Council-Manager Memo #55
Friday, July 20, 2012

CHARLOTTE.

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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (July 23)	Tues (July 24)	Wed (July 25)	Thurs (July 26)	Fri (July 27)	Sat (July 28)
2:00 PM City Manager Evaluation, Room CH-14 4:00 PM Council Business Meeting, Room 267 6:30 PM Citizens' Forum, Meeting Chamber			12:00 PM Transportation and Planning Committee, Room 280 1:30 pm CONNECT Consortium Launch Event, US National Whitewater Center		9:00 AM District Three Town Hall Mtg., Steele Creek AME Zion Church

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, July 23

2:00 pm City Manager Evaluation, Room CH-14

4:00 pm Council Business Meeting, Room 267

6:30 pm Citizens' Forum, Meeting Chamber

Thursday, July 26

12:00 pm Transportation and Planning Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: Comprehensive transportation plan; Managed lanes; Future committee topics

1:30 pm CONNECT Consortium launch event, US National Whitewater Center
5000 Whitewater Center Parkway, Charlotte NC 28214

Saturday, July 28

9:00 am District Three Town Hall Meeting, Steele Creek AME Zion Church
1500 Shopton Rd. Charlotte NC 28217

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

AGENDA NOTES:

Agenda Item #12 – Assignment for Purchase Contracts for Eastland Mall
Staff Resource: Greg Gaskins, Finance, 704-336-5885, ggaskins@charlottenc.gov

The explanation of this agenda item states that "[t]he City has $15,984,000 in approved 2008 Neighborhood General Obligation Bonds dedicated to Eastland. Staff recommends this as the source of funds for the purchase contract." This memo is to inform you that should the Council approve this agenda item, the City has financing options in addition to general obligation bonds including: special obligation bonds, certificates of participation (COPs) or other capital financing vehicles allowed by state law. Our intention is to use a financing strategy that will provide the most flexibility in completing the acquisition and future disposition of the property, after more extensive consultation with the Local Government Commission and the City's Bond Counsel. What is important to recognize is that, regardless of the financing strategy ultimately employed for the acquisition, the impact on the general fund debt capacity will be the same. For that reason, if the purchase is financed other than through the 2008 general obligation bonds, staff will relinquish the purchase price amount and all associated closing costs from the

$16 million general bond capacity. We wanted you to be aware of our intentions prior to your vote on July 23.

INFORMATION:

Transportation and Planning Committee Referral – Zoning Ordinance Policy Assessment
Staff Resource: Ruffin Hall, City Manager's Office, 704-336-3403, rlhall@charlottenc.gov
Debra Campbell, Planning, 704-336-2671, dcampbell@charlottenc.gov

The Planning Department has contracted with Clarion Associates to perform an assessment of the City's Zoning Ordinance and develop options for future revisions or updates. The assessment will focus on how well the current Zoning Ordinance implements City policies and plans, such as the *Centers, Corridors, and Wedges* and the *General Development Policies*. Further, the assessment will identify the strengths and weaknesses of the existing Zoning Ordinance in terms of its content, structure, organization, clarity, ease of use, zoning districts and district standards, regulations of general applicability, definitions, graphics, and procedures.

The project is divided into three phases: 1) Ordinance assessment, including stakeholder interviews, field reconnaissance, document review, and written report; 2) Identification of zoning ordinance models/typologies, including best practices, case studies, and written report; and, 3) Consultant's presentation and final report.

The project is anticipated to be completed by June 2013, with the product to include a presentation by the consultant to elected and appointed officials and staff, as well as a final written report documenting the results of the work.

In the course of its work, Clarion will meet with and/or interview users of the ordinance, including City and County staff, Planning Commissioners, the development community, neighborhood leaders, and the public. The City Manager is referring this project to Council's Transportation and Planning Committee, which will be kept informed of the project's progress by the Planning Department staff. Staff will also provide updates to full Council at Zoning Dinner meetings.

Transfer of Surplus Property at 1201 Pegram Street – House United Project
Staff Resources: Mary Gaertner, N&BS, 704-432-5495, mgaertner@charlottenc.gov
Eugene Bradley, N&BS, 704-336-2265, ebradley@charlottenc.gov

Rebuilding Together of the Carolina's requested Neighborhood & Business Services' (N&BS) support to locate a vacant lot that could be donated to the House United Project being sponsored by Rebuilding Together of the Carolinas and Sears's - Heroes at Home program.

House United is a collaborative effort taking place with delegates at the Republican National

Convention (RNC) in Tampa and the Democratic National Convention (DNC) in Charlotte. This effort will build a house that will be donated to a veteran and his or her family who earns 80% or below the Area Median Income, or $54,800 or less.

DNC Delegates will work on the "½ house build" during The CarolinaFest Labor Day festivities taking place along Tryon Street. It will then be moved to the donated lot on September 4 where the "½ house build" from the RNC in Tampa will arrive. Construction to connect each half will run through October. The house design is consistent with other homes in the Belmont neighborhood and conforms to the overall neighborhood character. Rebuilding Together of the Carolina's will hold a move-in celebration once the project is complete.

Under the City Manager's authority, surplus vacant lot property, valued at $85,000, located at 1201 Pegram Street was transferred to the Belmont Community Development Corporation. They in turn will donate to the House United Project.

This donation is consistent with the three basic goals of the City's housing policies: preserve the existing housing stock, expand the supply of affordable housing and support family self-sufficiency initiatives.

Hero's at Home is a program Sears Holdings has created in partnership with Rebuilding Together in response to an urgent need to assist military families facing hardship. Rebuilding Together is the nation's largest all volunteer home rehabilitation organization committed to bringing warmth, safety and accessibility to homeowners who do not have the financial or physical resources to complete home repairs and other necessary improvements.

2011 Traffic Crash Data Report

Staff Resources: Debbie Self, CDOT, 704-336-3935, drself@charlottenc.gov

The Charlotte Department of Transportation (CDOT) has completed its annual crash report using collision data from the calendar year 2011. The report **(attached, see "3. Crash report.pdf")** includes the 2012 High Accident Location (HAL) list. The HAL is based on 3 years of collisions and traffic count data used to rank intersections by crash rate. Overall, in 2011 the total number of collisions in the City is down to 15,147, a 4% decrease from the previous year.

CDOT compiles this information to identify patterns/trends of crash types, and to determine if engineering countermeasures can be used to improve intersection operations.

Tryon Street Pilot Project Signage

Staff Resources: Doreen Szymanski, CDOT, 704-336-7527, dszymanski@charlottenc.gov, Vivian Coleman, CDOT, 704-336-4275, vcoleman@charlottenc.gov

The Charlotte Department of Transportation (CDOT) has recently installed new parking signs on Tryon Street as part of a pilot project associated with Curb Lane Management Study recommendations.

The pilot project is providing useful information on whether the public understands the newly designed parking signs and the reallocation of curb uses on the street. CDOT is now evaluating the project by conducting on-street and on-line surveys, and will hold focus groups at the end of July. An on-line survey will be available for public input from July 20 through August 10. The survey is located at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CLTParkingSigns

The survey link will be posted on the CDOT website, and disseminated through the Charlotte Center City Partners distribution list, which includes business and neighbors Uptown.

July 24 – Brownfield Site Public Meeting in Vicinity of Stewart Creek
Staff Resource: Daryl Hammock, EPM, 704-336-2167, dhammock@charlottenc.gov

North Carolina House Representative Kelly Alexander, Jr. is facilitating a follow-up public meeting regarding the permitting of a Brownfield site by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Waste Management (NCDENR). The site formerly known as Pliana is located at 1016 Montana Drive in the vicinity of Stewart Creek in Northwest Charlotte. The meeting is on Tuesday July 24 at 6 p.m. at the West Charlotte Community Center located at 2401 Kendall Drive, Charlotte, NC 28216. The new site owner is Classic Coffee Concepts who is seeking a state permit, project number 14006-10-60.

Citizens have raised a variety of environmental related concerns including flooding, surface water quality, air quality, and groundwater contamination. These concerns will be discussed at the meeting and will be addressed by appropriate staff members from Mecklenburg County, the City, and the State of North Carolina.

NCDENR, County, and City staff previously met with citizens in April about various concerns. Also, smaller meetings were held with City Storm Water Services staff and property owners regarding a localized street flooding problem on Abelwood Road. A construction plan to solve the street flooding problem on Abelwood Road was prepared by the City and is nearly complete, with construction following soon thereafter. This information has been relayed to the affected citizens.

***City Source* Tells Stories of Citizen Service**
Staff Resource: Sherry Bauer, Corporate Communications & Marketing, 704-336-2459, sbauer@charlottenc.gov

City Source is the City of Charlotte's unique 30-minute program for citizens to learn about the City's services as well as how its employees serve the community. The program airs the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. on Cable 16 (Time Warner Cable), AT&T U-verse and is streamed LIVE online at www.charlottenc.gov. The show runs periodically for two weeks.

The July 19 – August 18 broadcast is a special edition. Host Dan Hayes takes a look at the most popular videos on GOVTube, the City's YouTube Channel. Viewers will be intrigued to know what departments and stories got the most hits.

This information is also promoted in CMail, the City's electronic newsletter emailed to more than 1,100 subscribers and distributed by City departments whose services, programs and employees are featured in an upcoming episode. **See "4. City Source.pdf" for flier promoting the upcoming show.**