MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Office of the County Attorney

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 12, 1997

TO: Gerald G. Fox, County Manager

FROM: Sandra T. Bisanar, Deputy County Attorney

RE: Senate Bill 875

Senate Bill 875, a copy of which is attached, was adopted by the General Assembly on July 8, 1997. It requires by October 1, 1997, that each board of county commissioners designate by name one or more persons experienced in mapping or lands record management as a review officer to review each map and plat presented to the register of deeds for recording. Neither County staff nor the Planning staff had prior knowledge of this bill. It was a bill sponsored by the Register of Deeds Association and was brought to our attention last week by Judy Gibson.

Representatives of the County Manager's Office, County Attorney's Office, Register of Deeds Office, Planning Staff, Engineering Department, and Tax Office have met to discuss the ramifications of this bill. Virtually every map and plat recorded in the Register of Deeds Office will have to bear a Certificate of Review by the named review officer. This bill has the potential of causing major inconvenience to the public if deeds with maps affixed to them and maps and plats are turned away by the Register of Deeds because they do not bear the required certificate.

It appears that the most sensible solution to comply with this bill is to designate Judy Gibson, as Review Officer, since she is experienced in land records management. County staff will be meeting on this matter to determine whether the designation of Judy Gibson, Register of Deeds, should be a permanent solution or whether additional persons should be designated.

If you have questions, please let me know.

STB:lds

Attachment

SEP 16 1997