



Instruction Packet and Affidavit for Electronic Neighborhood Meetings

Town of Apex
Planning Department
PO Box 250
Apex, NC 27502

T: 919-249-3426
F: 919-249-3338

This packet consists of instructions and templates for conducting a required Electronic Neighborhood Meeting during times when in-person gatherings are restricted. Planning Department staff are available to advise you in the preparation of these materials. Call the Planning Department at (919) 249-3426 for more information.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING?

A neighborhood meeting is a required form of community outreach to receive initial feedback regarding certain project types prior to submittal to the Planning Department per the standards found in UDO Sec. 2.2.7. The intention of the meeting is to initiate neighbor communication and identify issues and concerns early on and provide the applicant an opportunity to address neighbor concerns about the potential impacts of the project prior to submitting an application. A neighborhood meeting is valid for six (6) months prior to the submission of an application; a delay in submission requires a new neighborhood meeting.

WHEN IS A NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING REQUIRED?

- Rezonings (including Planned Unit Developments);
- Major Site Plans;
- Residential Master Subdivision Plans (excluding exempt subdivisions); or
- Special Use Permits

INSTRUCTIONS

Prior to submitting an application for a Rezoning, Major Site Plan, Residential Master Subdivision Plan (excluding exempt subdivisions), or Special Use Permit, the applicant must conduct at least one (1) Electronic Neighborhood Meeting as indicated below. The applicant shall submit all forms included in this packet with the initial application submittal.

Whenever feasible, an in-person Neighborhood Meeting following all of the requirements of the standard Neighborhood Meeting procedures shall be held prior to public hearing by the Planning Board and/or Town Council or approval by Technical Review Committee, as appropriate. Feasibility shall be determined by the Planning Director, taking into account the regularly published schedule, length of delay caused by ongoing emergency declarations, amount of public interest expressed during the electronic neighborhood meeting and afterwards, and any other pertinent information that would show that a particular project warrants an in-person neighborhood meeting prior to public hearings and/or approval.

The Electronic Neighborhood Meeting must be held in accordance with the following rules:

These groups and individuals must be invited to the meeting:

- The applicant is required to notify the Planning Department, all property owners within 300 feet of the subject property, and any neighborhood association that represents citizens in the area via first class mail a minimum of 10 days in advance of the neighborhood meeting, not including the day of mailing. The applicant shall use their own return address on the envelopes as the meeting is a private meeting between the applicant and the neighbors.
- The applicant shall include with the meeting notice a vicinity map in addition to the "mailed materials" requirements below.

The meeting must be held within specific timeframes and meet certain requirements:

- During emergency declarations and/or limits on size of gatherings and social distancing, the meeting must be held as follows prior to application submittal:
 - Electronically via an interactive online video conferencing software such as Microsoft Teams, Zoom, WebEx, or any similar platform of the applicant's choice for a minimum of two (2) hours, Monday through Thursday, during the 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. time period. The meeting cannot be held on Town recognized holidays (which coincide with the State of North Carolina recognized holidays).
- An attendance sheet must be used log known attendees at the electronic meeting. Note if no one attended.
- Mailed materials requirements:

In addition to a vicinity map, the following documents shall be mailed with the meeting notice:

 - For rezonings (excluding rezonings to PUD-CZ, TND-CZ and MEC-CZ), an existing zoning map of the area must be provided to help facilitate discussion.
 - For rezonings to PUD-CZ, TND-CZ and MEC-CZ; Major Site Plans; Residential Master Subdivision Plans; and Special Use Permits, preliminary plans of the proposed development must be provided to help facilitate discussion. Neighbors may request emailed copies of the maps or plans from the applicant by contacting the applicant and requesting such; applicant shall provide reduced copies upon request.
 - Contact information for the applicant's representative and Town Staff must be provided on the attached "Project Contact Information" form.
 - "Common Construction Issues & Who to Call" sheet (attached) must be included.
 - A copy of the mailed materials must be included as part of the Neighborhood Meeting report.
- The agenda for the Electronic Neighborhood Meeting shall include:
 - Explanation of all processes the meeting is being held for (rezoning, subdivision, etc.).
 - Explanation of future meetings (additional neighborhood meetings, Planning Board, Town Council, etc.).
 - Explanation of development proposal – uses and conditions for rezonings, layout for subdivision and site plans, and builder/end user if known/public knowledge.
- Questions or concerns by virtual attendees, and responses by the applicant, if any, must be noted. The applicant shall also include any questions and concerns received via written correspondence (such as email) or phone call along with responses provided by the applicant during the Electronic Neighborhood Meeting and in the Neighborhood Meeting Report.
- The applicant shall be responsible for notifying any neighbors who request to be kept up-to-date of any additional neighborhood meetings and the actual submittal date to the Town with a link to the Town of Apex's Interactive Development Map.

For accountability purposes, please submit the following with your application:

- A copy of the letter mailed to neighbors and neighborhood organizations (use attached invitation template);
- A list of those persons and neighborhood organizations invited to the meeting;
- A copy of the attendance sheet for the Electronic Neighborhood Meeting (use attached attendance sheet template);
- A summary of the meeting and a list of any changes made to the project as a result of the neighborhood comments (use attached meeting summary template);
- The affidavit, signed, dated, and notarized (use attached affidavit template); and
- One reduced copy of the maps and/or plans provided in the mailing.

NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

This document is a public record under the North Carolina Public Records Act and may be published on the Town's website or disclosed to third parties.

Date

Dear Neighbor:

You are invited to an electronic neighborhood meeting to review and discuss the development proposal at

Address(es)

PIN(s)

in accordance with the Town of Apex Electronic Neighborhood Meeting procedures. This meeting is intended to be a way for the applicant to discuss the project and review the proposed plans with adjacent neighbors and neighborhood organizations before the submittal of an application to the Town. This provides neighbors an opportunity to raise questions and discuss any concerns about the impacts of the project before it is officially submitted. If you are unable to attend, you may contact the applicant before or after the meeting is held. Once an application has been submitted to the Town, it may be tracked using the [Interactive Development Map](#) or the [Apex Development Report](#) located on the Town of Apex website at www.apexnc.org. If at all feasible given emergency declarations, limits on in-person gatherings, and social distancing, an additional in-person Neighborhood Meeting may be scheduled and held prior to a public hearing or staff decision on the application.

An Electronic Neighborhood Meeting is required because this project includes (check all that apply):

Application Type	Approving Authority
<input type="checkbox"/> Rezoning (including Planned Unit Development)	Town Council
<input type="checkbox"/> Major Site Plan	Town Council (QJPH*)
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Use Permit	Town Council (QJPH*)
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential Master Subdivision Plan (excludes exempt subdivisions)	Technical Review Committee (staff)

*Quasi-Judicial Public Hearing: The Town Council cannot discuss the project prior to the public hearing.

The following is a description of the proposal (also see attached map(s) and/or plan sheet(s)):

Estimated submittal date: _____

MEETING INFORMATION:

Property Owner(s) name(s): _____

Applicant(s): _____

Contact information (email/phone): _____

Electronic Meeting invitation/call in info: _____

Date of meeting**: _____

Time of meeting**: _____

MEETING AGENDA TIMES:

Welcome: _____ Project Presentation: _____ Question & Answer: _____

**Meetings shall occur between 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. on a Monday through Thursday (excluding Town recognized holidays). If you have questions about the general process for this application, please contact the Planning Department at 919-249-3426. You may also find information about the Apex Planning Department and on-going planning efforts at <http://www.apexnc.org/180/Planning>.

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

This document is a public record under the North Carolina Public Records Act and may be published on the Town's website or disclosed to third parties.

Development Contacts:

Project Name: _____ Zoning: _____

Location: _____

Property PIN(s): _____ Acreage/Square Feet: _____

Property Owner: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Developer: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Engineer: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Builder (if known): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Please note that Town staff will not have complete information about a proposed development until the application is submitted for review. If you have a question about Town development standards and how they relate to the proposed development, please contact the appropriate staff person listed below.

Town of Apex Department Contacts

Planning Department Main Number (Provide development name or location to be routed to correct planner)	(919) 249-3426
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department Angela Reincke, Parks Planner	(919) 249-7468
Public Works - Transportation Russell Dalton, Senior Transportation Engineer	(919) 249-3358
Water Resources Department Jessica Bolin, Senior Engineer (Stormwater, Sedimentation & Erosion Control) Stan Fortier, Senior Engineer (Stormwater, Sedimentation & Erosion Control) James Gregg, Utility Engineer (Water & Sewer)	(919) 249-3537 (919) 249-1166 (919) 249-3324
Electric Utilities Division Rodney Smith, Electric Technical Services Manager	(919) 249-3342

Providing Input to Town Council:

Each Town Council meeting agenda includes a Public Forum time when anyone is permitted to speak for three (3) minutes on any topic with the exception of items listed as Public Hearings for that meeting. The Town Council meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 p.m. (except for holidays, see schedule of meetings at <http://www.apexnc.org/838/Agendas-Minutes>). You may also contact Town Council by e-mail at AllCouncil@apexnc.org.

Private Agreements and Easement Negotiation:

The Town of Apex cannot enforce private agreements between developers and neighbors and is not a party to the easement and right-of-way negotiation that occurs between developers and neighboring property owners for easements or rights-of-way that are necessary to build the project.

It is recommended that all private agreements be made in writing and that if a property owner feels it necessary, they should obtain private legal counsel in order to protect their interests in both private agreements and during easement negotiations. The only conditions that the Town of Apex can enforce are those conditions that are made a part of the conditional zoning of the property by agreement of the developer and the Town.

As an example, if a developer offers to build a fence for a neighbor to mitigate some impact, the Town can only enforce the construction of the fence if the fence becomes a condition of the rezoning. This would occur by the developer offering the condition as part of their conditional zoning application package or at the Town Council public hearing on the conditional zoning and the Town accepting it as a condition. Private agreements regarding a fence being constructed will not be enforced by the Town.

To request that any agreement with a developer is made a part of the conditional zoning at the time of approval, you may ask at the Town Council public hearing if the agreement is included in the conditions. If it is not, you may request that the Town Council not approve the rezoning without the agreement being included in the conditions (note that it is up to Town Council whether to approve or deny the rezoning but they cannot impose conditions that the applicant does not agree to add). The developer's proposed conditions can be viewed any time after a rezoning is submitted on the Interactive Development Map at: <http://apexnc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/OnePane/basicviewer/index.html?appid=fa9ba2017b784030b15ef4da27d9e795>

Documentation:

Neighbors to a requested new development and/or rezoning are strongly encouraged to fully document (such as through dated photographs) the condition of their property before any work is initiated for the new development. Stormwater controls installed on developed property are not designed to and will likely not remove 100% of the soil particles transported by stormwater runoff. As a result, creeks and ponds could become cloudy for a period of time after rain events.

COMMON CONSTRUCTION ISSUES & WHO TO CALL

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Noise & Hours of Construction:	Non-Emergency Police	919-362-8661
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Noise from tree removal, grading, excavating, paving, and building structures is a routine part of the construction process. The Town generally limits construction hours from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. so that there are quiet times even during the construction process. Note that construction outside of these hours is allowed with special permission from the Town when it makes more sense to have the construction occur at night, often to avoid traffic issues. In addition, the Town limits hours of blasting rock to Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Report violations of construction hours and other noise complaints to the Non-Emergency Police phone number at 919-362-8661.

Construction Traffic:	James Misciagno	919-372-7470
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Construction truck traffic will be heavy throughout the development process, including but not limited to removal of trees from site, loads of dirt coming in and/or out of the site, construction materials such as brick and wood brought to the site, asphalt and concrete trucks come in to pave, etc. The Town requires a construction entrance that is graveled to try to prevent as much dirt from leaving the site as possible. If dirt does get into the road, the Town can require they clean the street (see "Dirt in the Road" below).

Road Damage & Traffic Control:	Water Resources – Infrastructure Inspections	919-362-8166
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There can be issues with roadway damage, roadway improvements, and traffic control. Potholes, rutting, inadequate lanes/signing/striping, poor traffic control, blocked sidewalks/paths are all common issues that should be reported to Water Resources – Infrastructure Inspections at 919-249-3427. The Town will get NCDOT involved if needed.

Parking Violations:	Non-Emergency Police	919-362-8661
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Unless a neighbor gives permission, there should be no construction parking in neighbors' driveways or on their property. Note that parking in the right-of-way is allowed, but Town regulations prohibit parking within 15 feet of driveways so as not to block sight triangles. Trespassing and parking complaints should be reported to the Non-Emergency Police phone number at 919-362-8661.

Dirt in the Road:	James Misciagno	919-372-7470
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Sediment (dirt) and mud gets into the existing roads due to rain events and/or vehicle traffic. These incidents should be reported to James Misciagno. He will coordinate the cleaning of the roadways with the developer.

Dirt on Properties or in Streams:	James Misciagno	919-372-7470
	Danny Smith	Danny.Smith@ncdenr.gov

Sediment (dirt) can leave the site and get onto adjacent properties or into streams and stream buffers; it is typically transported off-site by rain events. These incidents should be reported to James Misciagno at 919-372-7470 so that he can coordinate the appropriate repairs with the developer. Impacts to the streams and stream buffers should also be reported to Danny Smith (danny.smith@ncdenr.gov) with the State.

Dust:	James Misciagno	919-372-7470
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During dry weather dust often becomes a problem blowing into existing neighborhoods or roadways. These incidents should be reported to James Misciagno at 919-372-7470 so that he can coordinate the use of water trucks onsite with the grading contractor to help control the dust.

Trash:	James Misciagno	919-372-7470
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Excessive garbage and construction debris can blow around on a site or even off of the site. These incidents should be reported to James Misciagno at 919-372-7470. He will coordinate the cleanup and trash collection with the developer/home builder.

Temporary Sediment Basins:	James Misciagno	919-372-7470
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Temporary sediment basins during construction (prior to the conversion to the final stormwater pond) are often quite unattractive. Concerns should be reported to James Misciagno at 919-372-7470 so that he can coordinate the cleaning and/or mowing of the slopes and bottom of the pond with the developer.

Stormwater Control Measures:	Jessica Bolin	919-249-3537
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Post-construction concerns related to Stormwater Control Measures (typically a stormwater pond) such as conversion and long-term maintenance should be reported to Mike Deaton at 919-249-3413.

Electric Utility Installation:	Rodney Smith	919-249-3342
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Concerns with electric utility installation can be addressed by the Apex Electric Utilities Department. Contact Rodney Smith at 919-249-3342.

ELECTRONIC NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING ATTENDANCE SHEET

This document is a public record under the North Carolina Public Records Act and may be published on the Town's website or disclosed to third parties.

Meeting Format: _____

Date of meeting: _____ Time of meeting: _____

Property Owner(s) name(s): _____

Applicant(s): _____

Please list Electronic Neighborhood Meeting Attendees who provided their name and/or contact information either during the meeting or via phone/email before or after the meeting.

	NAME/ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE #	EMAIL	SEND PLANS & UPDATES
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					

Use additional sheets, if necessary.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION FROM THE ELECTRONIC NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

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Property Owner(s) name(s): _____

Applicant(s): _____

Contact information (email/phone): _____

Meeting Format: _____

Date of meeting: _____ Time of meeting: _____

Please summarize the questions/comments and your response from the Electronic Neighborhood Meeting in the spaces below (attach additional sheets, if necessary). Please state if/how the project has been modified in response to any concerns. The response should not be "Noted" or "No Response". There has to be documentation of what consideration the neighbor's concern was given and justification for why no change was deemed warranted.

Question/Concern #1:

Applicant's Response:

Question/Concern #2:

Applicant's Response:

Question/Concern #3:

Applicant's Response:

Question/Concern #4:

Applicant's Response:

AFFIDAVIT OF CONDUCTING AN ELECTRONIC NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING AND ISSUES/RESPONSES SUBMITTAL

This document is a public record under the North Carolina Public Records Act and may be published on the Town's website or disclosed to third parties.

I, _____, do hereby declare as follows:
Print Name

1. I have conducted an Electronic Neighborhood Meeting for the proposed Rezoning, Major Site Plan, Residential Master Subdivision Plan, or Special Use Permit in accordance with UDO Sec. 2.2.7 *Neighborhood Meeting*.
2. The meeting invitations were mailed to the Apex Planning Department, all property owners within 300 feet of the subject property and any neighborhood association that represents citizens in the area via first class mail a minimum of 10 days in advance of the Electronic Neighborhood Meeting.
3. The meeting was conducted via _____ (indicate format of meeting) on _____ (date) from _____ (start time) to _____ (end time).
4. I have included the mailing list, meeting invitation, attendance sheet issue/response summary, and zoning map/reduced plans with the application.
5. I have prepared these materials in good faith and to the best of my ability.

By: _____

Date

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF WAKE

Sworn and subscribed before me, _____, a Notary Public for the above State and County, on this the _____ day of _____, 20_____.

[Signature]

SEAL

Notary Public

Print Name

My Commission Expires: