# Syringe Exchange Programs & Zoning

Health Directors' Legal Conference Adam Lovelady April 18, 2019



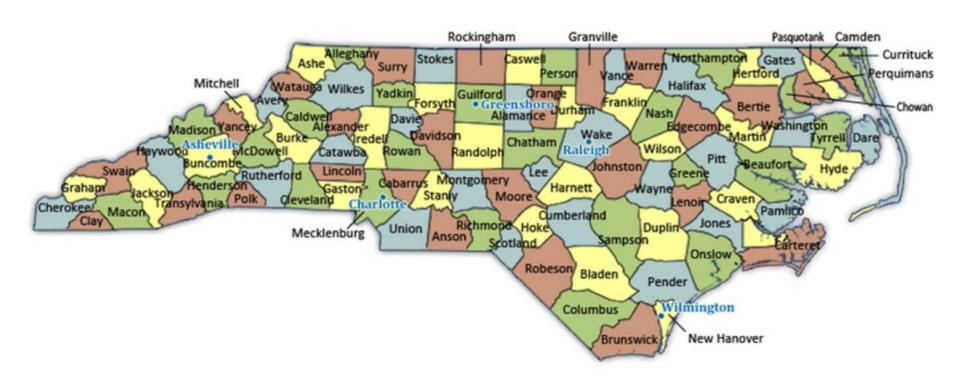


#### **TEACHFORAMERICA**





#### Where are you from?



# What is your experience with land use zoning?

Land use law expert/former city planner

Working knowledge I try to avoid it

Land use what?



### Which best describes your county?

We operate a syringe exchange program

Another organization operates a syringe exchange program

We are exploring a syringe exchange program

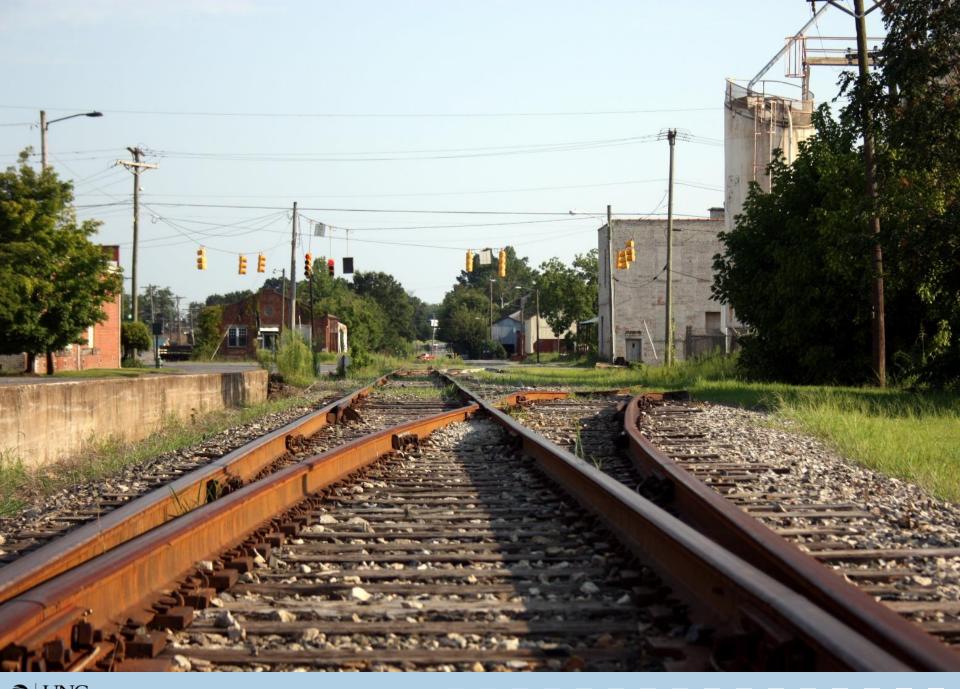
Syringe exchange is politically impractical in our county





# With regard to zoning and the opioid crisis, we need more information on

Top















REUTERS, Chris Keane





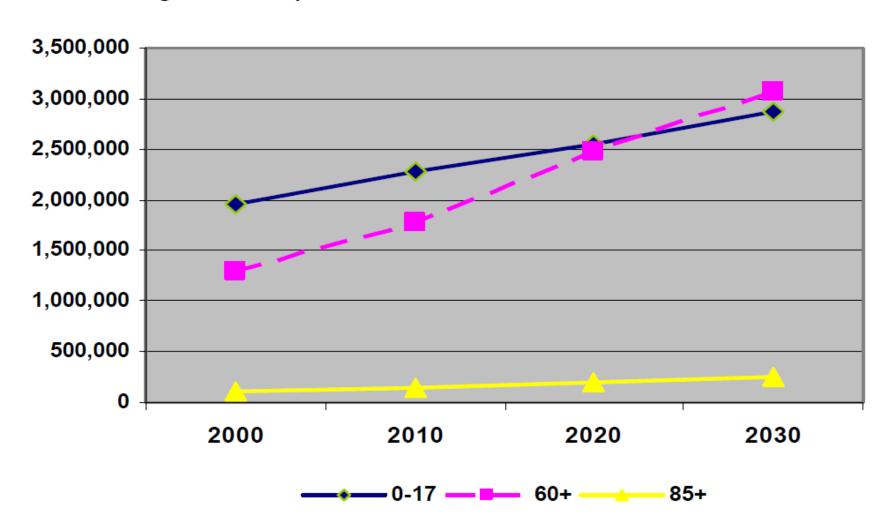






### **Boomers in Carolina**

Figure 1: NC Population Growth 2000-2030



Source: NC State Data Center, US Census 2010





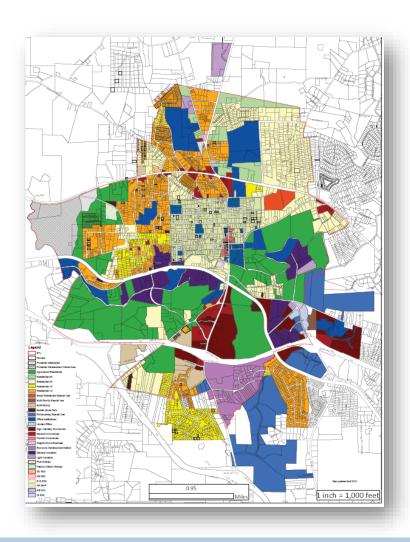


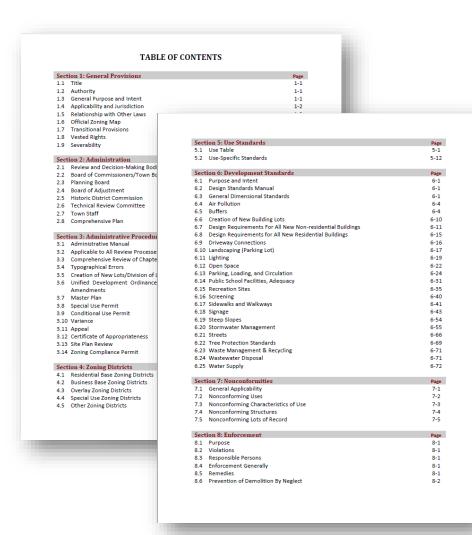






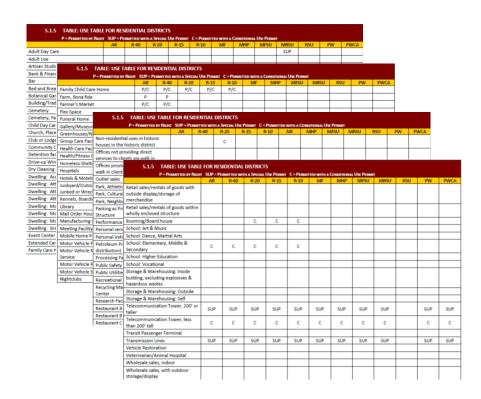
### Zoning Ordinance = Map + Text





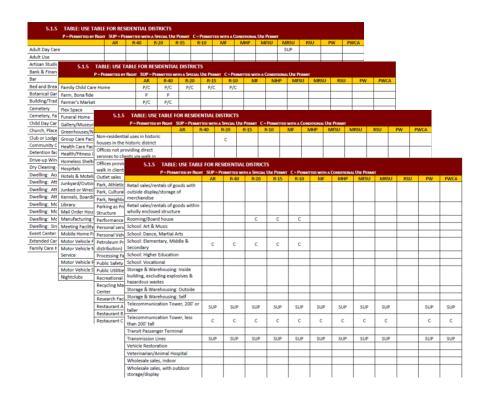
# Zoning...Use

- YES Permitted Uses
- NO Prohibited Uses
- MAYBE Conditional Use, Special Use, Special Exception

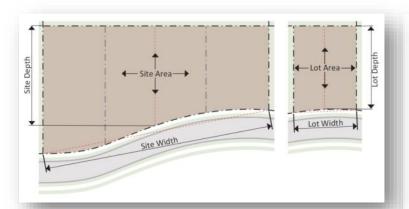


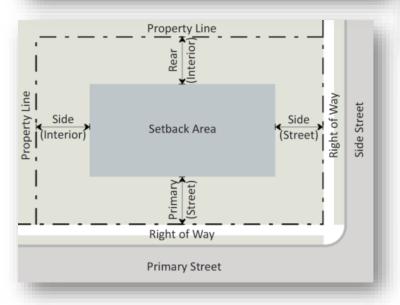
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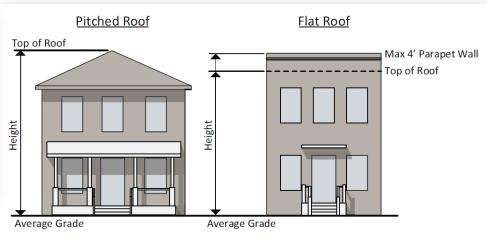
- Principal Use
- Accessory Use
- Temporary Use
- Mobile Use



## **Typical Zoning Requirements**



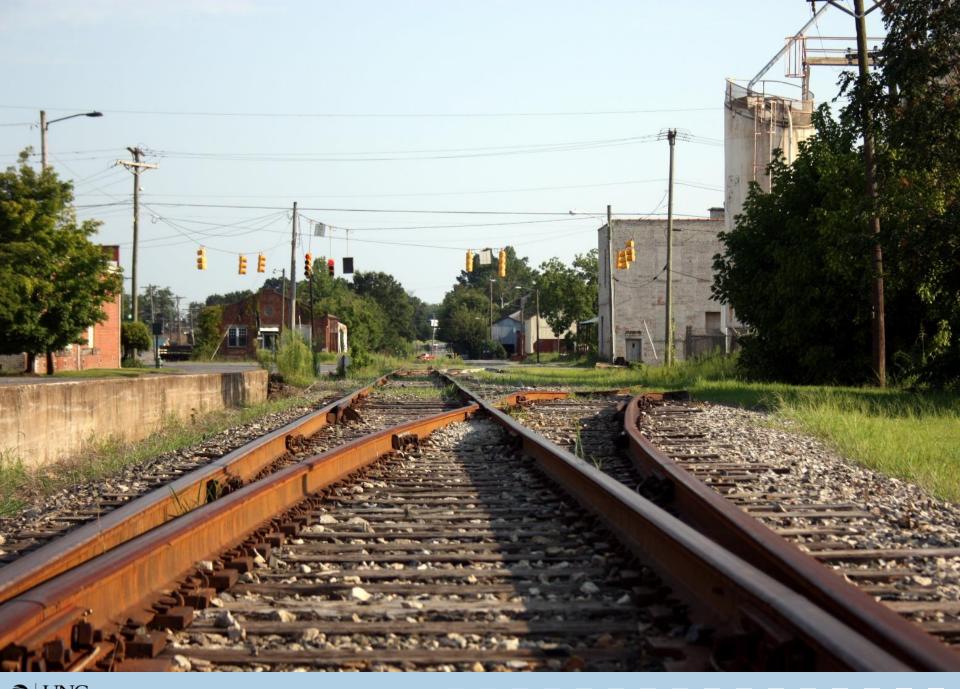














## Syringe Exchange Programs

Legal in North Carolina under N.C.G.S 90-113.27



## SEP must provide

- sterile syringes and new injection supplies at no cost and in sufficient quantities to prevent sharing or reusing
- safe syringe disposal
- security for the site, personnel, and equipment
- info about prevention of disease transmission, overdose, and substance use disorder
- info about and referrals for treatment options
- naloxone and training on its use (or referrals)
- consultations for treatment (or referrals)



## Additional Legal Details

- SEP organization must register with the North Carolina Division of Public Health
- limited immunity from criminal prosecution (individual must have documentation of participation)



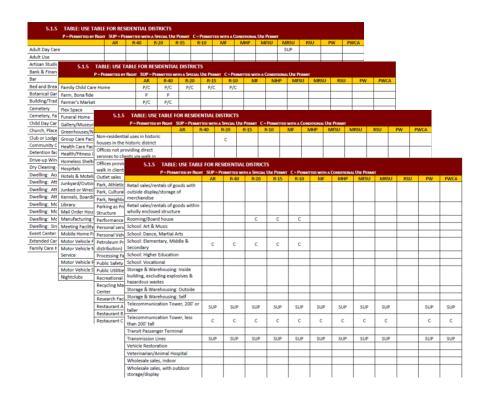
## **SEP Operations**

- Fixed site/integrated: An exchange run from a permanent, fixed location. Fixed site exchanges are typically part of an existing agency/program, such as a health department, church, or drug treatment program.
- Mobile: An exchange run from a vehicle.
- Peer-based: An exchange run through peer networks distributing syringes in the community.



# Zoning...Use

- Principal Use
- Accessory Use
- Temporary Use
- Mobile Use





## Questions

