CURRITUCK COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

Unified Development Ordinance

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KEY PROJECT FEATURES

- Coastal barrier island and agricultural development contexts
- Comprehensive farmland protection standards
- Reduced corridor development potential outside designated nodes
- Incentives for sustainable development
- Innovative HOA operating standards



Currituck County, northernmost of the North Carolina coastal counties, has been undergoing intense development pressure. The county has a variety of different development contexts including agriculture on the mainland and remote vacation homes on the Outer Banks. The county hired Chad Meadows (while employed with another firm) to rewrite its unified development ordinance. Goals for the project included implementation of the 2006 Land Use Plan, better responses to recent development pressures, and tailoring development regulations to different contexts.

The project included a website, the use of a citizen survey to gain input about development preferences, several public forums, citizen-friendly executive summary pamphlets, and code testing with a developer's focus group.

The UDO was adopted in December, 2012. The project received an honorable mention for implementation by the North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association in 2013.