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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (June 20)	Tues (June 21)	Wed (June 22)	Thurs (June 23)	Fri (June 24)
12:00 PM Council Agenda Briefing (Optional), Room 886		5:30 PM Metropolitan Transit Commission, Room 280		
12:00 PM Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Room 280				
5:00 PM Zoning Meeting, Room CH-14				

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, June 20

- 12:00 PM Optional Council Agenda Briefing, Room 886
- 12:00 PM Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: State update; 2017-2018 session preview; Trending topics
- 5:00 PM Zoning Meeting, Room CH-14

Wednesday, June 22

- 5:30 PM Metropolitan Transit Commission, Room 280
AGENDA: 10-ride ADA pass 15% discount; Coordinated human services transportation plan; LYNX Silver Line transit study

June and July calendars are attached.



June-July 2016.pdf

INFORMATION:

Action Plan Submitted for Wesley Heights Drinking Water

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

This is an update on Charlotte Water's Action Plan that was developed in response to intermittent, higher than normal concentrations of iron in the drinking water near South Summit Avenue in the Wesley Heights neighborhood. In response to the May 17 Notice of Deficiency from the NC Department of Environmental Quality, last week Charlotte Water submitted an Action Plan that provides assurances to the state and customers that iron concentrations are managed. In addition to the Action Plan, results of recent water quality testing were also provided (attached below) that find drinking water in Wesley Heights continues to be safe for all users. Charlotte Water is committed to improving customer communication, and provided the same information to its South Summit Avenue customers.

Charlotte Water suspects the temporarily high iron concentrations were the result of constructing drinking water system improvements. Charlotte Water has been working in the Wesley Heights neighborhood for several years. The area ranked high for targeted rehabilitation due largely to the age of the infrastructure. Once issues were addressed, iron concentrations, chlorine levels, and turbidity (cloudiness) levels returned back to normal values. Weekly monitoring efforts began on June 7 and confirm normal iron concentrations.

In addition to submitting the plan and initiating weekly water quality monitoring, Charlotte Water also hosted a "tailgate talk" on May 24 for residents to speak with staff and get

questions answered. Charlotte Water also provided a briefing to Council's Environment Committee on June 6.



Fe_NOD_SummitAve Charlotte Water-WQ
_ActionPlan_June8.pptResults-NOD-Summit6

Use of Surplus Property for Affordable Housing Purposes

Staff Resource: Pamela J. Wideman, NBS, 704-336-3488, pwideman@charlottenc.gov

Tony Korolos, EPM, 704-249-6148, tkorolos@charlottenc.gov

At the March 28 Business Meeting, Council requested a status update regarding the process for assessing surplus City land for affordable housing. Following this request, Neighborhood & Business Services partnered with Engineering & Property Management to develop an enhanced procedure for reviewing City land parcels suitable for affordable housing prior to their placement on the open market. Before departmental polling and mandatory referral, NBS's Housing Services will market these assets to affordable housing developers, providing them a first review of properties and additional time to develop project proposals.

Staff gave the attached presentation on the new procedure to the Housing & Neighborhood Development Committee on May 4. They will continue to work over the next several months to refine and subsequently implement the enhanced process.



Surplus Property
Presentation.pdf

Resolution to Delays in Bulky Household Appliances Collection

Staff Resource: Victoria O. Johnson, Solid Waste Services, 704-336-3410, vjohnson@charlottenc.gov

Solid Waste Services (SWS) has experienced recent delays extending beyond 2 to 3 weeks in the collection of household appliances. During the majority of the year, citizens are able to schedule and have items collected on their next collection day. However, during the warmer months, it is typical for these collections to be scheduled 2 to 3 weeks out. Higher demand this time of year is likely the result of more residents performing spring cleaning, relocating to other residences, etc.

Household appliances are recyclable bulky waste collected on specialized trucks and disposed of at the County's metals recovery site. SWS coordinates resources to support collections based on average demand, rather than carry additional resources throughout the year.

In order to resolve this matter as quickly as possible, SWS has made resource adjustments to reduce the likelihood of scheduling and collection of these items beyond 2 to 3 weeks. Staff will continue to monitor all bulky scheduling and make changes as needed.

Residents can learn more about bulky item collection, as well as non-profit organizations where items can be donated, online at: <http://charmec.org/city/charlotte/SWS/CurbIt/BulkyItems>

Ramsey Creek Park Swimming Beach Bus Shuttle

Staff Resource: Larry Kopf, CATS, 704-432-4097, lkopf@charlottenc.gov

On May 28, Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation opened its first public swimming beach since the 1970s. The swimming beach is located in Ramsey Creek Park in Cornelius. The beach has quickly become very popular. An estimated 8,000 people came to enjoy the beach on the first Saturday that it was open.

The popularity of the beach has led to traffic issues in the neighborhoods around Ramsey Creek Park. Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation has requested the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) provide a fare-free shuttle service to help address resident concerns related to traffic and parking issues, for which CATS will be reimbursed 100% of the operating costs.

On Saturday, June 18, 2016 CATS will begin a pilot program to provide shuttle bus service from the Northcross Park and Ride lot in Huntersville to the swimming beach in Ramsey Creek Park. This pilot program will provide 15 minute shuttle service to the swimming beach, from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday.

The goals of the pilot program are to:

1. Mitigate traffic issues in the neighborhoods around Ramsey Creek Park;
2. Reduce and hopefully eliminate the need for beach-goers to park on the neighborhood streets around Ramsey Creek Park;
3. Provide additional transportation options for people traveling to the swimming beach.

If the goals of the pilot program are met, CATS would seek to enter into an agreement with Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation for shuttle service each weekend, including Fourth of July and Labor Day holidays, until September 5, 2016 (Labor Day). The agreement would be brought to Council for consideration as part of the July 25 Business Agenda.

Customers can find out more about the pilot service by calling CATS at 704-336-RIDE or by going to the CATS website at www.ridetransit.org.

May 25 Metropolitan Transit Commission Meeting Summary

Staff Resource: John Lewis, CATS, 704-336-3855, John.Lewis@charlottenc.gov

At their May 25 meeting, the Metropolitan Transit Commission heard two information items and their normal CEO report. A summary of the meeting is attached.



MTC C-M Memo
201605.pdf

2016 State Legislative Report #8

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

Attached is the Week 8 State Legislative Report.



2016 week 8
report.pdf

June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			<p>1</p> <p>Mayor and Council to Raleigh</p> <p>12:00pm Housing & Neighborhood Development Committee Mtg., Room 280</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30pm CM Mitchell's Engagement Through Economic Development Town Hall Mtg., Room 267</p>	3	4
5	<p>6</p> <p>12:00pm Environment Committee Mtg., Room 280</p> <p>5:00pm Council Workshop/Citizens' Forum, Room 267</p>	7	<p>8</p> <p>NCLM Town Hall Day Raleigh, NC</p>	9	10	11
12	<p>13</p> <p>2:00pm Transportation & Planning Committee Mtg., Room 280</p> <p>5:00pm Council Business Mtg., Room 267</p> <p>7:00pm Budget Adoption, Meeting Chamber</p>	14	15	<p>16</p> <p>12:00pm Community Safety Committee Mtg., Room 280</p>	17	18
19	<p>20</p> <p>12:00pm Council Agenda Briefing (optional), Room 886</p> <p>12:00pm Intergovernmental Relations Committee Mtg., Room 280</p> <p>5:00pm Zoning Meeting, Room Ch-14</p>	21	<p>22</p> <p>5:30pm MTC Meeting, Room 267</p>	23	<p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>US Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting Indianapolis, IN</p>	
26	<p>27</p> <p>12:00pm Governance & Accountability Committee Mtg., Room 280</p> <p>2:00pm City Manager's Update Mtg., Room CH-14</p> <p>5:00pm Citizens' Forum/Council Business Mtg., Room 267</p>	28	<p>29</p> <p>Mayor and Council to Raleigh</p>	30		

2016

US Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting Indianapolis, IN

July

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 12:00pm Governance & Accountability Committee Mtg., Room 280	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 12:00pm City Manager's Evaluation, Room CH-14 5:00pm Zoning Meeting, Room Ch-14	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 5:00pm Citizens' Forum/Council Business Mtg., Room 267	26	27 5:30pm MTC Meeting, Room 267	28	29	30
31						

2016



South Summit Avenue Plan of Action

Charlotte Water is submitting this Plan of Action in response to the Notice of Deficiency (NOD) issued by NC Department of Environmental Quality on May 17, 2016. As directed by the NOD, this plan addresses control of iron in the water distribution system. The NOD also directs Charlotte Water to submit quarterly written status reports listing actions to monitor and resolve the water quality issues in and around South Summit Avenue.

Charlotte Water manages a comprehensive Community Investment Plan that includes substantial funding for ongoing replacement and rehabilitation of aging infrastructure. The water distribution system in Charlotte-Mecklenburg consists of approximately 4,200 miles of pipe installed between the late 1800s and today through which water service is provided to nearly a million people each day. Specific to controlling iron concentrations, Charlotte Water has targeted replacement of small diameter galvanized steel pipes along with cleaning and lining the unlined cast iron pipes that were the industry standard material in the early to mid-1900s. In fact, just this year, more than 32,000 feet of galvanized steel pipe has been removed and replaced with PVC pipe at a cost of approximately \$3,200,000. Also this year, more than 24,000 feet of cast iron water mains have been either replaced or cleaned and lined at a cost of approximately \$3,000,000. This on-going capital program has been in place for at least 24 years in Charlotte and much progress has already been made to protect water quality and to ensure sustainable water service for many years into the future.

Higher than normal iron concentrations generally occur in water systems as a result of changes in flow rates in tuberculated galvanized steel and/or unlined cast iron pipes. These incidents are commonly referred to as “red water” complaints and are common in water systems all across the world. Red Water complaints are often triggered by flow disruptions or disturbances caused by operation of hydrants, water main breaks or construction activity.

Charlotte Water, like all other water systems, routinely receives red water complaints. We have trained water technicians who respond promptly to each complaint to determine the best course of action in each case. Frequently, flushing the local water mains through fire hydrants resolves the problem. The locations, causes, and frequency of red water complaints helps identify and prioritize areas where water line replacement or rehabilitation is scheduled.

Action Item: Control of Iron in Distribution System

Charlotte Water will control iron concentrations by continuation of efforts to reduce the amount of galvanized steel and unlined cast iron pipe in the system, by educating water system users such as fire



departments and contractors about how they can help avoid activities that could trigger high iron incidents, and by responding to red water complaints from customers.

To control iron in the distribution system, Charlotte Water will:

- Continue a proactive water distribution **rehabilitation program** that prioritizes water quality and structural integrity.
- Continue capital programs to identify and **replace galvanized steel** pipe.
- Continue a water main rehabilitation program to **clean and line unlined cast iron** pipe.
- Continue to promptly **investigate water quality complaints** by communicating with customers, dispatching water quality technicians, sampling as appropriate and flushing water mains as needed.
- Complete a **Water Distribution System Master Plan** currently underway to analyze system hydraulics.
- Continue operation of the distribution system by controlling tank levels and flushing to **reduce water age**.
- Continue to evaluate the water distribution system to determine need and location for additional automatic **flushing** equipment.
- Continue to use proper methods, best management practices and modern technologies to manage the water distribution system including replacement and rehabilitation of water pipe with **more corrosion resistant materials** such as cement lining, epoxy and the use of PVC pipe.

Action Item: Control of Iron in South Summit Avenue Area

To further control iron concentrations in the drinking water in the South Summit Avenue area, Charlotte Water will:

- Determine the boundaries of the area referred to in the NOD as the South Summit Avenue area.
- Evaluate additional rehabilitation needs in the South Summit Avenue area. This may include collecting pipe coupons, reviewing any customer complaints and analyzing water quality and water system operation.
- Exercise each water distribution valve in the South Summit Avenue area to confirm operability.

Action Item: Weekly Analytical Results for Iron

Charlotte Water operates a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory that is independently certified. In addition, Charlotte Water laboratory and field operations staff is routinely trained to collect samples and analyze drinking water.



To ensure the continued delivery of high quality drinking water to customers in the South Summit Avenue area, Charlotte Water will frequently monitor water quality at strategic locations in the target area.

- On a weekly basis, Charlotte Water staff will perform field tests for iron on drinking water samples collected from three distribution system locations.
- The sites are:
 1. South Summit Avenue
 2. Grandin Road
 3. Calvert Street
- If any site has a field test iron concentration of greater than 0.30 mg/L, an additional sample will be collected at that site and a certified analysis for iron concentration will be performed. Moreover, Charlotte Water Operations staff will be contacted for immediate consultation and water quality remedial actions.

Action Item: Reporting

As required in the NOD, quarterly status reports will be submitted to the North Carolina Public Water Supply Section (PWS) to provide updates on this Action Plan with a growing list of activities such as:

- Date and results of water quality monitoring,
- Efforts to monitor and resolve customer complaints,
- Distribution system operations and maintenance.

Weekly test results from the three listed sites, including date and time of analysis, will be compiled and submitted weekly to the North Carolina Public Water Supply Section (PWS) by Charlotte Water.

Measuring Success

Charlotte Water suggests that at the conclusion of a full quarter (3 months) where all weekly monitoring results of samples taken from the target area are of iron concentrations equal to or less than 0.3 mg/L, success is achieved and the Action Plan activities specifically targeting the South Summit Street area can cease following PWS agreement.



Charlotte Water
 South Summit Avenue Notice of Deficiency – Action Plan
 Water Quality Monitoring Results

Location	Date	pH	Temperature	Free Chlorine	Turbidity	Iron	Location	Test Results Meet Target?	Further Action Needed?
		Units: SU Target result: 7.8 – 9.2	Units: Degrees Celsius	Units: mg/L Target result: 0.2 – 2.0	Units: NTU Target result: Less than 1.0	Units: mg/L Target result: Less than 0.30			
521 S. Summit Avenue	5/16/16	8.14	21.8	1.19	0.35	0.06	meter	Yes	
620 S. Summit Avenue	5/16/16	8.40	21.8	1.16	0.32	0.06	meter	Yes	
513 S. Summit Avenue	6/7/16	8.49	26.4	1.04	0.64	0.12	meter	Yes	No
	6/10/16			1.30	0.20		meter	Yes	No
401 Grandin Road	6/7/16	8.50	26.2	1.13	0.78	0.06	meter	Yes	No
	6/10/16			1.37	0.16		meter	Yes	No
613 Calvert Street	6/7/16	8.63	26.4	0.55	0.63	0.10	meter	Yes	No
	6/10/16			0.73	0.31		meter	Yes	No




City of Charlotte
Surplus Property Review

Housing & Neighborhood Development Committee

May 4, 2016



Briefing Objectives

- Real Estate Disposition Background
- Current Disposition Process
- Current Surplus Property List
- New Affordable Housing Evaluation Criteria
- New Steps In The Surplus Property Review
- Next Steps



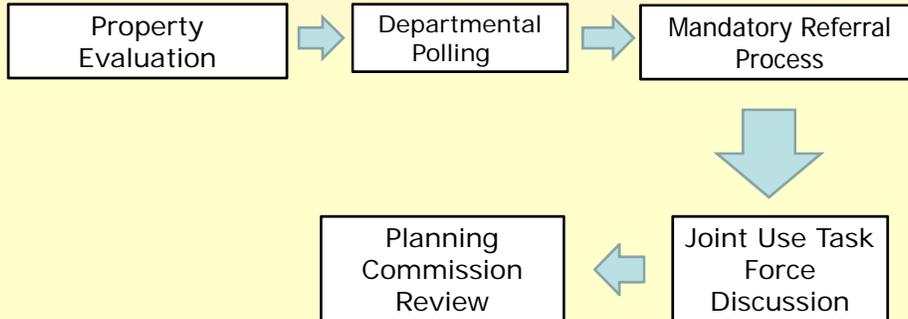


Real Estate Disposition Background

- City Real Estate staff follows the asset management guidelines established by the Privatization and Competition Advisory Committee and approved by City Council (PCAC) in 1994.
- The guidelines focus on the disposition of surplus property with a goal of transforming surplus City property into a more productive community asset.
- Staff is currently updating the guidelines with assistance from PCAC.
- Property disposition also is subject to the Mandatory Referral process intended to ensure that public entities collaborate on property decisions.



Current Disposition Process





Current Disposition Process

- **Property Evaluation** - City property is evaluated for alternative use.
- **Departmental Polling** - Potential surplus is reviewed through the Planning Department's departmental polling and mandatory referral processes.
- **Mandatory Referral Process** - After departmental polling, the Planning Department initiates the mandatory referral process.
- **Joint Use Task Force Discussion** - After departmental polling and all mandatory referrals, the surplus property is then discussed by the Joint Use Task Force (JUTF).
- **Planning Commission Review** - After JUTF review, potential surplus property is referred to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission's - Planning Committee, the final step in the process.



Current Surplus Property List

Address	Zoning	Acreage	Appraised Value	Land Use
4209 Freedom Dr	R-4	3.718	\$ 87,000	Vacant
3932, 3924 Freedom Dr	R-22MF	1.252	\$ 36,000	Vacant
3801, 3807, 3821 Freedom Dr	R-4	2.825	\$ 71,000	Vacant
8429 E WT Harris Blvd	R-17MF	1.6	\$ 116,000	Vacant
8415 E WT Harris Blvd	R-17MF	1.043	\$ 90,100	Vacant
4201 Morris Field Dr	R-8	9.125	\$ 161,000	Vacant
2316 Carmine St	R-22MF	0.171	\$ 45,000	Single Family
6825 Albemarle Rd	B-D(CD)	2.458	\$1,110,000	Vacant
W Tyvola Rd	MUDD-O	1.67	\$4,777,000	Vacant
Idlewild Road North	O-1	1.68	\$407,500	Parking Lot
429 Coxe Av	O-2	.0172	\$42,000	Vacant



Current Surplus Property List

Address	Zoning	Acreage	Appraised Value	Land Use
2643 Mayfair Av	R-5	0.452	\$15,000	Vacant
2619 Columbus Cir	R-5	0.208	\$9,999	Vacant
2632 Columbus Cir	R-8	0.272	\$9,999	Vacant
2610 Dundeen St	R-5	0.148	\$25,000	Vacant
801 Ambassador St	R-5	0.4	\$9,999	Vacant
2235 West Blvd	B-1	0.246	\$45,000	Vacant
6514 Freedom Dr	B-1	0.6		Vacant
3801, 3807, 3821 Freedom Dr	R-4	2.7		Vacant
6932 Mt. Holly Rd	R-4	1.83		Vacant
6400 Rumble Rd	R-17MF	1.5		Vacant



City Property Given to CMS with Reverter Clause

- In 1950, Council deeded 29 properties to the Charlotte Board of School Commissioners, which later became the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education.
- The deeds included a clause indicating that the properties would revert to City ownership if not used for school purposes for a period of one year.
- In 1972, Council released the reverters in order to provide the Board of Education with "free and clear title" to the 29 parcels.
- Council paid discounted prices to retain two of the parcels which were used for neighborhood centers and revitalization.



CMS Properties Available

Address	Zoning	Acreage	Appraised Value	Land Use
3301 Stafford Dr	I-2	38.56		Vacant
1546 Walton Rd	R-22MF	3.8		Vacant
4911 Hucks Rd	R-3	8.41		Vacant
33315 Sam Newell Rd	n/a	18.79		Vacant
121 Elizabeth Ln	n/a	6.21		Vacant
7242 Highland Creek Pkwy	R-3	6.4		Vacant
7400 Harrisburg Rd	R-4	0.43		Vacant
7800 Lebanon Rd	n/a	1.83		Vacant
9801 Mallard Creek Rd	R-3	14		Vacant
11501 Idlewild Rd	n/a	20.66		Vacant



CMS Properties Available

Address	Zoning	Acreage	Appraised Value	Land Use
1430 Alleghany St	INST	2.76		Vacant
1425 E 10th St	B-2	0.131		Vacant
2300 W Sugar Creek Rd	R-17MF	0.39		Vacant
10801 Plaza Rd Ext	R-3	11.62		Vacant
2700 Dorchester Pl	R-17MF	3.72		Vacant
Belmeade Rd	I-2 (CD)	0.78		Vacant





County Properties

- County staff reports that the County very rarely declares property as surplus.
- Currently the County has issued Requests for Proposal for two uptown sites (Brooklyn Village and the Hal Marshall Building site).
- Charlotte Housing Authority has committed to providing 30 vouchers for 30 affordable units at the Brooklyn Village project, and developers have proposed additional affordable units in their proposals.



Proposed Surplus Property Minimum Criteria Review for Affordable Housing

- When a property is reviewed for potential surplus, the reviewer will determine if the site has potential use as affordable/mixed-income housing.

Under 1 Acre	Above 1 Acre
Zoned Residential	Largely unobstructed by easements
Largely unobstructed by easements	Within ¼ mile of road access
Adjacent road access	Within ¼ mile of utility access
Adjacent utility access	Not located in the flood plains, runway hazard zones or stream buffers
Meets permitting requirements for at least one detached single family dwelling	
Not located in the flood plains, runway hazard zones or stream buffers	
The ability to be combined with other parcels to create greater land mass	





Proposed Surplus Property Minimum Criteria Review for Affordable Housing

- When a property is reviewed for potential surplus, the reviewer will determine if the site has potential use as affordable/mixed-income housing.
- If the property does not meet the minimum criteria, the property will be determined not feasible for affordable housing and surplus review will continue.
- If the property meets the above guidelines, it will then be forwarded the NBS Housing Services for further review.



Proposed Surplus Property Minimum Criteria Review for Affordable Housing

- After referral, NBS Housing Services staff will either request a hold be placed on the property, or notify E&PM to continue the surplus property process with documentation as to why the property is not appropriate for housing diversity.
- NBS Housing Services will market the property to housing developers with a minimum affordable unit goal.
- If a developer is interested, the developer will submit a proposal for purchase and development of the parcel.
- If no developer responds within 90 days of NBS Housing Services marketing the property, the property will be released and E&PM will continue the surplus property disposal process.
- NBS will provide documentation to E&PM that the property was offered to affordable housing developers with no response.



Next Steps

- Staff will finalize the approach that will ensure review of potentially surplus properties for affordable housing purposes.
- New guidelines for property management will be brought to Council this summer.



Council Considerations

- Housing Locational Policy Waivers
- Lands Costs
- Increased Housing Trust Fund Requests
- Potential Rezoning Requests

May 25 Metropolitan Transit Commission Meeting Summary

MTC heard two information items at the meeting:

North Corridor HOV/ HOT Lane BRT Project

HOV/HOT Express Lanes are dedicated lanes managed to provide reliability and unimpeded travel during peak demand periods. Vehicles with the highest occupancy, such as transit, typically use these types of lanes at no charge. Two express lanes will be added to I-77 in both directions from Charlotte to Exit 28 near Cornelius. From Exit 28 to Exit 36 in Mooresville, one express lane will be added in each direction. Premium bus service is needed in the I-77 North Corridor as I-77 is one of the most congested interstates in the region and the population in northern Mecklenburg has increased at an unprecedented rate. Draft objectives of the North Corridor Transit Study are to identify short- and medium-term bus service and facility enhancements to leverage the I-77 HOV/HOT lanes, mitigate construction impacts of express lane construction on I-77 and set the stage for future commuter rail service.

Much of the project management, coordination with NCDOT and I-77 Mobility Partners, public involvement and branding/marketing can be done by CATS and Town staff rather than consultant staff. A draft timeline proposes to finalize the scope of work through the end of 2016 with implementation and advance facility planning and development, as well as preparing a five to ten year funding plan from January 2016 to the opening of the HOV/HOT lane project in late 2018. After opening, Phase 3 will implement the approved program over the ten-year period, consistent with the annual MTC budget process and depending on funding partners' ability to keep their funding commitments. In the next 30 to 60 days, the project team will mobilize and will meet with Town staff to develop the project management plan, objectives and goals and to refine the scope of work.

Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan

The Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan is a key piece in CATS as a regional transit system and coordinates services across jurisdictions. It is required by FTA for urbanized areas to receive section 5310 funding, which provides funding for enhanced mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The Plan is updated every five years and was last updated in 2010, two federal transportation acts ago. The current transportation act is Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST). Key changes since the last federal transportation act include elimination of the Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and the New Freedom programs, which helped low-income households access jobs. Section 5310 funding was retained, which provides grants for enhanced mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. 5310 projects are intended to exceed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements with direct apportionments to large urbanized areas. CATS is the designated recipient for 5310 program funding for the Charlotte urbanized area. CATS receives and distributes funding to area sub-recipients, who submit proposals. A local match is required for 5310 projects in both capital and operating areas. All of this year's funding is going to sub-recipients. The projects address various needs, from capital projects to operating assistance, with a different split between federal and local funds depending on the type of project.

The Charlotte urbanized area has expanded to include Union and Iredell counties and even into York County in South Carolina, north of the Catawba River. The aging and needs-based populations are growing along with other demographic populations. Staff held numerous public meetings for the Plan update, often piggybacking with other initiatives already under way so citizens could attend one workshop to learn about multiple initiatives and issues. Staff also held a workshop for local agencies to gather feedback. In addition, staff conducted surveys.

Since the last Plan update, technology has changed. We now live in a smart-phone world. Smart paratransit of the future may use technology like the new CATS real-time app so riders can input their current location and destination into their phones. Dynamic scheduling may allow a paratransit vehicle to meet riders at pick-up points so groups of riders can travel to a common destination. The next step is the Plan review and adoption process. Staff hopes to have a Plan draft for review and adoption next month.

CATS CEO Report

Under the CEO's report, Mr. Lewis discussed:

a. Ridership:

Ridership numbers were lower than expected for bus transportation in April, but the LYNX Blue Line continues to maintain ridership at the same level as last year. Streetcar ridership is growing. Overall, CATS is about 2.5 percent lower than this period last year. Sales tax receipts continue to exceed budgeted estimates and are currently at 105 percent of estimated sales tax revenue.

b. Media Article on Transit:

A Charlotte Observer article dated May 14, 2016 ranked CATS 26th out of 32 cities in a survey on transit. While there are some areas that would be difficult to address, such as parking requirements which are not necessarily in CATS' control, there are some areas CATS can address, such as service frequency. Staff is preparing an action item for MTC for a comprehensive study that would examine designing an optimal bus system in the region, as if creating a system from scratch. The demographics of the region have changed so much in the past ten years that a new study is warranted.

c. 2030 Transit Plan:

It may be time to refresh the 2030 Transit Plan. There are challenges in moving the current plan forward, and the region has experienced much growth since the plan was last updated.

d. APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference Report:

CATS hosted the annual American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Bus and Paratransit Conference in May. CATS' maintenance team took first place in the Air Conditioning/HVAC competition and fourth place overall. They will attend the June MTC meeting for recognition.

The next MTC meeting will be June 22, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.



**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
M E M O R A N D U M**

June 17, 2016

TO: Ron Carlee, City Manager
Ron Kimble, Deputy City Manager

FROM: Dana Fenton, Intergovernmental Relations Manager

SUBJECT: 2016 State Legislative Report #8

Trending Topics

House and Senate conferees are still trying to iron differences in their versions of the **2016 Appropriations Act ([HB 1030](#) – Dollar)**.

Amend Environmental & Other Laws ([HB 593](#) – McElraft) was reported out of Senate Agriculture and received a serial referral to Senate Finance. HB 593 prohibits cities from charging fees for activities conducted in the rights-of-way by suppliers of natural gas, telecommunications, video programming and electricity “...except to the extent a city's right-of-way management expenses related to the activities of those businesses exceed distributions under Article 5 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes”. The City collects approximately \$1.1 million of such fees annually.

Land Use Regulatory Changes ([HB 483](#) – Jordan) will be considered by Senate Judiciary I on Tuesday, June 21. HB 483 incentivizes land use litigation with resulting higher legal costs being borne by taxpayers. The language on performance guarantees undermines this process in such a way that local property taxpayers will pay the costs of repairing substandard infrastructure, and it subjects property purchasers to the harms created by failing infrastructure.

Performance Guarantees / Subdivision Streets ([SB 778](#) – Wade) passed House and sent to Senate for concurrence. SB 778 provides that NCDOT will have primary responsibility for design of and funding for transportation ingress/egress improvements to schools, public and otherwise, from state and locally owned rights-of-way. However, questions remain as to whether improvements such as sidewalks, traffic signals, and left turn lanes are eligible for funding.

Regulatory Reform Act of 2016 (SB 303 – Barefoot) passed House and sent to Senate for concurrence. Section 2.6 makes it more difficult for local governments to enforce ongoing land use violations, leaving neighboring property owners left with few remedies. If a violator is breaking the law knowingly, under the amended language, so long as the six year time period runs its course, the violator faces no consequences for their actions.

Administrative & Fiscal

2016 Appropriations Act (HB 1030 – Dollar): The House rejected the Senate version of HB 1030, and both Senate and House appointed conferees. Points of contention include:

- Senate language to limit state participation in commuter rail, intercity rail, and light rail projects to 10% of project costs, which complicates the House proposal for a “clean repeal” of language from 2015 limiting state participation in light rail projects to \$500,000. The “clean repeal” language was first introduced in **Repeal Light Rail Funding Cap (HB 988 – Torbett / SB 857 – McKissick)**.
- Senate language to repeal a key plank of the 2015 sales tax redistribution compromise that contributed \$17.6 million from State to local sales tax coffers. The repeal of the \$17.6 million contribution to local sales tax coffers was originally proposed in **Change the Local Option Sales Tax Adjustment Factor (SB 846 – Brown)**.
- Senate and House budgets phase in an increase of the personal income tax standard deduction from \$15,500 to \$17,500 but over different time periods. Senate phases it in over two years while the House has a four year phase in period.

Constitutional Amendment – Maximum Income Tax Rate of 5.5% (SB 817 – Rucho) reported favorably out of Senate Finance. Proposal amends Article V, Section 2(6) of the State Constitution to lower the maximum income tax rate from the current 10% to 5.5%. Question would be put before the voters on November 8, 2016. The current rate of personal income taxation is 5.499%. SB 817 does not contain any provisions for the legislature to override the limit through any means such as a super-majority vote of both houses of the General Assembly.

No action has been taken on **Repeal House Bill 2 (HB 946 – Jackson / SB 784 – Van Duyn)**, **The Equality for All Act (HB 1078 – Sgro)**, or **Provide Protections Against Discrimination (HB 1118 – W. Richardson)**.

Economic Development

No action has been taken by either the House or Senate on the three economic development measures that are focused upon rural economic development. The measures are: **Economic Development Changes and Study (HB 1029 – S. Martin / SB 810 – Brown)**, **Eliminate Use of Development Tiers (HB 1082 – Davis / SB 844 – Hise)**, and **Prosperity & Economic Opportunity for All NC Act (HB 1090 – S. Martin / SB 826 – Gunn)**. The House versions of the bills have been referred to House Rules. The Senate versions have been referred to Senate Commerce with serial referrals to Senate Finance and Appropriations/Base Budget.

Infrastructure

Terminate Agreement for Tolling of I-77 ([HB 954](#) – Jeter) passed the House on June 2 by vote of 81-27. HB 954 referred to Senate Transportation.

Environmental & Planning

Regulatory Reduction Act of 2016 ([HB 169](#) – Hager) passed the Senate and has been sent back to the House for concurrence. HB 169 would repeal recycling requirements for discarded computer equipment and televisions, which is based upon US EPA finding that electronics can be safely disposed of in municipal solid waste landfills.

Public Safety

Body-Worn & Dashboard Cameras / No Public Records ([HB 972](#) – Faircloth): Legislation recommended by the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety to establish statewide standards for the release of body-worn and dashboard camera video and audio. HB 972 reported out of House Judiciary II and received serial referral to House Finance.

No action has been taken on **Local Government Immigration Compliance ([SB 868](#) – Sanderson)** that creates “additional incentives” for local governments to comply with State immigration laws. SB 868 referred to Senate Judiciary II, if favorable, to Finance, and if favorable, to Appropriations / Base Budget.