

**ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

ACTION AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: November 23, 2009

**Action Agenda
Item No. E. 2**

SUBJECT: Census 2010 Complete Count Committee Update

DEPARTMENT: Planning and Inspections
Clerk to the Board

PUBLIC HEARING: (Y/N)

No

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Census Basics

INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tom Altieri, 245-2575
Donna Baker, 245-2130

PURPOSE: Planning Staff to provide a brief update on the work of the Orange County Census 2010 Complete Count Committee.

BACKGROUND: A primary goal of the 2010 Census is to increase the national mail back response rate. In order to help make everyone in the community aware of Census 2010 and maximize response, the Census Bureau suggests local participation in its Complete Count Committee (CCC) Program. In May of this year, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) formed a CCC and invited representatives from local government agencies, the school systems, chambers of commerce, religious organizations, and the media to serve on the Committee.

The Orange County CCC has been meeting since September and meets once per month. The Committee will sunset in May 2010. Census day is April 1, 2010.

Additional information about the Census is attached.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: There is no direct public fiscal impact regarding this item.

RECOMMENDATION: The Manager recommends the Board receive the update from staff.

NC Can



Census 2010

NC Can Count on Me! Census Basics

What is the Census?

The US Census is a count of all residents of the United States. The Census is required by the US Constitution and is held every 10 years.

Why do we have a Census?

The Census is required to determine representation in the US House of Representatives. North Carolina gained a congressional seat after Census 2000 because of the increase in our population as reported by the US Census.

When is the Census?

Census Day is April 1, 2010

How will the Census count residents?

Census questionnaires will be mailed to every residence 1 to 3 weeks before Census Day. Residents complete the questionnaires and mail them back to the US Census Bureau. Questionnaires and phone assistance for completing the Census are available in several languages.

How safe is my Census information?

Title 13 of the US Code protects the confidentiality of your Census information for 72 years. Your personal information cannot be shared with government agencies, law enforcement, or marketers. Violation of this confidentiality is punishable by \$250,000 fine and/or 5 years in jail!

How can I get involved with the Census in my area?

Every household should complete and return their 2010 Census questionnaire. It's quick, safe, and important to your community. Contact your mayor or county commissioner's office to become active in your local Census Complete Count Committee. Call toll free 1-866-861-2010 for information about applying for local, temporary Census jobs.

Where can I get more information?

Visit the US Census Bureau's 2010 Census web site at <http://www.census.gov/2010census> . You may also contact the Charlotte Regional Census Office at 1-800-331-7360. For questions about the Census and Census data, you may contact the North Carolina State Data Center (<http://sdc.state.nc.us>) at (919) 807-4781.

