



## Union County Public Information Office

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### News Release

## **Union County Residents Invited to Help Plan Region's Future** *Wednesday Forum in Monroe to Examine Growth*

**March 13, 2014, Monroe, NC** – On Wednesday, March 19, Union County residents will have the opportunity to help plan the future of the fast growing, 14-county Charlotte region.

The CONNECT Our Future initiative will hold an open forum from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Old Armory Community Center at 500 S. Johnson Street. If residents want to attend a brief presentation, they will be held at 10:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 2:15 p.m.

The forum will allow residents to see and give their opinions about four different options for how the region can grow and change over the next 40 years. The options for change have been created from input gathered from residents, local governments, businesses and others over the past 18 months through the CONNECT Our Future project.

From input gathered at forums being held across the region, CONNECT Our Future will develop a preferred growth option that produces the long-term outcomes the region most values. Results will be shared throughout the region this summer.

Residents also can consider the options and give their opinions online at [ConnectOurFuture.metroquest.com](http://ConnectOurFuture.metroquest.com) through April.

Over 4,000 area residents have already participated in 160 other CONNECT Our Future events to date, including open houses, small groups, community growth workshops and RealityCheck2050, a day-long visioning session. The CONNECT Our Future effort is funded in part by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Centralina Council of Governments and Catawba Regional Council of Governments.

For more information on CONNECT Our Future go to [ConnectOurFuture.org](http://ConnectOurFuture.org).

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