

The Cary News

- WEATHER -



CURRENT: 36 °F
Partly cloudy

TODAY: High 42°F; Low 24°F. Times of clouds and sun.

TOMORROW: High 44°F; Low 39°F. Drizzle.

- NEWS -

[Downtown Cary shops seek sign changes](#)

[Cary moving on policy for annexations](#)

[Wake County schools to post reassignment plan on Web site Jan. 21](#)

[Morrisville police chief fired](#)

[Cary residents leading earthquake aid](#)

[Homeowners dismayed by private sewers](#)

[Traffic study proposes fences, island](#)

[On the Money: Cary is hottest town](#)

[Face of Change: Mayor-elect seeks balance](#)

[Face of Change: Michael Joyce 'always one who liked challenges'](#)

[Access rules drive neighbors to distraction](#)

[Site picked for new regional library in Cary](#)

- OBITUARIES -

[Death Notices Jan. 15, 2004](#)

[Death Notices Jan. 8, 2004](#)

[Death Notices Jan. 1, 2004](#)

[Death Notices Dec. 25, 2003](#)

[Death Notices Dec. 18, 2003](#)

[Death Notices Dec. 11, 2003](#)

[Death Notices Dec. 4, 2003](#)

[Death Notices Nov. 27, 2003](#)

[Dr. Luther M. Talbert, 76, infertility pioneer](#)

Published: Thursday, January 15, 2004

Cary moving on policy for annexations

Even without specific targets, committee's action still puts residents on edge

By ADAM ARNOLD, STAFF WRITER

Wounds from recent battles over annexation had scabs scraped off Tuesday as a Cary Town Council committee took steps to recommend a policy for future annexations and a request to expand zoning authority to the full council.

The sore spots were apparent for both committee members and residents who were annexation targets in November and December, even though Town Manager Bill Coleman said there are no plans to forcibly annex within the next couple of years.

The decisions came Tuesday at a meeting of the council's Planning and Development Committee.

Cary council member Nels Roseland, chairman of the committee handling the annexation policy, said he wants to avoid identifying geographic areas that would be subject to annexation before developing a policy.

"Two years ago, we identified geography and then made policy," Roseland said. "We went through a lot of drama and consternation."

Rather than saying who is next, members want the plan to say how the town will determine the criteria for future annexations.

"That's part of the goal here, coming to a current council policy," committee member Julie Robison said.

Council members were not the only ones who remembered the pain. Some Dutchman Downs residents, who were faced with annexation during Cary's recent showdown with Holly Springs and who face absorption into Cary's extraterritorial jurisdiction, were miffed by the recommendations.

newspaper information

- About The Cary News
- News Deadlines
- Letters and Columns Guidelines
- Feedback

online services

- Announce your wedding
- Announce your engagement
- Obituary Form

classified

- classified.triangle.com
- Looking for a new home?

shopping

- All Around Town



advertisement

Death Notices Nov. 20, 2003

Death Notices Nov. 13, 2003

- EDUCATION -

Three schools begin 2004 with new principals

Old schools getting renovations

Dress up has new meaning

Books bring parents, students together

Celebrities give storytime boost

Principals leaving to open new schools

Despite more meetings, parents still feel frustrated about reassignment process

Civics comes to life

- ENTERPRISE -

Expansion a good fit for Cary Travel

Marines get help finding jobs, homes

Author aims to 'be a light in the darkness'

Toad Sweat starts sweet heat wave

Company offers TIPS for alcohol awareness

Starting Over/Starting Up Part 4

Starting Over/Starting Up Part 1

Starting Over/Starting Up Part 2

Starting Over/Starting Up Part 3

Cary man wins top prize in 2003 TopCoder Open

Friends get their wings, freedom

WakeMed shifts administrators

Carpenter Village gets first store

- CARY LIFE -

Sharp shooters

This class is for the birds

Getting redder with age: Inspired by poem, these proper ladies indulge in

"This was quite a little surprise," said Deo Garlock. "It's less than a month and they're already pushing forward the same map and hiding under state law and the Wake County criteria."

Ron Thoreson called the actions a "sham" and vented on town staff. Thoreson helped coordinate neighborhood leaders during the annexation push. He was also a leader in his own neighborhood on a petition drive in the fall protesting the ETJ request.

"This isn't government by elected representation, this is government by paid professionals," Thoreson said.

'A planning tool'

According to the staff report, the aim of the "involuntary annexation program" would be to identify areas for future involuntary annexation, prioritize those areas based on state criteria and set a schedule for their annexation.

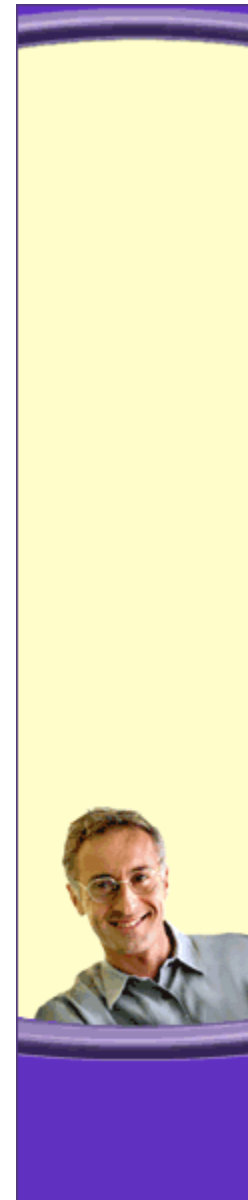
The council will likely consider the matter at its retreat in late February.

Annexation matters are sensitive for the council and many of the residents of the areas the decisions could affect.

Cary last year had a request to extend its ETJ — the area in which the town has planning and regulatory power but is not within its limits — before the Wake County Board of Commissioners. That request went into a holding pattern when a utility-planning-boundary agreement between Holly Springs and Cary fell apart in November. Cary officials — saying counterparts in Holly Springs had offered to voluntarily annex property on what Cary thought would be on its side of the boundary, which Holly Springs officials denied — passed a resolution to involuntarily annex about 4,700 people in areas surrounding the suspect property.

Cary backed off its annexation resolution in December after Holly Springs agreed to the original boundary.

Several areas came into the town as a result of involuntary annexation last summer. When the council began considering that move in 2000, more areas were also considered. In April 2002, several subdivisions, including Medfield Estates, Hemlock Ridge, Brookridge Estates, Homestead and Dublin Woods, Holly Brook and Cary Oaks/Oak Chase, were put under a resolution of consideration. A resolution of consideration states that the town is



some colorful behavior

Giving voice to the invisible:
Poet helps teach creative
writing to children, poor and
homeless

They made their mark

Letter perfect: Come sit for
a spell, say the wordsmiths
who gather weekly to play
serious Scrabble

Genre's appeal is no
mystery for this expert

Good wood: Minister turns
love of carving into sideline
that inspires faith

Art enhances public spaces:
Tour highlights Cary's
growing visual collection

Amphitheatre at Regency
Park gets national buzz

Shrine Circus clowns
cherish the hobby that
spreads smiles

Music scores

It's a 'Jungle' out there

A shot at health

-SPORTS-----
Preps Boys Basketball
coverage

Preps Girls Basketball
coverage

Road Rules

Raising the level

On Ice

Jockeying for position:
Green Hope takes early Tri-
Seven lead with a pair of
wins

Football coach Ron
Pendergraft out at Cary
High

Wrestling Round 1: Cary vs.
Riverside

Athens Drive wins state
soccer title

Athens Drive headed to
state soccer title match

Tigers end Falcons' run

Falcons reach into bag of
tricks

-COMMUNITY-----
Young explorer

Baby Makes Three

The Home Front

still considering annexing those areas, but there is
no immediate plan to do so.

Resolutions of consideration are effective for two
years. For the current resolution of consideration to
remain effective, it would have to be renewed by
April.

Such a resolution could include additional areas,
such as Dutchman Downs and Lawdraker Road,
which were affected by the spat with Holly Springs.
Committee member Michael Joyce, who joined the
council as an at-large member in December, asked
Coleman if there are any plans to forcibly annex any
areas within the the next couple of years.

Coleman said no.

The program is "basically a planning tool," Coleman
said. "It makes no commitment or decision about
annexation."

Coleman then said that state statutes would
determine the geography, as the law sets out
criteria for what can be involuntarily annexed.
Those factors include the amount of area
contiguous with the municipality and whether a
large enough portion is developed to urban
densities.

ETJ extension

"The primary issue for ETJ is to be able to properly
plan in advance," said Jeff Ulma, the town's
planning director.

Coleman said having planning authority over areas
outside the town limits would allow Cary to control
planning there and control potential costs for the
town, such as building streets and sewer and water
lines to town standards.

"It would be much more expensive to retrofit those
areas in the future if approved under county
standards," Coleman said.

The county controls the extension of municipalities'
ETJ. It uses several criteria to judge requests,
including that the municipality:

- Have the land in its urban services area.
- Commit to comprehensive planning.
- Adopt regulations for special transportation
corridors, water-supply protection and others as

[All Things Holiday](#)

[Sweet](#)

[Kildaire cows a rare breed](#)

- OPINION -
[A catalog of terrifying facts](#)

[In Our Opinion: Annexation likely sign of times to come](#)

[Local Voices: Diverse neighbors enrich all our lives](#)

- SEARCH -

Search current site for:

needed.

- Show how the area will be served by water and sewer service within five years of the ETJ extension.

- Show the feasibility of developing the area to urban densities. n Demonstrate progress in annexing and supplying services, especially water and sewer, throughout the existing ETJ.

Further, the county's guideline is that ETJ extensions be granted only for areas anticipated to be substantially developed and annexed within 10 years.

The renewed ETJ request covers nearly 7,000 acres and will include much of the land that was in the first request, including much of what would have been subject to the recent threatened annexation.

"We anticipate the area will be annexed in 10 years, but it doesn't mean that will happen," said Randy Guthrie, a Cary town planner.

Guthrie said that some areas added to the town's western ETJ in the late 1980s still have not been annexed.

Contact Adam Arnold at 460-2609 or aarnold@nando.com

[Help](#) || [Feedback](#) || [Contact Us](#) || [Parental Consent](#) || [Privacy Policy](#) || [User Agreement](#)

© Copyright 2004, The News & Observer Publishing Company. All material found on www.carynews.com is copyrighted The News & Observer Publishing Company and associated news services. No material may be reproduced or reused without explicit permission from The News & Observer Publishing Company, Raleigh, North Carolina.

The News & Observer Publishing Company is owned by [The McClatchy Company](#).