

*Mayor and Council Communication*  
*Memo Number: 26*  
*Wednesday, April 14, 2010*



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**INFORMATION:**

## **April 17 - Creating Community: A Symposium for Neighborhoods**

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The City of Charlotte's 15<sup>th</sup> annual Neighborhood Symposium entitled "Creating Community: A Symposium for Neighborhoods" is scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 2010 in the Overcash Building on the central campus of Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC). This new event venue is the result of a partnership with CPCC, which is hosting two additional events on campus on the same date. "Charlotte Clean and Green: an Earth Day Festival" will feature environmental seminars and vendors lining Elizabeth Avenue. The Sensoria Celebration of the Arts "Sensoria Saturday" is the culmination of a week of arts and cultural activities. This collaboration between Neighborhood & Business Services and CPCC is expected to attract a diverse audience for the three events.

"Creating Community: A Symposium for Neighborhoods" will begin at 7:45 am. The opening program (8:45-9:30 am) will include greetings from Mayor Anthony Foxx, Neighborhood Achievement Award recognitions, the presentation of a DollarWi\$e financial literacy grant award to the City, and a brief *Creating Community* video featuring local neighborhood leaders.

As in the past, the symposium will provide a variety of workshops for adults and youth. Workshops will begin at 9:45 am and continue throughout the day. Topics include: Recycle It, Non-Residential Code, Section 8, Charlotte Energy Challenge, HOAs and the Law, Not My Kid! (CMS Parent University), The Road to Homeownership, and Stormwater Pollution Prevention. A separate youth track for ages 12-18 will focus on youth leadership and community engagement, recycling and going green, financial literacy and music/culture. A careers/job fair for teens and young adults is scheduled for the afternoon.

More than 50 exhibitors will be on display at the 2010 Neighborhood Symposium, including 10 with an environmental focus that will be located on Elizabeth Avenue among the Charlotte Clean and Green vendors. In addition to City and Mecklenburg County departments, the list of exhibitors includes 15 neighborhood groups, Habitat for Humanity, Latin American Coalition, Gaston Community Action, Jacob's Ladder, Community Link/Earned Income Tax Credit and the US Census Bureau.

For lunch, all attendees will be encouraged to visit Charlotte Clean and Green's healthy food vendors that will be located on the Overcash Building lawn. For additional information about the Neighborhood Symposium, please visit <http://neighborhoods.charmeck.org>.