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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (Apr 8)	Tues (Apr 9)	Wed (Apr 10)	Thurs (Apr 11)	Fri (Apr 12)
5:00 PM Council Business Meeting	4:00 PM City Manager, Ron Carlee's Public Reception CMGC-Lobby 6:30 PM City Manager Ron Carlee's Reception-Foundation for the Carolinas	12:00 PM Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280 3:00 PM Budget Workshop Room 267		

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, April 8

5:00 pm Council Business Meeting

Tuesday, April 9

4:00 pm City Manager, Ron Carlee's Public Reception, CMGC Lobby

6:30 pm City Manager, Ron Carlee's Reception, Foundation for the Carolinas

Wednesday, April 10

12:00 pm Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee, Room 280
AGENDA FY14 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development, FY13 Housing Trust Fund Tax Credit Recommendations, Neighborhood Symposium Refresh, FY14 Focus Area Plan

3:00 pm Budget Workshop, Room 267

[Click here to view April and May calendars.](#)

INFORMATION:

Public Meetings on Proposed I-77 North High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes

Staff Resource: Robert Cook, Planning, 704-336-8643, rwcook@charlottenc.gov

Norm Steinman, CDOT, 704-336-3939, nsteinman@charlottenc.gov

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is proposing to add capacity to I-77 by constructing high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes from I-277 (Brookshire Freeway-Exit 11) in Charlotte, to NC 150 (Exit 36) in Mooresville.

The Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization (MUMPO) is considering amending its Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and making an air quality conformity determination in response to NCDOT's proposal.

MUMPO started a 30-day public comment period on Saturday, March 23 and will hold two meetings to receive the public's input on proposed amendments to its 2035 LRTP and 2012-2018 TIP. Public input will also be received on the Conformity Determination Report for the amended LRTP and TIP. The Open House format meetings are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

<p>April 10, 2013 5:00 – 7:00 PM CPCC-Merancas Campus Belk Center Auditorium 11920 Verhoeff Dr. Huntersville, NC 28078</p>	<p>April 11, 2013 5:00-7:00 PM Oaklawn Academy 1810 Oaklawn Ave. Charlotte, NC 28216</p>
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All pertinent documents can be viewed at www.mumpo.org/I-77.

The public comment period is scheduled to close on Monday, April 22. MUMPO is scheduled to vote on the proposed I-77 North HOT Lanes project on Wednesday, May 22.

Charlotte to host the SDITE Annual Meeting and the APWA Snow Conference

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

The City of Charlotte will proudly host two nationally recognized professional conferences during the second week of April.

The 61st Annual Southern District meeting of the Institute of Transportation Engineers will be held at the Westin Charlotte, April 7-10. Over 500 transportation engineers, planners, and managers from nine southeastern states will attend this conference, which is themed “Partnerships for Vibrant Communities.” Details can be found at <http://sdite2013.org/>.

The 2013 American Public Works Association North American Snow Conference will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, April 7-10. Approximately 1,200 roadway maintenance professionals from throughout the U.S. and Canada will attend this conference. More information can be found at <http://www.apwa.net/snow>.

Blue Line Extension Financing Update

*Staff Resource: Greg Gaskins, Finance, 704-336-3992, ggaskins@charlotte.nc.gov
Carolyn Flowers, CATS, 704-336-3855, cflowers@charlotte.nc.gov*

Funding the Blue Line Extension is the largest and most complex local government financing in the State’s history. Finance and CATS staff worked together for over two years to develop a successful comprehensive financial plan. The State, rating agencies and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) all gave positive feedback on the plan. On April 2 Chief Financial Officer Greg Gaskins and CATS Chief Executive Officer Carolyn Flowers were in

attendance for the unanimous approval of the financing by the North Carolina Local Government Commission, the last step before issuing debt. In addition, the financing has received positive ratings from Moody's, Fitch and Standard and Poor's (Aa2, AA+, and AA+), on par with the City's other transit-related debt.

Fitch Ratings stated that it views light rail transit as a core function of the City, an important criteria in determining a rating. **Moody's** "believes there is sufficient contingency in the structuring of the financing." They also point out that "Charlotte's financial operations are expected to continue to be well-managed, characterized by considerable operating flexibility, a trend of ample reserves and a strong cash position." **Standard and Poor's** notes strong risk management indicating that officials have taken steps to mitigate risks related to any potential lower-than-anticipated sales tax collections, grant receipts, interest-rate volatility and any unexpected costs.

CATS recently updated its financial policy, in preparation for the issuance of the debt, to provide additional steps to mitigate risks related to revenue volatility while providing the flexibility to operate and manage the transit system. The MTC reviewed those changes and adopted them as part of CATS financial policies at its March meeting. The financing is anticipated to close on May 7, 2013

April 5 State Legislative Update

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

[Click here to read the Week 10 Legislative Report \(PDF\)](#), which includes updates on bills of interest to the City of Charlotte.

ATTACHMENTS:

March 7 Economic Development Committee Summary [\(click here to view the PDF summary\)](#)