CHARLOTTE

Charlotte City Council

Governmental Affairs Committee

Meeting Summary for February 7, 2011

COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

I. **Subject:** **Federal Update**
Action: None.

II. **Subject:** **National League of Cities Congressional City Conference**
Action: None.

III. **Subject:** **State Update**
Action: None.

IV. **Subject:** **North Carolina League of Municipalities 2011-12 Municipal Advocacy Goals**
Action: None.

V. **Subject:** **Hot Topics**
Action: None.

VI. **Subject:** **Next Meeting**
Action: Monday, March 7, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 280

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Present: Nancy Carter and Andy Dulin
Absent: Warren Turner and Patrick Cannon
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda Package
2. Handouts

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

Committee Discussion:

Council member Carter welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

I. Federal Update

Dana Fenton introduced representatives from Holland & Knight participating via conference call: Shawna Whatley and Jeff Boothe. Ms. Whatley will provide an update on earmarks and Mr. Boothe will give an update on transit.

Whatley: Congratulations on winning the DNC bid; we would love to assist you all.

Last Tuesday, the Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee conceded to the House and agreed to not include earmarks. So, they will begin transitioning to a grant assisted approach. We will work with the Delegation to make sure your priorities are aligned with the appropriate grants and start making the rounds.

Carter: We had unified action last year with our projects. Are there other things we can do to bolster our requests?

Whatley: It depends on the priorities. On regular projects it helps and we can continue to keep you updated on opportunities and then inform you when they are ready to move forward.

Dulin: Last year we were kind of in the same boat with Myrick out of earmarks, so we really are in the same situation?

Fenton: Everyone is out of earmarks in this lame duck session.

Dulin: I missed that – sorry. I know the squeaky wheel gets the oil, so would it help if we made a more public face there or would that be bothersome?

Whatley: We will go through the same process as last year when you are here for the League of Cities meeting. We will schedule a round of meetings and identify projects you can take to the Delegation for grant opportunities. It is just as important as last year. And, we will keep you informed.

Carter: Is Myrick open to grants?

Whatley: She has said she will do whatever she can to be helpful.

Carter: I would be interested in seeing a streetcar summit being put before them.

Boothe: Keep in mind there is an invitation forthcoming from the Assistant Secretary of Transportation to a select number of attendees to discuss the future of streetcars, wireless technology, etc. in a smaller group setting. The group will include one person from each city; I assume that would be you, Council member Carter, since we have just found out Council member Mitchell has a conflict.

We should see the budget on Monday. The rumor is there is a discretionary pot of money communities can go after new starts. We are not clear what the money can be used for, what the criteria is going to be. But, the timing of the streetcar discussion a day after the budget is out means the authorization projects will likely be delayed to later in the month. With respect, the Administration will be the first out this month with a bill. The House hearings are invitation only related to transportation. James Mitchell, as President of NLC, will have a speaking role on transit. It is expected the House will zero out the starts program; the Mayor has signed a letter to the Delegation.

Fenton: Actually, that's in process.

Boothe: We have been in contact with the House and Senate to express the importance of these programs especially to Charlotte.

Dulin: I would like to comment for the record that I am still not a streetcar proponent. I would say "good luck" – I don't hope you fail, but I'm not voting for the streetcar. It is not unanimous.

Boothe: Understood.

Dulin: I will help on the extension though.

Boothe: We are trying to have transit and the city link arms so they understand how important transit funding is to cities. The Republicans zeroed out the compromise money the House leadership developed in the budget with the continuing resolution. So, it will be interesting to see what is funded versus what is cut. It has to get 60 votes in the Senate and withstand a Presidential veto. There is a lot still to play out. Appropriations have been banned, but an authorization bill is different. We still prepare the projects as we did when we were assuming earmarks.

Carter: Thank you. Your advice will continue to be crucial for us as we approach people. I'm delighted to be at the reception; I think it will be fruitful; but I will also need guidance.

Boothe: The wireless car that was recently on display here spawned a lot of interest. The Administration was unaware. They thought United Streetcar was the only technology available, so we forwarded them the information from the Charlotte display. It was an interesting conversation and they were interested in the wireless technology, but also the availability of girder rail. The US supplier recently shut down, so there needs to be an aggregation of orders of wireless and girder rail to justify opening the line, especially the girder rail. Again, it will be an interesting conversation.

Dulin: When the streetcar display was here, I introduced myself to the guy, and granted I was casual, but this was the Senior Vice President, and I asked him how much a prototype would cost. He had no idea the cost. It was an interesting exchange.

Boothe: It is really a supply and demand issue. They probably don't know until the orders come in. So, it is hard to say when you don't know if you will be making three or 25.

Dulin: They should know in the ballpark.

Boothe: Sure. It's probably $3.5 to $4 million, plus.

Dulin: The life of the battery.

Boothe: He should have been able to give you an idea of the cost.

Dulin: It would have been interesting and helpful.

Boothe: One thing that we have been looking for is the annual restarts report. We haven't heard if we will be in or out. I know there was some question about project schedules. This is part of the FTA process, but we haven't heard if it will be part of the President's budget or not.

Fenton: We haven't heard anything either.

Whatley: One other thing on the radar, it was just announced the President will cut the CBDG grant by 7.5%.

Fenton: The County administration has been very much aware.

Whatley: We will be working with you to plan and coordinate a NLC schedule.

Dulin: With the scaled down funding, etc., this is national, not just Charlotte, do we have enough time to figure out what we can do with less money?

Whatley: Yes. The National organization has been talking to the White House and then to Congress to keep the funds. But, yes, we have been thinking about working with less if that happens in the President's budget. There is talk of getting back to the 2008 levels by the Republicans.

Dulin: We know what's coming, so we need to figure out what to do by March.

II. National League of Cities Congressional City Conference

Mr. Fenton advised the Committee the Pre-Conference activities are on March 12 and 13 while the formal program starts on March 14 [agenda attached]. The timing is very similar to last year.

Carter: Will there be a breakfast?

Whatley: Certainly. We can talk to the Delegation about what works best, but I know they appreciate the breakfast conversations.

Carter: I see a conflict with the diversity breakfast on Monday and general session on Tuesday.

Whatley: Most members don't arrive until Tuesday, so we would suggest Tuesday or Wednesday at 7:30 a.m.

Carter: That could be a challenge for Council member Mitchell.

Dulin: Council member Mitchell hasn't joined in the past due to other commitments, and the same was true for Council member Burgess due to her national board stature. I think if you can get seven out of nine of us, you go ahead. We should think about Tuesday morning. I think the President of NLC has an excused absence.

Fenton: We were thinking the Delegation might not make it on Tuesday morning; Wednesday might be the best day.

Carter: That's fine. Thank you all and for the agenda.

III. State Update

Mr. Fenton referred the Committee to his recent State Legislative update [copy attached]. The General Assembly is requiring the Governor to reduce expenditures by $400 million for use next fiscal year, including $80 million in non-recurring economic development funds. This is very much opposed, so there will be heavy debate. Gap financing is also in danger.

Dulin: I have had no conversation with the Republicans, but my question or comment is $75 million here or $80 million there of an additional $400 million, I get the feeling they have got to hit the nut. They have to grab the fruit. $75 million is low, and the Governor is going to get pushback. I like how we handle the money, but not how it is handled in Raleigh.

Carter: Should we discuss the budgetary issue? Do we need to go to our folks?

Fenton: It's not coming out of the operating budget.

Kimble: It's for attraction and recruitment. The Chamber will also be reaching out.

Carter: We need to have a factual argument with concrete numbers. I think that would be beneficial.

Fenton: The State has that information. The Mayor talked about funding the number of jobs.

Dulin: I know the Chamber has folks on the ground, but does Center City Partners have people up there?

Kimble: No.

Carter: I just got back from an Economic Development Conference in Savannah and their major recommendation was an emphasis on small businesses and retainment versus recruitment, because those businesses hire locally.

Dulin: That's not new. How are we supposed to do that?

Carter: By devoting/shifting resources to retainment. I thought it was worth passing along and could be pertinent to how we lobby.

Fenton: I also want to highlight **annexation** because currently there is movement to impose a moratorium. The reason is this gives folks a chance to talk about the issues that are going on. However, we fear that the temporary moratorium will become permanent. The League has gotten to work on this quickly.

Carter: Could you get us a copy of what is being proposed?

Fenton: Yes.

Dulin: Are they pretty much bent on getting this passed?

Fenton: Yes. So, we feel we need to get going for everyone's benefit.

Dulin: Are they looking to us to be advisors?

Fenton: No.

Kimble: We do not believe a moratorium is the way to go. It puts us at a disadvantage to negotiate changes. Our view is we should negotiate changes in the long session. There is a 20-point plan from a year ago. They still want to give annexed residents a voice in the general election. We are working with the League, but this is scheduled to be heard on Wednesday morning and could pass this week. We have enlisted the aid of the Chamber as well.

Carter: This is very pragmatic on the east side. Should I speak to Tillis, because it affects a potential hospital with water and sewer. There is a lot pending on this.

Kimble: Yes, thank you. The point is the moratorium would be effective July 1. Our position is let's not have a moratorium, let's negotiate changes. But, they are gung ho on a moratorium.

Dulin: I could go to Raleigh tomorrow, if necessary.

Kimble: We need to decide what kind of resources are necessary. The League is doing a great job, because this is a huge topic. Everyone is sending in information. We have the last six years worth of information ready to go to be able to discuss the impact.

Carter: If it would be effective, we could go together.

Fenton: Let me make a couple of calls.

Dulin: I am also free at least half of Wednesday; until late afternoon. So, Tuesday afternoon, night and Wednesday morning.

Carter: Me too.

Kimble: Thank you this is serious.

Fenton: I have also included in your packets a Government Affairs update [copy attached]. The focus this session is on the Republican leadership. Also included in your packets is an updated contact list of the 2011-2012 Mecklenburg Delegation [copy attached].

As far as bill deadlines, those are coming up and the House has been

limited to 10 public bills per member.

IV. North Carolina League of Municipalities 2011-2012 Municipal Advocacy Goals

Mr. Fenton referred the Committee to the handout with the NCLM 2011-2012 Municipal Advocacy Goals [copy attached]. There are 25 goals listed.

Carter: This is outstanding. Our five priorities are in the top 20, so we should have statewide support.

Fenton: I'd like to point out number five. The City's position was to get passed what was approved last year for Wake County. This was for public access to view, not receive, email addresses. The League believes this absolutely should be confidential, so they are moving for stronger legislation. We are tagging along.

Carter: Who voted on this?

Fenton: I'm not sure who brought this up.

Kimble: They are adamant about protecting emails.

Fenton: Especially after the recent *Charlotte Observer* request.

On Wednesday, the Delegation will be having their second meeting of the session and will be dividing up the legislation.

Earle was elected Chair. And, the Delegation will have follow-up meetings over the next two Wednesdays. I will be going up tomorrow morning for their 8:30 meeting.

Dulin: When then is a good time for us?

Fenton: There is an 11:00 a.m. session and there are bills in both Houses, so there will be opportunities. There is not a lot of legislation yet.

Dulin: So, 10:00 a.m. or 9:00 a.m.?

Carter: I'll be at the Energy Summit at UNCC, but that's on the way.

Fenton: I'll be staying overnight.

Carter: Wouldn't we be more effective on Wednesday?

Fenton: Not sure.

Kimble: I think he was going to make a few calls after this meeting and find out if there are any conflicts with the calendar. But, we need to get ready for an active session.

Dulin: I am more agreeable to going to Raleigh than I have been in the past.

Carter: Thank you! Plus, we can include other members of the Committee.

Fenton: Follow-up is always required.

Dulin: I don't know my way around anymore.

Fenton: True. Representative Carney is the only one who kept her office. But, we can tell you where everyone is located.

V. Hot Topics

None.

VI. Next Meeting

March 7, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 280.

Meeting Adjourned.

Governmental Affairs Committee

Monday, February 7, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 280

Committee Members: Nancy Carter, Chair
Warren Turner, Vice Chair
Patrick Cannon
Andy Dulin

Staff Resource: Ron Kimble

AGENDA

I. Federal Update – Holland & Knight

II. National League of Cities Congressional City Conference (attachment) – Dana Fenton, Holland & Knight and Committee Members

- Pre-conference Activities – March 12-13
- Main Conference Activities – March 14-16

III. State Update (attachment) – Dana Fenton

IV. North Carolina League of Municipalities 2011-12 Municipal Advocacy Goals (attachment) – Nancy Carter, Ron Kimble, Dana Fenton and Committee Members

V. Hot Topics

VI. Next Meeting:

March 7, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 280
Proposed Schedule - Attachment

Distribution: Mayor/City Council, Leadership Team, Bob Hagemann, Curt Walton, City Manager, Stephanie Kelly, Greg Gaskins, Dana Fenton, Mac McCarley

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2010 Conference
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2009 Highlights

Join NLC

National League of Cities
CONGRESSIONAL CITY CONFERENCE 2011

Preliminary Schedule and Travel Planner (Subject to Change)

The conference provides a wide range of educational, networking and strategy sessions that maximize t of attending the event for city officials. This preliminary schedule provides a timed outline of major ever during the conference in order to help attendees make travel arrangements.

NOTE: If you are a member of a governance, policy or other council or committee, please confirm schec your meetings with your group's NLC staff liaison before making travel plans.

Pre-conference Activities: Saturday, March 12 – Sunday, March 13

Saturday, March 12

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Leadership Training Institute Seminars*
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Constituency and Special Group Meetings

Sunday, March 13

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	NLC Board of Directors Meeting
	NLC Advisory Council Meeting
	Leadership Training Institute Seminars*
9:00 a.m - Noon	Policy & Advisory Committee Meetings
Noon - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Break for Policy & Advisory Committees
1:30 p.m. - 4:30p.m.	Special LTI Seminar for Policy & Advisory Committees
1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. *NLC staff liaison)*	City Futures Panel Meetings *(or may be scheduled for Monday; please cl*
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Policy & Advisory Steering Committee Meetings
5:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Constituency and Special Group meetings
5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.	Orientation to NLC for First Time Attendees

*additional fees required

Main Conference Events: Monday, March 14 - Tuesday, March 15

Monday, March 14

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Celebrate Diversity Breakfast*
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Opening General Session
10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	General Session
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	State League Caucuses and Receptions
	Constituency and Special Group Meetings/Events

Tuesday, March 15

8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	General Session
10:30 a.m. – Noon	Concurrent Workshops
12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Roundtable Networking Lunch
1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops
3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Closing General Session
5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	State League Caucuses and Receptions
6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.	The Capitol Steps

Wednesday, March 16

All-Day	Delegates' Pre-scheduled Capitol Hill Visits

National League of Cities

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Phone:(202) 626-3000 · Fax:(202) 626-3043
info@nlc.org · www.nlc.org
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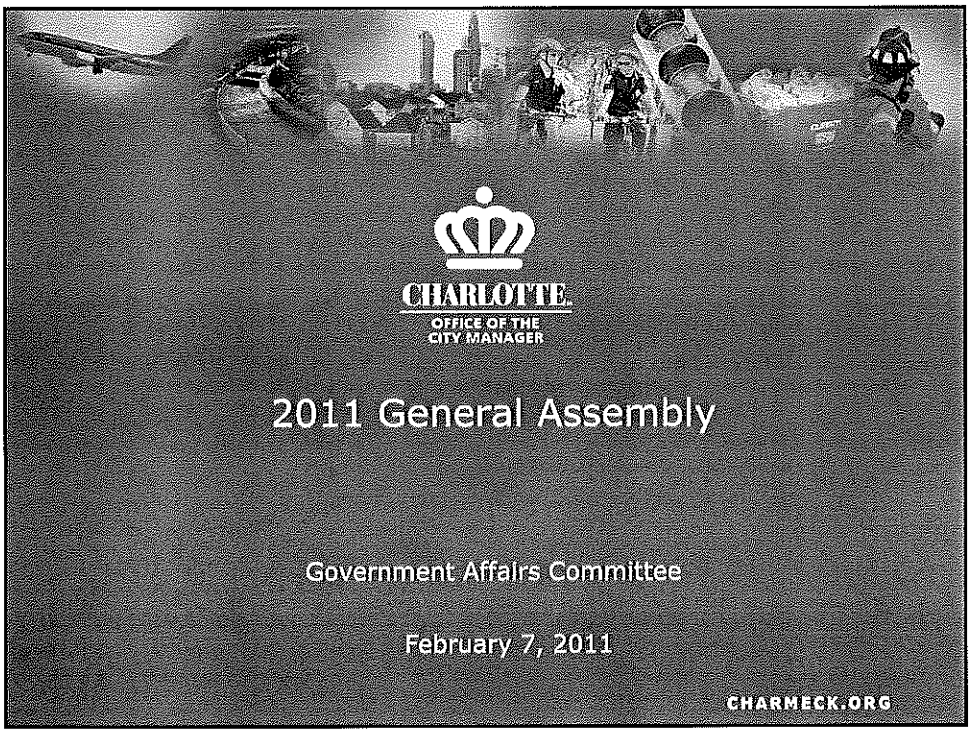

Bill Introduction Deadlines

Senate	March 1 to Bill Drafting March 9 Introduction	March 11 to Bill Drafting March 23 Introduction
House	March 16 to Bill Drafting March 30 Introduction	March 1 to Bill Drafting March 9 Introduction (limit of 10 public bills for each member)

CHARLOTTE

Other Dates

- NCLM Townhall Day — May 4
- Crossover — May 12

2011-2012 Mecklenburg Delegation

Representatives

Thom Tillis (R-98)
Raleigh: 2304 Legislative Building, (919) 733-3451
Local: 17209 Green Dolphin Lane, Cornelius NC 28031, (704) 248-2980
Email Address: Thom.Tillis@ncleg.net

Rodney W. Moore (D-99)
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Tricia Ann Cotham (D-100)
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Beverly M. Earle (D-101)
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Becky Carney (D-102)
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2011-2012 Mecklenburg Delegation

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Bob Rucho (R-39)
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Malcolm Graham (D-40)
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NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE
2011 SESSION
PERMANENT OFFICE AND TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

ZIP CODE: 27601-2808
FAX: 733-2599 (Room 1430)

TELEPHONE		OFFICE
3-5745	APODACA	2010
3-5708	BERGER, P.	2008
3-5665	BINGHAM	2117
3-5752	BLUE	1117
3-7850	BRUNSTETTER	2022
3-5955	DANNELLY	1127
3-5875	DAVIS	2111
715-3050	FORRESTER	1028
715-2525	GOOLSBY	2115
3-5734	HARRINGTON	2113
3-3460	HISE	1026
3-9349	MANSFIELD	1119
3-5776	MEREDITH	2106
715-3001	NESBITT	1129
3-5963	RABON	2108
715-3042	ROBINSON	1120
715-6400	STEIN	1113
3-5651	WALTERS	1118
3-5190 3-7350	LT. GOVERNOR	2104

Unless Otherwise Noted
PREFIX: 733
AREA CODE: 919

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING

ZIP CODE: 27603-5925
FAX: 733-3113 (Room 109)
and 715-5815 (Room 618)

TELEPHONE		OFFICE
3-5876	ALLRAN	625
715-3036	ATWATER	519
715-8363	BERGER, D.	516
3-4809	BLAKE	408
715-0690	BROCK	623
715-3034	BROWN	300-B
715-3038	CLARY	314
715-8331	CLODFELTER	526
715-7823	DANIEL	411
3-5743	EAST	522
3-5620	GARROU	620
3-5650	GRAHAM	622
301-1446	GUNN	312
3-7223	HARTSELL	300-C
3-5850	HUNT	308
3-5705	JACKSON	525
715-3040	JENKINS	621
715-3032	JONES	518
3-5804	KINNAIRD	628
3-4599	McKISSICK	520
715-3030	NEWTON	410
3-5621	PATE	406
3-5706	PRESTON	629
3-5953	PURCELL	517
3-5748	ROUZER	523
3-5655	RUCHO	300-A
3-5742	SOUCEK	310
3-5653	STEVENS	309
3-5870	TILLMAN	627
3-7659	TUCKER	311
3-5856	VAUGHAN	515

2011 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT ROOM/PHONE ASSIGNMENTS

LB = 4 digit room number LOB = 3 digit room number

MEMBER	RM	PHONE	MEMBER	RM	PHONE	MEMBER	RM	PHONE
ADAMS	604	733-5902	GILLESPIE	307B2	733-5862	MCGRADY	418A	733-5956
ALEXANDER, K.	404	733-5778	GLAZIER	1021	733-5601	MCLAWHORN	1217	733-5757
ALEXANDER, M.	1213	733-5807	GOODMAN	1111	733-5823	MICHAUX	1220	715-2528
AVILA	2217	733-5530	GRAHAM	1315	715-0875	MILLS	2221	733-5741
BARNHART	304	715-2009	GUICE	528	715-4466	MOBLEY	501	733-5780
BELL	606	733-5863	HACKNEY	612	733-0057	MOFFITT	1025	715-3012
BLACKWELL	532	733-5805	HAGER	306C	733-5749	MOORE, R.	1211	733-5606
BLUST	1229	733-5781	HAIRE	609	715-3005	MOORE, T.	1326	733-4838
BOLES	503	733-5903	HALL	1015	733-5872	MURRY	2121	733-5602
BORDSEN	602	733-5820	HAMILTON	1319	733-5754	OWENS	611	733-0010
BRADLEY	536	733-5860	HARRISON	1218	733-5771	PARFITT	1017	733-9892
BRANDON	1209	733-5825	HASTINGS	2123	715-2002	PARMON	509	733-5829
BRAWLEY	1313	733-5800	HILL	1309	733-5830	PIERCE	1204	733-5803
BRISSON	1325	733-5772	HILTON	1227	733-5988	PRIDGEN	2223	733-5821
BROWN, L.	303	733-5607	HOLLO	633	301-1306	RANDLEMAN	531	733-5935
BROWN, R.	638	715-0873	HOLLOWAY	529	733-5609	RAPP	1013	733-5732
BRUBAKER	302	715-4946	HORN	1010	733-2406	RHYNE	2208	733-5782
BRYANT	542	733-5878	HOWARD	1106	733-5904	ROSS	1023	733-5773
BURR	538	733-5908	HURLEY	541	733-5865	SAGER	416B	733-5755
CARNEY	1221	733-5827	ILER	632	301-1450	SAMUELSON	419B	715-3009
CLEVELAND	417A	715-6707	INGLE	530	733-5905	SANDERSON	306A2	733-5853
COLLINS	1006	733-5802	INSKO	603	733-7208	SETZER	1206	733-4948
COOK	1303	733-5906	JACKSON	1019	733-5974	SHEPARD	301N	715-9644
COTHAM	403	715-0706	JEFFUS	1307	733-5191	SPEAR	402	715-3029
CRAWFORD	1321	733-5824	JOHNSON	301D	733-5861	STAM	2301	733-2962
CURRENT	418B	733-5809	JONES	306A1	733-5779	STARNES	419A	733-5931
DAUGHTRY	2207	733-5605	JORDAN	418C	733-7727	STEEN	305	733-5881
DIXON	1002	715-3021	JUSTICE	420	715-9664	STEVENS	416A	715-1883
DOCKHAM	2204	715-2526	KEEVER	1317	733-5746	STONE	1008	715-3026
DOLLAR	307B1	715-0795	KILLIAN	2219	733-5886	TILLIS	2304	733-3451
EARLE	610	715-2530	LANGDON	417B	733-5849	TOLSON	608	715-3024
FAIRCLOTH	306A3	733-5877	LAROQUE	635	715-3017	TORBETT	537	733-5868
FAISON	637	715-3019	LEWIS	534	715-3015	WAINWRIGHT	613	733-5995
FARMER-BUTTERFIELD	508	733-5898	LUCAS	607	733-5775	WARREN, E.	1323	715-3023
FISHER	504	715-2013	LUEBKE	513	733-7663	WARREN, H.	533	733-5784
FLOYD	1311	733-5959	MARTIN	1219	733-5758	WEISS	1109	715-3010
FOLWELL	301F	733-5787	MCCOMAS	506	733-5786	WEST	1004	733-5859
FRYE	639	733-5661	MCCORMICK	2119	733-5654	WILKINS	1301	715-0850
GIBSON	514	715-3007	MCELRAFT	405	733-6275	WOMBLE	510	733-5777
GILL	1305	733-5880	MCGEE	634	733-5747	WRAY	502	733-5662

1/24/2011 jem

North Carolina General Assembly

HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE (919) 733-7760 FAX (919) 715-2881

2011 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS BY COMMITTEE

Agriculture

Representatives Langdon and Sager, Chairs; Representatives Bradley, Dixon, Hill, and Lewis, Vice Chairs; Representatives K. Alexander, Bell, Blust, Bordsen, Brandon, Brisson, Bryant, Cleveland, Cook, Daughtry, Frye, Graham, Guice, Haire, Holloway, Horn, Ingle, Jones, Jordan, Keever, Luebke, McCormick, McGrady, Mobley, Pridgen, Sanderson, Spear, Tolson, Torbett, E. Warren, Weiss, West.

Appropriations

Representative Brubaker, Senior Chair; Representatives Barnhart, Gillespie and Johnson; Chairs.

Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

Representatives Blackwell, Hilton, and Holloway, Chairs; Representatives Pridgen and Sanderson, Vice Chairs; Representatives Avila, Bell, Blust, L. Brown, Gill, Jeffus, Johnson, Lucas, McLawhorn, Michaux, Parmon, Stam.

Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government

Representative Cleveland, Chair; Representative Floyd, Vice Chair; Representatives Bradley, Fisher, Folwell, Glazier, Graham, Haire, Harrison, Hastings, Mills, Samuelson, Torbett.

Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services

Representatives Burr and Dollar, Chairs; Representatives Brisson, Hollo, and Murry, Vice Chairs; Representatives Barnhart, Current, Earle, Farmer-Butterfield, Hurley, Insko, Jones, Parfitt.

Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety

Representatives Guice and Randleman, Chairs; Representatives Boles, Daughtry, Faircloth, Ingle, Spear, and Stevens, Vice Chairs; Representatives Adams, M. Alexander, R. Brown, Goodman, Horn, Jackson, Keever, Mobley.

Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic Resources

Representatives Justice and West, Chairs; Representatives LaRoque and Sager, Vice Chairs; Representatives Bordsen, Bryant, Cook, Dixon, Gillespie, Langdon, McElraft, R. Moore, Owens, Pierce, Wilkins, Wray.

Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation

Representatives Frye and Killian, Chairs; Representatives Crawford and Iler, Vice Chairs; Representatives Dockham, Hamilton, Martin, McGrady, Rapp, Shepard, Steen, Tolson, E. Warren.

Banking

Representative Rhyne, Chair; Representatives Brubaker, Dockham, Hastings and McComas, Vice Chairs; Representatives Adams, K. Alexander, Blackwell, Brawley, Carney, Fisher, Gibson, Glazier, Hager, Haire, Hall, Hilton, Holloway, Jackson, McCormick, R. Moore, Shepard, Steen, Stone.

Commerce and Job Development

Representative McComas, Chair; Representatives Brawley, Horn, Justice, Shepard, Steen and Stone, Vice Chairs; Representatives Adams, K. Alexander, Avila, Bell, Boles, Bradley, Brandon, L. Brown, Brubaker, Carney, Collins, Cook, Current, Dockham, Dollar, Farmer-Butterfield, Floyd, Folwell, Frye, Gibson, Goodman, Graham, Hager, Hamilton, Hastings, Hill, Holloway, Jeffus, Johnson, LaRoque, Lewis, Lucas, McCormick, McLawhorn, Moffitt, R. Moore, Murry, Owens, Parfitt, Pierce, Rapp, Sager, Samuelson, Sanderson, Setzer, Spear, Starnes, Tolson, Torbett, Wainwright, E. Warren, H. Warren, West, Wilkins, Womble, Wray.

Commerce and Job Development Subcommittee on Alcoholic Beverage Control

Representative Boles, Chair; Representatives Bell, L. Brown, Cook, Current, Gibson, Hamilton, Justice, Lewis, Lucas, McLawhorn, Moffitt, Rapp, Samuelson, Spear, Starnes, Steen, E. Warren, West.

Commerce and Job Development Subcommittee on Business and Labor

Representative McCormick, Chair; Representatives K. Alexander, Brubaker, Carney, Collins, Dockham, Dollar, Floyd, Folwell, Goodman, Graham, Hager, Hill, LaRoque, R. Moore, Owens, Pierce, Sager, Setzer, Shepard, Stone, Wainwright, H. Warren, Wilkins.

Commerce and Job Development Subcommittee on Science and Technology

Representative Avila, Chair; Representatives Adams, Bradley, Brandon, Brawley, Farmer-Butterfield, Frye, Hastings, Horn, Jeffus, Johnson, Murry, Parfitt, Sanderson, Tolson, Torbett, Womble, Wray.

Education

Representative Holloway, Chair; Representatives M. Alexander, Avila, Cotham, Hilton, Johnson, Langdon, Lucas, Vice Chairs; Representatives Bell, Blackwell, Blust, Bryant, Carney, Cleveland, Daughtry, Dixon, Dockham, Faison, Fisher, Gill, Gillespie, Glazier, Goodman, Hager, Hall, Horn, Iler, Jeffus, Jones, Jordan, Killian, Luebke, McGee, McLawhorn, Michaux, Parmon, Pridgen, Rapp, Rhyne, Ross, Sager, Shepard, Stam, Stevens, Tolson, Torbett, H. Warren, Wilkins.

Elections

Representative Lewis, Chair; Representatives Burr, Current, Jones and Jordan, Vice Chairs; Representatives M. Alexander, Blust, L. Brown, R. Brown, Cotham, Dixon, Faircloth, Fisher, Floyd, Harrison, Iler, Insko, Justice, Killian, Martin, McLawhorn, Michaux, Mills, Mobley, T. Moore, Ross, Sager, Stam, Starnes, E. Warren, Weiss.

Environment

Representatives McElraft, Samuelson and West, Chairs; Representatives Gillespie and McGrady, Vice Chairs; Representatives K. Alexander, Brawley, Cook, Dixon, Gibson, Haire, Harrison, Hastings, Hill, Iler, Insko, Keever, LaRoque, Martin, McCormick, T. Moore, Owens, Sanderson, Spear, Starnes, Stone, Womble.

Ethics

Representative Hackney and Howard, Chairs; Representatives Adams, Avila, Barnhart, Current, Farmer-Butterfield, Justice, Lucas, Michaux, Parmon, Rhyne, Ross, Setzer.

Finance

Representatives Howard, Senior Chair; Representatives Folwell Setzer and Starnes, Chairs; Representatives Lewis, McComas, Wainwright, Vice Chairs; Representatives K. Alexander, Brandon, Brawley, Carney, Collins, Cotham, Faison, Gibson, Hackney, Hager, Hall, Hill, Jordan, Luebke, McCormick, McGee, Moffitt, T. Moore, Rhyne, Ross, Samuelson, Stam, Stone, H. Warren, Weiss, Womble.

Government

Representatives L. Brown and Ingle, Chairs; Representatives Boles, Langdon and H. Warren, Vice Chairs; Representatives Adams, M. Alexander, Barnhart, Bordsen, Brandon, R. Brown, Burr, Cleveland, Collins, Cotham, Fisher, Floyd, Folwell, Frye, Gill, Goodman, Guice, Hackney, Hurley, Jones, Justice, Keever, Luebke, McGee, Mills, Mobley, Moffitt, R. Moore, Parfitt, Parmon, Samuelson, Setzer.

Health and Human Services

Representatives Current, Dollar and Hollo, Chairs; Representatives Barnhart, R. Brown, Earle and McElraft, Vice Chairs; Representatives Brisson, Brubaker, Burr, Cotham, Crawford, Faircloth, Farmer-Butterfield, Howard, Hurley, Insko, Jackson, Lewis, Murry, Pierce, Randleman, Steen, Wainwright, Weiss, Wray.

Health and Human Services Subcommittee on Mental Health

Representative Hurley, Chair; Representatives Burr and Cotham, Vice Chairs.

Insurance

Representative Dockham, Chair; Representatives Collins, McElraft and Setzer, Vice Chairs; Representatives Blust, L. Brown, Brubaker, Bryant, Burr, Crawford, Faison, Floyd, Folwell, Gibson, Glazier, Graham, Hamilton, Howard, Hurley, Insko, Jackson, Johnson, Mills, Murry, Pierce, Shepard, Steen, Stevens, Wainwright, H. Warren, Wray.

Judiciary

Representative Daughtry, Chair; Representatives Burr, Guice, Mills, T. Moore, Randleman and Rhyne, Vice Chairs; Representatives M. Alexander, Blackwell, Blust, Bordsen, Bradley, R. Brown, Bryant, Crawford, Dixon, Faircloth, Faison, Glazier, Graham, Hackney, Haire, Hall, Harrison, Hilton, Howard, Ingle, Jackson, Jones, Jordan, Killian, Martin, McGrady, Michaux, Mobley, Pridgen, Ross, Stam, Stevens, Weiss.

Judiciary Subcommittee A

Representative Blust, Chair; Representatives M. Alexander, Blackwell, Crawford, Daughtry, Dixon, Faison, Hall, Jackson, Jordan, Killian, Mills, Randleman, Ross.

Judiciary Subcommittee B

Representatives Stam and Stevens, Chairs; Representatives Bordsen, Bryant, Burr, Faircloth, Glazier, Guice, Haire, Hilton, Ingle, Martin, McGrady, Michaux.

Judiciary Subcommittee C

Representative T. Moore and Rhyne, Chairs; Representatives Bradley, R. Brown, Graham, Hackney, Harrison, Howard, Jones, Mobley, Pridgen, Weiss.

Military and Homeland Security

Representatives Cleveland and Killian, Chairs; Representatives Blust, Martin and Torbett, Vice Chairs; Representatives Barnhart, Bell, Bradley, Earle, Floyd, Goodman, Hollo, Horn, Parfitt, Rapp, Sager, Sanderson, Wainwright.

Public Utilities

Representative Steen, Chair; Representatives Brubaker, Cook and Hager, Vice Chairs; Representatives K. Alexander, Blackwell, Brawley, Brisson, Collins, Dockham, Earle, Gill, Harrison, Hastings, Hilton, Hollo, Howard, Jeffus, Johnson, LaRoque, Lucas, Luebke, McComas, McLawhorn, T. Moore, Owens, Pierce, Pridgen, Samuelson, Setzer, Tolson, E. Warren, H. Warren, West, Womble, Wray.

Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

Representative LaRoque and T. Moore, Chairs; Representatives Owens and Rhyne, Vice Chairs; Representatives M. Alexander, R. Brown, Crawford, Daughtry, Faison, Farmer-Butterfield, Folwell, Gillespie, Hackney, Hill, Hilton, Jeffus, Johnson, Luebke, McComas, Parmon, Samuelson, Stam, Stone.

State Personnel

Representative McGee, Chair; Representatives Dollar, Folwell, Hurley, Starnes, and Wilkins, Vice Chairs; Representatives Avila, Bell, Boles, Bordsen, Cotham, Floyd, Guice, Keever, Langdon, Mobley, Moffitt, Pierce, Randleman, Stevens, Womble.

Transportation

Representatives Iler and Mills, Chairs; Representatives Carney, Frye, and McGee, Vice Chairs; Representatives Avila, Barnhart, Boles, Brandon, Brisson, Cleveland, Crawford, Current, Daughtry, Dollar, Faircloth, Gill, Gillespie, Goodman, Graham, Hall, Hamilton, Ingle, Killian, Martin, McComas, McElraft, McGrady, Moffitt, R. Moore, Murry, Parfitt, Randleman, Rapp, Spear, Stone, Wilkins.

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NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
2011 SESSION

1st Edition 01/27/2011

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources

Co-Chairman	Senator East
Co-Chairman	Senator Rouzer
Vice Chairman	Senator Jackson
Members	Senators Atwater, Bingham, Brock, Brown, Daniel, Hartsell, Jenkins, Kinnaird, Preston, Tillman, Tucker, Walters, White

Appropriations on Department of Transportation

Co-Chairman	Senator Forrester
Co-Chairman	Senator Harrington
Vice Chairman	Senator Rabon
Members	Senators Gunn, Jenkins, Vaughan

Appropriations on Education/Higher Education

Co-Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Co-Chairman	Senator Preston
Co-Chairman	Senator Tillman
Members	Senators Dannelly, Garrou, Rucho, Soucek

Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology

Co-Chairman	Senator Brock
Co-Chairman	Senator Davis
Members	Senators Blue, Graham, Gunn

Appropriations on Health and Human Services

Co-Chairman	Senator Bingham
Co-Chairman	Senator Blake
Co-Chairman	Senator Pate
Vice Chairman	Senator Tucker
Members	Senators Allran, D.Berger, Hartsell, Mansfield, Purcell, Rabon

Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety

Co-Chairman	Senator Brown
Co-Chairman	Senator Goolsby
Vice Chairman	Senator Jones
Vice Chairman	Senator Soucek
Members	Senators Clodfelter, East, Newton

Appropriations on Natural and Economic Resources

Co-Chairman	Senator East
Co-Chairman	Senator Rouzer
Vice Chairman	Senator Jackson
Members	Senators Atwater, Daniel, Kinnaird, Tucker, Walters

Appropriations/Base Budget

Co-Chairman	Senator Brunstetter
Co-Chairman	Senator Hunt
Co-Chairman	Senator Stevens
Vice Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Vice Chairman	Senator Garrou
Members	Senators Blake, Blue, Brock, Brown, Dannelly, East, Graham, Harrington, Hartsell, Jackson, Jones, Nesbitt, Pate, Rucho, Tucker, Walters

Commerce

Chairman	Senator Brown
Vice Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Vice Chairman	Senator Gunn
Vice Chairman	Senator Meredith
Members	Senators D. Berger, Blake, Blue, Brunstetter, Clary, Clodfelter, Davis, Garrou, Goolsby, Graham, Hise, Hunt, Jackson, McKissick, Nesbitt, Newton, Robinson, Rucho, Soucek, Stein, Stevens, Vaughan, White

Education/Higher Education

Co-Chairman	Senator Preston
Co-Chairman	Senator Soucek
Co-Chairman	Senator Tillman
Vice Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Members	Senators Allran, Atwater, Brown, Dannelly, Daniel, Forrester, Garrou, Goolsby, Graham, Gunn, McKissick, Newton, Purcell, Robinson, Rucho, Stein, Stevens, White

Finance

Co-Chairman	Senator Hartsell
Co-Chairman	Senator Rucho
Vice Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Vice Chairman	Senator Harrington
Vice Chairman	Senator Rabon
Members	Senators Blake, Brock, Brown, Brunstetter, Clary, Clodfelter, Dannelly, Daniel, Forrester, Garrou, Goolsby, Hunt, Jenkins, Kinnaird, McKissick, Meredith, Nesbitt, Newton, Purcell, Rouzer, Stein, Stevens, Tillman, Walters, White

Health Care

Co-Chairman	Senator Bingham
Co-Chairman	Senator Blake
Co-Chairman	Senator Pate
Vice Chairman	Senator Forrester
Members	Senators Allran, Atwater, D. Berger, Clary, Kinnaird, Mansfield, Meredith, Purcell, Rabon, Robinson, Rouzer, Rucho, Tucker

Insurance ----

Co-Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Co-Chairman	Senator Meredith
Vice Chairman	Senator Gunn
Vice Chairman	Senator Hise
Members	Senators Atwater, D. Berger, Clary, Davis, East, Garrou, Jackson, Newton, Rouzer, Rucho, Vaughan, Walters, White

Judiciary I

Chairman	Senator Brunstetter
Vice Chairman	Senator Goolsby
Members	Senators Apodaca, Brock, Brown, Clodfelter, Harrington, Jenkins, Mansfield, Nesbitt, Pate, Rouzer, Rucho, Soucek, Stevens, Tillman, Walters

Judiciary II

Co-Chairman	Senator Allran
Co-Chairman	Senator Daniel
Co-Chairman	Senator Newton
Members	Senators D. Berger, Bingham, Blue, Clary, Davis, East, Forrester, Hartsell, Jones, Stein, Tucker, Vaughan

Mental Health & Youth Services

Chairman	Senator Hartsell
Vice Chairman	Senator Allran
Vice Chairman	Senator Tucker
Members	Senators Bingham, Davis, Daniel, Forrester, Jackson, Jones, Kinnaird, Nesbitt, Purcell, Robinson

Pensions & Retirement and Aging

Co-Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Co-Chairman	Senator Hise
Vice Chairman	Senator Meredith
Members	Senators Atwater, Brock, Dannelly, Davis, Garrou, Harrington, Jenkins, Pate, Preston, Rucho, Stevens, Walters

Redistricting ----

Chairman	Senator Rucho
Vice Chairman	Senator Brock
Vice Chairman	Senator Brown
Members	Senators Apodaca, Brunstetter, Clary, Dannelly, Forrester, Hise, Hunt, Jones, McKissick, Nesbitt, Rabon, Walters

Rules and Operations of the Senate

Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Vice Chairman	Senator Brunstetter
Vice Chairman	Senator Jackson
Members	Senators Blue, Brock, Brown, Garrou, Harrington, Hartsell, Kinnaird, Mansfield, Meredith, Nesbitt, Newton, Preston, Stein

State and Local Government

Co-Chairman	Senator Davis
Co-Chairman	Senator Walters
Members	Senators Bingham, Blake, East, Goolsby, Hartsell, Harrington, Jackson, Jones, Kinnaird, Nesbitt, Pate, Robinson, Stevens, Tucker, White

Transportation

Co-Chairman	Senator Forrester
Co-Chairman	Senator Rabon
Vice Chairman	Senator Harrington
Members	Senators Daniel, East, Graham, Hise, Hunt, Jackson, Jenkins, McKissick, Robinson, Soucek, Stevens, Tillman, Vaughan

Ways & Means

Chairman	Senator Apodaca
Vice Chairman	Senator Brock
Members	Senators Dannelly, Forrester, Clodfelter

NCLM 2011-12 Municipal Advocacy Goals

Adopted January 20, 2011

The League membership adopted the following top priority goals for the 2011–2012 General Assembly. The Advocacy Goals Conference on January 20 was the final step in a deliberative, inclusive, member-driven process. The League's three standing legislative action committees will go back to work and consider recommendations to the League Board of Directors on other issues that affect our municipalities.

Municipal officials all across North Carolina and the League advocacy staff look forward to working with all members of the General Assembly to accomplish these goals. All North Carolinians have a stake in assuring that our cities and towns remain vibrant and open for business. As the League's new tag line says, it's about good government and great hometowns.

1 Seek legislation reforming annexation laws that ensures the ability of a city to grow in a reasonable manner, while providing quality municipal services on a timely basis.

2 Seek legislation to allow municipal creation or extensions of extra-territorial jurisdictions (ETJ) without county approval.

3 Support a system of liquor sales that maintains a local referendum about the decision to sell liquor, preserves local control over the location and density of liquor outlets, preserves the local revenue stream from liquor sales, and increases the authorized local permit fees statewide.

4 Support legislation to expand the sales tax base to include services.

5 Seek legislation to protect the privacy of municipal residents by limiting public access to lists of email addresses submitted by citizens to municipalities.

6 Seek legislation to strengthen the role of municipalities in the approval, renewal and revocation of ABC permits.

7 Seek legislation to allow Powell Bill funds to be used for sidewalks and walking paths that are adjacent to, but not located within, the right-of-way of State-maintained roads.

8 Seek legislation enhancing the authority of cities to own and operate broadband systems for their citizens, and providing incentives for last mile public-private partnerships. Include authority for cities that currently have operating broadband systems to continue.

9 Seek legislation to allow all municipalities to adopt a prepared meals and beverage tax.

10 Seek legislation creating a state bond program for upgrades to water and wastewater treatment systems, expansion of stormwater programs and assured water supplies.

11 Seek legislation ensuring significant municipal decision-making authority and respect for local ordinances in the design of transportation projects across all NCDOT Divisions, to lower congestion, enhance quality of life, improve aesthetics, improve public safety and bolster public health for city residents, regardless of the city's financial participation in a project.

MORE

12 Support legislation permitting a governmental entity to seek an order of abatement where a property may have some legitimate use, but is also the source of regular criminal nuisance activity.

13 Support the equal application of water quality management rules that impact cities to N.C. municipalities, counties, state agencies and private operations, require payment of city stormwater fees by all state agencies, and require maintenance of all stormwater structures by permitted entities.

14 Seek legislation to: 1) require that counties conduct a public hearing before approving a resolution choosing the method of sales tax distribution; 2) delay the implementation of a change in method until July 1 of the calendar year following the adoption of the change; and 3) phase in the change in method over four years.

15 Seek legislation to increase the $5 municipal vehicle fee, currently available only for public transportation, to $20 and allow it to also be used for pedestrian and bicycle projects.

16 Seek legislation to grant more flexible authority for local public safety officers to enforce ABC-related laws.

17 Seek legislation to allow all municipalities to adopt impact fees to pay for growth-related infrastructure and services.

18 Support legislation to increase funding for the State Mobility Fund in order to support regional congestion mitigation projects, interstate maintenance and a Powell Bill supplement; and to provide additional funding sources for State transportation projects.

19 Seek legislation to revise the local land transfer tax so that: 1) it can be adopted without a referendum; and 2) municipalities receive a share of the revenues.

20 Support legislation to reform the municipal business privilege license tax by: 1) eliminating exemptions and caps for specific categories of businesses; 2) specifying the appropriate bases for the tax; 3) requiring municipalities to adopt a rate schedule that applies to all types of businesses within a municipality; 4) limiting the amount of taxes paid by businesses that have business activity within a municipality but no business location within it; and 5) capping the amount of tax that can be imposed on any single business location.

21 Seek legislation to allow municipalities to establish vacant housing receivership programs for the purpose of rehabilitating structures not meeting minimum housing standards and transferring them to responsible ownership.

22 Support legislation establishing a water permitting system that protects existing municipal withdrawals, allows for future growth, includes all withdrawers and accounts for all downstream users.

23 Support legislation providing municipalities with the authority to impose a fee to recover the costs of vehicle accident and fire response from at-fault drivers and parties responsible for fires, up to a statutory maximum amount.

24 Support legislative and regulatory efforts for efficiencies in water, wastewater and stormwater permitting processes.

25 Seek legislation to classify reclaimed water as a resource water, and study the injection of treated water into aquifers.

Governmental Affairs Committee
2011 *Proposed* Meeting Schedule

First Monday of every month at 4:00 p.m. in Room 280
(exceptions noted)

January 10 @ noon

February 7
(Note: There is no Council meeting to follow due to Retreat)

March 7

April 4

May 2

June 6

September 6
(Tuesday)

October 3

November
(TBD)

Notes:
No July or August Meetings – Council's Summer Schedule
November meeting would be night before elections
No December meeting pending potential new Committee assignments

CHARLOTTE.

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
MEMORANDUM

February 4, 2011

TO: Curt Walton, City Manager
Ron Kimble, Deputy City Manager

FROM: Dana Fenton, Intergovernmental Relations Manager

SUBJECT: **State Legislative Update**

HOT TOPIC

Balanced Budget Act of 2013 (SB 13 – Stevens)
Act would require Governor to reduce current year General Fund expenditures by $400 million for use in the following fiscal year, including nearly $80 million in non-recurring economic development funds; bill is opposed by the administration and other groups such as the North Carolina Economic Developers Association; funds are being used to draw companies to and keep current employers in North Carolina; bill was subject of spirited debate in the Senate on February 3.

DEVELOPING ISSUES

Eminent Domain/Economic Development (HB 8 – Stam / SB 37 – Jackson)
Proposed constitutional amendment would ban the use of eminent domain for any and all economic development purposes, even those that are incidental to the project; referred to Judiciary committees.

Increase Property Tax Appeals Efficiency (HB 43 – Carney)
Legislation requested by Mecklenburg County to increase the size of the Board of Equalization in anticipation of the high number of property valuation appeals expected in 2011; General Assembly is aiming to get this bill through for the Governor's signature by early march so the County Commission may implement the necessary changes.

State Law to Provide for Acceptable ID's (HB 33 – Cleveland)
Lists forms of identification that all governmental entities, including local governments may use to determine actual identity.

Public Contracts / Illegal Immigrants (HB 35 – Cleveland)
Legislation would prohibit state and local government contracts with those companies that employ illegal immigrants and require such contractors to use the federal E-Verify Program to ensure that illegal immigrants are not hired.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Design-Build
Nothing to report at this time.

Right of Way Withdrawal
Nothing to report at this time.

Nuisance Abatement
Nothing to report at this time.

E-Mail Subscribers
Nothing to report at this time.

Energy
Nothing to report at this time.

Business Privilege License Tax
Nothing to report at this time.

Annexation (HB 9 – Dollar / SB 27 – Brock)
Similar bills would impose moratorium on all involuntary annexations currently in process until July 1, 2012; City's proposed annexations effective June 30, 2011 would be impacted; purpose of moratorium is to get all parties to the table to arrive at mutually satisfactory bill to run in 2012 General Assembly.

Courts Funding
Nothing to report at this time.

Mobility Fund
Nothing to report at this time.

Local Revenue Sources for Roads and Transit
Nothing to report at this time.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

North Carolina City and County Managers Conference
February 4, 2011

UNPRECEDENTED CHANGE:

Over a century since Republicans led both chambers:

HOUSE: ***68 R; 52 D***
Speaker: Thom Tillis (has served 2 terms)
Majority Leader: Paul "Skip" Stam

SENATE: ***31R; 19 D (super majority—allows for constitutional amendments on ballot in 2012)***
President Pro-tem: Phil Berger
Majority Leader: Harry Brown

Expected Focus of Republican Leadership:

- Budget/Economy/Jobs
- Eminent Domain/Property Rights
- Redistricting prep
- Repeal of Federal Health Care
- Voter ID
- Regulatory and litigation reform
- Annexation reform (R party platform states "elimination of forced annexation")
- Education-vouchers, removal of charter school cap
- ABC privatization

Committees and Chairs:

Key House Committees:
Appropriations: Brubaker; Commerce/Job Development: McComas; Environment: McElraft, Samuelson, West; Finance: Howard, Folwell, Setzer, Starnes; Government: Brown, Ingle; Judiciary: Daughtry; Public Utilities: Steen; Rules: LaRoque, Moore
Key Senate Committees: Appropriations: Brunstetter, Hunt, Stevens; Commerce: Brown; Finance: Hartsell and Rucho; Judiciary I: Brunstetter; Judiciary II: Allran, Daniel; Pensions: Apodoca, Hise; Rules: Apodaca; State and Local: Davis, Walters

High Level Overview of City and Town Issues—2011 GA Long Session:

Annexation:
One of the most contentious issues this session. SB 27 (Brock, Newton, Goolsby)/HB 9 (Dollar, LaRoque, L. Brown, R. Brown(plus 30 co-sponsors) INVOLUNTARY ANNEXATION MORATORIUM was filed second day of session. Places moratorium on all annexations until July 2012 and tolls any annexation proceedings if ordinance has not bee adopted(ie in litigation). A number of newly elected legislators ran on an anti-annexation platform. The majority of House and Senate members believe reform is needed and feel politically pressured for it to include a vote or voice of annexed residents. League will again offer 20-point proposal plus some additional significant necessary remedies in a reform bill. Major issues will focus on a 'voice/vote' for near-town residents and more 'meaningful services' as part of city-initiated annexation. Major change is certain, based on the

current sentiment of the General Assembly. League staff is working with key Senate and House leaders and will fight to retain annexation authority. A strategic plan has been developed and is currently being executed.

Budget:
Balancing the budget is expected to be the main focus of the General Assembly in the long session. Current budget gap is $3.4 billion. Republican leaders state that they intend to close the gap through cuts, not new taxes. This would include state layoffs and salary reductions. They have also been clear that they don't intend to take money from local government or 'transfer' the costs to deal with the gap. However, in reality, everything will be on the table. League staff will continue to work closely with legislative leaders and educate new legislators on municipal budgets and continued local cuts. Much staff time will be focused on ensuring local revenues are protected and additional costs are not passed down.

ABC Privatization and Permit Input:
Privatizing the ABC system will likely be considered by the General Assembly but the Governor's announced position against privatization recently significantly reduced momentum. Current proposals discussed include maintaining a 'control state' in NC, giving local governments and ABC Boards continued roles, providing long-term revenue stream for local governments. Several questions remain, including how stranded assets will be managed and the process for determining ABC store locations. The Governor does not seem to have interest group or general public support for privatization. However, it continues to be on the table because of the potential short-term revenue that could be used to address the state budget crisis. On a related issue, the League will continue to work to gain more authority for cities and towns in the ABC permitting process, to ensure safety and societal issues are better addressed around restaurants and bars serving liquor.

Internet Sweepstakes Cafes Ban:
League involved in successful passage of banning the use of electronic machines and devices for sweepstakes purposes. Sweepstakes industry challenged in courts and many Cafes remain operational. The NC Court of Appeals recently denied the NC Justice Dept request for a stay of the previous ruling that part of the state's ban on sweepstakes games was unconstitutional. Regardless, tighter legislation is likely needed, if a true ban is desired. SB 3 BROADEN SWEEPSTAKES LAW (Vaughan) has been introduced to do just that. However, recent proposals are also being considered to move sweepstakes cafes under state control , in which case, a different state and local revenue system would be developed.

Local Government Retirement System: LGERS Board voted in late January to increase the employer contribution rate by .53 percent of payroll, effective July 1, 2011, bringing the employer rate to 6.88 percent of payroll (7.35 for LEOs). The LGERS Board voted to reject two recommendations from the Future of Retirement System Study Commission: 1. Board rejected creation of a defined contribution option for new employees and 2. Board rejected a minimum unreduced retirement age of 55 with 30 yrs service. Board did approve plan for auto-enrollment of future employees into supplemental savings plan.

Municipal Broadband:
Very successful in 2010 stopping plans for a moratorium bill and stopping a bill limiting municipalities to General Obligation bonds only. However, creation of municipal broadband systems ,where private providers are unwilling or unable to provide service, is not supported by many Republican legislators, including SpeakerThom Tillis, who was one of the most outspoken opponents in previous sessions. The League's best hope on this issue, given the current environment, is to work toward a public-private partnership bill and work to keep existing municipal broadband systems (Wilson and Salisbury) protected.

Transportation/Mobility Fund:
The League continues to work closely with the DOT to address state/local working processes and relationships. No additional talk of road maintenance transfer to local government at this point. The League will be working with a coalition of interest groups to build more funding for the Mobility Fund. There is early discussion of possibly capping the gas tax at 32.2 cents/gallon which would have a very negative impact on DOT work plans and potentially on Powell Bill funds.

Eminent Domain:

Rep. Skip Stam (new majority leader) and several other Republican legislators introduced HB 8 EMINENT DOMAIN (Stam), a bill calling for a NC Constitutional Amendment prohibiting the condemnation of private property for economic development purposes, and providing for just compensation with right of trial by jury in all condemnation cases. The amendment would be placed on the ballot during the November general election in 2012. The League continues to oppose the bill because cities/towns are not now authorized to conduct this activity, and new language in the NC Constitution could easily be misinterpreted in the future - - further inhibiting legitimate economic development activities. The bill will be difficult, if not impossible to stop in the House. We are working to build understanding for our position in the Senate.

Regulatory Update:

NCLM has been successful in sending the ill-conceived and costly nutrient threshold rules back to the drawing board, with DENR instead pledging to hold a one-day symposium on the issue later this fall. Also, League staff is coordinating response for the Phase II stormwater permit renewals (over 120 communities impacted).

MEAC (Municipal Environmental Assessment Coalition) is active in all of these areas, and having a very successful impact. The report detailing policy suggestions was just received from the MEAC consultant. The report examines the triennial review metals standards changes and will be used to lessen the impact of the new standards. Looking out over next six months, League staff expects EPA's continued efforts to expand the scope and number of areas subject to stormwater regulation and the topic of nutrient impairment of waters to receive greater discussion. EPA may promulgate its ozone standards as well.

LEAGUE LINC Grassroots Update:

League LINC (Legislative Information Network of Communities) has established a foundation for transitioning to the 2011-2012 biennium of the General Assembly. League staff will be building upon tools introduced in the 2010 session. The municipal official/ legislative relationships section of the website continues to grow.

If you have not registered your legislative relationships on-line, PLEASE DO SO--
www.nclm.org

This list is how we will be able to effectively target legislators on key issues and at critical times throughout the session. League LINC will include an upgraded Legislative Bulletin, LINC in Thursday Legislative Updates, Quick Connect Teams on League issues, and targeted group engagement in Raleigh on legislative issues.

Member presence at the General Assembly will be critical in 2011—Please consider when you can bring a group to Raleigh—contact Jennifer Webb, Grassroots Coordinator at 919-715-1726 to coordinate!

2011-2012 Mecklenburg Delegation

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2011-2012 Mecklenburg Delegation

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