Council-Manager Memo #50
Friday, June 29, 2012

CHARLOTTE.

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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (7/2)	Tues (7/3)	Wed (7/4)	Thurs (7/5)	Fri (7/6)
		INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY	NBCLEO Summer Conference, New Orleans, LA	

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Wednesday, July 4
INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY

Thursday, July 5 – Sunday, July 8
NBCLEO Summer Conference, New Orleans, LA

July and August calendars are attached (see "2. Calendar.pdf")

INFORMATION:

Charlotte Fire Department Sponsoring Cooling Station
Staff Resource: Jeff Dulin, CFD, 704-336-8503, jdulin@charlottenc.gov

The Charlotte Fire Department is sponsoring a cooling station to provide relief from the extreme heat expected throughout the weekend in the Charlotte area. The station, which opened noon Friday, is located at the Homeless Resource Center in the Hal Marshall Annex, 618 North Tryon Street.

The cooling station will be staffed by volunteers from the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army. They will provide water, light snacks, and a cool place to stay. The station will be open from 12:00-8:00 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Hours on Monday will be determined based on developing weather conditions.

The Charlotte Fire Department and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Management urge citizens to stay alert and remain aware of the current weather conditions and warnings in effect. Citizens are encouraged to stay safe by exercising extreme caution when grilling outdoors, utilizing tiki torches, and smoking outdoors. Individuals should stay hydrated, limit outdoor exposure, and be on the lookout for the signs and symptoms of heat-related medical emergencies. Charlotte Fire Department and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Management also encourage residents to look out for the well being of elderly neighbors, children, and pets by having them follow the same applicable safety measures mentioned above.

Shriners Parade on July Fourth
Staff Resource: David Christopher, CDOT, 704-336-3889, dchristopher@charlottenc.gov

The Shriners 2012 Imperial Session Parade is scheduled for 2:30-5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 4th. The parade will begin on Tryon Street at 9th Street and conclude at Stonewall Street. These streets will be closed to traffic from 2:00-6:00 p.m.

There will be an estimated 2,500 Shriners participating in over 200 units, making this parade the largest one in recent history for the City of Charlotte.

July 26 – CONNECT Consortium Launch

Staff Resource: Julie Burch, City Manager's Office, 704-336-3187, jburch@charlottenc.gov

The Mayor and City Council are invited to attend the CONNECT Consortium Launch scheduled for Thursday, July 26, 1:15 – 3:30 p.m., at the U.S. National Whitewater Center. Council members will be receiving an invitation by separate email, a copy of which is attached **(see "3. CONNECT.pdf")**. RSVPs are requested by July 25.

The City of Charlotte is one of over 50 jurisdictions in the 14 county, bi-state region participating in CONNECT. Last summer, the City Council endorsed the Centralina Council of Governments' (CCOG) application to the federal Housing and Urban Development Department for a Sustainable Communities Initiative Regional Planning Grant. HUD awarded a $4.9 Million grant to CCOG late last fall. The City Manager signed the Memorandum of Understanding on the City's behalf last month. As part of the City's in-kind contribution, City staff from the City Manager's Office, CDOT, Planning and Neighborhood and Business Services, among others, will be providing expertise and data support.

The Consortium will develop the "CONNECT Our Future" Regional Strategic Framework which incorporates regional and local plans in order to support vital communities, economic growth, improved quality of life, environment, and efficient public investments. A unique and important aspect of the effort is the inclusion of representation from the private and non-profit sectors across the same geography, bringing the total estimated partners to 100.
The launch will bring together elected officials and CEOs, or their representatives, from across the region to formally kick-off CONNECT. Approximately 200 people are expected to attend.

Solid Waste Services Performs Residential Garbage Cart Audit

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

Solid Waste Services is in the process of performing an audit of residential garbage cart inventory and has determined there are addresses that are not authorized to have residential garbage carts. These carts are for residential garbage use only and the addresses identified are using the carts for business garbage purposes.

Staff has sent correspondence to citizens whose carts have been identified as being used for business purposes, alerting them that the cart has been removed and returned to the City's inventory.

Business garbage customers are advised to purchase a 96-gallon or less rollout container from any of the home improvement or retail stores throughout the city. Business garbage customers can place up to 512 gallons of garbage/trash curbside per week to be collected by City crews on the business's day of collection.

CharMeck Utilities Payments May Now Be Made At Over 125 Western Union Locations
Staff Resource: Susan Walker, Finance, 704-336-4296, slwalker@charlottenc.gov

Finance has collaborated with CharMeck 311, CMUD, Corporate Communications and Western Union to offer citizens the ability to pay their water, sewer and storm water bills at over 125 Authorized Payment Locations throughout Mecklenburg County. To use this method of payment, citizens will complete a Western Union payment form or speak with a Western Union operator by phone, depending on the location they visit, to guarantee the low cost convenience fee of $1.50 per transaction. In turn, the City will receive payment through an electronic posting file. This partially outsourced solution enhances citizen service and expands the City's payment channels. The official list of Authorized Payment Locations will be available on charmeck.org and updated periodically. Citizens who call CharMeck 311 to inquire where they can make a walk-in payment will be asked to give their zip code and a customer service representative will provide locations closest to them.

CharlotteBusinessResources.com – Business Web Portal Survey
Staff Resource: Natasha Warren, N&BS, 704-336-3980, nwarren@charlottenc.gov

Neighborhood & Business Services is seeking feedback from local small businesses regarding updates and improvements to CharlotteBusinessResources.com through an on-line survey that launched this week.

The survey is an opportunity for local businesses to tell City staff what types of information is most useful to them and how they prefer to receive it. Staff plans to use the feedback to develop new web-based tools to help businesses find useful information and resources. Examples of such tools may include a library of training videos, narrowly tailored search results based on user criteria, and interactive tools that quickly identify local licenses & permits for specific industry types.

Businesses may now take the survey at CharlotteBusinessResources.com until July 16. Once the survey closes, staff will evaluate the results and convene focus groups to further understand potential improvements to the site.

Annual Water Quality Report Delivered this Week
Staff Resource: Karen Whichard, CMUD, 704-336-4793, kwhichard@charlottenc.gov

Beginning this week, the 2011 Water Quality Report will be delivered to all residents of Mecklenburg County. The annual report, compiled by CMUD, outlines the results of the extensive water quality testing done throughout the year and meets stringent EPA reporting guidelines.

Once again, Charlotte-Mecklenburg's drinking water meets and exceeds all state and federal standards. CMUD conducted more than 150,000 tests on drinking water in 2010, far exceeding the required amount. These tests look for more than 150 substances, many of which occur

naturally in the environment. Even the highest contaminant levels detected were well below federal limits.

In addition to mailing the report as required by the EPA, CMUD will be communicating the outstanding results via the following channels:

- News Release (see attachment)
- Website
- CMUD Enewsletter
- Outreach to Town Contacts
- Advertisement in La Noticia

Attached please find the report **(see "4. Report.pdf")** as well as the news release **(see "5. Release.pdf")** that was issued today.

June 29 State Legislative Update
Staff Resource: Dana Fenton, City Manager's Office, 704-336-2009, dfenton@charlottenc.gov

Attached **(see "6. LegReport.pdf")** is the Week 7 Legislative Report. The House and Senate will be reconvening Monday and possibly Tuesday to override the gubernatorial veto of the amended FY13 budget, which was announced at a press conference on Friday, June 29, and finish the session. The Governor's office has been laying the groundwork for a veto by announcing the "Top 20 Budget Flaws" (see link below) on June 28 and working Democratic House members to sustain a gubernatorial veto. It has been reported that one and possibly two of the House Democrats who voted to override her veto of the 2011 budget bill are ready to vote to sustain a veto of this year's bill.

http://www.governor.state.nc.us/NewsItems/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?newsItemID=2491

ATTACHMENTS:

May 17 Economic Development Committee Summary **(see "7. ED Summary.pdf")**

May 29 Environment Committee Summary **(see "8. Env Summary.pdf")**

May 29 Community Safety Committee Summary **(see "9. CS Summary.pdf")**

June 11 Transportation and Planning Committee Summary **(see "10. TAP Summary.pdf")**