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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (June 23)	Tues (June 24)	Wed (June 25)	Thurs (June 26)	Fri (June 27)
12:00 PM City Manager Quarterly Briefing, Room CH-14 5:00 PM Council Business Meeting, Room 267 6:30 PM Citizens’ Forum, Meeting Chamber		5:30 PM Metropolitan Transit Commission, Room 267		

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, June 23

12:00 PM City Manager Quarterly Briefing, Room CH-14

5:00 PM Council Business Meeting, Room 267

6:30 PM Citizens' Forum, Meeting Chamber

Wednesday, June 25

5:30 PM Metropolitan Transit Commission, Room 267

ATTACHED: [June and July calendars](#)

AGENDA NOTES:

Agenda Item #2 – Fluoridation of Charlotte Drinking Water Supply

Staff Resource: Barry Gullet, CMUD, 704-336-4962, bgullet@charlottenc.gov

The documents attached below supplement the presentation by Mecklenburg County Health Department's Dr. Stephen Keener scheduled to be presented at Monday evening's Dinner Briefing.

ATTACHED: [Myths and facts related to drinking water fluoridation programs](#)

ATTACHED: [Position statement from Acting State Health Director Dr. Robin Cummings](#)

Agenda Item #57 – Property Acquisition for Community Improvement

Staff Resource: Brad Richardson, NBS, 704- 336-3857, brichardson@charlottenc.gov

On the June 23, 2014 City Council business agenda, item #57 requests the purchase of property and structure demolitions in an effort to increase public safety and address housing diversity goals consistent with the Belmont Area Revitalization Plan. The City Council action specifies that the property acquisition will be funded by the Municipal Debt Service Fund.

Several bond sources within the Municipal Debt Service Fund have been considered over the years to address the types of community improvements outlined in item #57, specifically Neighborhood Improvement Bonds. After further review, staff does not believe that the specific uses and intent outlined in item #57 are authorized under prior Neighborhood Improvement Bonds. Instead, Housing Trust Fund Bonds will be the underlying source of funds.

INFORMATION:

Charlotte's Open Data Portal Project & Code for Charlotte Hackathon

Staff Resource: Twyla McDermott, Innovation & Technology, 704-451-0555

tmcdermott@charlottenc.gov

The City's Innovation & Technology Department is implementing a pilot project for an Open Data Portal. Once operational, the City's Open Data Portal will provide access to public databases from the City departments. Initially, the Portal will focus on GIS data such as land use, streets and other reference information as well as frequently requested data such as City salaries. As the Open Data Portal is extended, a rich array of departmental data will be available to citizens, researchers and software developers.

As part of the pilot implementation, on June 7 the Open Data Portal was turned on for Charlotte's first civic hackathon. This event, sponsored by the Knight Foundation and the City, was conducted by the Code for Charlotte Brigade. The Code for Charlotte Brigade, affiliated with Code for America, is the volunteer force of software developers, engineers and designers interested in enhancing the connection of government and citizens with the use of technology. During the hackathon, brigade members pitched several ideas for applications, including redevelopment of the Adopt-A-Street application as part of Keep Charlotte Beautiful.

The Open Data Portal pilot is based on the new Esri ArcGIS for Open Data software which is in beta release. Beta software refers to computer software that is undergoing testing and has not yet been official released. The software is currently licensed by the City under an existing license agreement. Based on a successful pilot implementation, a soft launch for Charlotte's Open Data Portal is targeted for August.

2014 CMPD Justice Assistance Grant

Staff Resource: Darrellyn Kiser, CMPD, 704-336-7736, dkiser@cmpd.org

The City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County have applied for the annual Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice. This year, the City and County have been allocated \$483,916 to be used for law enforcement initiatives.

The City will receive \$362,937 in grant funds. CMPD's application for those funds designates three spending categories:

- \$249,937 will be used for overtime for police officers to address neighborhood crime and disorder issues including response to emerging crime trends and drug and gang activity.
- \$20,000 will be used for overtime for Crime Lab personnel to analyze evidence in priority cases. These include cases where a suspect needs to be identified or

confirmed, links between cases need to be identified, or addressing high profile cases that are creating fear in the community.

- \$93,000 will be used to fund the Police Cadet Program which allows college students to work at CMPD and gain exposure to police work while pursuing their degrees.

The County will receive \$120,979 which will be used for jail security programs and equipment and supplies for programs that prepare inmates for employment upon their release from jail.

Advertising the Sale of Fire Prevention Property at 441 Beaumont Avenue

Staff Resource: Tim O'Brien, E&PM, 704-336-3149, tobrien@charlottenc.gov

Fire Prevention, currently located at 441 Beaumont Avenue, will relocate to the new Fire Administration facility at 500 Dalton Avenue once construction is complete. Their existing, 1.83 acre location is adjacent to Independence Boulevard in the Elizabeth neighborhood and was appraised for \$850,000. Developers have expressed interest in this City-owned property due to its proximity to the Central Business District. Staff would like to identify a buyer before the property is vacated. Because the process of selling the property through the Upset Bid Process will take several months, starting the process now will help the sale of the property coincide with Fire staff moving later this year.

Departmental polling showed no interest from City or other local agencies in retaining the property for other public uses. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Committee reviewed the Mandatory Referral and agreed with statements in the *Elizabeth Area Plan* that the land can continue to remain as B-1 zoning for a low-impact institutional use such as religious or civic organizations. The Committee also concluded that it would be appropriate to consider changing the zoning to multi-family residential use of not more than 12 dwelling units per acre, or a higher residential density may be appropriate if a secondary access to East Seventh Street can be established.

A letter will be sent to the neighboring property owners and to neighborhood association leaders informing them the City plans to market the property for multi-family use. Any change in zoning will require a Public Hearing, which will allow for citizen input to the rezoning process.

Once informing interested parties of the plan, staff will post a "For Sale" sign on the property and advertise the sale in real estate listing services to gain maximum exposure of the property to the real estate market.

ATTACHED: [Beaumont Avenue property map](#)

901 Rowan Street Property Update

Staff Resource: Ben Krise, NBS, 704-336-2485, bkrise@charlottenc.gov

At the June 9, 2014 City Council meeting, Mr. Michael Mitchem spoke to the City Council regarding 901 Rowan Street, which was on the agenda for In Rem action. Mr. Mitchem

requested additional time for the new owner of the property, Mr. Rodney Brown, to bring the substandard structure into compliance with the Housing Code. City Council approved the demolition ordinance and requested a status update by June 23, 2014.

Code Enforcement has confirmed that the deed has transferred to RRB Investment Group, LLC and that Mr. Brown is the registered agent for the company. Mr. Brown has also posted the required bond in the amount of \$6,300 in the event that the City needs to undertake the demolition. Mr. Brown acquired a building permit that has subsequently been revoked by the County for scope of work misrepresentation.

Code Enforcement will continue to monitor the property to make sure Mr. Brown is complying with the terms of the agreement.

City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County Launch “Need a Speaker?” Program

Staff Resource: Andrew Bowen, NBS, 704-336-2175, abowen@charlottenc.gov

The City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County have launched a new program, “Need a Speaker?”, that will make it easier for neighborhood organizations and civic groups to request and book speakers from across City and County departments.

The “Need a Speaker?” program connects organizations with a website and phone number for information about more than 80 topics. Visitors to the website can gain access to expert speakers and discover the many programs and services offered by the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

The “Need a Speaker?” program was developed out of a need to provide neighborhood organizations, civic groups, and residents the ability to request a speaker without having to find the right staff member directly. The program will also allow the City and County to track engagement with organizations and residents on a broader scale and identify new topics of interest within the community. While speaking topics can be customized to particular needs, there are broad topics published for residents to view to help guide them in their search for the right subject-matter and speaker.

The program will be coordinated according to the submitted request. The City’s Neighborhood and Business Services (NBS) Department will assist with requests for City-related topics, and Mecklenburg County Citizen Involvement will connect the requesting group with the appropriate County speaker. Neighborhoods throughout the City and County will be notified of the new program through a distribution list maintained by NBS.

Neighborhood and homeowners’ associations, community service groups, schools, civic groups, and other community organizations are invited to request a speaker through the website at www.needaspeaker.charmeck.org, or by calling 704.336.2175

June 20 State Legislative Update

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

On Tuesday, June 17 the Charlotte Airport Commission Clarifications legislation (HB 133) was enacted into law. On Wednesday, the House unveiled its 2014 Regulatory Reform legislation (SB 493) with the intent of pushing it through two committees and floor debate that same day. By the end of the day, SB 493 was pulled from the floor and sent back to the House Regulatory Reform Committee due to reluctance of many majority members to consider so many controversial proposals in an omnibus bill. Also, both chambers named their budget conferees.

ATTACHED: [Week 6 legislative update](#)