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City Council Follow-Up Report



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CHARLOTTE

**City Council
Follow-Up Report
March 21, 2012**

February 27, 2012 - City Council Business Meeting

2010 Census Update

Staff Resource: Ruchi Agarwal, Planning, 704-336-8307, ragarwal@charlottenc.gov

During the Dinner Briefing, the City Council asked questions and requested information about the 2010 Census relative to the update, Census data, and demographics. The questions posed and their corresponding responses from Planning staff are included in the attached report.



Census
Presentation.pdf

Loud Noise in the Neighborhood

Staff Resource: Captain Gregg Collins, CMPD, 704-398-6732, gcollins@cmpd.org

During the Citizen's Forum, Mr. Ray Schenck spoke to Council regarding problems with his neighbors who reside at 2930 Sheets Circle. Mr. Schenck was concerned about noise from the residence and what he perceives as a lack of cooperation from his neighbors and from CMPD.

2930 Sheets Circle is a rental property occupied by a female tenant and her 16 year-old son. Mr. Schenck alleges that the problem began when the tenants moved in during the summer of 2006. Both the tenants and their landlord indicate that they did not move to 2930 Sheets Circle until 2007. Between 2007 and December 2011, there were 106 calls for service regarding this location, all but one made by Mr. Schenck. All of the calls center on loud music, noise from vehicles and speeding/cut through traffic.

Officers have responded to all of the noise complaints, many within 10 minutes of the receipt of the call and have rarely heard any noise at all. On the few occasions they heard any noise it was not sufficient to merit charges under the noise ordinance. On those occasions, officers sought and always received voluntary compliance to reduce the noise.

Mr. Schenck also complained about noise from vehicles. The tenant's sixteen year-old son likes to work on cars with his friends and there is another residence on Sheets Circle where similar activity occurs. Mr. Schenck claims that the noise from revving the engines creates a disturbance and alleges that the sixteen year-old is running an illegal repair shop from the residence. Code Enforcement has checked for violations in response to Mr. Schenck's complaints and has either found no violation or gotten voluntary compliance from the tenants on removing trash and car parts from the rear of the property. Zoning investigated the allegation of an illegal repair shop and found no evidence that there is a business. It is simply friends working on each other's cars. That complaint was closed on January 19, 2012.

In November 2008, officers attempted to conduct a mediation session between Mr. and Mrs. Schenck, the tenants at 2930 Sheets Circle and the owner of that property. Mr. Schenck says that the mediation occurred in November 2006 but the residents at 2930 Sheets Circle did not live there in 2006. During the mediation, Mr. Schenck was not satisfied with the suggested resolution strategies and became hostile and combative. He was cursing and agitated to the point that the officers discontinued the mediation. He was advised to call 911 with any further concerns and asked not to talk to his neighbors directly.

Officers have had ongoing contact with Mr. Schenck since the attempted mediation. On Sept 6, 2011, an officer responded to a noise complaint that Mr. Schenck had made on the 16 year-old neighbor. Mr. Schenck again became combative and communicated multiple threats to physically harm his neighbor in the presence of the officer. The officer issued a citation to Mr. Schenck for communicating threats; the case was heard in District Court in December 2011 and Mr. Schenck was convicted of the communicating threats charge.

On December 7, 2011, Lt. Lisa Carriker and a representative from Neighborhood and Business Services met with Mr. and Mrs. Schenck to discuss the ongoing issues. The Schencks are unhappy that the noise ordinance requires that officers hear noise violations and that the officers responding to the noise calls have either heard no noise or have gotten voluntary compliance when they have requested that the residents at 2930 Sheets Circle cease the behavior creating the noise. The Schencks gave officers a list of seven neighbors who allegedly supported their claims of excessive noise. Officers contacted these residents, all of whom said they had no issues with 2930 Sheets Circle and had never seen any of the problem vehicles that the Schencks feel are connected to their neighbor's residence. The residents did indicate a concern with cut-through traffic between Tuckaseegee Road and Queen City Drive and officers are addressing those issues. The traffic officers have found no violations that support Mr. Schenck's allegations of racing cars, unreasonably loud vehicles or speeding.

There were an additional 14 calls for service from Mr. Schenck between January 1-February 22, 2012. None of the complaints could be validated by officers. During this time period, police officers were on the street on four days conducting neighborhood canvasses and witnessed no problematic activities. Mr. Schenck also called in a code violation on his neighbor and Code Enforcement conducted an inspection of all surrounding properties. Mr. Schenck, the targeted neighbor and several other residents all received notices of violations. Mr. Schenck was cited for junk metal in the back yard; the residents at 2930 Sheets Circle were cited for an untagged non-running car that did not have a cover on it.

Officers continue to respond to all of the calls for service initiated by Mr. Schenck and drive through the neighborhood to monitor for noise. They plan to get an agreement from residents at 2930 and 2945 Sheets Circle to cease any work on vehicles between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. They will also work with CDOT to research traffic calming options to reduce the cut through traffic.

Freedom Division officers will continue to offer Mr. Schenck the opportunity for formal mediation with his neighbors through the Community Relations Committee but he has indicated that he will not participate and does not think it would be effective. Officers will continue to be responsive to Mr. Schenck's calls for service but are unable to validate the majority of his complaints and have limited options to address Mr. Schenck's concerns to his satisfaction.

Census 2010 Follow Up Information

Follow up from City Council Dinner Briefing on February 27, 2012

1. What is the actual 2010 population as compared to the projected 2010 population?

The table below shows 2010 projected population and growth along with the 2010 census data. Charlotte was projected to grow by 31% whereas the actual growth based on census 2010 counts was 30%.

	Census 2000	Census 2010	Actual Growth	%	Projections 2010	Projected Growth	%	Projected - Actual
Mecklenburg County	695,454	919,628	224,174	32%	932,549	237,095	34%	12,921
Charlotte Sphere	590,670	766,480	175,810	30%	775,563	184,893	31%	9,083

Note: 2010 Projections are based on interpolated numbers between 2008 estimate and 2015 projection.

Data Source: *Metrolina Regional Transportation Model*

2. What is the difference between the 16-county region defined by the Charlotte Regional Partnership and the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)?

Metrolina Region (11 counties) – Cabarrus, Cleveland (portion), Gaston, Iredell (portion), Lancaster (portion), Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly, Union and York

Metrolina region is the non-attainment area designated by the Environmental Protection agency (EPA) that does not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). In order to receive federal funding for transportation projects, the Metrolina non-attainment area is required to meet air quality conformity goals.

Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC MSA (6 counties) – Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Union and York

The Metropolitan Statistical Area is a geographic entity defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for use by Federal agencies in collecting, tabulating, and publishing Federal statistics. A metro area contains a core urban area of 50,000 or more population, Each metro area consists of one or more counties and includes the counties containing the core urban area, as well as any adjacent counties that have a high degree of social and economic integration (as measured by commuting to work) with the urban core. MSA geography will be reassessed by OMB using census 2010 data in 2013.

Charlotte Regional Partnership: “Charlotte USA” (16 counties) – Alexander, Anson, Cabarrus, Catawba, Chester, Chesterfield, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lancaster, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly, Union and York

The Charlotte Regional Partnership promotes sustained, long-term growth, job creation and investment opportunities in the 16-county Charlotte region. The Partnership serves as a catalyst for government/ business collaboration to market and promote Charlotte USA as a highly competitive, vibrant region.

3. What is the status of the N.C. General Assembly’s “de-annexation” legislative committee?

The legislation enacted in the 2011 session to enable residents of a previously annexed area in Goldsboro and pending annexations in seven other towns and cities to petition to disallow the annexations was heard by the rules committees in the House and Senate. Staff is not aware of any further committee activity on this issue.

4. How does Charlotte rank on owner occupancy in comparison to other similar size cities?

Owner Occupancy	
Charlotte, NC	57.4%
National Average	65.1%
1. Austin, TX	45.1%
2. Denver, CO	50.0%
3. Portland, OR	53.7%
4. Atlanta, GA	44.9%
5. Raleigh, NC	53.5%

5. How does Charlotte compare to the national average related to educational attainment?

How does Charlotte compare to other N.C. cities such as the Research Triangle related to educational attainment?

Educational Attainment for Population 25 years and over

	United States	North Carolina	Charlotte	Raleigh	Durham	Cary	Greensboro	Winston-Salem
High School Graduate or Higher	85.6%	84.7%	86.6%	91.7%	86.7%	95.2%	87.6%	85.7%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	28.2%	26.5%	38.8%	46.2%	45.4%	60.7%	35.2%	32.1%
Graduate or Professional Degree	10.4%	8.7%	12.8%	15.0%	20.0%	24.3%	11.2%	11.8%

6. Provide the slide from the February Council retreat related to education level and property value.

Staff reviewed the information from the Council retreat and found slides with property value information and slides with student achievement information, but did not find any slides that illustrated the correlation between the two. However, attached is a slide that shows population with bachelor’s degree or higher and average single family tax value.



Educational_Attainment_Tax_Value_Slide.

7. What rank is the Charlotte-Mecklenburg metro area/region in terms of population?

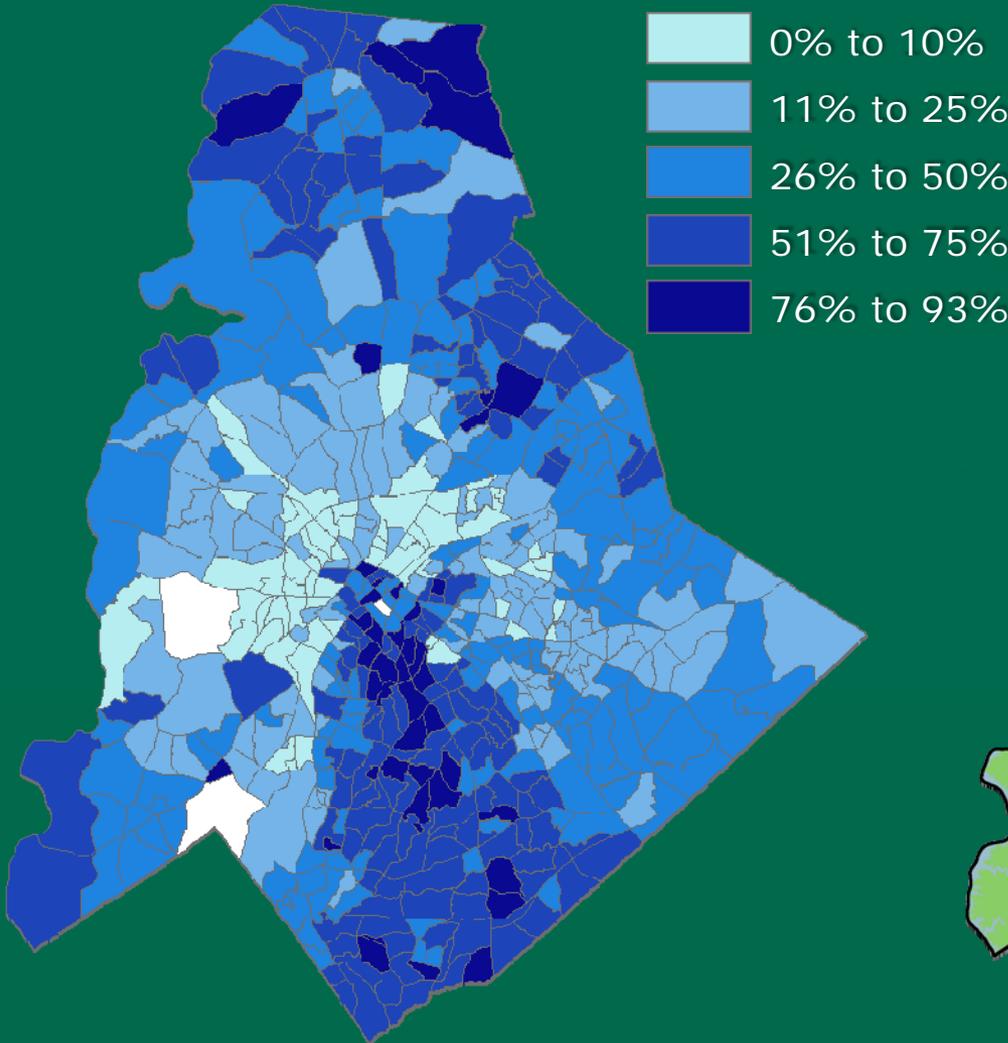
The 6-county Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) with the 2010 population of 1,758,038 is ranked 33rd among all MSAs in the United States.

Based on 2010 population (731,424), City of Charlotte is the 17th largest city in the United States.



Mecklenburg County Educational Attainment and Average Single-Family Tax Values

2010 Population with Bachelor's Degree or Higher



2011 Average Single Family Tax Value

