

Residents examine Short Pump project

Plans for the West Broad Village development have changed little, despite residents' pleas for changes at a community meeting last night.

Next week, the Henrico County Planning Commission will see detailed plans for the first phase of the project, including interior roads, landscaping along Three Chopt Road, utility work and specifics for the Whole Foods Market Inc. and Wachovia Bank buildings.

The commission is scheduled to address those issues Wednesday at 9 a.m.

Residents around the farm in Short Pump want to see a reduction in the 884 residences planned and a lowering of the two office towers to 13 stories.

Ardy Conclin, an attorney representing Unicorp National Developments Inc., said they are marketing the towers at 13 stories but can't promise they won't go to the allowable 18 stories.

He also said a planned condominium building is being scrapped, but the developer will add apartments over retail instead, so there will not be any major change in residential density. Conclin said the developers are also willing to encase a pipeline running through the property in concrete or replace the existing piping.

The cost is around \$200,000 either way, he said.

About 50 people attended the meeting last night at Pocahontas Middle School. County planning officials and Supervisor David A. Kaechele were in attendance, responding to residents' traffic-related questions.

Plans for the project, set for the juncture of Interstate 64 and West Broad Street, evoke a pedestrian-friendly, Fan District-type setting.

— Olympia Meola