

# City Page

NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE

## Charlotte City Council Oath of Office Ceremony

The 2005-2007 Charlotte City Council members will take the Oath of Office during a special ceremony at 7 p.m. on Monday, December 5 in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 600 E. Fourth Street.

Mayor Pat McCrory will be sworn in for a record sixth term. After taking his oath, McCrory will administer the oath of office to returning council members, John Lassiter (At-Large), Pat Mumford (At-Large), Susan Burgess (At-Large), Patsy Kinsey (District

1), James Mitchell Jr (District 2), Warren Turner (District 3), Nancy Carter (District 5) and Don Lochman (District 7) as well as new council members

Anthony Fox (At-Large), Michael Barnes (District 4) and Andy Dulin (District 6).

The ceremony also will honor outgoing representatives, Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Cannon (At-Large), Greg Phipps (District 4) and John Tabor (District 6).

The event will air live on Cable-16, The Government Channel.



Mayor McCrory administers the Oath of Office to the 2003-2005 Council.

## CATS honors Rosa Parks

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks' act of defiance on a Montgomery, Alabama bus changed the course of history. Four days later, in response to Ms. Parks' arrest, a year-long bus boycott began and propelled Parks to prominence as the "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement."

To pay tribute to Rosa Parks and the 50th anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) is observing "National Transit Tribute to Rosa Parks Day" on Thursday, December 1, 2005. A front seat on each CATS bus will be reserved with a ribbon in honor of Ms. Parks.

"Rosa Parks' quiet strength and courage to do the right thing inspired us all and will continue to inspire future generations," said Ron Tober, CATS' Chief Executive Officer. "The core principles of equality and access are principles that CATS and all transit agencies across the country firmly embrace as we serve our millions of riders each and every day."

To learn more about CATS and its services, call **704.336.RIDE** or visit [www.ridetransit.org](http://www.ridetransit.org).

## Get Involved!

### Northeast Corridor Public Workshops

These meetings will discuss station locations, station access, parking and station area planning for the transit corridor.

Tuesday, December 6th, 6:00 pm  
University Place Hilton Hotel  
8629 JM Keynes Drive  
Fountain View Room (Lobby Level)  
Stations: City Blvd. - I-485/N. Tryon

Wednesday, December 7th, 6:00 pm  
Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church  
101 Sugar Creek Road  
Fellowship Hall  
Stations: 9th St. - Tom Hunter

For more information, call **704.336.RIDE** or visit [www.ridetransit.org](http://www.ridetransit.org).

## Preparing for the uncertainties of winter

While most everyone was enjoying the Indian summer of early November, Layton Lamb and the staff at the Charlotte Department of Transportation's (CDOT) Street Maintenance Division, had ice and snow on their minds. It wasn't until a cold snap gripped the Charlotte area last week that most residents began to realize that winter is fast approaching and snow, sleet and ice were no longer remote possibilities.

However, Layton and his group already had begun looking at ways to improve procedures for control and removal of ice and snow on Charlotte's streets.



CDOT dispatches salt and slag trucks to control snow and ice.

Compared to some cities, Charlotte's annual average snow fall of five inches is modest (one inch for ice). However, Street Maintenance takes nothing for granted. In 2004, the division added 19 new snow plows to handle ice and snow. The additional equipment will help improve response times and effectiveness of the road crews. If snow or ice does fall on Charlotte, CDOT will deploy trucks equipped with salt and slag spreaders or plows both to control and remove it. The number of trucks and type of equipment deployed depends on the severity and type of precipitation.

During a normal snow or ice storm, which includes 1/2 to 8 inches of snow or sleet or 1/2 inch of ice accumulation, CDOT has the following service priorities:

**Priority #1:** Clear ice and snow from 90 percent of all main thoroughfare roads within 48 hours from the end of the storm.

**Priority #2:** Clear ice and snow from 90 percent of all major thoroughfare road connectors and streets providing primary access to schools and bus routes within 48 hours from the end of the storm.

**Priority #3:** Make 80 percent of all major residential streets connected directly to main thoroughfare roads accessible within 48 hours from the end of the storm. CDOT will prioritize these roads based on the street conditions, locations of equipment when work begins and terrain of the neighborhood.

Except for the Tryon Street Mall area and hospital entrances, CDOT does not clear driveway entrances or sidewalks even if the snowplows push snow onto these areas. While CDOT crews are responsible for Charlotte streets, they also cover approximately 180 miles of state roads. The N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) handles conditions on the ramps leading to freeways and expressways and the remaining state highways.

Regardless of what winter has in store for Charlotte, CDOT crews are prepared to do what's necessary to keep residents safe.

## Airport generates \$10 billion, 100,000 jobs

A recent study indicates that Charlotte Douglas Airport contributes nearly \$10 billion in total economic impact to the Carolinas and creates more than 100,000 jobs throughout the region, either directly or indirectly. These jobs were found to feed over \$5 billion into the region's economy through wages and salaries each year.

The Center for Transportation Policy Studies at University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC), in partnership with the Charlotte Chamber released the updated study of the economic impact of the airport.

In 1997, UNCC and the Charlotte Chamber conducted an airport economic impact study, which indicated a total impact of \$4 billion and approximately 72,000 jobs. Since this time the airport has grown significantly with an increase in domestic and international air service, as well as the physical expansion and construction of airport facilities.



A recent study indicates Charlotte Douglas Airport creates more than 100,000 regional jobs.

The complete study will be at the Center for Transportation Policy Studies at UNCC.