

General Information for Public Hearing Attendees on the North Carolina Proposed 2015 State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP)

1. Six public hearings are held throughout the state for the purpose of receiving comments on the North Carolina Proposed 2015 SMFP. The public hearings are held in Asheville, Charlotte, Greensboro, Greenville, Raleigh and Wilmington.
2. Presiding at each meeting are members of the North Carolina State Health Coordinating Council (SHCC), a 25-member body, appointed by the governor. The SHCC recommends policies and need methodologies for the annual SMFP. Also in attendance are members of the Medical Facilities Planning Branch and the Certificate of Need Section of the Division of Health Service Regulation of the North Carolina Health and Human Services.
3. The formal petitions and comments received from these meetings regarding the Proposed SMFP will be submitted to the SHCC.
4. A formal petition must be submitted in writing to the Medical Facilities Planning Branch and contain the following information:
 - Name, address and phone number of petitioner.
 - A statement of the requested adjustment, citing the provision or need determination in the Proposed SMFP for which the adjustment is proposed.
 - Reasons for the proposed adjustment, including:
 - A statement of the adverse effects on the population of the affected area that are likely to ensue if the adjustment is not made, and
 - A statement of alternatives to the proposed adjustment that were considered and found not feasible.
 - Evidence that health service development permitted by the proposed adjustment would not result in unnecessary duplication of health resources in the area.
 - Evidence that the requested adjustment is consistent with the three Basic Principles governing the development of the SMFP: Safety and Quality, Access and Value.
5. In submitting formal petitions, one copy must be submitted to the Medical Facilities Planning Branch prior to the end of the established public comment period in the SMFP and each petition received must be clearly labeled "Petition." The Medical Facilities Planning staff will prepare a report for the respective committee on each petition received, and petitioners will be informed of the meetings at which their petitions will be considered.
6. Petitions for adjustments to need determinations and other written comments regarding the Proposed 2015 SMFP must be received in the Medical Facilities Planning Branch office by 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, July 30, 2014**.
7. Written comments about related petitions or comments submitted by the July 30, 2014 deadline regarding the adjusted need determinations or other issues arising from the Proposed 2015 SMFP must be received in the Medical Facilities Planning Branch office by 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, August 15, 2014**.
8. Comments and petitions will first be considered by one of the three standing committees of the SHCC: Acute Care Services, Long-Term and Behavioral Health, or Technology and Equipment: The standing committees' recommendations will then be forwarded to the full council for its consideration. The SHCC will make final recommendations to the Governor after the final meeting of the year on October 1, 2014.
9. All comments and petitions resulting from this process will be available on the Medical Facilities Planning Branch web site at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/mfp/petitions.html> following the comment period deadline.
10. Although the object of these hearings is to receive public comments on the Proposed SMFP, questions about the process for review and the procedures for the adoption of the SMFP may also be addressed during the meeting. Medical Facilities Planning Branch staff will be available to respond to questions regarding the content of the Proposed SMFP following each public hearing.
11. The North Carolina Proposed 2015 State Medical Facilities Plan is available on July 1 for review on the Medical Facilities Planning Branch web site at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/ncsmfp/index.html>.