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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (Sept 5)	Tues (Sept 6)	Wed (Sept 7)	Thurs (Sept 8)	Friday (Sept 9)
LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	11:00 AM DNC Kickoff Event, Time Warner Cable Arena 11:45 AM Business Investment Grant Tour	12:00 PM Housing & Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280		

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, September 5

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Tuesday, September 6

11:00 am DNC Kickoff, Time Warner Cable Arena

11:45 am Business Investment Grant Tour

Wednesday, September 7

12:00 pm Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280

AGENDA: Assisted multi-family housing at transit station areas update; Incentive based inclusionary housing policies action plan update.

September and October calendars are **attached**. (*scroll down for attached*)

INFORMATION:

Park Road Emergency Water Main and Street Repairs

Staff Resource: Jimmy Rhyne, CDOT, 704-336-3905, jrhyne@charlottenc.gov

Park Road continues to be closed between Huntingtowne Farms Lane and Goneaway Road. Repair work is on schedule, and there is a possibility that one in lane in each direction may reopen Friday evening, September 2. Should any lanes of the road be reopened City staff will discuss the appropriate time to resume resurfacing operations on Sharon Road. In addition, a media notice will be issued when some or all of Park Road is reopened. Access to Forest Hill Church remains available.

Status of Old House Located Next To the Franklin Water Treatment Plant

Staff Resource: Timothy J. O'Brien, E&PM, 704-336-3149, tobrien@charlottenc.gov

Engineering and Property Management's Real Estate Division acquired two houses on Auten Road for CMU as part of Homeland Security efforts to protect the Franklin Water Treatment Plant Reservoir from individuals having direct access to the reservoir. The previous owners were notified in 2001 that when they were ready to sell their properties, the City would like to purchase them. In October 2010, the City purchased the two houses. Both parties leased back their properties until recently, while their new homes were being readied for move-in. Both houses must be removed from the property as part of security efforts to protect the reservoir. Only two other houses remain on that side of the street and the City intends to acquire them whenever they come up for sale.

One house in particular, a two story house located at 1200 Auten Road, is over 100 years old.

Due to its age and history, City staff has worked diligently to find a way to save the house. House movers have been contacted and a search for vacant land located near the site has been performed. There was also a newspaper article in *The Charlotte Observer's* August 27, 2011 edition asking the public to call the City if they were interested in the house. Along with the newspaper article, Action 9 News also did a news piece about this property. The publicity resulted in eight serious inquiries. However, most of the interested parties concluded that the estimated \$150,000-\$175,000 cost to lift the house and roll it down the street, dropping power lines along the way, was prohibitive. Only one company has a practical solution, which is to dismantle the house piece by piece and truck it to a new location.

City Staff is in the process of verifying the contractor's experience and working out the legal details to transfer the house to the contractor. The contractor would be expected to remove all improvements to the property and grade the disturbed land. Staff spoke to the previous property owner whose family owned the house for four generations and she is pleased that someone has stepped up to save the house.

August 24 Metropolitan Transit Commission Meeting Summary

Staff Resource: Carolyn Flowers, CATS, 704-336-3855, cflowers@charlottenc.gov

At its meeting on Wednesday, August 24, 2011, the MTC had no action items and heard one information item. MTC members also received an update on the Red Line Task Force.

Red Line Task Force Update

Paul Morris, newly appointed Deputy Secretary for Transit by NC Secretary of Transportation Gene Conti, gave MTC members an update on recent work on the Red Line Rail (RLR) project. As a result of policy directives the Task Force endorsed, the RLR project is important for targeting and capturing the full value around the corridor, not just transit oriented development, but also untapped freight oriented development. Both types of development will finance the funding gap through local tools such as bonds and other funding options. The project vision may result in a different structure for the project, perhaps a regional Joint Power Authority. The Task Force has asked the state to take a leadership role in the project's development.

Blue Line Extension (BLE) New Starts Update

Staff reviewed anticipated project milestones. CATS anticipates FTA's signing the Record of Decision (ROD) on December 15, after which right of way acquisition can begin. CATS hopes to move into Final Design in May 2012. FTA makes its funding commitment at the Final Design stage and invests effort in project evaluation. CATS will perform an Internal Risk Assessment prior to Final Design to identify aspects of the project that have uncertainty and quantify their potential effects on the project's cost and schedule. This will help control risks and costs and will accelerate FTA's Risk Assessment process.

CATS anticipates the state's execution of the State Full Funding Grant Agreement (SFFGA) in December 2011, and FTA execution of the Federal FFGA in December 2012. Project costs will

be finalized when FTA approves entry into Final Design. Project costs will be based on estimates at the 65 percent design level, a higher level of design and more certain estimate than was used for the Blue Line.

Staff will hold two public meetings in the next two months. The Real Estate Acquisition meeting is scheduled for September 27; the Final Environmental Impact Statement public meeting will be held on October 11. Both meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. at Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church.

CATS CEO Report

Under the CEO's report, Carolyn Flowers discussed:

a. Transit Safety:

Transit safety stories have been in the media recently. Studies show a 42 percent decrease in crimes on buses and a 32 percent decrease in crimes on rail. CATS works with local and federal agencies to ensure rider safety.

b. New Service:

CATS has extended the Gold Rush service to the Charlotte School of Law. The Orange Line will make two trips to the school in the morning and four in the afternoon.

c. Legislative Updates:

MTC members will receive an update in September on the proposed transit Legislative Agenda. The Agenda will be an Action Item on the October MTC agenda.

d. Property Acquisition:

CATS has acquired the property for the transit hub at Eastland Mall for \$771,000. A long-term lease for the property would have cost \$2.5 million.

e. Grant Submittals:

CATS has submitted proposals for four federal grants.

The next MTC meeting will be September 28, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS:

City Council Follow-Up Report: *(scroll down for attached)*

Contents include:

-CATS Customer Service

September

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3
4	5 HOLIDAY LABOR DAY	6 11:00a DNC Kick-Off Event, Time Warner Cable Arena 11:45a Business Investment Grant Tour 5:00p mtg cancelled Council Workshop 7:30p mtg cancelled Citizens' Forum	7 12:00p Housing & Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280	8 3:30p mtg cancelled Economic Development Committee, Room 280	9	10
11	12 12:00p Governmental Affairs Committee, Room 280 3:30p Transportation & Planning Committee, Room 280 5:00p Council Business Meeting	13	14 12:00p Economic Development Committee, Room 280	15 7:00a NLC/Siemens Sustainable Infrastructure Tour; Ritz Carlton, 201 East Trade Street	16	17
18	19 5:00p Zoning Meeting	20	21 12:00p Community Safety Committee, Room 280	22 12:00p Restructuring Government Committee, Room 280 2:00p mtg cancelled Transportation & Planning Committee, Room 280 3:30p Economic Development Committee, Room 280	23	24
25	26 3:45p Environment Committee, Room 280 5:00p Council Business Meeting 6:30p Citizens' Forum	27	28 5:30p MTC Meeting, Room 267	29	30	

2011

October

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
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2	3 5:00p Council Workshop 7:30p Citizens' Forum	4	5 12:00p Housing & Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280	6	7	8
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23	24	25	26 5:30p MTC Meeting, Room 267	27 3:30p Economic Development Committee, Room 280	28	29
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30	31					

2011



CHARLOTTE

**City Council
Follow-Up Report**

September 2, 2011

August 22 – Citizens’ Forum

CATS Customer Service

Staff Resource: Carolyn Flowers, CATS, 704-336-3855, cflowers@charlottenc.gov

At the Citizens’ Forum on Monday, August 22, Ms. Ethel Ward addressed the City Council about an incident where the driver did not accept her identification card upon boarding the bus and subsequently contacted security to escort Ms. Ward off the bus. City Council has requested a report on the incident from CATS staff.

The incident occurred on July 29, 2011 at about 2:25 p.m. at the Charlotte Transportation Center (CTC). When Ms. Ward boarded the bus in an outlying area, the bus operator brought to her attention that she had an outdated identification card that CATS no longer issues to seniors. CATS issues transit identification cards to seniors who do not want to use their Medicare card or their driver’s license as proof of age. Although the bus operator told Ms. Ward that her card was invalid and could not be used, he allowed her to remain on the bus en route to the CTC. Upon arrival to the CTC, the bus operator referred Ms. Ward to a CATS station manager on site to resolve the issue of her invalid identification card.

The main function of the station manager is to direct bus traffic, which is one of the busiest jobs in transit operations. The station manager on site at CTS approached Ms. Ward and explained to her that the ID card in her possession was no longer valid and informed her of the procedure to purchase an up-to-date card. The station manager then offered to pay the \$1 for the new card that would allow Ms. Ward to ride the bus that day. When the station manager had to return to his duties of directing bus traffic, he called security which is normal procedure for handling irritated passengers on site. Ms. Ward then became agitated that security had been called to resolve the issue.

There was no intent to embarrass Ms. Ward, but to ensure that she had the correct fare ID card. Ms. Ward did file a complaint with CATS which staff processed and, subsequently, drafted the attached correspondence which was mailed to Ms. Ward in the form of a postcard on August 3, 2011. City staff will ensure that Ms. Ward also receives a copy of this follow up report.



Ethel Ward
Correspondence CAT