



Charlotte City Council

## Environment Committee

Meeting Summary for October 10, 2016

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### COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

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- I. **Subject:** **Solid Waste Services Ordinance**  
Action: None
- II. **Subject:** **FY2018 Environment Focus Area Plan**  
Action: None

### COMMITTEE INFORMATION

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Present: John Autry, James Mitchell, Patsy Kinsey, Al Austin  
Time: 12:10 to 1:15 p.m.

### ATTACHMENTS

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1. Agenda
2. Solid Waste Ordinance Review Update.ppt
3. FY2018 Draft Focus Area Plan

### DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

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Chairman Autry called the meeting to order and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves. He then turned it over to Assistant City Manager Hyong Yi.

I. **Solid Waste Services Ordinance Update**

Mr. Yi reminded the Committee that this item is a referral from the Council. He introduced Rodney Jamison, Thomas Powers and Ben Krise to begin walking the Committee through the “Solid Waste Ordinance Review Update” presentation (copy attached). Mr. Jamison and Mr. Powers discussed the goals for today’s meeting, the history of the ordinance dating back to 1985 with some of the most recent changes in 2003. The workgroup that has been working on the ordinance review has been looking to modernize the language and looking at the future flexibility of the ordinance. The issues with the current ordinance revolve around the fact that Code Enforcement is not a part of Solid Waste Services anymore; they are now in Neighborhood

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# Environment Committee

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& Business Services, different departments are responsible for different provisions in the same ordinance and Solid Waste Services focuses on delivery of service, while Code Enforcement focuses on combating illegal debris and waste. Staff discussed the current code structure format and the proposed formats of Article I, II, and III.

Mr. Krise discussed staff's desire to update the fine structure of Article III so that the penalties are more impactful. Staff also requested to create repeat offender criteria and chronic offender criteria. Mr. Krise reviewed the maps showing properties of repeat and chronic offenders in 2015 and 2016 (copies attached). After some discussion among Committee members, staff was directed to continue researching and working on repeat and chronic offender criteria as well as looking at a new fine/penalty schedule to be applied that will be more effective and impactful.

The Committee thanked staff for their work on this item and asked that they bring back an update for the November meeting and would encourage staff to be done with this item by the December meeting.

## **II. FY2018 Environment Focus Area Plan**

Mr. Yi directed the Committee to the Draft FY2018 Environment Focus Area Plan document that was handed out (copy attached). Mr. Yi reviewed page one of the Focus Area Plan and pointed out the additions and deletions in the document. He described the Objectives and the Strategies sections. The first Objective reflects what we will be doing internally and all other objectives are what we will be doing in the community. Council member Mitchell encouraged staff to keep the wording simple so citizens understand what the City is doing.

Mr. Yi directed the Committee to pages 2 and 3, which displays the performance of each measure. Rob Phocas reminded the Committee that the City also has an Internal Environmental Operations Plan that tracks this data as well as a number of other data and stated that this Performance chart does not represent all that the City is doing related to the environment and sustainability. Chairman Autry requested, and the Committee agreed, to have staff look into having the Focus Area Plans be adopted on a 2-year basis. Rachel Wood indicated staff would pursue that and have conversations with the other Committee Chairs to see if that can be accomplished.

Chairman Autry thanked staff for the information and Mr. Yi said that both of these items will be back on the next agenda for the meeting in November.

Meeting is adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

# Environment Committee

Monday, October 10, 2016; 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center  
Room 280

Committee Members: John Autry, Chair  
James Mitchell, Vice Chair  
Claire Fallon  
Patsy Kinsey  
Al Austin

Staff Resource: Hyong Yi, City Manager's Office

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## AGENDA

### I. FY2018 Environment Focus Area Plan

*Staff Resource: Hyong Yi, City Manager's Office*

Committee will review and discuss the draft proposal for FY2018 Environment Focus Area Plan.

*Action: None*

Attachment: 1. Draft FY18 Focus Area Plan

### II. Solid Waste Services Ordinance

*Staff Resources: Victoria Johnson, Solid Waste Services*

*Ben Krise, Neighborhood & Business Services – Code Enforcement*

*Thomas Power, Office of the City Attorney*

Staff will present a status update of the Solid Waste Services ordinance review.

*Action: None*

**Next Meeting:** Monday, November 7, 2016 at Noon in Room 280

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Distribution: City Council                      Ron Kimble, Interim City Manager                      Executive Team  
Bob Hagemann                      Stephanie Kelly                      Environmental Cabinet



  
**CHARLOTTE.**  
Solid Waste Services  
Neighborhood and Business Services

## Solid Waste Ordinance Review Update

Environment Committee  
October 10, 2016



### Goals for Today's Meeting

- Review ordinance framework
- Outline work-to-date and strategic approach to updating the ordinance
- Get feedback from Environment Committee on direction
- Review next steps

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## Agenda

- Ordinance History
- Charge of ordinance workgroup
- Review Strategy
- Process
  - Solid Waste Services (SWS)
  - Neighborhood & Business Services (N&BS-Code)
- Next steps

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## History – Ch.10 Health & Sanitation

- Chapter 10 written in 1985
  - 1989-90: Began recycling
  - 1994: Moved to curbside rollout carts
  - 1996: Implemented City fee

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## History – Ch.10 Health & Sanitation

- Service revisions since 2003
  - Banned smoking in public City buildings & vehicles
  - Closed loophole for changes in development
  - Restricted cart placement/sidewalk obstruction
  - Changed Solid Waste Fee

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## Workgroup Charge

- Conduct ordinance review
  - Modernize language
  - Future flexibility
    - Administering policy
    - Enforcement
    - Service delivery options

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## Chapter 10 – Health & Sanitation

- Current Organization
  - Article I: No smoking provisions (Citywide)
  - Article II:
    - Code Enforcement: upkeep of property, litter control
    - SWS: Fees, what waste is collected, how waste is collected,
  - Article III: Abandoned, Hazardous, or Junked Vehicles provisions (Code Enforcement)
- Issues With Current Organization
  - Code Enforcement is a part of NB&S, not SWS
  - Different departments responsible for different provisions in the same ordinance
  - SWS focused on service delivery while Code Enforcement focused combating illegal debris and waste

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## Code Revision Strategy

- Update definitions to account for 30+ years of service innovations
- Consolidate solid waste service functions into one location
- Consolidate code enforcement functions into one location
- Consider revisions to fine amounts and new categories of "offenders"

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### Code Structure Format

Current	Proposed
Article I: In General  <i>Joint tasks/definitions</i>	Article I: In General  <i>Joint tasks/definitions</i>
Article II: Solid Waste Services  <i>Joint tasks</i>	Article II: Solid Waste Services  <i>SWS tasks only</i>
Article III: Removal & Disposition of Abandoned Vehicles, Hazardous Vehicles & Junked Motor Vehicles  <i>Joint tasks</i>	Article III: Health, Sanitation & Public Nuisances  <i>N&amp;BS – Code tasks only</i>

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### Proposed Format Article I

- Article I – In General
  - No changes in format necessary
  - Revise/Update definitions
  - Place scope and vision here

*Joint tasks between SWS and N&BS-Code*

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## SWS Process – Article II

- Peer cities review
  - Raleigh, Durham, Greensboro, Austin, and Baltimore
- Language updates
- Wish list
  - Minimize operational challenges
  - Set up ordinance such that service delivery changes would not require future ordinance revisions

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## Proposed Format Article II

### Article II – Solid Waste Services

- Relocate all authority & enforcement tasks performed to the new Article III
- Consolidate and rename Article II into three (3) Solid Waste Services Divisions:
  - Operations
  - Fees
  - Appeals
- Update any ordinance language

*Tasks performed by SWS*

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## N&BS – Code Process: Article III

- Peer cities review
  - Raleigh, Durham, Greensboro, Knoxville and Seattle
- Language updates
- Wish list
  - Update fine structure Repeat offender strategy

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## Repeat Offender Strategy

- Repeat Offender Criteria
  - Same property address
  - Same code section violation two (2) times within a calendar year
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense allows for immediate citation and/or contracting (exception: rollout containers)
- Enforcement Action
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense when owner corrected; issue citation
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense when contractor corrected; issue citation and immediate contract

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## Chronic Offender Strategy

- Chronic Offender Criteria
  - Any property address with same ownership or property affiliation
  - Any code section violation three (3) times within a calendar year
- Enforcement Action
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> offense; issue citation and/or citation contract
  - Enforcement action corresponds to ownership not location or type of violation

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## Proposed Format Article III

### Article III – Public Health Nuisances

- Combining Code Enforcement elements of Articles II & III
- Define role of Code Enforcement
- Outline procedures for notices, appeals, and hearings
- Clarifies the amount of fines and enforcement actions
- Update any ordinance language

*Tasks performed by Code Enforcement*

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## Discussion – Committee Input

Are we going in the right direction?

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## Next Steps

- City Attorney's Office develops 1<sup>st</sup> draft
- SWS & N&BS-Code review and provide edits
- PCAC for Articles I & II
- Present 1<sup>st</sup> draft to Environment Committee
- City Attorney's Office develops final draft

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# Environment

## FY2018 Strategic Focus Area Plan

“Charlotte will become a global leader in environmental sustainability, ~~preserving our natural resources while balancing economic growth with preserving our natural resources.~~ sound fiscal policy.”

The City of Charlotte recognizes that ~~protecting our natural resources, promoting conservation, and improving the environment~~ environmental stewardship is fundamentally important to quality of life and essential to maintaining a vibrant economy. ~~Protecting our natural resources, promoting conservation, and improving the environment all enhance the City's mission to preserve its citizens' quality of life.~~

Charlotte will become a global leader in environmental sustainability by:

- Becoming a model environmental community in how it manages solid waste, energy, water and air;
- Leading by example by practicing environmental stewardship in City operations and facilities as guided ~~directed~~ through the Internal Environmental Operations Plan;
- Seeking and supporting collaborative and regional solutions to environmental problems;
- Analyzing data and applying technologies to reach our environmental goals. ~~Applying technologies to develop “smart city” solutions to our environmental goals.~~

Specific ~~initiatives~~ objectives to support these goals include:

Objectives WHAT?	Strategies HOW?
<b>Practice Environmental Stewardship in City Operations and Facilities</b>	Increase use of alternative fuel vehicles in City fleet
	Decrease waste in City facilities
	Increase the use of recycled and environmentally friendly products
	Reduce energy usage in City facilities
	Reduce water usage in City facilities
<b>Protect Water Quality as a Resource to the Community</b>	Rehabilitate streams to improve water quality
	Encourage residents to conserve water through education and awareness
<b>Protect Air Quality</b>	Encourage the use of environmentally friendly transportation options
	Increase public alternative fueling stations
<b>Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Waste</b>	Divert waste from the landfill
	Increase composting
	Promote waste options
<b>Maintain/Protect Urban Forest as a Community Resource</b>	Assess aging tree canopy
	Plant more trees
<b>Improve Sustainability through the Use of Data and Technology</b>	Develop a pilot research and design district for the City to test Smart systems and sensor data
<b>Foster Economic Success for Everyone in the Community</b>	Promote education and job training in the field of sustainability

\*Performance section currently under development and will be distributed at a later date.

DRAFT

# Environment

## FY2018 Strategic Focus Area Plan

### Performance

Objective	Strategy	Measure/Target	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Year-To-Date
<b>Practice Environmental Stewardship in City Operations and Facilities</b>	Increase use of alternative fuel vehicles in City fleet	Increase alternative fuel vehicles in City fleet by 5%	65 alt fuel 3012 total	
	Decrease waste in City facilities	Maintain a 15% minimum recycling rate in police stations	Obtained data for only 1 of the 13 divisions (Providence)	Working to track the remaining 12 divisions
	Increase the use of recycled and environmentally friendly products	Create a system to track, evaluate, and increase the use of recycled and environmentally friendly products		
	Reduce energy usage in City facilities	Use 15% less energy as compared to facilities across the Southeastern US	Currently tracking	Currently tracking
	Reduce water usage in City facilities	Install three technologies to reduce consumption	No current measure	
<b>Protect Water Quality as a Resource to the Community</b>	Rehabilitate streams to improve water quality	Improve at least 5,000 feet of impaired stream per year	0 ft	0 ft
		Increase amount of impervious area runoff treated prior to entering streams by 100 acres per year	216 acres of impervious area (170 acres from private development, 22 acres from PCSO mitigation, 24 acres from Storm Water Community Investment Plan projects)	Approx. 48 acres
	Encourage residents to conserve water through education and awareness	Increase number of smart irrigation devices installed by 5%	283	46
		Increase number of individuals reached through public events and conservation education efforts by 10%	27,605	1,702 (Bulk of touches occur in second and third fiscal quarter)
<b>Protect Air Quality</b>	Encourage the use of environmentally friendly transportation options	Increase percentage of population using bus/rail transportation	24,079,472	

		Create incentives for bike usage		
	Increase public alternative fueling stations (e.g. Electric charging stations, compressed natural gas fueling stations)	Increase the number of alternative fueling stations available to the public by 25%	66	
<b>Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Waste</b>	Divert waste from the landfill	Reduce pounds landfilled per curbside residential unit compared to the prior fiscal year	1,719.9 lbs landfilled per curbside unit	
	Increase composting	Establish a baseline number of outreach events		
	Promote waste options	Increase education on residential recycling for lowest recycling neighborhood profile areas	24 events	11 events in 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter FY17
<b>Maintain/Protect Urban Forest as a Community Resource</b>	Assess aging tree canopy	Assess 4,400 large trees per year to inform proper stewardship or removal strategies	3,400	0
	Plant more trees	Establish a tree canopy neutrality goal for public projects		
		Plant 15,000 trees per year through public planting and private partnerships	10,571 (plus 5,800 seedlings given away)	295 (planting season begins mid-November)
<b>Improve Sustainability through the Use of Data and Technology</b>	Develop a pilot research and design district for the City to test Smart systems and sensor data	Test three different Smart technologies		
<b>Foster economic success for everyone in the community</b>	Promote education and job training in the field of sustainability	Create five apprenticeship opportunities in sustainability		