Charlotte City Council

Environment Committee

Meeting Summary for February 20, 2012

COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS

I. **Subject:** **Review of Draft FY2013 Strategic Focus Area Plan for Environment**
Action: None

II. **Subject:** **CLT Sustainability Program**
Action: None

III. **Subject:** **Next Meeting**
Monday, March 19 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 280

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Present: John Autry, Claire Fallon, Beth Pickering, Andy Dulin and David Howard
Time: 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda Package
2. Handout: FY2012 Strategic Focus Area Plan
3. Handout: CLT Sustainability Program

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

Committee Discussion:

Chairman Autry called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked those around the table to introduce themselves. He then turned the meeting over to Assistant City Manager Julie Burch.

I. Review of Draft FY2013 Strategic Focus Area Plan for Environment

Ms. Burch said by way of introduction, a number of the City staff in the room are part of our City staff Environmental Cabinet and that is the staff group that helps to implement the Focus Area Plan and the environmental priorities that Council sets. It also demonstrates that with the environment it takes a number of our departments to come together and collaborate and coordinate the various things that we do to improve the environment. The Committee is being asked to review the draft FY13 Focus Area Plan (copy attached). The Environment Cabinet helped pulled this draft together. The Focus Area Plans are meant to be a very high level strategic look at what the Council would like the City to accomplish over the next five years. It is being considered the five-year document with updates from one year to the next. It is not meant to be a detailed plan and is not meant to mention everything that the City is doing in any particular Focus Area. As you may recall at the Council Retreat, by way of example, Pat Mumford talked a little bit about how the City's mission, the City's vision, the balanced score card and how a Focus Area Plan all mesh together and then on down to Strategic Operating Plans and even individual employee performance plans. These are meant to be a strategic direction to the City Manager and staff.

Ms. Burch continued and said they would like to have some feedback from the Committee, conversation, dialogue, etc. to give us some guidance, in terms of any further review that you would like us to do and then we would be back to you at your March 19th Committee meeting with whatever those changes might be and hopefully ask then for your recommendation to the full Council for adoption. Right now we are targeting the March 26th Council meeting for all of the Focus Area Plans, not just this one, so that is generally the schedule that we are going with.

Autry: Your approach to the Focus Area Plan this year is a little different than what had been exhibited in the past. Can you speak a little bit about where the change in direction comes from?

Burch: The City Manager and the Manager's Office Leadership Team, feel like the Focus Area Plans were getting a little lengthy and kind of getting more into being action plans as opposed to strategy. The short word for all of that is to streamline all the Focus Area Plans and get it down to one or two pages because in some ways when it gets to 4 or 5 pages, like the existing Environment Focus Area Plan, by the time you get to page 3 your eyes start to glaze over. But to streamline and keep it very focused and knowing full well that there is a lot of back-up behind each of those higher level strategies that cascades down through the organization and into individual department responsibilities.

Autry: Looking at the draft here, there is a lot going on behind the curtain that isn't necessarily exhibited here in the document. That being the case, I believe there is a concern about how that plays out in the public eyes, about what the City is actually doing to help improve our environment and continue to work on improving the quality of life for our citizens.

Burch: One comment I would mention and that is the Focus Area Plans are definitely public documents, no question about that, but not necessarily meant to be the public information or public education document about environment, community safety or any of the other three for

that matter. This is really meant to be your policy document and then we in turn will take this information and this direction and transform it into various ways to communicate with the public.

Fallon: I just thought it should probably be more formalized so it did reach the public because it doesn't reach them otherwise.

Burch: They are posted on the website and that is how they are out there. We've had conversation in other ways too that some of the language that we might use here would be language that hopefully Council will understand and the staff understands, but not necessarily be easily translatable to the general public who is not dealing with this as closely as we all are. Again, we felt like we need to have a different kind of way to communicate to the public the strategies that Council is all about.

Fallon: We know people don't go to the website.

Dulin: Ms. Fallon, I do get calls from citizens, relatively frequently, whether it is this one or one of the other Strategic Plans, and more people than we know do go to our website, www.charmeck.org, and they look through it. I ask people every day how they got my cell phone number and they say they got it off the web and I say, well perfect. That is how I want it because that means they've been there looking for the information they need. When somebody is really ready to zero in on a recycling issue or whatever it might be, I've been very impressed with how they go to this document first. We do this throughout the year and very rarely do we say well let's go back and see what the Strategic Focus Area Plan says to see what we need to do. We worked really hard on this the last couple years and I was pretty pleased with it.

Fallon: It has been refined down.

Autry: That was one of the questions that I had or the concern that I had, was how it was so scaled back with no specified initiatives, very high-level strategy statements, not much to take real action on, or look at for action. Is there some way that this could be refined a little bit to help accommodate some of those areas like air quality, water quality, VMTs?

(Council member Howard arrived)

Burch: The purpose of today is to start having the discussion with the Committee, get your feedback and reaction to all of this. As we discussed earlier, some indicators are actually in other Focus Area Plans such as the VMT example being in the Transportation Plan. For example, last year's Environment Plan actually had a statement in it and we could certainly add it to this one, if we needed to, about other initiatives and other Focus Area Plans being related to the Environment. We are not trying to duplicate or have a lot of overlap with each other.

Autry: I think that would be a good thing to consider adding to this document.

Dulin: One reason why this is different from what you've seen before is in all of my previous

planning retreats we did planning and this year we didn't do any planning. We did updates, so the four new Councilmembers, three of them in room, weren't privy to any planning. It was a nice retreat, but we weren't in small groups talking about what the Environmental Committee would like to see or what you thought about the other one. I don't know what the new Committee is, but that was the decision of the group that put that together.

Howard: That new committee is the Council-Manager Committee, which I was on, and the goal was to spend more time on big picture issues and not spend it on the Focus Area Plans, which don't normally change a lot and leave that to the committee to make adjustments to the plans. We spend so much time on this that we never look at big picture issues in the retreats. It would be the committee that would kind of hone in on this a little bit.

Dulin: I would agree with that and actually, I can read through this and get it all.

Pickering: I wish I thought to bring the previous Focus Area Plan to kind of compare side-by-side.

Burch: We have copies of the current Focus Area Plan (copy attached), if you would like that for a reference.

Pickering: I thought there were for some reason real specific target goals. We have a couple here I see, the increase in recycle materials, 30% increase in tonnage and a 50% tree canopy by 2050 so I'm assuming since those are the only two we have in here specific goals that was a choice that we made to not have specific goals in here. Is that correct?

Burch: Yes, just trying to streamline it.

Autry: We struggled with this in conversations leading up to this point and I think that what I had left those discussions with was that there were a couple of areas where we would like to see some more definitive harder statements that someone can hang their hat on a little better than this, and not really get down into the weeds either, but maybe go from 50,000 feet to 30,000 feet. Especially for things like air quality, energy efficiency, water quality and even though those are covered in other plans, maybe they could be addressed. Is that possible?

Burch: Certainly it is possible. As described earlier it is really up to the Committee now to provide guidance to us so we can come back with your wishes, in terms of what you would like for the Focus Area Plan to look like, again trying to keep it within broader parameters, a bit more streamlined than what they've been.

Autry: Right, it is not an action plan, it is a Focus Area Plan and it is a strategy statement. If we could maybe pull it back a little more towards about that 30,000 foot level, I think it would be a little easier for people to see from folks outside of our little circle here to help communicate that information in a more responsible way.

Howard: The only thing that I would say is just so that we don't duplicate our own work

because if it is in another Plan, then maybe it is more of a document that is attached that says, "these are our environmental goals in other plans," not to necessarily restate it in two different places. Maybe just state that if Transportation Plan has certain goals, and I guess that would be the only other one, because it wouldn't be Community Safety or Economic Development. I would hate to see us create new goals around that in this document.

Autry: I don't want that because I really think it is just a communication and even though this is not the public communication documentation, the public is just looking at it.

Howard: It is kind of where the staff goes when they create their work plans. For instance, there is a memo in here, a follow-up to the Way Finding conversation we had in this meeting last time and this same conversation came up in the Transportation Committee meeting. I'd like to make sure the Transportation Committee sees this too because we just had this. We are actually already doing some of the same things; let's just make sure it doesn't wind up getting in two different documents and wind up going up to two different staffs.

Fallon: This one [Fy12 Focus Area Plan] is much more comprehensive. It may be wordier, but it is much more comprehensive than the new one. It is more easily understood, more focused on what we want to accomplish.

Burch: This one is much more of an action plan. Again, just trying to kind of bring it up a little bit and keep it at a higher level. It doesn't mean these kinds of activities go away. It means that they are just going to show up in a Strategic Operating Plan of the department, or even further down into an employee's individual work plan for the year.

Fallon: But we use them as guidelines still.

Burch: They are more than guidelines. There is still going to be a whole lot more detail behind the curtain and we would still have an action plan that the staff would use to back up the targets on the Council's Focus Area Plan.

Autry: How was that plan developed?

Burch: That will be done by the Environment Cabinet which is made up of the 9 or 10 Department Directors, whose departments touch or are very much engaged in environmental activities, some of whom are in the room this afternoon.

Autry: Do you have the action to go forward with here?

Burch: What I'm hearing is that we perhaps come down to 30,000 feet, that we may be up at 50,000 and to get more measurable goals and I understood too, and Mr. Autry you mentioned air, water, energy, greenhouse gas reduction. If that is the general guidance of the Committee we can develop some targets or initiatives that make more specific reference to those categories if that is what the Committee would like us to bring back.

Autry: Also the reference of that paragraph that was in last year's Focus Area Plan.

Burch: Okay, we will bring back a revised Plan on March 19th, which is your next meeting.

Autry: Wonderful.

Burch: Very good, we will get to work on that. The other thing that I'm going to mention, for the benefit of the new Councilmembers, but certainly for all of you, we are going to go back through this current adopted plan and give you a really brief status report on progress on each of those. Usually it's done closer to the end of the fiscal year and in fact, several of these targets actually mentioned completion by June of 2012, but particularly since we are starting down this path of reviewing the draft of the Focus Area Plan it might be helpful for you to see the progress we are making on those things we set out for ourselves this past year and that Council adopted this past year. We are going to try to get that pulled together so you will have that for the benefit of your March 19th conversation.

Dulin: I think that is a really good idea.

II. <u>CLT Sustainability Program</u>

Ms. Burch said at your last Committee meeting there was a question raised about recycling initiatives at the Airport and in response to that we are coming back with an information presentation by Jerry Orr and his staff. They are going to talk a little bit broader than recycling, although that will be a focus of the presentation, but to talk a little bit about sustainability efforts, in general, at Charlotte Douglas Airport. No action is being requested. This is strictly for information and conversation.

(Committee watched a 6 minute video)

Jerry Orr: The Airport is a business and we have to operate under business principles. My background is I'm a small business man and I operate the Airport the same way. The revenues need to exceed your expenses. It is important to us as we start looking at these things to look at it from a business perspective. You saw the coffee grounds being recycled. That saves us money on garbage. Donald figured out that you could pour coffee grounds on fire ant hills and it kills the fire ants so it started out pouring the coffee grounds to get rid of the fire ants on the Airport grounds. He didn't stop there and he kept delving into the garbage and he figured out how to do a recycling facility, but it didn't matter that the guy put the aluminum can into the plastic container. We dump everything out on the floor and people will sort through it and we will market the stuff for its highest value. If you have a whole bunch of paper and you take it to the recycler you get the newspaper price, which is nothing, but if you separate out the high quality paper you can get a pretty good price for it. That is what we will do with all of our garbage flow, not only will we save an awful lot on landfill costs, but in 3 or 4 years we will repay our investment and we will actually make money off of garbage. You saw the solar collectors and the way we structured that. We made money from day one on that installation.

Autry: I saw in the recycle center you employ 12 people.

Orr: We will employ 12. It is not up and running yet. We will have it up and running at the end of March.

Autry: And those will be CLT City employees?

Orr: No, they will be employees of a third party contractor. We have contracted with that third party so they will hire the people and they will run the facility and also market the material that comes out the other side.

Autry: You still think we will make money after we pay the contractor and you've got all that set up?

(Council member Fallon left the meeting)

Orr: I'll guarantee you.

Howard: Jerry, you and your staff never cease to amaze me. Wonderful work and great video. That is something I think, at some point, we can get in front of the full Council and get some media attention to it. Charging stations – so the business area is actually on the top deck or is that a space inside of the deck?

Orr: It is in our immediate business valet deck which is the one out on Wilkinson Boulevard, $10 per day, pull up in the deck, get out and they will park your car in the deck for you. You step on the bus and be at the front door in three minutes.

Howard: That is where the new entrance will go right by there, right?

Orr: The new entrance will go right by there.

Howard: How many charging stations are in that deck?

Orr: Four, two pedestals and two charging stations on each pedestal.

Howard: Any plans to maybe expand that or did you leave room to expand that as demands grow?

Orr: We have the capability, the power and everything set up there to expand as the need grows. We elected not to put it in our front deck because we are going to tear the building down within a year, but cars come in there sometimes and stay a week so we could have one car that occupies the whole charging area.

Dulin: Jerry, the recycling center that has got the solar panels on top, it is interesting to me and this is ramping up my own education on the panels, but it looked to me like that building was

completely roof covered with solar panels and yet it is only generating 30% of the energy that that one building needs. That building, if it is a recycling center, that means that it is just a big room and it is not like we are powering up 22,000 square feet of offices in there. It is full of equipment I guess.

Orr: It is not powering the recycling center, it is powering our office building out on Wilkinson Boulevard; 130,000 square feet with several hundred people in there, 251 kilowatt hours at peak.

Dulin: It is close enough to get jet fuel wash that comes off the airplanes as they are coming and going. They are not completely clean as they are coming in and taking off I don't think, are they?

Orr: Certainly they are. There is no jet fuel residue and we have had air quality studies done by experts who test for that. That is all of our air quality residue comes from the steam plants on the river and vehicles on the roadways. Patrick is an intern that has been with us for a little less than a year and my deal with Patrick was that he could stay if he would document for me $500,000 this year in energy savings and he reported a month ago that he had met that target. In addition to doing that, Patrick developed our entire sustainability documentation program which tells you how to do it, guide book, source book and he developed the templates where any employee can submit an idea. He also has compiled this sustainability catalog which documents just about everything we have. You can go to a website and you can look at a needle on a gage there that is telling you real time how much power is being generated right now with our solar farm.

Dulin: Is the solar farm different than the stuff we are using on the roof or is that the solar farm?

Orr: The one that is working is on the roof of the Bi-Lo building out on Wilkinson Boulevard, a 130,000 square foot building. The one that we are putting in is over in the middle of the airfield.

Pickering: I just want to say what a fabulous job that is. It is unbelievably impressive, but you are the brains behind it, Mr. Orr and that small business mentality to make money and save the environment is just incredible.

Autry: I really commend you for taking these steps and these actions and putting the plan together, implementing it and showing in the most positive way and the way we want to see exemplified and replicated throughout the City.

Burch: Was there a question last time, I wasn't here, about the airlines and what they are doing as far as recycling? I thought while we have Jerry here, he could have a conversation about that and answer questions as to what our major tenants or major airlines are doing.

Orr: My job is to keep the airlines happy and the way to keep them happy is to make money for them and make them successful. So I listen patiently when the airlines come and tell me what they want and how they want it done and then we figure out what they need and go do that and then tell them how great they are. That works very, very well and we've been working with the airlines and we bought 10 electric tractors with tugs you see out there on the ramp last year and we are working on some more this year. We have 20 electrical chargers out there so they can

charge them. We have some electric push back tractors so that you can push the airplane back without burning fuel. We are also working with US Airways on a fuel conservation program. If you don't burn fuel you benefit on the air quality, benefit on the cost and it is a win/win all the way around. So, we are working on a program that will control the airplane from the time it is pushed back from the gate until the time it is in the air and the goal is to anticipate all the possible ways on your computer so you don't start up the engine until you have a straight shot to take off. We are also working with the FAA to clean up the way they land and take off and making it as efficient as possible with the same goal of saving fuel.

Howard: And I am sure we charge them some portion of the fuel for pushing them back? Is that why we have electric vehicles and not ones that have fuel because it is more efficient?

Orr: Actually, they have to buy the fuel so it saves them on their fuel costs.

Howard: Okay, so it's not a pass through. I thought those vehicles belonged to us, but they belong to them.

Orr: The new vehicles belong to us and the old ones that are being replaced belong to them.

Howard: And we can do it more efficiently so it is cheaper for them to use us to do it. I'm trying to get my hands around it.

Orr: It is their people driving the tractors and the tractors have their decals on them. We just own them.

Dulin: Are they leasing those back from us or using them at our expense?

Orr: They lease them.

Dulin: What was the source of funding for those? I'm all for it and it is amazing to me that you can get an electric vehicle heavy enough to push a plane back.

Orr: You can get a federal grant that pays the difference between a gas vehicle and an electric vehicle.

Dulin: The electric vehicle is roughly how much more?

Orr: About $4,000.

Autry: So the federal grant offsets that difference in the price?

Orr: Yes.

Howard: What about the trash from the planes? I remember at one point there was a conversation about your working with the airlines.

Orr: All the trash will go to Bob Lucas's facility. We will start with the trash out of the terminal and build on that so every bit of trash on the entire Airport complex will go through Bob's facility.

Howard: Is that common in other airports? Are we ahead of this trend?

Orr: We always think we are on the leading edge and in the south you never like to be copied, but we are kind of ahead of them.

Howard: I hope we are sharing these best practices when you get your center going with other places.

III. Next Meeting

Monday, March 19, 201 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 280.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Environment Committee

Monday, February 20, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 280

Committee Members:	John Autry, Chair Claire Fallon, Vice Chair Beth Pickering Andy Dulin David Howard
Staff Resources:	Julie Burch

AGENDA

I. <u>Review of Draft FY2013 Strategic Focus Area Plan for Environment</u>
Staff Resources: Julie Burch and Environment Cabinet members

The Committee is asked to review the draft plan <u>attached</u> in preparation for making a recommendation to Council.

II. <u>CLT Sustainability Program</u>
Staff Resources: Jerry Orr, Bob Lucas, and Haley Gentry

In response to the Committee's request, staff will present an overview of recycling initiatives at Charlotte Douglas International Airport. This is for information only; no action is requested.

III. <u>Next Meeting: Monday, March 19 at 3:00 pm in Room 280</u>

<u>Attachment</u>: Follow-up Report from January 17, 2012 Committee Meeting

Distribution:	Mayor/City Council	Curt Walton, City Manager	Leadership Team
	Bob Hagemann	Stephanie Kelly	Environmental Cabinet
	Jerry Orr	Bob Lucas	Haley Gentry

FY2013 Strategic Focus Area Plan – *DRAFT*

"Charlotte will become a national leader in environmental sustainability, preserving our natural resources while balancing growth with sound fiscal policy."

The City of Charlotte recognizes that environmental stewardship is fundamentally important to quality of life and essential to maintaining a vibrant economy. Protecting our natural resources, promoting conservation, and improving the environment all enhance the City's mission to preserve the quality of life of its citizens.

Charlotte will become a national leader in environmental sustainability by:

- Promoting and participating in the development of an environmentally sustainable community;
- Leading by example by practicing environmental stewardship in City operations and facilities;
- Seeking and supporting collaborative and regional solutions to environmental problems;
- Facilitating the growth of the clean energy industry, including the alternative energy sector.

Focus Area Initiative	Measure	Prior Year Actual	Current Year Target
Promote and participate in the development of a sustainable community	Make land use decisions consistent with adopted plans and policies		Make rezoning decisions consistent with area plans and/or staff recommendations, incorporating environmentally sensitive site design components
	Improve waste reduction in the community		30% increase in tonnage of recycled materials over FY11 baseline
	Refine and implement strategies to achieve 50% tree canopy coverage in 2050		50% tree canopy coverage by 2050
	Engage the community in advancing a healthy environment		Develop and enhance community programs that reduce individuals' impact the environment
Lead by example by practicing environmental stewardship in city operations and facilities	Reduce the environmental impact of City facilities and operations		Document resource consumption trends and environmental initiatives that demonstrate the organization's commitment to environmental stewardship

Focus Area Initiative	Measure	Prior Year Actual	Current Year Target
Seek and support collaborative and regional solutions to environmental problems	Collaborate and participate in public and private sector partnerships to positively impact air quality, energy efficiency, water resources and reduction of waste		Continue work with partners such as Envision Charlotte and public and private entities
	Leverage increased public/private partnership opportunities in support of the Democratic National Convention		Include legacy infrastructure in City's energy and environmental initiatives
Facilitate the growth of the clean energy industry, including the alternative energy sector	Work with partners through the Charlotte Regional Partnership's Energy Capital Project to attract and grow the clean energy industry sectors in Charlotte		Participate on the Industry Advisory Board to further goals of City and New Energy Capital

Council Environment Committee
January 17 Follow-up Report

Q: Council member Howard asked about the City's efforts to communicate the meaning of Wayfinding signs and the associated numbers.

A: The Wayfinding and Parking Guidance System became fully operational in January 2012. City staff is currently working with Kimley Horn and Associates and Charlotte Center City Partners to configure the dynamic (LED) components of the system. This system includes the parking deck signs that display numbers of spaces available and the gateway signs coming into the city that will display various messages for traffic management. Staff has used these signs over the past few months to provide information to motorists about heavy traffic during arena and stadium events. City staff and Center City Partners are meeting to prepare for the upcoming CIAA tournament by incorporating wayfinding through website links to parking and finalizing messages to be displayed on the gateway signs into Center City. These messages will direct motorists to parking on various streets. City staff is proactively working on a number of initiatives both internally with various departments and externally with Charlotte Center City Partners to communicate the meaning of the wayfinding signs. The initiatives include the following:

<u>City of Charlotte Find Your Way Communications and Marketing Plan</u>
Staff are finalizing the communications and marketing plan to educate motorists about the wayfinding and parking guidance system. The program will be marketed under the umbrella of "Find Your Way" in order to market the program in a direct manner. Components to the communications plan include, but are not limited to:

- Website presence (FindYourWayCharlotte.com)
- Utility bill inserts, brochures
- Information to City Council and Center City Partners leadership
- Informational piece on the City's cable access channel
- Future 'App' for mobile phone usage

<u>Charlotte Center City Partner's (CCCP) Find Your Center website</u>
The CCCP Find Your Center website will provide information on all participating parking decks with locations, real-time data on spaces available and rates. This website is expected to be fully operational by the end of February.

<u>Focus Groups</u>
In order to test the public's understanding of the wayfinding and parking guidance signs, a series of focus groups will be held in late May/early June. City staff will report findings to the City Council and determine if any adjustments should be made to the system.

Staff Resources: Vivian Coleman, CDOT, vcoleman@charlottenc.gov, (704)-336-4275
Danny Pleasant, CDOT, dpleasant@charlottenc.gov, (704)-336-3879

Council Environment Committee
January 17 Follow-up Report

Q: Council member Fallon asked about efforts underway by Habitat for Humanity on "no power" initiatives. This reference is to their use of solar energy or renewables.

A: Habitat for Humanity is currently building their homes to "System Vision" standards. These standards are used by NC Housing Finance Agency as a building standard for builders to qualify for receipt of funding through their Affordable Housing Program. Under this program, Habitat can guarantee their homeowners who have an 1100 sq. ft. house that their average monthly heating and cooling cost will not exceed $37. If it does, Habitat will pay the difference. So far, Habitat has not had to pay any difference. Please note that this is heating and cooling costs only.

Regarding Habitat's use of solar energy on their homes, they have two homes that have solar panels on them. One is a roof mounted thermal system used for pre-heating water used throughout the house. The second is an "evacuated tube system" that is used for the same purpose, but is much more efficient. Both of these systems were donated, but Habitat has not found a way to incorporate them into their homes as a standard feature, due to the costs involved.

In March, three of Habitat's staff members are going to participate in a two day workshop facilitated by an organization in West Virginia, "New Vision Renewable Energy", that is going to teach them how to build solar panels (Photovoltaic, Thermal, and Evacuated Tube). New Vision is trying to de-mystify the science of solar energy, and encourage Habitat to consider manufacturing their own panels, or buying panels from them. They would also teach Habitat how to design these systems as well, using off the shelf technology. They maintain that solar technology, especially panels, has become a commoditized industry, which should benefit all who wish to make this move. While this two day conference is to introduce the concept, Habitat hopes follow up very shortly with some planning that will help determine the feasibility of this long term.

Habitat is also looking into the ability to sell solar credits that they might accrue as a result of any solar equipment used on their ReStore and Volunteer Housing.

Staff Resource: Pam Wideman, N&BS, pwideman@charlottenc.gov , (704)-336-3488

Q: Council member Dulin asked about the impacts to providing more recycling at bus stops, such as Myers Park High School and Walmart on N. Tryon.

A: There are approximately 3,600 CATS bus stops. Approximately 560 of these stops or shelters have trash containers for transit patron use; none of the stops have recycling containers**.**

There are several factors to be considered relative to providing recycling at CATS bus stops. These include the cost of purchasing durable recycling containers and the labor costs to provide regular collection at a frequency that ensures the areas remain clean and safe.

Given current budget challenges for CATS, additional cost would make it difficult to institute a comprehensive recycling program at bus stop locations at this time. Contracting with a vendor to service only a few locations would not be cost effective.

Additionally, the implementation of a comprehensive recycling program requires consideration of factors beyond the cost of purchasing and servicing the recycling container. For instance, as a general rule, bus stop amenities (e.g. benches, shelters, trash cans) are provided at a given stop based on need, i.e. passenger boardings. However, there are many locations that despite the amount of usage, CATS' ability to provide these amenities is constrained by site conditions that are beyond our control. For instance, not all bus stop locations are configured in the same way or provide adequate, level space to securely place amenities.

This is the situation encountered at the bus stop at the Walmart on N. Tryon referenced by Council member Dulin. CATS would like to upgrade this stop with shelters, benches and trash cans. However, CATS has been unable to acquire the necessary easement rights from the adjacent property owners. Staff is continuing to work with the property owners to address this situation.

With regard to the CATS bus stop at Myers Park High School, it would be possible for CATS to place a recycling container there; however, it would not be cost effective to contract with a vendor to service a single bus stop location. CMS has started a recycling program at some of its facilities that is branded through Coca-Cola. Given the close proximity of the CATS stop and shelter to the playground and school grounds, a possible solution might be to request CMS to place one of their recycling bins at the bus stop. CATS' staff will explore this possibility with CMS.

In July 2011, CATS instituted a recycling program at the Transit Center, due in large part to a state grant that defrayed the cost of purchasing the containers. This program will soon be expanded along the entire light rail line. It has been our experience that while the recycling containers are well marked, contamination with non-recyclable materials does occur and is limiting the effectiveness of the program. However, staff continues to monitor this activity to determine what adjustments might be necessary.

Staff Resource: John Trunk, CATS, jtrunk@charlottenc.gov, 704- 432-2560

FY2012 Strategic Focus Area Plan

"Charlotte will become a national leader in environmental and energy sustainability, preserving our natural resources while balancing growth with sound fiscal policy."

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- Seeking and supporting collaborative and regional solutions to environmental problems;
- Facilitating the growth of the clean energy industry, including the alternative energy sector.

As illustrated in the graphic below, the Environmental Focus Area is interrelated to <u>all</u> of City Council's other focus areas.

Specific initiatives in Economic Development and Transportation Focus Area Plan relate directly to Charlotte's environmental goals. These FAPs include initiatives for growing jobs in the energy sector, land-use planning, and increased use of transit and other transportation choices.

Environment

I. ENV Focus Area Initiative: PROMOTE AND PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

A. FY12 Measure: Increase awareness of the environment as a priority for the community

1. FY12 Target: Explore hosting a sustainability expo/conference and other educational opportunities in conjunction with and funded by other partners.

2. FY12 Target: Increase the exposure of the Power2Charlotte, CurbIt recycling campaign, and other educational/outreach efforts in coordination with other partners.

3. FY12 Target: Implement the nine (9) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant projects that are catalyst projects or promote energy investments in revitalization areas, and the Neighborhood Energy Challenge.

4. FY12 Target: Collect baseline data on environmental variables in preparation for adding those variables to the biennial Quality of Life study.

5. FY12 Target: Increase access to local foods by: initiating a fresh foods text amendment; encouraging the development of community gardens through Neighborhood Matching Grants program, and collaboration with other partners.

B. FY12 Measure: Make wise decisions regarding growth and development that are consistent with adopted plans and policies (including the GDP-Environment) and minimize negative environmental impacts of land use and development.

1. FY12 Target: Ninety-five percent (95%) of rezoning decisions consistent with adopted area plans and/or staff recommendations.

2. FY12 Target: Eighty percent (80%) of approved rezonings incorporate environmentally sensitive site design components (Implementation of GDP-Environment)

C. FY12 Measure: Responsibly manage Charlotte's natural resources including the tree canopy, streams, ponds, and wetlands.

1. FY12 Target: Implement the City's Tree Canopy Investment Strategy and measure the effectiveness of the Tree Ordinance and the Tree Planting Programs in meeting the tree canopy goal.

2. FY12 Target: Keep 100% of stream mitigation investment local by utilizing City's Stream Mitigation Bank, the first municipally-managed mitigation bank in the nation, rather than the state-managed bank, whenever public project remediation is required.

D. FY12 Measure: In support of State of North Carolina and City recycling goals, increase single family and multi-family recycling participation.

1. FY12 Target: Achieve a 30% increase in tonnage of recycled materials over FY10 baseline data.

II. ENV Focus Area Initiative: LEAD BY EXAMPLE BY PRACTICING ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP IN CITY OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

A. FY12 Measure: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from City facilities and operations.

1. FY12 Target: Adopt a greenhouse gas action plan by June 2011 and begin implementation in FY2012

2. FY12 Target: Complete seven (7) of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant projects designed to improve efficiency of City facilities.

B. FY12 Measure: Demonstrate environmental sustainability in the management of the City's vehicle fleet.

FY12 Target: Achieve 4.3 mpg across CATS Bus Operations fleet vehicles, by continuing acquisition of and maximizing the use of fuel efficient and hybrid vehicles, maintaining and monitoring idling practices, continuing to control vehicle speed through governor settings, use of battery power for vehicle maintenance when feasible, and continued use of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel

FY12 Target: Improve the efficiency of the overall City fleet from 2011 levels by purchasing alternative fuel vehicles as funding allows in accordance with the fleet management policy, purchasing smaller vehicles that meet operational requirements, and by seeking grant funding to outfit current vehicles with emissions reducing technology.

C. FY12 Measure: Demonstrate environmental sustainability in the design, construction, and operation of City facilities.

1. FY12 Target: Prepare annual report on the implementation of the Policy for Sustainable Facilities, reporting project decisions, common facility metrics, and recommended policy adjustments.

2. FY12 Target: Per Clean Water Act requirements, develop and begin implementing plans for stormwater best practices for priority field operations by June 2012.

3. FY12 Target: One-hundred percent (100%) compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirement for all five wastewater plants.

4. FY12 Target: Divert 70% of materials from Charlotte Douglas Airport's waste stream via a new airport recycling center.

D. FY12 Measure: Implement environmentally-conscious practices in the acquisition and disposition of City resources.

1. FY12 Target: Conduct first year review of the effectiveness of Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy by December 2012 and collect baseline info so that specific improvement target may be set in the future.

E. FY12 Measure: Identify and advance renewable energy projects leveraging City resources.

1. FY12 Target: Implement the initial construction of a Combined Heat and Power project at McAlpine Wastewater Management Facility by June 2012.

2. FY12 Target: Develop and implement a solar energy pilot project on CATS-owned bus canopies by June 2012.

F. FY12 Measure: Increase awareness of the environment as a priority for the City

1. FY12 Target: Communicate the City's environmental successes and the other ways the City is "leading by example."

III. ENV Focus Area Initiative: SEEK AND SUPPORT COLLABORATIVE AND REGIONAL SOLUTIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

A. FY12 Measure: Collaborate and participate in public and private sector partnership's environment and visioning initiatives.

1. FY12 Target: Collaborate with City's Energy Partners and other agencies to leverage resources and enhance the impact of cooperative projects.

2. FY12 Target: Identify opportunities to participate in/pursue the development of a coordinated sustainability plan for the community with Charlotte Center City Partners and other partners

B. FY12 Measure: Lead and support efforts to improve Charlotte and regional air quality by promoting long-term reduction in ozone causing emissions.

1. FY12 Target: Implement projects and partnerships with business/management organizations to increase travel by alternative modes to/from/within two mixed-use activity centers by June 2012.

2. FY12 Target: Continue collaboration and participation with COG's CONNECT Regional Air Quality Work Team, the Regional Air Quality Board and Clean Air Works, the Mecklenburg County Division of Air

Quality and the State of NC Division of Air Quality to implement strategies to improve air quality.

C. FY12 Measure: Continue a leadership role in regional water resources planning

1. FY12 Target: Utilities staff to continue participation in regional Water Management Group and be actively involved with committee work.

IV. ENV Focus Area Initiative: FACILITATE THE GROWTH OF THE CLEAN ENERGY INDUSTRY, INCLUDING THE ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SECTOR

A. FY12 Measure: Work with partners through the Charlotte Regional Partnership's Energy Capital Project to attract and grow the clean energy industry sectors in Charlotte

1. FY12 Target: Develop a clean energy strategy by January, 2012 with a particular focus on assisting small businesses.

B. FY12 Measure: Improve the regulatory environment by clarifying and enhancing City ordinances that facilitate environmentally and energy sustainable practices.

1. FY12 Target: Initiate alternative energy text amendments to better define and provide guidance for environmental land uses by June 2012.

C. FY12 Measure: Take a leadership role in changes to policy at the state and federal level

1. FY12 Target: Support energy related legislation that would enhance and solidify Charlotte's emergence as an energy center in the United States.

CLT Sustainability Program

Charlotte·Douglas INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

CLT's Commitment to Sustainability: *Identify and pursue fiscally responsible practices and strategies that minimize environmental impacts to achieve a sustainable enterprise for the benefit of the region.*

Focus Area:	FACILITIES MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS	DEVELOPMENT	TRANSPORTATION	ENVIRONMENTAL	CONCESSIONS & TENANTS
LOGO:					
Evaluator	Mark Wiebke	Jack Christine	Mark Wiebke	Jimmy Jordan	Haley Gentry
Policy	Energy & Sustainability Management Plan	Sustainable Design & Contracting Requirements Policy	Green Tansportation Policy	Environmental Management Plan	Sustainability Guidelines in Tenant Modification Standards Handbook
Focus Area Breakdown	Water Electricity Gas Housekeeping Operations	Sustainable Design Green Contracting Requirements	Alternative Fuel Vehicles Passenger Comm/Signs Airline Operations	Air Quality Water Quality Noise Abatement Waste Disposal Land Management	Tenant Daily Operations Tenant Design & Construction
SIT Guideline(s)	Initiatives that address energy, resources, and materials conservation.	Cost effective initiatives that utilize sustainable design criteria and implement sustainable construcion practices	Initiatives that address environmentally friendly vehicle operations, fuel efficiency, and fuel substitutes.	Initiatives that provide for Preservation of natural resources Compliance with applicable regulations Cost reductions	Initiatives that foster partnering with tenants for education on airport sustainability goals, identifying key issues, work toward modifying existing processes, and work toward incorporating applicable language in contract agreements
Practical Applicators	John Hughes Bob Lucas Mike Pridgen Bill Almond Mickey Edwards	Jeff McSwain Kathy Dennis Marcelo Lima Jeff Friar	Neil McEachern	Bob Andress	Jennifer Long Lauri Golden Diane Carter

Global #	Initiative Title	Totals	Focus Area SIT#	Focus Area SIT#	Focus Area SIT#	Focus Area SIT#		Concessions & Tenants Green Form								
								BK	PJ	PB	SB	CF				
	Sustainable Sites	**5**	**0**	**1**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
1	Site Selection	0					0									
2	Development Density	0					0									
3	Minimizing Land Disturbance	0					0									
4	Alternative Transportaion	4			1 2 4 5		0									
5	Site Development	0					0									
6	Stormwater Design	1		3			0									
7	Heat Island Effect Reduction	0					0									
8	Light Pollution Reduction	0					0									
9	Green Construction Practices	0					0									
	Water Efficiency	**3**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
10	Water Effcient Landscaping	0					0									
11	Innovative Wastewater Technologies	2	7	8			0									
12	Water Use Reduction	1	2				0									
13	Cooling Tower Water Management	0					0									
14	Water Performance Measurement	0					0									
15	Water Reclamation	0					0									
16	Water Efficient Practices/Procedures	0					0									
17							0									
18							0									
19							0									
	Energy	**14**	**9**	**4**	**1**	**0**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
20	Energy Efficient Mechanical Systems	2	12	4			0									
21	Energy Efficient Lighting	9	3 4 5 9 10 11	7 9	3		3	1	2	3						
22	Other Energy Saving Equipment	1	8				0									
23	On-Site Renewable Energy	1		2			0									
24	Measurement & Verification	1	6				0									
25	Refridgerant Management	0					0									
26	Energy Efficient Practices/Procedure	0					0									
27							0									
28							0									
29							0									
	Materials & Resources	**4**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
30	Storage & Collection of Recyclables	0					0									
31	Solid Waste Management	1	1				0									
32	Materials Reuse	1		1			0									
33	Recycled Content	0					0									
34	Regional Materials	0					0									
35	Rapidly Renewable Materials	0					0									
36	Certified Wood	0					0									
37	Green Office Operations/Processes	2				1 2	0									
38							0									
39							0									
	Air Quality	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
40	Outdoor Air Delivery Monitoring	0					0									
41	Increased Ventilation	0					0									
42	Low-Emmitting Materials	0					0									
43	Indoor Chemical & Pollution Control	0					0									
44	Thermal Comfort	0					0									
45	Daylight & Views	0					0									
46	Green Cleaning	0					0									
47	Direct Air Quality Enhancement	0					0									
48							0									
49							0									
	Innovation	**5**	**0**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
50	ARC	1		6			0									
51	Solar Light Towers	1			4		0									
52	Fire Station #41	1		5			0									
53	Glycol Recyling	1				3	0									
54	CLT Center Adaptive Reuse	1		10			0									
55							0									
56							0									
57							0									
58							0									
59							0									
							0									
	Totals	**31**	**12**	**10**	**6**	**3**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Color Legend = Open = SIT in Progress = Approved/ In Progress = Temporarily Closed = Permanently Closed = Implemented

moving towards a sustainable future

5501 Josh Birmingham Parkway
Charlotte, NC 28208

P.O. Box 19066
Charlotte, NC 28219

P 704.359.4000
F 704.359.4030
T 1.800.FLY.CDIA

cltairport.com