

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: February 15, 2012

SUBJECT: Set Public Hearing for Land Development Code Text Amendment (Solar Energy Generation Facility)

PRESENTER: Anthony W. Starr, AICP, Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS: None

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Henderson County Planning Department received an application (TX-2012-01) to amend the text of the Land Development Code (LDC). The application seeks to allow solar energy generation facilities (a.k.a. solar farms) as a principal use in the County's zoning districts. Planning Staff is working with the applicant to draft appropriate language that would allow solar energy systems with appropriate development standards.

The text amendment will provide new development opportunities within Henderson County. Currently, the LDC only allows "solar panels" as an accessory use to a residence or business.

State law and the LDC require the Board of Commissioners to hold a public hearing prior to acting on a text amendment. Staff anticipates that the Planning Board will review the application and draft language at its February 16th, 2012 meeting. If the hearing date is set, staff will publish the required public notice. The applicant indicates the application is time sensitive.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Planning Staff requests the Board set a public hearing for Monday, March 5th, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

Suggested Motions:

I move that the Board set a public hearing to receive public comment for Land Development Code Text Amendment 2012-01 regarding solar energy systems for Monday, March 5th, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.