Council-Manager Memo #32
Friday, April 27, 2012

CHARLOTTE.

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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (April 30)	Tues (May 1)	Wed (May 2)	Thurs (May 3)	Friday (May 4)
7:45 AM Mecklenburg Delegation Breakfast, Room 267		8:00 AM Small Business Month Kick-Off Breakfast, CMGC Lobby 11:30 AM Regional Intermodal Facility Groundbreaking, Airport 12:00 PM Community Safety Committee, Room CH-14	12:00 PM Economic Development Committee, Room 280	

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, April 30

7:45 am Mecklenburg Delegation Breakfast, Room 267

Wednesday, May 2

8:00 am Small Business Month Kick-Off Breakfast, CMGC Lobby

11:30 am Charlotte Regional Intermodal Facility Groundbreaking, Airport

12:00 pm Community Safety Committee, Room CH-14
AGENDA:

1. Rental Property Ordinance

Thursday, May 3

12:00 pm Economic Development Committee, Room 280
AGENDA:

1. High Growth Entrepreneur Strategy
2. Business Investment Grant Review

May and June calendars are attached (see "2. Calendar.pdf").

INFORMATION:

April 25 Metropolitan Transit Commission Meeting Summary

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

At its meeting on Wednesday, April 25, 2012, the MTC had three action items and heard one information item:

FY2013 Operating Budget Programs & FY2013-2017 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
The focus of the FY2013 Transit Operating Budget is to maintain existing services during a time of slow economic growth. In order to maintain service and strengthen the core of the ADA-required paratransit service to meet demand, the budget includes a fare increase of $0.25 on the base fare effective July 1, 2012. Fares for other services will be adjusted to maintain their relationship to the base fare. The FY2013-2017 CIP focuses on maintaining transit assets, advancing the LYNX Blue Line Extension (BLE) into Final Design and Construction and providing funding to explore the next steps for the Red and Silver Line projects. Both MTC advisory boards, the Citizens Transit Advisory Group (CTAG) and the Transit Services Advisory Committee

(TSAC) endorsed the FY2013 Transit Operating Budget including the fare increase. Mayor Foxx recused himself from voting on the budgets due to a potential conflict of interest. In separate votes, the remaining MTC members voted unanimously to approve both the FY2013 Transit Operating Budget and the FY2013-2017 Capital Improvement Plan.

Relocation of the Mt. Mourne Station
Due to concerns about traffic congestion and development, the Town of Mooresville requested in 2011 that CATS perform a study to determine the feasibility of moving the Red Line's terminal station to a point approximately a mile south of the adopted station location. The proposed site takes advantage of I-77's Exit 31, which did not exist when CATS began studying potential stations. The feasibility study indicated that the relocated station would result in project savings of approximately $5 to $7 million, which has been incorporated into the current Financial Plan's cost estimate. The Mooresville Town Board and Lowe's Corporate Headquarters support the station's relocation. MTC members voted unanimously to relocate the Red Line's terminal station to the proposed site near NC-115.

State Transportation Demand Management
CATS receives funds from the State Transportation Demand Management (TDM) grant yearly. NCDOT requires that each transit system's governing board certify they have allocated 50% of TDM funding prior to applying to NCDOT for the remaining 50% in TDM funding. Therefore, MTC must authorize funding in the FY2013 budget for the remaining 50%. MTC members unanimously approved allocating 50% of TDM funding.

Comprehensive Transportation Plan
A Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) is a multi-modal transportation plan to identify future transportation system needs. It includes highways, public transportation, rail and bicycle facilities need to serve anticipated travel demand. By law, CTPs will ultimately replace existing Thoroughfare Plans, which only address roadway needs. CTPs will improve efficiency for Metropolitan Planning Organizations as they will tie CTP and federal Long Range Transportation Plan processes together. The CTP will not be financially constrained, and will serve as the overarching transit vision for communities. After discussion, MTC members voted unanimously to add to the CTP a place marker for a future study to provide a direct connection between the Blue Line and the Charlotte Gateway Station, in addition to the streetcar connection already planned. MTC members agreed that there is a challenge with connectivity; it may be necessary to go above- or below-ground in order to provide a direct connection to avoid disrupting existing businesses.

CATS CEO Report
Under the CEO's report, Carolyn Flowers discussed:

a. **MTC membership**:
   Sarah Nuckles, MTC representative from South Carolina DOT, has completed her service on MTC. She was unable to attend the April meeting, her last meeting, so staff will send her a commendation for her service to MTC.

b. **Upcoming Events**:
Staff will present an update of the BLE cost and schedule information to City and state delegations on April 30. On May 3, staff will present a BLE cost and schedule update to NCDOT, as well as the Municipal Services Agreement with NCDOT for the BLE for North Tryon Street. The Clear the Air celebration will be held in the Government Center on May 4. Bike Charlotte will be from April 27 to May 13, seventeen days of activities to encourage incorporating bicycling into everyday life. To promote the program, riders with bicycles will ride transit free between April 29 and May 5.

c. **MTC hiatus**:
MTC typically has a one-month hiatus during the summer, usually in July. Since the August meeting of MTC is scheduled close to the time when staff will be busy with Democratic National Convention (DNC) activities, Ms. Flowers requested that MTC cancel the August 2012 meeting instead of the July meeting. MTC members unanimously approved cancelling the August 22, 2012 MTC meeting.

The next MTC meeting will be May 23, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS:

March 28 Housing and Neighborhood Development Summary **(see "3. HND Summary.pdf")**
March 21 Community Safety Summary **(see "4. CS Summary.pdf")**
April 27 City Council Follow-up Report **(see "5. Follow Up.pdf")**