CNI Existing Conditions Review: **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Sources: Census data, Resident Survey, stakeholder interviews, Seniors focus group, neighborhood tour, "Distressed Communities Report" for the City Commission

1. **Actual crime rates.** Police data indicates that the overall crime rate in Goldsboro is more than twice the rate of the city of Sanford. Violent crime rate for Goldsboro is three times that of the city rate, with these violent crimes clustered around the Seminole Gardens area and between 13th and 16th Streets in the center of the neighborhood. From 2013 to 2016, 8 of 17 documented murders within the city occurred in the Goldsboro community.

2. **Perceived safety issues.** Residents consider crime/violence to be the most needed improvement in Goldsboro (#1 for former SHA residents and #2 for current neighborhood residents). The majority of surveyed residents, however, think their neighborhood is very safe (56%) or somewhat safe (28%) during the day, very safe in their homes (76%), but very unsafe/somewhat unsafe (30%) at night. The majority of Goldsboro residents report getting along with one another (74%)

3. **Drug use and dealing.** Residents said there are several known 'dope' houses in the neighborhood that are not addressed by the city/police. They also said open air drug dealing occurs in the parking lot at Seminole Gardens on the weekends that takes place in full view of police cruisers.

4. **Police presence.** The "Distressed Communities Report" reported "over-policing" in black communities. However, Goldsboro residents interviewed would like to see more police presence in the area at night.

5. **Street lighting**. One of top priorities for existing residents is to improve street lighting by adding more streetlights in key locations and by increasing the brightness of existing streetlights. Residents attribute low lighting levels to increased opportunities for criminal activity.

6. **Code enforcement.** Need to address the many dilapidated/vacant properties which are an eye sore and public safety issue. "Overall consensus that the city needs to do a better job of keeping vacant lots up to code as well as consistently enforcing codes on rental properties, vacant lots and city-owned properties." Observed abandoned cars, littered yards, dead trees, etc.

7. **Other issues:**