Council-Manager Memo #36
Friday, May 20, 2011

CHARLOTTE.

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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (May 23)	Tues (May 24)	Wed (May 25)	Thurs (May 26)	Fri (May 27)
2:30 PM Environment Committee, Room 280 4:00 PM Council Business Meeting, Meeting Chamber 5:00 PM Budget Public Hearing, Meeting Chamber		2:00 PM Housing & Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280 5:30 PM Metropolitan Transit Commission, Room 267	12:00 PM Restructuring Government Committee, Room 280 3:30 PM Economic Development Committee, Room 280	

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, May 23

2:30 pm Environment Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: Tree canopy goal and investment strategy

4:00 pm Council Business Meeting, Meeting Chamber

5:00 pm Budget Public Hearing, Meeting Chamber

Wednesday, May 25

2:00 pm Housing & Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: Inclusionary housing policies

5:30 pm Metropolitan Transit Commission, Room 267
AGENDA: State transportation demand management; Special Transportation Service/ADA report

Thursday, May 26

12:00 pm Restructuring Government Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: Boards and Commissions with autonomous authority

3:30 pm Economic Development Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: Business Investment Grant Program review; Entrepreneurship strategy; CRVA barometer report (information only)

May and June calendars are attached (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT).

AGENDA NOTES:

Monday May 23 Council Meeting Schedule

Staff Resource: Julie Burch, City Manager's Office, 704-336-3187, jburch@charlottenc.gov

As a reminder, due to NASCAR Hall of Fame activities, the order for next Monday's Council meeting is different than usual. There is no dinner briefing session. The Council business meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber. The Budget Public Hearing is scheduled to start at 5:00 p.m. If necessary, the business meeting will resume after the public hearing is closed.

Sandwiches and beverages will be available for Council members in CH-14 beginning at 3:30 p.m. and throughout the meeting. For those Council members who have tickets, the NASCAR Hall of Fame 2011 Induction Ceremony is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item #3-8 – Rezoning Petitions

Staff Resource: Tammie Keplinger, Planning, 704-336-5967, tkeplinger@charlottenc.gov

There are six rezoning items on the May 23 agenda. Five of these items (2011-018, 2011-021, 2011- 022, 2011-025, and 2011-026) are decisions. Agenda item #4 – petition 2011-020 (Percival McGuire Commercial Real Estate Development) is for information only. This petition was originally scheduled for a decision on May 23 but cannot be considered by the Council since it did not receive a majority vote by the Zoning Committee. **Attached (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT)** are updated RCAs for each of these agenda items.

Agenda Item #10 – Independence Boulevard Area Plan
Staff Resource: Alysia Osborne, Planning, 704-336-3910, adosborne@charlottenc.gov

The Planning Committee of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission met May 17 and unanimously recommended adoption of the draft Independence Boulevard Area Plan with the recommended changes provided in the May 23 Council agenda. Council action is requested on the plan on May 23.

To review the draft document and other plan information, please visit http://charmeck.org/city/charlotte/planning/AreaPlanning/Plans/IndependenceBlvdAreaPlan/Pages/home.aspx

Agenda Item #11 – Noise Ordinance
Staff Resource: Eric Campbell, City Manager's Office, 704-336-5158, ecampbell@charlottenc.gov

In Friday's packet, Council will receive an informational notebook on the noise ordinance. This notebook outlines City staff's activities and efforts in revising Chapter 15 of the Charlotte City Code entitled 'Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions' to address issues associated with noise.

A copy of the presentation that will be available on Monday night is also included.

Agenda Item #13 – Emergency Relocation Program
Staff Resource: Richard Woodcock, N&BS, 704-336-8572, rwoodcock@charlottenc.gov

On May 23, the City Council will be asked to consider a new Emergency Relocation Program. The program will ensure eligible households that are displaced due to code enforcement actions have access to housing. The requested Council action would also authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the Charlotte Housing Authority that formalizes the phase out of the current program. The funding source on the Request for Council Action noted only Innovative Housing funds. However, the new Emergency Relocation Program will be funded with both Innovative Housing and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and the contract to phase out the current relocation program will be funded with budgeted Community Development Block Grant funds.

In addition, at the May 11, 2011 Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee meeting, Council members asked for the location of Community Link property providers as well as the location and rental rate structures for apartments across the city. Please see the two **attached (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT)** documents containing this information.

Agenda Item #15 – FY2011 Housing Trust Fund Allocation
Staff Resources: Pamela Wideman, N&BS, 704-336-3488, pwideman@charlottenc.gov
Zelleka Biermann, N&BS, 704-336-3380, zbiermann@charlottenc.gov

On May 9, 2011, City Council approved the Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee's recommendation to allocate $16.2M in Housing Trust Fund dollars to:

- Fund subsidized housing developments that receive North Carolina Housing Finance Agency tax credit awards,
- Provide for rapid acquisition activities,
- Fund supportive housing developments with supportive services.

On May 23, 2011, City Council will be asked to approve Housing Trust Fund commitments for two multi-family developments, Westinghouse Senior Apartments and Wesley Heights Senior Apartments. These developments received the top site scores for Mecklenburg County and are expected to receive North Carolina Low-Income Tax Credit awards. The North Carolina Housing Finance Agency is expected to announce FY2011 Tax Credit awards in August 2011. Should a project fail to receive a tax credit award, funds will be returned to the Housing Trust Fund for reallocation. Both developments are in compliance with the newly-adopted Housing Locational Policy.

Westinghouse Senior Apartments
The Westinghouse Senior Apartments will be an 86-unit affordable senior living community. The plans include two residential buildings on a 4.59 acre parcel including a picnic area, walking trail, and sitting areas.

Due to previous concerns about the development of this site, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Housing Partnership held an informational meeting at the Steele Creek Church of Charlotte on May 17, 2011 to provide project details on the design and use of the planned development. More than 300 adjacent property owners were invited to attend this informational session. The Housing Partnership also held an open-house on May 18 and 19 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. for community members to receive additional information about the planned project. Additionally, the Partnership issued a press release to various media outlets with information about the project.

Wesley Heights Senior Apartments
The Wesley Heights Senior Apartments will be a 40-unit affordable senior living community. The plans include one residential building on a 1.52 acre parcel. Additional amenities include raised garden plots, seating areas, walking trails and a covered drop-off at the building entry. Additionally, green building and energy efficiency techniques will be incorporated in design and construction.

PULLED Agenda Item #29 – Technology Service Desk Services Amendment
Staff Resource: Jerry Schwinghammer, BSS, 704-336-6252, jschwinghammer@charlottenc.gov

Business Support Services is pulling item #39 approving a contract amendment with the City's technology service desk vendor, Intratek Computers, Inc. Additional time will allow BSS to incorporate emerging business needs into the service level agreement with Intratek.

Staff anticipates that the RCA on the amendment will be presented for City Council action at the June 13 Council Meeting.

INFORMATION:

Council Budget Adjustments
Staff Resources: Ruffin Hall, Budget & Evaluation, 704-336-3403, rlhall@charlottenc.gov

On May 18, Council met to consider possible changes to the City Manager's recommended budget. Proposed budget adjustments by the Council that received five or more votes will move on to the Council's "Straw Votes" meeting for consideration. The "Straw Votes" meeting is on June 1 at 12:00 p.m.; at this meeting, budget amendments receiving six or more votes are included in the final budget ordinance for consideration at Budget Adoption during the Council Business Meeting on June 13.

The budget adjustments that received five or more votes are listed in the **attached (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT)** worksheet from the May 18 meeting. Staff is currently analyzing the proposed budget adjustments and will provide further detail to Council as part of the "Straw Votes" meeting packet distributed to Council on Friday, May 27.

SB 731 – Design & Aesthetic Controls Legislation
Staff Resource: Dana Fenton, City Manager's Office, 704-336-2009, dfenton@charlottenc.gov

Attached **(SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT)** is (1) a summary of the potential impacts to current and in-development design standards and the rezoning process if the current version of SB 731 (Clodfelter) addressing Design & Aesthetic Controls is enacted into law and (2) current version of SB 731. The summary was prepared by staff in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning.

A concern to many communities will be that development design standards already implemented for 21 neighborhoods, which are outlined in the various area plans, could no longer be applied to single family residential structures in zoning districts with densities of five or fewer dwelling units per acre, unless one of six exemptions are met. Some of these development design standards have been in place since the early 1990s. These standards were developed in collaboration with residents of those communities. Furthermore, there are five additional area plans being prepared at this time with development design standards that would be impacted.

The six exemptions to SB 731 are:

1. Areas designated as local historic districts.
2. Areas listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
3. Individually designated local, State, or national historic landmarks.
4. Development design standards are directly and substantially related to the requirements of applicable fire and life safety codes.
5. Where the development design standards are imposed as conditions relating to the allowance of density bonuses or modifications of open space, setbacks or required

yards, lot coverage, lot size, buffering or screening regulations otherwise generally applicable in a zoning district.

6. Where applied to manufactured or modular housing in a manner.

SB 731 was passed by the Senate on Tuesday, May 17 and has subsequently been assigned to House Government Committee. Delegation members serving on House Government include Rep. Martha Alexander, Rep. Tricia Cotham, Rep. Beverly Earle, and Rep. Rodney Moore.

Small Business Week 2011 Recap

Staff Resource: Dennis Marstall, N&BS, 704-336-3980, dmarstall@charlottenc.gov

The enhanced Small Business Week 2011 included more than 23 events geared towards helping Charlotte's small businesses improve operations or enhance sales and featured the launch of the charlottebusinessresources.com web portal. More than 1,300 people attended the week's events, with a small business expo still to be held this weekend at The Park. To date, the new web portal has registered more than 1,800 hits.

The web portal and the week's activities also provided an opportunity to showcase the many business resource partners that provide free or reduced-cost services to Charlotte-area small businesses such as Central Piedmont Community College's Institute for Entrepreneurship, the Public Library, the Small Business Technology Development Center, and the Charlotte Chamber.

A unique highlight of the week was the creation of the Extreme Makeover: Small Business Edition contest, whereby 3tailer.com was selected by a panel of resource partners to receive five business enhancement services/consultations over the next five weeks in the areas of strategic planning, branding and marketing, sales enhancement, tax advisory services, and human resources audit. The pro bono services are valued at $24,000. 3tailer.com was selected as the winner out of the 46 Extreme Makeover applicants.

Neighborhood & Business Services staff has received positive feedback about this year's Small Business Week activities. Staff will evaluate all the week's events and promotions to determine how the City can maximize Small Business Week 2012 to showcase the services available to helping Charlotte's small businesses thrive and grow.

Food Lion Speed Street 2011

Staff Resource: Emily Cantrell, N&BS, 704-432-2076 ecantrell@charlottenc.gov

The annual Food Lion Speed Street festival will be held Thursday, May 26 through Saturday, May 28 in Uptown Charlotte. The event site has been modified from the 2010 footprint to increase programming around the NASCAR Hall of Fame. The two main concert stages will be located at MLK Blvd and Caldwell Street, and Mint and Church Streets. These stages will host three evening concerts and a variety of activities during the day. Because of the change in stage locations, Trade Street will remain open at all times and the intersection of College Street and MLK Blvd will close between 6:30 p.m. – 4:00 a.m. Thursday through Saturday.

A brief schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, May 25	9:30 a.m.	Streets close for set-up
Thursday, May 26	Noon – 11:00 p.m.	Festival Open
Friday, May 27	Noon – 11:00 p.m.	Festival Open
Saturday, May 28	Noon – 11:00 p.m.	Festival Open
Sunday, May 29	8:00 a.m.	Streets re-open

A map of the event site and a complete operational schedule of street closures are **attached (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT)**.

During the festival, commuters should expect significantly heavier traffic and congestion during morning and evening rush hour. In an attempt to decrease congestion, CATS will re-route several busses away from College Street and increase the frequency of the LYNX Blue Line service.

Information regarding street closures and event details has communicated to Uptown businesses and residents through the Street Use Notice (SUN) and through Center City Partner's website. Additionally, CDOT has released a press release with street closure information.

Mission Serve Community Improvement Projects
Staff Resource: Eugene Bradley, N&BS, 704-336-2265, ebradley@charlottenc.gov

Neighborhood & Business Services is partnering with Mission Serve, Inc. to complete community improvement projects in the Farm Pond and Hidden Valley neighborhoods.

The Farm Pond project, which takes place June 5-10, will provide exterior painting of a four-unit building in the Four Seasons neighborhood to enhance the aesthetics of the community. The Hidden Valley project, July 24-29, will provide roof replacement for ten to twelve homes in the area. It is expected that over 175 volunteers will participate and more than $160,000 will be leveraged between the two projects.

Mission Serve developed their Housing Rehabilitation Program to strengthen neighborhoods and improve the lives of individuals by working to eliminate sub-standard housing through volunteerism and community involvement.

Mission Serve works with municipalities across the country to implement projects. They provide the labor and coordination and the municipality provides the material costs for each project. The workers for the program are comprised of middle and/or high school youth, nationwide, who pay $250 to participate in the program.

For more information on Mission Serve, Inc., visit www.mission-serve.com

May 20 State Legislative Update
Staff Resource: Dana Fenton, City Manager's Office, 704-336-2009, dfenton@charlottenc.gov

Attached (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT) is the weekly State Legislative Update. Changes from the last update are denoted in **bold face** type.

ATTACHMENTS (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT):

City Council Follow-Up Report

Contents include:
--Safety and Code Issues on Lucky Penny St. and Eddleman Rd./Thomasboro Neighborhood
--Sidewalk Retrofit Policy Update

April 26 Economic Development Committee Summary