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INFORMATION:

March 18 – Tobacco-Free Mecklenburg Kick-Off

Staff Resource: Christina Fath, Human Resources, 704-336-6005, cfath@charlottenc.gov

On March 18, 2015 a Mecklenburg Board of Health rule takes effect prohibiting smoking in all government-owned buildings in Mecklenburg County, the City of Charlotte, and surrounding Mecklenburg County towns, as well as any City, County or Town vehicle, grounds, park, greenway, or parkland. A separate County ordinance makes Mecklenburg County parks and buildings on park property tobacco-free, with the exception of some regional parks and County-owned golf courses. The tobacco-free designation includes electronic-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, water pipes, etc., as well as traditional cigarettes, cigars and pipes.

Mayor and City Council are invited to celebrate the start of a county-wide initiative for better health.

What: Tobacco-Free Mecklenburg Kick-Off

When: March 18, 2015

Time: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Where: Marshall Park (800 E. 3rd Street, Charlotte, NC 28202)

Tobacco use is the number one cause of many chronic illnesses, heart disease, stroke and certain types of cancer. Cutting tobacco use rates will save hundreds of lives and millions of dollars every year. Those are numbers worth celebrating!

Need more reasons?

- Support quitters! Research show that the more difficult it is for people to smoke, the more likely they are to quit - or even start using in the first place.
- Be a model citizen! The less often young people see smoking as a social norm, the less likely they'll start.
- Keep it clean! Smoke-free and tobacco-free policies mean less litter, too. Cigarette butts and tobacco product packaging are among the most littered items in the US. The bulk of that tobacco trash ends up on the ground and in the water.

Learn more at www.tobaccofreemeck.org.



Invitation to March
18 Kick Off for Tobac

March 20 – National Arbor Day Tree Plantings at Eight Area Schools

*Staff Resources: Don McSween, E&PM, 704-336-3459, dmcsween@charlottenc.gov
Erin Oliverio, E&PM, 704-432-2925, eoliverio@charlottenc.gov*

National Arbor Day will be celebrated in Charlotte on March 20 with the planting of cherry trees on the campuses of eight area schools. This project is a collaboration of the Charlotte Tree Advisory Commission, Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools and TreesCharlotte. Council members are invited to join Charlotte Tree Advisory Commission representatives, special guests, faculty and students in planting the trees.

Each school has a different starting time to allow attendees to attend multiple ceremonies, if they wish. Council members can contact City Tree Canopy Manager Erin Oliverio to arrange their participation.

There will be brief remarks by the Tree Advisory Commission and CMS representatives, as well as from any Council Members in attendance, with students receiving tree seedlings to take home to plant. The schools and planting times are:

- Reid Park Academy, 4108 W. Tyvola Road - start time 8:30 a.m.
- WG Byers & Greenville, 1415 Hamilton Street – start time 8:30 a.m.
- Olde Providence Elementary, 3800 Rea Road - start time 9:00 a.m.
- Myers Park Traditional, 3132 Radcliff Avenue – start time TBD
- Hawk Ride Elementary, 9201 Bryant Farms Rd. - start time 12 noon
- Selwyn Elementary, 2840 Colony Road - start time 9:30 a.m.
- Winget Elementary School, 12235 Winget Road - start time 9:00 a.m.
- Alexander Graham Middle, 1800 Runnymede Lane- start time 9:00 a.m.

March 27 – Dedication of Portion of I-485 to Allen Tate

Staff Resource: Danny Pleasant, CDOT, 704-336-3879, dpleasant@charlottenc.gov

Charlotte City Council is invited to attend a ceremony on Friday, March 27, 2015, at 11 a.m., honoring Allen Tate for his service to the community. NCDOT will officially name a portion of the northern section of I-485 in his honor as part of this celebration. More details on the event will follow as the logistics are finalized.

Public-Private Partnership Opportunity

*Staff Resources: Debbie Smith, CDOT, 704-336-3935, dsmith@charlottenc.gov
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The Charlotte Department of Transportation and Innovation & Technology Department will release a Request for Qualification in the coming week exploring a public-private partnership for installation of underground conduit and fiber optic cable. In 2013, the General Assembly of North Carolina ratified House Bill 857 authorizing public entities to utilize public-private

partnership construction contracts. CDOT and Innovation & Technology anticipate significant cost savings in design and construction by using the public-private partnership approach.

Conceptually, this approach would allow the City to share the cost of underground conduit and/or fiber optic cable. The private firm would handle the logistics of design and construction, while the City would provide specifications of what it wanted and enter into a financial agreement to pay for the additional work. This approach would reduce the amount of money the City would pay to have this work done independently, and it would help minimize the disruptions caused by construction. This approach would also speed the installation process because staff anticipates several private firms beginning these types of construction projects in the coming months, much sooner than the time it would take the City to design, bid, and build the projects on its own. The incentive for the private sector firms is the cost sharing arrangement. The cost of adding additional conduit once ground is broken is incremental, and this concept would allow the private firm to pass a portion of the cost of breaking ground to the City.

The infrastructure expansion through the public-private partnership would be used to implement the Intelligent Transportation Systems Master Plan and would potentially be used to improve communications for a number of technologies including video, phone, system to system communications, and general desktop processing. The key locations included in the Request for Qualification (see attached) are critical links in the communications infrastructure for the transportation and information technology networks.

Staff estimates submitting the contract with the selected vendor for the required public hearing and Council approval in May or June 2015, depending on the submittals received and Council Business Meeting schedules.



Fiberoptics.pdf

US DOT Mayor's Challenge and Watch for Me NC

Staff Resources: Scott Curry, CDOT, 704-432-2648, s Curry@charlottenc.gov

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Over the past 15 years, Charlotte has made tremendous strides in becoming a more walkable and bicycle-friendly city. City Council initiatives such as the Transportation Action Plan, the Urban Street Design Guidelines, the Bicycle Plan and the City's emerging Pedestrian Plan (Charlotte Walks) are laying the groundwork for success. Much work still needs to be done and the City continues to look for ways to build upon our momentum. Described below are two opportunities to further advance the City's efforts to enhance its walking and bicycling environment:

US DOT Mayor's Challenge - On January 22, 2015, U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx challenged mayors and local elected officials to improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians of all ages and abilities over the next year. During the "Mayor's Challenge" participating cities will

spend a year helping their communities undertake seven activities to improve safety. The challenge is based on the 2010 USDOT Policy Statement on Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation. [Click here](#) for an overview of the Mayors' Challenge.

The City Manager has accepted the offer to participate in the Mayor's Challenge. Given the City's strong commitment to Complete Streets, staff believes Charlotte will receive high marks on the seven challenge categories. CDOT will lead the City's efforts on this challenge and work closely with other departments as needed.

Watch for Me NC – The "Watch for Me NC" campaign is sponsored by NCDOT, and provides the City with another opportunity to improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians in the community. The City Manager's office agreed that CDOT **should** submit an application for the 2015 Watch for Me NC campaign by the March 27, 2015 deadline. The Watch for Me NC campaign is a comprehensive approach to reducing bicycle and pedestrian crashes and fatalities in North Carolina. The campaign uses multi-media strategies to educate motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. It also provides resources to law enforcement efforts. As the lead agency, CDOT has already secured partnership commitments from CMPD, Carolinas Healthcare Systems Injury Prevention, Novant Health Injury Prevention, Mecklenburg County Health Department, and AARP.

You are Invited to Celebrate Tobacco-Free Mecklenburg!

When: Wednesday, March 18, 2015
11:00 am – 1:00 pm (drop-in)

Where: Marshall Park - 800 E. Third Street, Charlotte
(Rain Location- Lobby of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center)

What: Mecklenburg County's Celebration to Kick Off the Smoke-Free Government Grounds & Tobacco-Free Parks Wellness Initiative

Network with County & City Leaders

Food & Drink

Music

Win a T-Shirt!

Clean Graffiti Demonstration

Recognize Your Positive Role Models on our Community Thank You Note

Quit Resources / Quit Kits

Questions? Call 980.314.9064

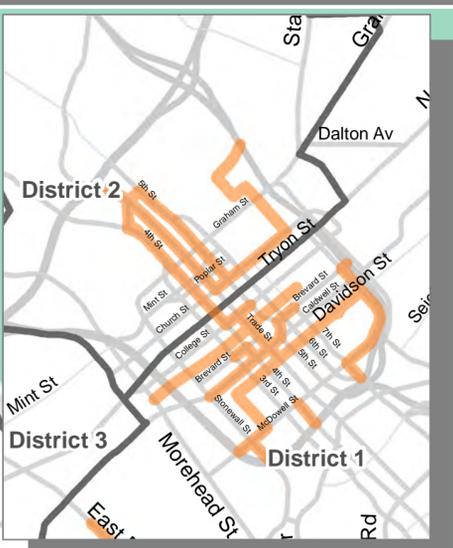
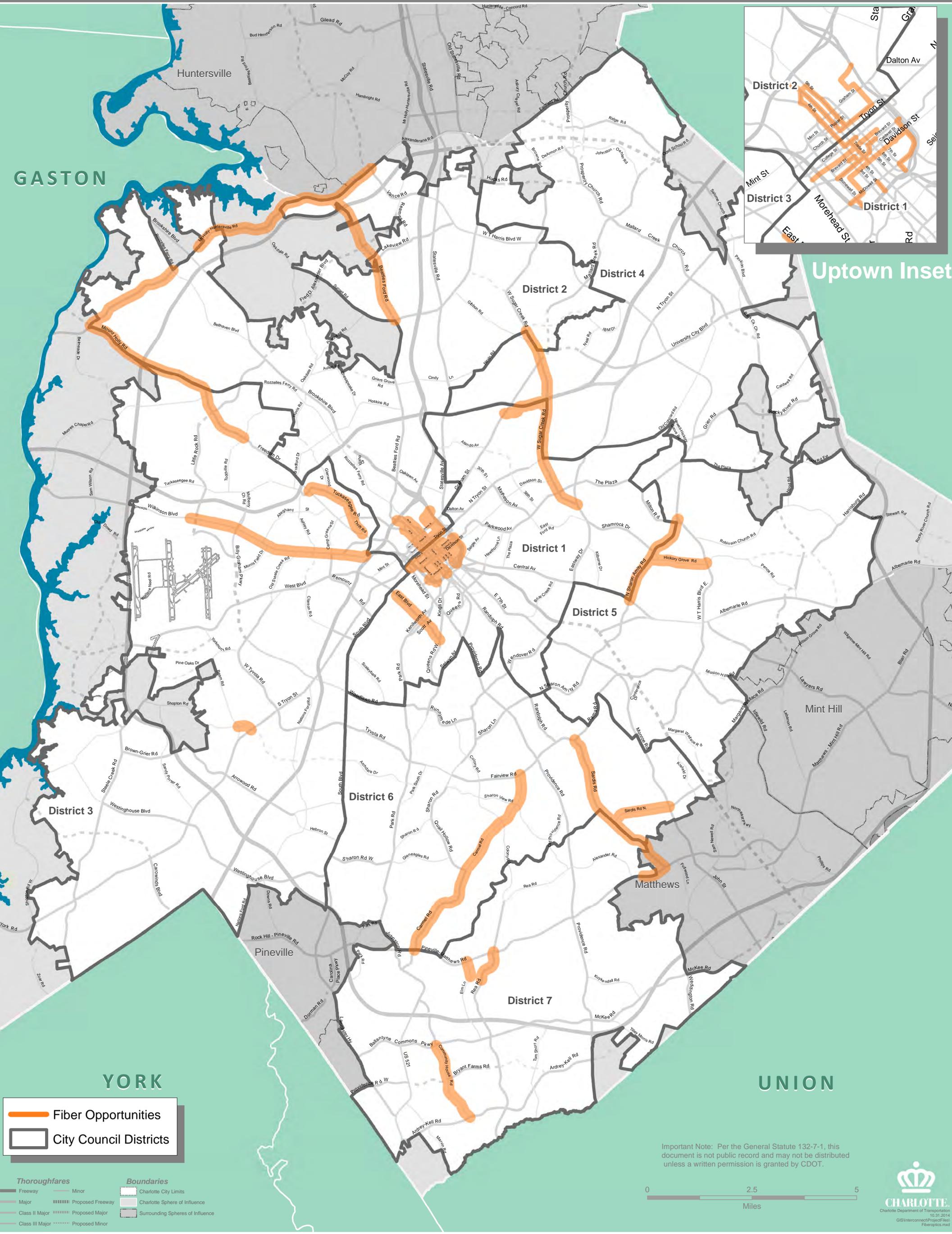
All Signs Point to a Healthier Mecklenburg County



Learn more at tobaccofreemeck.org

Learn how you can play a part in making Mecklenburg County a healthier place to live, work and recreate!

Charlotte Fiber Opportunities



Uptown Inset

Fiber Opportunities
City Council Districts

Thoroughfares
 Freeway
 Major
 Class II Major
 Class III Major

Boundaries
 Minor
 Proposed Freeway
 Proposed Major
 Proposed Minor
 Charlotte City Limits
 Charlotte Sphere of Influence
 Surrounding Spheres of Influence

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