



HAMPSTEAD by the numbers

15,821 people

Median age 44

7,049 households

294 businesses

34 sq. miles

465 people/sq. mi.

27% of Pender Co. Pop.

4% of Pender Co. Land

\$2.17 billion assessed
valuation

50% Growth 2000 - 10

62% Growth 2015 - 45

An incorporated
Hampstead could be
NC's 55th largest
city out of 553

Only the NC General
Assembly can officially
incorporate a city or
town

THE HAMPSTEAD AREA STUDY

Over the last 10-20 years the area we call Hampstead has changed. Once a rural community with less than 5,000 neighbors supported by local fishing and agricultural industries, waterfront residential homes and golf course developments, Hampstead is now a sprawling bedroom suburb for Wilmington and Jacksonville. This change, and the increasing pace of change, resulted in a fast-growing suburban area with more houses being developed and urban area problems. Increased traffic, loss of open space, drainage issues and damage to the ecosystem is changing the rural character of Hampstead that we love and call home. Research has shown it is now time to choose what we want for our future.

It's time for: city-based services - local control - smart growth and concern for our environment – not just more metal buildings and houses.

It's time to consider incorporation. Yes, this will require a city tax in addition to the existing Pender County taxes we now pay. Based on current analysis, an Ad Valorem city tax of 20¢ per \$100 property valuation will be needed. For the average homeowner this is about \$1.10/day. Research has shown that a town the size of Hampstead can receive at least 40% additional funding from state and federal sources.

The cost of doing nothing is higher.

We need your help. Please sign the petition to bring incorporation to a vote.

OVER

**FOR INFORMATION VISIT:
WWW.HAMPSTEADNC.ORG**

To schedule a presentation or sign
a petition contact:
Suzann@HampsteadNC.org

The Bottom Line - - - we will get added SERVICES for our city tax dollars.

Land Use Control

- Hampstead could control its own development – planning, zoning, codes and ordinances.
- While this duplicates the existing, professionally staffed, Pender County Planning Department, decisions on development would be made locally and based on what is best for Hampstead.

Police Protection

- A Hampstead police force could “get to know” our residents and local businesses and provide:
 - 24-hour patrols, quick response, address criminal activity beyond just taking a report
 - Additional patrols to reduce speeding in our neighborhoods and on US 17
- Currently, only 5 Pender Co. Sheriff’s deputies per shift patrol the County’s 870 sq. miles.

Road Maintenance

- In NC, Counties are not permitted to own roads – incorporated areas can.
- As an incorporated area, Hampstead could own what are now private roads and annually receive NC state grant funds (about \$450,000/year) to maintain roads that are 16-foot-wide, open to the public and turned over to the incorporated Town of Hampstead. We are now leaving this money on the table.
- Hampstead would have a seat and a vote at the Wilmington Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), helping to decide how to spend federal and state gas tax/transportation funds in the Cape Fear region.

Household Solid Waste Collection

- The Town of Hampstead could contract with a single waste hauler and potentially reduce the per household costs for this service.
- A single hauler for the Town would reduce the number of trucks damaging our roads.
- Use of County waste facilities could continue for those who choose to pay. It is currently an added cost on your County tax bill. (\$220 for waste and recycling - \$110 for recycling only)

Local Town Hall, Mayor and Council

- Yes, this is more bureaucracy – but decisions would be based on what is best for Hampstead.
- Government businesses and services would be locally focused, controlled and managed.
- Residents could handle their government related business in Hampstead – not Burgaw.

Street Lights

- The Town of Hampstead could provide street lighting as requested or needed.

Parks, Recreation Facilities, Sidewalks and Trails

- Based on NC law, an incorporated area can provide these facilities and services.

As an incorporated town, residents will continue to pay County taxes (\$0.8725 per \$100 valuation) for and receive Pender County Services including:

- Schools
- EMS, Fire
- Water service
- Pender County Sheriff protection
- Pender County Library
- Use of solid waste and recycling facilities (for households who choose to continue to pay for this service)

Facts and data presented in this document were collected in 2018 from a variety of government sources including: the US Census, Pender County Planning and GIS offices, NC Office of State Budget and Management (NCOSBM), Cape Fear COG, discussions with public officials and private stakeholders, and: <https://ncleg.net/documentsites/legislativepublications/Bill%20Drafting%20Division/Summary%20of%20Municipal%20Incorporation%20Procedure.pdf>