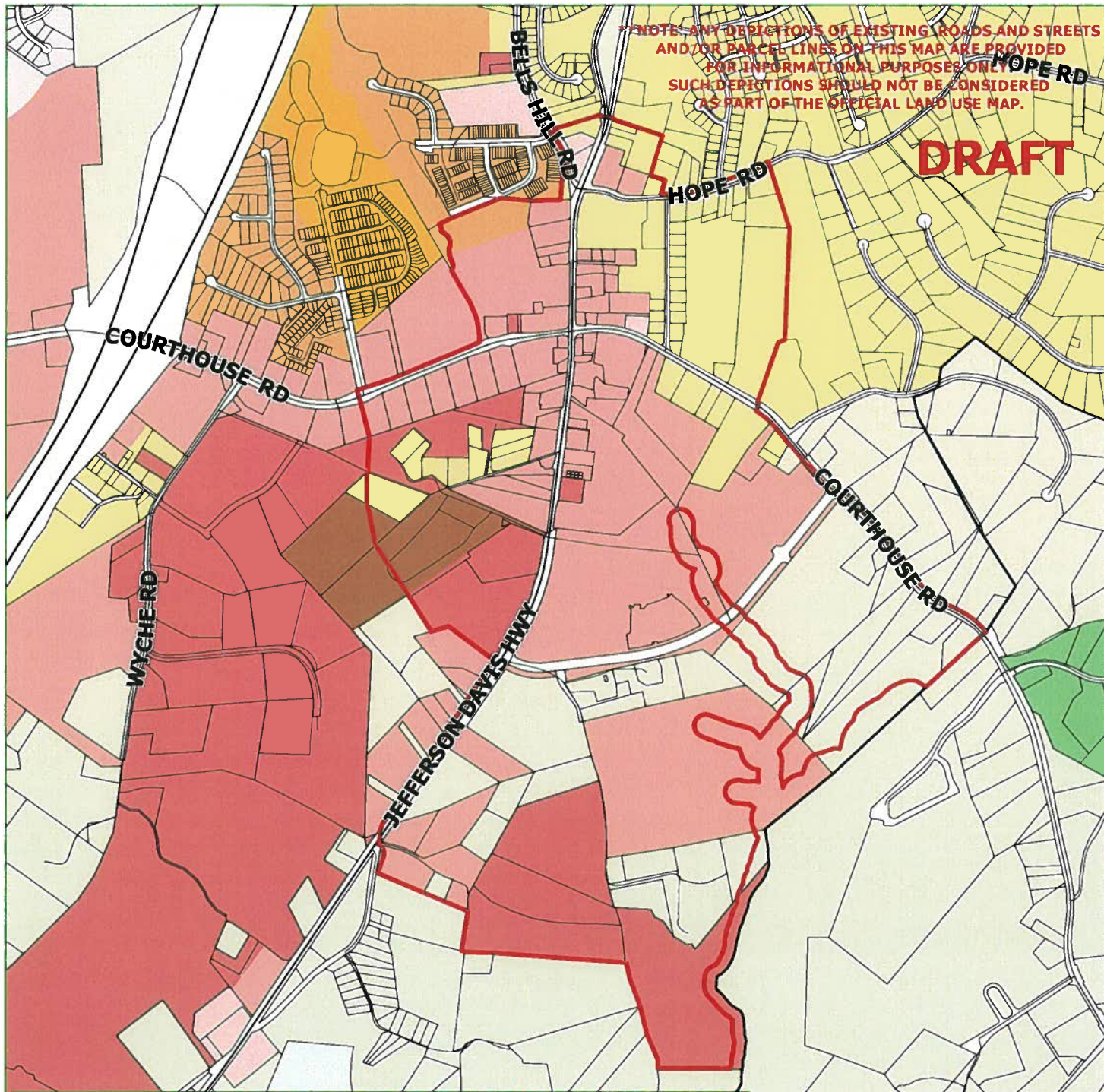
Figure 3.8
TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS
SENDING AND RECEIVING AREAS

Stafford County Comprehensive Plan

Stafford County, Virginia

June 20, 2012





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TDR RECEIVING AREAS	B3 - Office
TDR SENDING AREAS	M1 - Light Industrial
ZONING	
A1 - Agricultural	M2 - Heavy Industrial
A2 - Rural Residential	SC - Suburban Commercial
R1 - Suburban Residential	HP - Heritage Protection
R2 - Urban Residential - Medium Density	RC - Rural Commercial
R3 - Urban Residential - High Density	RBC - Recreational Business Campus
R4 - Manufactured Homes	PD1 - Planned Development 1
LC - Life Care/Retirement	PD2 - Planned Development 2
B1 - Convenience Commercial	P-TND - Planned-Traditional Neighborhood Development
B2 - Urban Commercial	QMB - Quantico Marine Base

Figure 3.8
TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS
SENDING AND RECEIVING AREAS

Stafford County Comprehensive Plan
 Stafford County, Virginia
 June 20, 2012



*** NOTE: ZONING IS SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION

TDR

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **What is a TDR?**

TDR stands for Transfer of Development Rights. A TDR is the voluntary process where an owner of a parcel of land in a sending area may convey (sell) development rights (the ability to build homes on the property) in a sending area to another party such that the development rights so conveyed are severed and extinguished from the sending property and may be exercised on a receiving property in addition to the development rights already in existence on the receiving property (new housing or commercial space).

2. **What is a sending area? Which properties can send development rights?**

The sending area is the area which may “send” development rights to the “receiving” area. Stafford County has defined the sending area as the land located east of the CSX line, north of Potomac Creek, and south of Aquia Creek. In order to qualify as a sending area, property shall be:

- (1) Designated for agricultural, rural, or park land use(s), in the Comprehensive Plan;
- (2) Located in areas designated as sending areas on the Map entitled, “Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Sending and Receiving Areas,” in the Comprehensive Plan;
- (3) Zoned A-1 (Agricultural) or A-2 (Rural Residential) on the Zoning Map;
- (4) Located within a sending area on the Sending and Receiving Areas Map; and
- (5) A separate parcel or contiguous parcels that are comprised of: (1) at least twenty (20) acres; or (2) are designated as Park on the Land Use Map in the Comprehensive Plan and comprised of at least two (2) acres; and (3) in existence on the effective date of the Transfer of Development Rights Ordinance.

3. **What is a receiving area? Which properties can receive development rights?**

The receiving area is the area authorized to “receive” development rights transferred from a sending area. The receiving area is the Courthouse Urban Development Areas

In order to qualify as a receiving area, property shall be:

- (1) Located in one of the following zoning districts: A-1, Agricultural; or R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development-1, PD-2, Planned Development -2; PTND – Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development; and UD, Urban Development.

- (2) Located within a receiving area on the Sending and Receiving Areas Map.
- (3) Located within the USA by the Comprehensive Plan.
- (4) Designated as part of a UDA by the Comprehensive Plan.
- (5) Included in an assessment of the infrastructure in the receiving area that identifies the ability of the area to accept increases in density and its plans to provide necessary utility services within any designated receiving area.

4. How many development rights/units can the “sending” area send?

The estimated number of rights which can be voluntarily sent over from the sending area is 913.

5. How many rights/units can the receiving area receive?

The maximum of 924 units can be accommodated in the receiving area, when the density of A-1 is 4.0 du/acre and 14.0 du/ac for R-1.

6. Can a property owner in the sending area choose to be a receiving area, and vice versa?

No. The sending and receiving areas are distinct and only parcels located within the designated boundaries can either send or receive development rights.

7. Can the owner of property within the receiving property convert residential development rights to commercial development rights?

Yes. Each such development right shall be deemed the equivalent of the right to construct 3,000 square feet of commercial space or one dwelling unit on the receiving property

8. After rights have been severed from a sending property, what rights does a property owner have?

Unless otherwise specified in the TDR Ordinance, the severance of development rights from a sending property shall not deprive the owner of such sending property of the right to use that portion of the property from which development rights have been severed for any (1) agricultural uses; (2) forestal uses with reforestation plans; and (3) parks, campgrounds, and related camping facilities; provided that such uses were permitted by-right on the sending property prior to the transfer of such development rights and the overall size of the property is 20 acres or greater. Properties less than 20 acres in size may only be used for open space.

9. How is the land protected from future development?

During the TDR process, certificates will be issued, deed restrictions and covenants will be recorded, and development rights will be extinguished. Through the TDR program, agricultural land in the sending area will be preserved and protected from high density projects through zoning restrictions and deed restrictions.

10. What happens to existing homes on tracts that have severed development rights?

Nothing. The existing home is allowed to remain on the property.

11. How long can someone (property owner/developer) hold on to the TDR Certificate once the number of development rights has been determined?

Indefinitely.

12. Once the number of development rights is determined by the County, will the owner have to pay taxes on such rights?

Yes, development rights are considered real estate and will be taxed accordingly by the Commissioner of the Revenue's office until they are sold. Once the development rights are sold, the new owner pays taxes accordingly.

13. How does the tax abatement program work with transfer of development rights?

The owner of development rights severed from a sending property under the provisions of the TDR Ordinance may make application to the Commissioner of the Revenue of Stafford County for a real estate tax abatement for a period up to 25 years, to compensate the owner of such development rights for the fair market value of all or part of the development rights, which shall retire the number of development rights equal to the amount of the tax abatement, and such abatement is transferable with the property. The Commissioner of the Revenue shall compute the tax abatement amount and the retirement of development rights in fractional increments; provided, however, that any such fractional development rights are not transferable to another owner.

PROPOSED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

ORDINANCE

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the day of , 2012:

MEMBERS:

Susan B. Stimpson, Chairman
Cord A. Sterling, Vice Chairman
Jack R. Cavalier
Paul V. Milde III
Ty A. Schieber
Gary F. Snellings
Robert "Bob" Thomas, Jr.

VOTE:

On motion of , seconded by , which carried by a vote of , the following was adopted:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN STAFFORD COUNTY CODE SECTIONS 28-25, "DEFINITIONS OF SPECIFIC TERMS," AND SECTION 28-35, TABLE 3.1, "DISTRICT USES AND STANDARDS;" AND TO ENACT, ADOPT AND ORDAIN CHAPTER 28, ARTICLE XX, "TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS"

WHEREAS, under Virginia Code §§ 15.2-2316.1 and 15.2-2316.2, the Board may adopt a transfer of development rights ordinance and establish a transfer of development rights program; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to amend the Stafford County Code to adopt a transfer of development rights ordinance and establish a transfer of development rights program; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on the proposed amendment to adopt a transfer of development rights ordinance and has provided its recommendations to the Board on such proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Board carefully considered the recommendations of the Planning Commission and County staff, as well as the testimony of citizens at the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the proposed transfer of development rights ordinance serves and promotes the public health, safety, and general welfare of the County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that public necessity, convenience, general welfare, and good zoning practices require adoption of this Ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the day of 2012, that Stafford County Code, Sections 28-25, "Definitions of specific terms," and Section 28-35, Table 3.1, "District Uses and Standards," be and they hereby are amended and reordained as follows, all other portions remaining unchanged; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors that Chapter 28, Article XX "Transfer of Development Rights," be and it hereby is enacted, adopted, and ordained as follows:

Chapter 28 – Zoning Ordinance

Article II. – Definitions and Construction

Sec. 28-25. - Definitions of specific terms.

When used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings herein ascribed to them:

County Attorney. The County Attorney or his/her designee.

Determination of Development Rights Document. A document issued by the Director that determines the number of residential development rights a sending property has available for transfer to a receiving property or transferee. For purposes of this Ordinance, the right to build one residential dwelling unit equates to one development right.

Development right or rights. The permitted uses and density of development that are allowed on the sending property under Chapter 28 of the County Code on the date of severance of such rights. Development right or rights includes transferable development rights.

Director. The Director of the office of planning Department of Planning and Zoning or his/her designee.

Extinguishment of development rights. The process by which development rights from a sending property are severed and extinguished from a sending property and transferred to a receiving property or transferee, pursuant to the transfer of development rights program under Chapter 28 of the County Code.

Receiving area. One or more areas identified in Article XX of this Chapter and designated by the Comprehensive Plan as an area authorized to receive development rights transferred from a sending area.

Receiving property. A separate parcel of land within a receiving area and within which development rights are increased pursuant to a transfer of development rights to the property.

Retire. The process by which development rights are extinguished.

Sending area. One or more areas identified in Article XX of this Chapter and designated by the Comprehensive Plan as an area from which development rights are authorized to be severed and transferred to a receiving area or transferee without relation to any particular property.

Sending property. A separate parcel of land within a sending area that is the subject of a transfer of development rights, where the owner of the parcel is conveying development rights of the parcel, and on which those rights so conveyed are severed and may no longer be used on said property as a consequence of the transfer of development rights.

Transfer of development rights (TDRs). The process prescribed under Article XX of this Chapter whereby the owner of a parcel or lot in a sending area may convey development rights to the owner of a lot or parcel in a receiving area or to another person or legal entity, whereby the development rights so conveyed are severed and extinguished from the sending property and may be exercised on the receiving property in addition to the development rights already existing regarding that parcel or may be held without relation to any particular property by the transferee.

Transferable development rights. Development rights that are transferred or transferable from a sending property.

Transferee. The person(s) or legal entity(s) who owns a receiving property to which development rights have been transferred from a sending property or who receives and holds development rights transferred from a sending property without relation to any particular property.

Transferor. The owner(s) of a sending property and a person or legal entity who conveys development rights that are held without relation to any particular property.

Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Certificate. A document issued by the Director agreeing, at the request of a transferor, to sever a specified number of residential development rights from a sending property in exchange for a restrictive covenant to which the County is a party, that restricts further development on the sending property.

Urban Development Areas (UDAs). The areas designated by the Comprehensive Plan that are appropriate for higher density development and, to the extent feasible, appropriate to be used for redevelopment or infill development.

Urban Services Areas (USA). Areas designated by the Comprehensive Plan that may be served by public water and sewer facilities and services.

Sec. 28-35. – Table of Uses and Standards.

Table 3.1, District Uses and Standards, sets forth the uses and standards for each zoning district in Stafford County. No land or structure shall be used, occupied or developed except in accordance with the standards set forth therein.

Table 3.1. District Uses and Standards

A-1, Agricultural.

(d) *Requirements:*

(3) Maximum density with TDRs 4.0 du/acre, TDR developments limited to single family detached dwellings

(3 4) Minimum yards: (Feet)

Conventional subdivision:

Front50

Side 20

Rear 35

Cluster subdivision:

Front40

Side 10

Rear 35

(4 5) Maximum height (in feet).....35

(5 6) Minimum lot width (feet):

Cluster subdivision100

R-1 Suburban Residential.

(d) *Requirements:*

(1) *Intensity:*

Allocated density for conventional subdivision1.5 du/ac

Open space ratio for conventional subdivision0.50

Allowable density for cluster subdivision (see conditional use permit)1.5 du/ac

Open space requirement for cluster subdivision = thirty (30) percent of total subdivision tract.

Maximum density with TDRs 13.4 du/acre, TDR developments may include townhouses at up to 6.0 du/acre and multi-family dwellings at up to 13.4 du/acre

Open space ratio....0.5

Open space ratio with TDRs....0.25

PD-1, Planned Development 1.

(d) *Requirements:*

(1) *Intensity:*

Allocated Density....7.0 du/ac

Maximum density with TDRs 12.0 du/acre, TDR developments may include townhouses at up to 6.0 du/acre and multi-family dwellings at up to 12.0 du/acre

Maximum floor area ratio (non-residential)....0.75

Maximum floor area ratio (non-residential) with TDR0.75

Open space ratio....0.25

Open space ratio with TDRs....0.15

PD-2 Planned Development 2.

(d) *Requirements:*

(1) *Intensity:*

Allocated Density....3.25 du/ac

Maximum density with TDRs 12.0 du/acre, TDR developments may include townhouses at up to 6.0 du/acre and multi-family dwellings at up to 12.0 du/acre

Maximum floor area ration....1.0 ratio

Maximum floor area (non-residential) with TDRs0.75

Open space ratio....0.25 ratio

Open space ratio with TDRs....0.20

P-TND Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development

(c) *Requirements:*

(1) *Intensity:*

Minimum gross tract area/acres 75 except for redevelopment, provided there is no increase of impervious area greater than ten (10) percent, no minimum gross tract area/acres for such redevelopment.

Minimum gross tract area with TDRs 20 acr

Allocated density: 10.0 du/gross tract acres

Allocated density with TDRs: 12.0 du/gross tract acres

Open space ratio, gross tract 0.25 ratio

Open space ratio with TDRs, gross tract0.20

UD Urban Development.

(d) *Requirements:*

(1) *Intensity:*

<i>Single-family detached and duplex:</i>	
Minimum density	Three (3) dwelling units/gross acre
Maximum density	Six (6) dwelling units/gross acre

<u>Maximum Density with TDR</u>	<u>7 dwelling units/gross acre</u>
<i>Townhouse:</i>	
Minimum density	Five (5) dwelling units/gross acre
Maximum density	Eight (8) dwelling units/gross acre
<u>Maximum Density with TDR</u>	<u>9 dwelling units/gross acre</u>
<i>Multifamily:</i>	
Minimum density	Eleven (11) dwelling units/gross acre
Maximum density	Fourteen (14) dwelling units/gross acre
<u>Maximum Density with TDR</u>	<u>15 dwelling units/gross acre</u>
<i>Commercial and mixed use development:</i>	
Minimum floor area ratio	0.4
Maximum floor area ratio	1.0
Minimum floor area ratio	0.6
Maximum floor area ratio	1.2

Table 3.1(a) Standards for Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs), sets forth the uses and standards for all development utilizing (TDRs) for each zoning district in Stafford County that is permitted by Article XX to serve as a receiving area. No land or structure shall be used, occupied, or developed except in accordance with the standards set forth therein.

Table 3.1(a). Standards for Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs)

A-1 Agricultural

(a) Uses permitted by-right

Community use

Equestrian use and bridle path

Group family day care home

Home occupation

Park and playground

Public facilities/utilities but not including generating facilities, substations, switching stations and wastewater treatment facilities which are permitted by a conditional use permit and not including propane and heating fuel distribution facilities

Public works excluding wastewater treatment facilities

Single-family dwelling

Small family day care

(b) Conditional use permit:

Bed and breakfast inn

Nursing home

Place of worship

Public facilities/utilities for generating facilities, substations, switching stations,
and wastewater treatment plant facilities

Recreational facility

(c) Special exception:

Home business

(d) Requirements:

(1) Intensity:

Density...4.0 du/gross ac

Open space ratio...0.5

(2) Minimum Yards

Front...30

Side...6

Rear...25

(3) Minimum lot size ...6,500 sf

(4) Maximum height in feet...35

(5) Minimum lot width in feet...60

R-1 Suburban Residential

(a) Uses permitted by-right

Community use

Group family day care home

Home occupation

Multifamily dwelling

Park and playground

Public facilities/utilities but not including generating facilities, substations, switching stations, and wastewater treatment facilities which are permitted by a conditional use permit and not including propane and heating fuel distribution facilities

Public works excluding wastewater treatment facilities

Single-family dwelling

Small family day care

Townhouse

Weak-link townhouse dwellings

(b) Conditional use permit:

Assisted living facility

Nursing home

Place of worship

Public facilities/utilities for generating facilities, substations, switching stations, and wastewater treatment plant facilities

Recreational facility

Retirement housing

(c) Special exception:

Home business

(d) Requirements:

(1) Intensity:

Density...13.4 du/gross ac

<u>(2) Minimum Yards (in feet)</u>	<u>Single- Family</u>	<u>Townhouse</u>	<u>Multifamily</u>	<u>Weak-link Townhouse</u>
<u>Front</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Side</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Rear</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>(3) Maximum Height (in feet)</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>4 stories</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>(4) Minimum Lot Width (in feet)</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>(5) Minimum Lot Size (in square feet)</u>	<u>6,500</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>	<u>3,000</u>

PD-1 Planned Development -1

(a) Uses permitted by right:

Accessory dwellings.

Atrium house dwellings.

Bakeries.

Banks/lending institutions.

Barber/beauty shops.

Clinic, medical and dental.

Commercial apartments.

Community uses.

Convenience center.

Convenience store.

Dance studios.

Drug stores.

Dry cleaners/laundries.

Duplex dwellings.

Florists.

General office uses.

Gift/antique shops.

Group family day care home.

Home occupation.

Lot-line dwellings.

Medical/dental offices.

Multifamily dwellings.

Parks and playgrounds.

Patio house dwellings.

Places of worship.

Professional offices.

Public facilities/utilities but not including generating facilities, substations, switching stations, and wastewater treatment facilities which are permitted by a conditional use permit and not including propane and heating fuel distribution facilities.

Public works excluding wastewater treatment facilities.

Recreational facilities.

Restaurants without drive through.

Schools.

School, vocational.

Single-family dwellings.

Small family day care home.

Townhouse dwellings.

Village house dwellings.

Weak-link townhouse dwellings.

(b) *Conditional use permit:*

Adult day care center.

Assisted living facility.

Clubs/lodges/fraternal organizations.

Child care centers.

Dwellings for watchmen or caretaker on premises.

Low intensity commercial retail uses not otherwise listed

Public facilities/utilities for generating facilities, substations, switching stations, and wastewater treatment facilities.

Restaurants with drive through.

Retail food stores greater than ten thousand (10,000) square feet.

Retirement housing.

Theaters.

Vehicle fuel sales.

(c) Special exception:

Home business.

(d) Requirements:

(1) Intensity:

Allocated density TDRs 12.0 du/acre, TDR developments may include townhouses at up to 6.0 du/acre and multi-family dwellings at up to 12.0 du/acre

Maximum floor area (nonresidential) ratio0.75

Open space ratio0.15

Minimum tract size....20.0 ac

<u>(2)</u> <u>Minimum</u> <u>yds (feet)</u>	<u>Single-</u> <u>family</u>	<u>Duplex</u>	<u>Town-</u> <u>house</u>	<u>Multi-</u> <u>family</u>	<u>Com-</u> <u>mercia</u> <u>l</u>	<u>Lot-line</u>	<u>Atrium</u>	<u>Village</u>	<u>Patio</u>	<u>Weak-link</u> <u>Townhouse</u>
<u>Front</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Side</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>3/15</u>	<u>15*</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>0/15</u>	<u>5/20****</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Rear</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>12/35</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>(3)</u> <u>Maximum</u> <u>height</u> <u>(feet)</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>(4)</u> <u>Minimum</u> <u>lot width</u> <u>(feet)</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>(5)</u> <u>Mnimum</u> <u>lot size</u> <u>(sq. ft.)</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>3,600</u>

*For duplex structures, the minimum required side yard setback is three (3) feet, and the minimum required distance between structures is fifteen (15) feet.

**For multi-family structures, the minimum setback is thirty-five (35) feet from any public right-of-way and thirty (30) feet from any other structure.

***For commercial uses adjacent to a nonresidential use, the minimum required side yard setback is zero (0) feet and the minimum required rear yard setback is twelve (12) feet. For commercial uses adjacent to residential use, the minimum required side yard setback is fifteen (15) feet and the minimum required rear yard setback is thirty-five (35) feet.

****For lot line dwellings, the minimum width of any individual side yard is five (5) feet, and the minimum required distance between structures is twenty (20) feet.

PD-2 Planned Development 2.

(a) Uses permitted by right:

Accessory dwelling.

Bakeries.

Banks.

Barber shops.

Commercial apartments.

Community uses.

Convenience center.

Convenience stores.

Dry cleaners/laundries.

Duplex dwellings.

Florists.

General office uses.

Gift/antique shops.

Group family day care home.

Home occupation.

Low intensity commercial retail.

Medical/dental offices.

Medium intensity commercial retail.

Multifamily dwellings.

Parks and playgrounds.

Places of worship.

Professional offices.

Public facilities/utilities but not including generating facilities, substations, switching stations, and wastewater treatment facilities which are permitted by a conditional use permit and not including propane and heating fuel distribution facilities.

Public works excluding wastewater treatment facilities.

Recreational facilities.

Restaurants without drive-through facilities.

Retail food stores.

Schools.

School, vocational.

Single-family dwellings.

Small family day care home.

Townhouse dwellings.

(b) Conditional use permit:

Adult day care center.

Assisted living facility.

Auto service centers.

Child care centers.

Clinics, medical or dental.

Clubs/lodges/fraternal organizations.

Dance halls.

Dwellings for watchmen or caretaker on premises.

Funeral homes.

High intensity commercial retail.

Hotels/motels.

Marinas.

Public facilities/utilities for generating facilities, substations, switching stations, and wastewater treatment facilities

Recreational enterprises.

Restaurants with drive through.

Retail food stores greater than ten thousand (10,000) square feet.

Retirement housing.

Theaters.

Vehicle fuel sales.

(c) Special exception:

Home business.

(d) Requirements:

(1) Intensity:

Allocated density TDRs 12.0 du/acre, TDR developments may include townhouses at up to 6.0 du/acre and multi-family dwellings at up to 12.0 du/acre

Maximum floor area (nonresidential) ratio0.75

Open space ratio0.20

Minimum tract size....20.0 ac

(2) <u>Minimum yards (feet)</u>	<u>Single-family</u>	<u>Duplex</u>	<u>Town-house</u>	<u>Multi-family</u>	<u>Commercial</u>
<u>Front</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Side</u>	<u>0/10*</u>	<u>0/10*</u>	<u>0/30**</u>	<u>0/60**</u>	<u>0/15***</u>
<u>Rear</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>0/60**</u>	<u>12/35***</u>
(3) <u>Maximum height (feet)</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>45</u>

*For single-family and duplex structures, the minimum required side yard setback is zero (0) feet, however, the minimum required distance between structures is ten (10) feet.

**For townhouses and multi-family structures, the minimum required side setback is zero (0) feet, however, the minimum required distance between structures is thirty (30) feet and sixty (60) feet, respectively.

***For commercial uses adjacent to a nonresidential use, the minimum required side setback is zero (0) feet and the minimum required rear setback is twelve (12) feet. For

commercial uses adjacent to a residential use, the minimum required side setback is fifteen (15) feet and the minimum required rear setback is thirty-five (35) feet.

P-TND Planned-Traditional Neighborhood Development

(a) Uses permitted by right:

Bank, lending institution with no drive-through facility.

Bed and breakfast inn, up to five (5) rooms.

Bike station.

Carry out/cafe with no drive-through facility.

Center for the arts.

Conference center.

Convention center.

Country inn, up to twelve (12) rooms.

Day care center.

Dormitory, school.

Duplex.

Dwelling, accessory.

Dwelling, atrium house.

Dwelling, attached.

Dwelling, carriage house.

Dwelling, condominium.

Dwelling, lot line.

Dwelling, multifamily.

Dwelling, patio house.

Dwelling, quadruple-attached.

Dwelling, semi-detached.

Dwelling, single-family.

Dwelling, three-family attached.

Dwelling, townhouse.

Dwelling, village house.

Exhibition center.

Funeral home.

High-intensity retail uses not otherwise listed.

Home occupation.

Hotel.

Instruction with studio.

Kiosk.

Library.

Live/work unit.

Medical, dental office.

Medical, dental clinic.

Museum.

Open, farmers market.

Outdoor pavilion.

Place of worship.

Professional office.

Public facilities for water/sewer pump stations and water tanks.

Public works.

Push cart.

Restaurant.

Retail uses permitted by right in the B-2 zoning district.

School.

School, college or university.

School, vocational.

Telecommunication antennas as an ancillary use to an existing building or structure.

Theater, movie/multiplex.

Triplex.

(b) *Conditional use permit:*

Automobile repair.

Drive-through facilities.

Home business.

Golf course, minimum of eighteen (18) holes and may include practice tees and golf driving range as an accessory use only.

Hospital.

Motel.

Public facilities, except for water/sewer pump stations and propane and heating fuel distribution facilities.

Substation.

Telecommunication facility.

Telecommunication facility other than antennas which are ancillary to an existing building or structure.

Vehicle fuel sales.

(c) Requirements:

(1) Intensity:

Minimum gross tract area/acres 20.0 ac.

Allocated density, gross tract 12.0 du/gross tract acres

Open space ratio, gross tract 0.20

(2) Refer to tables 3.5(a), 3.5(b), 3.5(c), 3.5(d), 3.5(e), 3.5(f), and 3.5(g) for additional intensity regulations within specific Transect Zones.

UD Urban Development

(a) Uses permitted by right: see Sec. 28-39(u) for detailed uses allowed by subdistrict.

(b) Conditional use permit: see Sec. 28-39(u) for conditional uses allowed by subdistrict.

(c) Special exception: see Sec. 28-39(u) for special exception uses allowed by subdistrict.

Article XX. – Transfer of Development Rights

Sec. 28-354. – Purpose.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 15.2-2316.1 and 15.2-2316.2, a transfer of development rights (TDR) program is established. The purpose of the TDR program is to provide a mechanism by which a property owner can transfer residential density from sending areas to receiving areas and/or to a transferee without relation to any particular property

through a voluntary process intended to permanently conserve agricultural and forestry uses of lands, reduce development densities on those and other lands, and preserve rural open spaces and natural and scenic resources. The TDR program is intended to complement and supplement County land use regulations, resource protection efforts, and open space acquisition programs. The TDR program is intended to encourage increased residential density in areas that can better accommodate this growth with less impact on public services and natural resources.

Sec. 28-355. – Applicability.

This Article shall apply to the transfer of development rights from land in sending areas to land in receiving areas and/or to a transferee without relation to any particular property. Land utilizing transferred development rights may be subdivided or developed in receiving areas at the maximum density specified by County Code § 28-35, Table 3.1, above the base density for the applicable zoning district.

Sec. 28-356. – Right to transfer development rights; general provisions.

(a) A development right shall only be transferred by means of the recordation of a TDR Certificate and a covenant to which the County is a party that restricts further development of the sending property and joins all lien holders, who must execute any necessary releases in order for the transfer of development rights to take place.

(1) The covenant shall limit the future construction of residential dwelling units on a sending property to the total number of development rights established by the Zoning Ordinance provisions applicable to the property, minus (i) all development rights severed and extinguished from the sending property by the TDR Certificate and thereby transferred under this Article, (ii) any development rights previously severed and extinguished or limited as a result of an earlier recorded covenant or conservation easement against the property, and (iii) the number of existing single-family detached dwelling units located on the sending property, if any, as of the date the TDR Certificate has been issued and recorded by the Director.

(2) The County Attorney shall review and approve any such covenants and related document(s) for form and legal sufficiency.

(b) Each transferor shall have the right to sever all or a portion of the development rights from a sending property and to sell, trade, and/or barter all or a portion of those development rights to a transferee consistent with the purposes of County Code § 28-354 so long as the requirements of subsection (a) of this section are met.

(c) Any transfer of development rights under this Article only authorizes an increase in maximum density. It shall not alter or waive the development standards of any property in the receiving area, nor shall it allow a use otherwise not permitted in a receiving area.

(d) No development rights may be transferred from a sending property if those rights are materially restricted from development by covenant, easement, and/or deed restriction; provided, however, that no such restriction will be deemed to exist if it arose out of a note on a subdivision plat requiring the provision of public water and sewer to the subdivision.

(e) Any transfer of development rights shall be recorded among the land records of Stafford County, Virginia.

(f) No transfer of development rights will be effective until the Director has recorded the TDR Certificate and its related covenant in the land records of Stafford County, Virginia.

(g) The monetary or other value of transferred development rights is a private matter that is determined by the seller and buyer.

(h) The owner of development rights severed from a sending property under the provisions of this Article may make application to the Commissioner of the Revenue of Stafford County for a real estate tax abatement for a period up to 25 years, to compensate the owner of such development rights for the fair market value of all or part of the development rights, which shall retire the number of development rights equal to the amount of the tax abatement, and such abatement is transferable with the property. The Commissioner of the Revenue shall compute the tax abatement amount and the retirement of development rights in fractional increments; provided, however, that any such fractional development rights are not transferable.

Sec. 28-357. – Sending properties.

(a) For the purposes of this Article, a sending property must be an entire tax map parcel or lot that complies with all requirements of this Article. Sending areas shall be limited to those areas designated as sending areas on the map entitled, “Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Sending and Receiving Areas,” in the Comprehensive Plan, zoned A-1 (Agricultural) or A-2 (Rural Residential).

(b) In order for a property in a sending area to qualify as a sending property eligible for a transfer of development rights, such property shall be:

- (1) Designated for agricultural, rural, or park land use(s), in the Comprehensive Plan;
- (2) Located in areas designated as sending areas on the Map entitled “Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Sending and Receiving Areas” in the Comprehensive Plan;
- (3) Zoned A-1 (Agricultural) or A-2 (Rural Residential); and
- (4) A separate parcel or contiguous parcels (i) comprised of at least twenty (20) acres, or (ii) designated as Park on the Land Use Map in the

Comprehensive Plan, comprised of at least two (2) acres, and in existence on the effective date of this Article XX (Transfer of Development Rights).

(c) If a sending property has any outstanding code violations and/or unpaid taxes, the owner(s) shall completely resolve all of these violations, including any required abatement, restoration, and/or payment of penalties or taxes, before the property may be made the subject of a TDR Certificate by the Director.

Sec. 28-358. – Receiving properties.

(a) In order for a property in a receiving area to qualify as a receiving property eligible for a transfer of development rights to said property, such property shall be:

- (1) Located in one of the following zoning districts: A-1, Agricultural; R-1, Suburban Residential; PD-1, Planned Development-1; PD-2, Planned Development-2; PTND–Planned Traditional Neighborhood Development; or UD, Urban Development;
- (2) Located in areas designated as receiving areas on the Map entitled “Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Sending and Receiving Areas” in the Comprehensive Plan;
- (3) Located within the USA by the Comprehensive Plan;
- (4) Designated as part of a UDA by the Comprehensive Plan; and
- (5) Included in an assessment of the infrastructure in the receiving area that identifies the ability of the area to accept increases in density and its plans to provide necessary utility services within any designated receiving area.

(b) If a receiving property has any outstanding code violations and/or unpaid taxes, the owner shall completely resolve all such violations, including any required abatement, restoration, and/or payment of penalties or taxes, before the property may have any development rights transferred to it as part of the County’s TDR program.

(c) A receiving property may accept development rights from one or more sending properties, but the density allowed on the receiving property may not exceed the maximum applicable density specified in County Code § 28-35, Table 3.1.

(d) At the discretion of the owner of any residential development rights severed from a sending property, such development rights may be converted to commercial development rights. In the event residential development rights from a sending property are transferred to a receiving property and the owner of the receiving property wishes to convert those residential development rights to commercial development rights, each such residential development right shall be deemed the equivalent of the right to construct 3,000 square feet of commercial space on the receiving property.

(e) Every 3,000 square feet of commercial space, or fraction thereof, in a development project shall be deemed the equivalent of one development right. (For example, 2,788 square feet of commercial space shall be deemed one development right, 3,000 square feet of commercial space shall be deemed one development right, and 3,005 square feet commercial space shall be deemed two development rights.)

(f) The provisions of this Article XX are not intended to supersede any of the protections set forth elsewhere in this Ordinance relating to properties having historical significance and/or properties with environmentally sensitive features such as, but not limited to, hydric soils, wetlands, or steep slopes.

Sec. 28-359. – Calculation of development rights.

(a) The number of residential development rights that a sending property is eligible to send to a receiving property and/or transferee without relation to any particular property shall be determined by the Director after he initially calculates the number of residential dwelling units allowed as a matter of right on the sending property under the provisions of the zoning district in which the sending property is located. In making this initial calculation, the Director shall determine the gross acreage of the sending property from a valid, recorded plat or survey prepared and certified by an engineer or land surveyor licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia provided to the Director by the applicant as part of the TDR application, and then subtract from the gross acreage of the sending property: (i) the portion, if any, of the sending property that is comprised of hydric soils and/or steep slopes (i.e., those slopes exceeding twenty-five percent (25%)) based on a review of the County's maps and the owner's TDR application by the Director; (ii) the portion, if any, of the sending property that is comprised of easements or rights-of-way for public roads; and (iii) for those sending properties that do not abut any public road, five percent (5.0%) of the gross acreage of such sending property. Upon rendering this initial calculation, the Director shall subtract all of the following to determine the number of development rights that are eligible to be transferred from the sending property:

- (1) All development rights previously transferred under this Article from the sending property;
- (2) All development rights previously extinguished or limited as a result of a recorded conservation easement or similar covenant/restriction against the sending property, or any portion thereof;
- (3) All development rights previously extinguished or limited as a result of any private agreement or any other County program relating to the extinguishment or limitation of development rights; and
- (4) The number of existing single-family residential dwelling units on the sending property as of the date of the TDR Certificate.

(b) Any fraction of development rights resulting from the calculations shall not be included by the Director in the final determination of total development rights available for transfer.

(c) Any parcel in existence on the effective date of this Article XX (Transfer of Development Rights) that: (1) was created as a building lot; (2) is larger than two acres; and (3) is designated as Park on the Land Use Map in the Comprehensive Plan, shall be entitled to the transfer of a minimum of one development right for purposes of this Article.

(d) Development rights from a sending property may be allocated to more than one receiving property and/or transferee. However, fractions of development rights shall not be transferrable.

(e) A receiving property and/or transferee without relation to any particular property may accept development rights from more than one sending property.

(f) The determination of the number of residential development rights a sending property has available for transfer to a receiving property and/or a transferee without relation to any particular property shall be documented in a Determination of Development Rights Document issued by the Director.

(g) A Determination of Development Rights Document shall be used by the Director as the basis for the issuance of a TDR Certificate if there has been no material change in the criteria used by the Director in relation to the sending property to issue the Determination of Development Rights Document.

(h) The decisions of the Director in the Determination of Development Rights Document shall be considered final determinations for purposes of the TDR program, except that if there is any material change in the criteria, in relation to the sending property, used by the Director to issue the Determination of Development Rights Document, then a new Determination of Development Rights Document must be issued for the sending property before a TDR Certificate may be issued for that sending property.

(i) Any determination made in a Determination of Development Rights Document shall be valid only for purposes of the TDR program and for no other purpose.

(j) A transferor may extinguish development rights, sever and hold development rights, sever and sell development rights, or apply severed development rights to a receiving property to allow development of that receiving property at a density greater than would otherwise be allowed on such land, up to the maximum density specified for the applicable zoning district in County Code § 28-35, Table 3.1.

Sec. 28-360. – Transfer of development rights sending property development limitations.

(a) Following the transfer of residential development rights, a sending property that has retained a portion of its development rights may subsequently accommodate remaining residential dwelling units on the sending property consistent with the requirements of the A-1 (Agricultural) or A-2 (Rural Residential) Zoning District, and all other applicable County Code requirements. A sending property that retains a portion of its development rights may also transfer the remainder of those development rights through the TDR program; provided, however, that fractional development rights shall not be transferrable.

(b) On sending properties with environmental features as outlined in County Code § 28-359(a), (i.e., hydric soils and steep slopes exceeding twenty-five percent (25%)), the development rights shall be severed from the areas outside of the specified environmental features, and any such areas on the sending property that have either hydric soils or steep slopes exceeding twenty-five percent (25%) shall not be eligible for any consideration regarding the transfer of development rights. If development rights are retained on the sending property, future subdivision and development cannot occur on the areas where any development rights have already been severed and those areas cannot be considered as a portion of any buildable lot.

(c) The limitations in this section shall, when development rights are severed from a sending property, be included in a covenant applicable to the sending property which shall be recorded in the land records of Stafford County, Virginia. The County Attorney shall review and approve the covenant as to form and legal sufficiency. A plat shall accompany and be recorded with the deed delineating and describing the location of the portion of the property to be conserved.

(d) Unless otherwise specified in this Article XX, the severance of development rights from a sending property shall not deprive the owner of such sending property of the right to use that portion of the property from which development rights have been severed for any (i) agricultural uses; and (ii) forestal uses with reforestation plans; provided that such uses were permitted by right on the sending property prior to the transfer of such development rights. Any buildings or structures that exist on a sending property at the time development rights are severed shall be allowed to remain to support any such existing agricultural and forestal uses. If the sending property is 20 acres or greater in size, then new buildings and structures comprising up to a cumulative total of 6,000 square feet shall be allowed to be constructed on that sending property to support any such existing agricultural and forestal uses. No new buildings or building space shall be allowed on sending properties less than 20 acres in size. Any building constructed as a lawful nonconforming use under the provisions of this Article XX shall not count against the allowance of up to 6,000 cumulative square feet for new buildings on any such sending property 20 acres or greater in size.

(e) Unless otherwise specified in this Article XX, the severance of development rights from a sending property shall not deprive the owner of such sending property of the right to use that portion of the property from which development rights have been

severed for parks, campgrounds and related camping facilities, provided that such uses were permitted by right on the sending property prior to the transfer of such development rights. Any buildings or structures that exist on a sending property at the time development rights are severed shall be allowed to remain to support any such existing park, campground, and related camping facilities. If the sending property is 20 acres or greater in size, then new buildings and structures comprising up to a cumulative total of 2,000 square feet shall be allowed to be constructed on that sending property to support any such existing park, campground, and related camping facilities. No new buildings shall be allowed on sending properties less than 20 acres in size. Any building constructed as a lawful nonconforming use under the provisions of this Article XX shall not count against the allowance of up to 2,000 cumulative square feet for new buildings on any such sending property 20 acres or greater in size. For purposes of this section, the term "campgrounds" does not include any use by travel trailers, motor homes, and similar vehicular type structures.

Sec. 28-361. – Sending property certification.

(a) The Director shall be responsible for determining whether a proposed sending property meets the qualifications of County Code § 28-357. The Director shall respond in writing to an owner's request for a Determination of Development Rights Document under this Article XX within sixty (60) days of the date of submission of a complete TDR application.

- (1) If the Director determines that a property satisfies the requirements of County Code § 28-357, the Director shall issue a Determination of Development Rights Document for the sending property.
- (2) If the Director determines that a property does not satisfy the requirements of County Code § 28-357 or any other applicable provisions of this Article, the Director shall issue a written decision to the applicant and shall state the basis for this decision.

(b) Any decision of the Director under County Code § 28-361(a) may be appealed to the Board of Zoning Appeals as provided by law.

(c) The Director shall be responsible for maintaining permanent records of actions taken pursuant to the TDR program under this Article XX, including, but not limited to:

- (1) TDR applications received, and all supporting documents, including plats and surveys showing the gross acreage of the sending property;
- (2) Determination of Development Rights Documents issued;
- (3) Other written decisions of the Director responding to an owner's request in a TDR application for a Determination of Development Rights Document ;
- (4) TDR Certificates issued;

- (5) Deed restrictions and covenants known to be recorded; and
- (6) Development rights retired, otherwise extinguished, or transferred to specific properties and/or transferees.

(d) The owner(s) of any property proposed to be the subject of a TDR application shall be responsible for preparing and submitting to the Director a complete TDR application for a transfer of development rights on a standard application form provided by the County that satisfies County Code § 28-357 and all other applicable provisions of this Article XX. All owners of any sending property that is the subject of a TDR application must endorse and be parties to that application; otherwise, the application shall be deemed invalid and of no force and effect. In addition to a standard application form completed by the owner(s), an application shall contain:

- (1) At least one of the following:
 - a. A certificate of title for the sending property dated no more than thirty (30) days before the date that a complete TDR application is submitted; said certificate to be prepared by an attorney admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia;
 - b. Title company report (commitment binder) dated no more than thirty (30) days before the date that a complete TDR application is submitted;
or
 - c. Title company policy dated no more than thirty (30) days before the date that a complete TDR application is submitted.
- (2) Five (5) copies of a valid recorded plat or survey of the proposed sending property that shows the gross acreage of the proposed sending property, and a legal description of the proposed sending property prepared and certified by an engineer or land surveyor licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia;
- (3) A statement by all owners of the sending property requesting that the Director issue a Determination of Development Rights Document for the transfer of a specified number of development rights in compliance with this Article;
- (4) A chain of title that includes all deeds, covenants, easements, and other encumbrances that materially limit or restrict the ability to develop the sending property;
- (5) A plan showing any existing residential dwelling units, proposed residential dwelling units, and improvements on the sending property

and any areas on the sending property that are already subject to a conservation easement or other similar encumbrance;

- (6) A plat prepared and certified by an engineer or land surveyor licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia that shows the location, extent, and gross acreage calculation of all hydric soils and steep slopes on the proposed sending property;
- (7) A complete density calculation worksheet that sets forth the number of available development rights and the basis for the applicant's request to transfer the specified number of development rights from the sending property under the provisions of this Article;
- (8) The applicable application fee adopted by the Board , and
- (9) Any additional information that the Director deems necessary to determine the number of development rights that qualify for transfer.

(e) A Determination of Development Rights Document issued by the Director shall contain the following information:

- (1) The name of the transferor;
- (2) A legal description of the sending property on which the calculation of development rights is based;
- (3) The tax map parcel number(s) of the sending property;
- (4) A statement of the size, in acres, of the sending property on which the calculation of development rights is based; and a determination of the number of development rights, stated in terms of number of dwelling units, eligible for transfer;
- (5) If only a portion of the total development rights is being transferred from the sending property, a statement of the number of remaining development rights, stated in terms of number of dwelling units, remaining on the sending property;
- (6) The date of issuance;
- (7) A serial number assigned by the Director; and
- (8) The signature of the Director.

Sec. 28-362. – Instruments of transfer.

(a) Upon receipt of a Determination of Development Rights Document for a sending property, the TDR applicant may request the Director to issue a TDR

Certificate to sever all or some of the development rights from the sending property that is the subject of the application. If such an applicant wishes to transfer development rights, the applicant shall request a TDR Certificate in writing from the Director and file with the Director a covenant to which Stafford County is a party, that restricts the development of the sending property to the extent the applicant desires to sever and extinguish development rights from the sending property for the purpose of transferring those development rights to a receiving property or a transferee without regard to a particular property.

(b) Upon receipt from an applicant of a request for the issuance of a TDR Certificate, the Director shall determine whether his decision to issue a Determination of Development Rights Document has been appealed to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). If the Director's decision to issue a Determination of Development Rights Document to an applicant has been appealed to the BZA, then the Director shall withhold the issuance of a TDR Certificate to that applicant until the issues raised in that appeal have been finally decided by the BZA and/or the courts.

(c) If the Director's decision to issue a Determination of Development Rights Document to an applicant has not been appealed to the BZA, then the Director shall proceed with the issuance of a TDR Certificate. In this regard, the Director shall submit the covenant filed by the applicant to the County Attorney for approval as to form and legal sufficiency. If the County Attorney reviews the covenant and approves it as to form and legal sufficiency, the Director shall prepare and record the TDR Certificate and the related covenant(s) in the land records of Stafford County, Virginia, and shall provide a copy to the Commissioner of the Revenue. Upon such recordation, the development rights that are the subject of the TDR Certificate shall be deemed severed and extinguished from the sending property, and the Director shall notify the applicant of the applicable deed book, page number, instrument number, and plat book where the recorded documents may be found in the land records.

(d) The instruments recorded for the purpose of transferring development rights shall comply with the requirements of this section and shall consist of the following:

- (1) The names of the transferor and the transferee;
- (2) The number of residential development rights that are being transferred;
- (3) A legal description and plat of the sending property prepared and certified by an engineer or land surveyor licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia;
- (4) The TDR Certificate(s);
- (5) A plat showing the portion of the sending property that is restricted from development as a result of the transfer of development rights;

- (6) A covenant(s) to which the County is a party, approved by the County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency, specifying the number of development rights severed from the sending property and the number of development rights remaining on the sending property, and stating that the sending property may not be subdivided or developed to a greater density than permitted by the development rights remaining on the sending property;
 - (7) A covenant that the transferor grants and assigns to the transferee, its heirs, assigns, and successors, a specified number of development rights from the sending property to a receiving property and/or a transferee without relation to any particular property;
 - (8) A covenant by which the transferor acknowledges that he has no further use or right to use the development rights being transferred; and
 - (9) A covenant that all provisions of the TDR Certificate and related covenants shall run with and bind the sending property in perpetuity and may be enforced by the County.
- (e) The covenants recorded as part of instruments transferring development rights shall be endorsed and approved by any lien holders.
- (f) The instruments of transfer of development rights shall be recorded prior to the approval of any development permits for the receiving property, including, but not limited to, building permits.

Sec. 28-363. – Transfer process.

Development rights shall be transferred using the following processes:

- (a) Following the issuance of a Determination of Development Rights Document, and the filing by the applicant of a request for a TDR Certificate with all other required documents and information, and compliance with all other provisions of this Article XX, the Director shall issue a TDR Certificate, agreeing to a transfer of development rights in exchange for the required covenant(s) to which the County is a party restricting development on the sending property.
- (b) The applicant at whose request a Determination of Development Rights Document has been issued may, if all other requirements of this Article are satisfied, request that the Director issue the TDR Certificate to said applicant or to another person or legal entity specified by the applicant, who may transfer those development rights to an eligible receiving property or may hold those development rights without relation to any particular property.
- (c) The owner of development rights severed from a sending property may transfer those rights to a receiving property or to another person, who may hold those development rights without relation to any particular property. In applying for the

transfer of development rights to a receiving property or a transferee without relation to any particular property, the applicant shall provide the Director with the following:

- (1) A TDR Certificate issued in the name of the applicant or another person or legal entity and an option to purchase the development rights covered by the Certificate signed by the applicant and the owner(s) of the receiving property or to a transferee without relation to any particular property; and
- (2) Proof satisfactory to the Director that there are no delinquent taxes or penalties owed on the development rights being transferred.

(d) If development rights that are the subject of a TDR Certificate are transferred to another person or legal entity who wishes to hold those rights without relation to any particular property, the Director shall invalidate, in whole or in part, the TDR Certificate that created those rights, and shall issue a new TDR Certificate in the name of the new owner of those rights. The Director will record the new TDR Certificate in the land records of Stafford County, Virginia, upon payment to the Director of any applicable fees by the party requesting the transfer of development rights.

(e) If development rights that are the subject of a TDR Certificate are approved by the Director to attach to a receiving property, then the Director shall invalidate in perpetuity, in whole or in part, the TDR Certificate that created those rights to the extent those rights are transferred to the receiving property.

(f) Development rights from a sending property shall be considered severed and extinguished from the sending property and transferred to a receiving property or a transferee without relation to any particular property when the TDR Certificate and the applicable covenant(s) to which the County is a party and any other required documents have been recorded by the Director in the land records of Stafford County, Virginia.

Sec. 28-364. – Development approval procedures.

(a) A request to utilize transferred development rights on an eligible receiving property must be in the form of a preliminary subdivision plan or final site plan submitted to the Department of Planning and Zoning in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 22 and Chapter 28 of the County Code. Prior to approval of such plan, the Director must be provided proof that the transfer of the development rights has been completed and the development rights have been affixed to the zoning of the receiving property.

(b) A final recorded plat for a subdivision using transferred development rights shall contain a statement setting forth the development proposed, the zoning classification of the property, the number of development rights used, and a notation of the recordation of the conveyance required by County Code § 28-362.

PROPOSED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

At an annual meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the ____ day of ____, 2012:

MEMBERS:

Susan B. Stimpson, Chairman
Cord A. Sterling, Vice Chairman
Jack R. Cavalier
Paul V. Milde III
Ty A. Schieber
Gary F. Snellings
Robert "Bob" Thomas, Jr.

VOTE:

On motion of _____, seconded by _____, which carried by a vote of _____, the following was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE STAFFORD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 15.2-2229, BY ADOPTING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, AS ADVERTISED, TO CHAPTER 3 OF THE TEXTUAL DOCUMENT ENTITLED, "STAFFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, 2010-2030," DATED DECEMBER 14, 2010, REGARDING TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

WHEREAS, under Virginia Code § 15.2-2229, the Board of Supervisors may amend the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan would amend Chapter 3 of the Plan to incorporate amendments to the textual document regarding the administrative procedures of the Transfer of Development Rights program, including, but not limited to, the purpose of a transfer of development rights program, eligibility criteria for sending and receiving properties, determining the use of transferred development rights, and to adopt a new map entitled, Figure 3.8, Transfer of Development Rights Sending and Receiving Areas, which depicts the sending and receiving areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board carefully considered the recommendations of the Planning Commission and staff, and the public testimony received at the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the adoption of the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments will guide and accomplish a coordinated, adjusted, and harmonious development in Stafford County, Virginia, which will, in accordance with the present and probable future needs and resources of Stafford County, best promote the health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of the citizens of Stafford County, Virginia, including the elderly and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments are consistent with good planning practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the ____ day of ____ 2012, that the Board be and hereby does adopt the proposed amendments to the Stafford County Comprehensive Plan, as advertised.

AJR:JAH:aga

PROPOSED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the 4th day of September, 2012:

MEMBERS:

- Susan B. Stimpson, Chairman
- Cord A. Sterling, Vice Chairman
- Jack R. Cavalier
- Paul V. Milde III
- Ty A. Schieber
- Gary F. Snellings
- Robert "Bob" Thomas, Jr.

VOTE:

On motion of , seconded by , which carried by a vote of , the following was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO REFER TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS PROPOSED ORDINANCE O12-02 AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, INCLUDING A SENDING AND RECEIVING AREAS MAP, IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS PROGRAM FOR STAFFORD COUNTY

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 15.2-2316.2 allows localities to provide for a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 15.2-2316.2 requires the adoption of an ordinance, among other things, in order to establish a TDR program; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code § 15.2-2316.2 also requires a locality to incorporate a map into its Comprehensive Plan designating sending and receiving areas under any TDR program adopted in such locality; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to consider the adoption of a TDR ordinance and Comprehensive Plan provisions, among other things, as part of a TDR program for Stafford County; and

WHEREAS, the TDR Committee, comprised of members of the Board, recommended approval of proposed Ordinance O12-02 and proposed Resolution R12-03, which relates to certain proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, including a Sending and Receiving Area Map, to establish a TDR program for Stafford County; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that public necessity, convenience, general welfare, and good zoning practices require the adoption of proposed Ordinance O12-02; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that proposed Resolution R12-03, and the accompanying Comprehensive Plan amendments, including the Sending and Receiving Area Map, are consistent with good planning practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 4th day of September, 2012, that proposed Ordinance O12-02 and proposed Resolution R12-03 and the accompanying textual amendment to the Comprehensive Plan, including a Sending and Receiving Areas Map, be and they hereby are referred to the Planning Commission for the Commission to hold at least one public hearing on said amendments and provide its recommendations to the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning Commission be and it is hereby directed to work with staff to incorporate into proposed Ordinance O12-02, all Zoning Ordinance amendments adopted by the Board since proposed Ordinance O12-02 was initially drafted through such time as the Commission authorizes the public hearing, ensuring that all adopted Zoning Ordinance provisions in proposed Ordinance O12-02 reflect the current Zoning Ordinance; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that the Planning Commission is directed to hold a public hearing and provide the Board with its recommendations on proposed Ordinance O12-02, with any modifications as contemplated in the preceding paragraph, and proposed Resolution R12-03 and the accompanying textual amendment to the Comprehensive Plan, including a Sending and Receiving Areas Map, within sixty (60) days of the Commission's receipt of this Resolution; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator or his designee shall provide the Commission with a copy of this Resolution.

AJR:JAH:kb