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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (Nov. 3)	Tues (Nov. 4)	Wed (Nov. 5)	Thurs (Nov. 6)	Fri (Nov. 7)
2:00 PM Council Retreat Planning Committee, CMGC 15 fl. LCR 5:00 PM Council Workshop, Room 267 7:30 PM Citizens' Forum, Room 267			10:00 AM Economic Development & Global Competitiveness Committee Tour of Amateur Sports Initiatives, CMGC 4 th St. traffic circle	

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, November 3

- 2:00 PM Council Retreat Planning Committee, CMGC 15th floor Large Conference Room
AGENDA: Retreat planning
- 5:00 PM Council Workshop, Room 267
- 7:30 PM Citizens' Forum, Room 267

Thursday, November 6

- 10:00 AM Economic Development & Global Competitiveness Committee Tour of Amateur Sports Initiatives, CMGC 4th St. traffic circle

ATTACHED: [November and December calendars](#)

AGENDA NOTES:

Citizens' Forum Speaker Regarding 400 Lambeth Dr, Lot #22

*Staff Resources: Ben Krise, NBS, 704-336-2485, bkrise@charlottenc.gov
Jane Taillon, NBS, 704-336-2165, jtaillon@charlottenc.gov*

Ms. Geraldine Adams of 400 Lambeth Drive has signed up to speak at next Monday's Citizens' Forum. Code Enforcement has an open case for minimum housing violations on the mobile home leased by Ms. Adams. Code Enforcement has conducted an inspection of the property and a preliminary hearing was held on Oct 27, 2014. Code Enforcement will be issuing a repair order for the outstanding violations and the owner will have 30 days to make repairs. There are no dangerous or unsafe violations found at this property. Code Enforcement has been in contact with the property manager who has indicated that maintenance staff is addressing the outstanding violations.

INFORMATION:

November 11 - Housing our Heroes: Mayor's Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness Press Conference

*Staff Resources: Mary Gaertner, NBS, 704-432-5495, mgaertner@charlottenc.gov
Pamela Wideman, NBS, 704-336-3488, pwideman@charlottenc.gov*

On November 11, 2014, Mayor Clodfelter, Commissioner Trevor Fuller, and Kaye Green, Executive Director of the Salisbury Veterans Administration Medical Center, will hold a press conference to announce a challenge, to be known as 'Housing our Heroes', to end veteran homelessness in Charlotte-Mecklenburg by December 2015. The press conference will begin at

2:00 p.m. in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center Meeting Chamber. City Council members are invited to attend.

Using the federally mandated annual Point in Time Count, the Housing our Heroes implementation team has set a goal to house 204 homeless veterans by the end of December 2015.

The Housing our Heroes implementation team is comprised of representatives from the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, and Veterans Administration. Community partners working on the Housing our Heroes campaign include the Charlotte Housing Authority, Charlotte Bridge Home, Community Link, Crisis Assistance Ministry, Salvation Army, Urban Ministry Center, Men's Shelter of Charlotte, Supportive Housing Communities, Asheville-Buncombe County Christian Ministry, Alston Wilkes Society, and Family Endeavors.

Deputy City Engineer Tim Richards Elected to National Post

Staff Resource: Jeb Blackwell, E&PM, 704-336-3603, jblackwell@charlottenc.gov

Engineering & Property Management's Deputy City Engineer Tim Richards was elected President of the National Association of Flood & Stormwater Management Agencies at the group's annual meeting Oct. 14-17 in Boston, MA. He will serve a two-year term leading the organization that works to protect lives, property and the economy from the damages of storm and flood water.

NAFSMA was formed in 1978 and represents public agencies nationwide in having their voices heard at the federal policy-making level on water resource issues, including stormwater management, disaster assistance and flood insurance.

"We work closely with the Corps of Engineers, Federal Emergency Management Agency and especially the Environmental Protection Agency," said Richards. "We try to influence the rule-making, both formally and informally, so our members' concerns are addressed."

Influence is exerted through the formal process in which NAFSMA responds to the postings of potential water resource rulings in the Federal Record. Tim will put much of his attention on the informal – meeting with and developing deeper relationships with federal agency officials. Those relationships can foster opportunities, such as providing testimony before Congress, for which Richards has been called upon twice – on the impacts of "green " infrastructure, and the effect of low impact development on the nation's water quality and economy.

Wastewater Plant Operations Recovering From Illegal PCB Dumping Incident

Staff Resource: Barry Gullet, Utilities, 704-336-4931, bgullet@charlottenc.gov

Work is ongoing to recover from the illegal PCB dumping incidents at the Mallard Creek and McAlpine Creek Wastewater Plants. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been

very helpful and CMUD staff have worked closely with them to assure proper methods and precautions are used and rules are followed.

All of the stored biosolids from both plants with PCB levels above 50 parts per million (ppm) have been transported to an approved Class C hazardous material landfill in Alabama. This was about 5,000 wet tons from Mallard and 1,000 wet tons from McAlpine. Material from both plants with PCB concentrations below 50 ppm has been placed in approved Class D landfills locally as provided for by U.S. EPA requirements under rules dealing with wastewater treatment and solid waste disposal.

Costs

Total costs associated with remediating the illegal dumping incident to date are about \$3.5M. There is a substantial amount of work remaining to complete decontamination of the plants, especially Mallard. Depending on the conditions found when process tanks are drained and direction is received from U.S. EPA as to the extent of work required, the estimated remaining cost is an additional \$7M to \$9M over the next year. Work is funded through departmental savings and CMUD operating reserves.

Steps to Prevent PCB Soil Contamination

CMUD's decades long practice is to beneficially reuse biosolids as a soil amendment for farmland in North and South Carolina. This is referred to as "land application" and is regulated by the U.S. EPA through delegated authority to state environmental agencies - NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). CMUD has not land applied biosolids from McAlpine or Mallard Creek Plants since the illegal dumping incidents were detected in February 2014. All material produced at Mallard and McAlpine since that time, including biosolids tested clean for PCBs, has been disposed of in appropriate landfills.

Before resuming land application of biosolids from Mallard or McAlpine, CMUD has established a sampling and testing protocol that exceeds requirements by U.S. EPA, NC DENR, and SC DHEC. South Carolina's regulations relative to PCB's in biosolids are believed to be the most stringent in the U.S. The purpose of the CMUD protocol is to establish confidence that biosolids land applied meet the most stringent requirements of NC, SC or EPA related to PCB's. The U.S. EPA and NC regulations allow land application of biosolids with PCB concentrations up to 50 ppm. The SC General Assembly enacted legislation this year restricting land application PCB concentrations to 10 ppm or less. Therefore, CMUD has established 10 ppm as the maximum PCB concentration for biosolids to be land applied in either state. If concentrations are between 10 and 50 ppm, the material will be landfilled in approved local landfills. If concentrations exceed 50 ppm, the material will be disposed of in an approved hazardous material landfill such as the one in Alabama.

NC does not require routine testing of biosolids for PCBs. SC requires quarterly testing. CMUD's protocol will require testing on a much more frequent basis at every CMUD plant.

- At McDowell and Irwin Plants, the primary sludge stream feeding into the solids digesters will be sampled and analyzed on a daily basis. Sampling in this manner at McDowell and Irwin plants provides the most effective means of detecting any PCBs that may be present.
- At McAlpine and Mallard Creek Plants the processed biosolids are segregated into batches and contained in covered storage areas prior to being hauled away for land application. Each of those batches at Mallard and McAlpine will be sampled and analyzed for PCB's to determine if any PCB contamination exists in that batch.
- The Sugar Creek Plant sludge is transferred via a dedicated pipeline to McAlpine Plant for processing and is incorporated into the biosolids produced and sampled there. However, CMUD will sample the primary sludge at the Sugar Creek plant daily. This will provide useful information as to potential sources in the event PCB's are detected in the biosolids produced at McAlpine.

NC regulations do not specify a laboratory method to be used for analyzing biosolids for PCBs. SC regulations require laboratories to use U.S. EPA Method 8082 to test for PCB presence. This is the procedure specified by CMUD protocol. CMUD's protocol will be used for land application of biosolids produced by each of CMUD's plants in any location in either state.

Land Application Program

Using the protocol described above to protect the environment and public health, CMUD plans to resume the land application program of biosolids with PCB concentrations less than 10 ppm from all plants.

Council recently heard a speaker talk about concerns he has about CMUD's land application program. Although the overall land application process operates under program permits issued by NC DENR and SC DHEC, each farm field requires a state-issued permit to receive land applied biosolids. CMUD works with permitted farms in a number of counties in North and South Carolina to provide an inventory of reuse and disposal options since fields are only available for land application at the appropriate time during crop cycles and when weather conditions are favorable. Permits have been requested for several farms in Cabarrus, Rowan, and Iredell Counties. Farmers are anxious to receive the material because of the benefits it provides to the crop land and the savings they realize in reduced chemical fertilizer they need to purchase and apply. Typically, any given farm field will receive land applied biosolids about once every two years when it is applied at rates scientifically determined according to the type of crop and the existing soil conditions.

CMUD's land application program permit was renewed by SC last year for a 10 year period. The program permit for NC expires in March 2015. CMUD has already submitted the NC permit renewal application and NC DENR will conduct a review process which will get underway soon. That process will likely include public hearings conducted by NC DENR.

U.S. EPA regulations categorize biosolids as "Class A" or "Class B." The difference is that Class A material is treated with a process that removes all potentially disease causing bacteria, viruses, or other micro-organisms. Class A material is less regulated and can be sold commercially in

relatively small quantities to individual homeowners at home improvement and garden centers. Class B material is treated with a process that substantially reduces but doesn't totally remove all potentially disease causing bacteria, viruses, or other micro-organisms. The reduction in those pathogens makes the Class B product safe and suitable for regulated agricultural use and for casual human contact. CMUD wastewater plants currently produce a combined total of about 96 dry tons of Class B biosolids every day.

Future Disposal of Biosolids

A Biosolids Master Plan was completed in September 2013 for the CMUD system. The purpose of the plan was to project future biosolids production and to identify and evaluate reuse and disposal options. Emphasis was placed on diversifying reuse and disposal options to reduce business, operational and environmental risks. Based on the Master Plan findings, CMUD's CIP includes construction of new equipment needed to produce Class A biosolids at the McAlpine Creek Plant. Sludge from Sugar Creek Plant and Irwin Creek Plant would be piped to McAlpine and treated to Class A standards along with the McAlpine sludge. This would equate to about 85% of the total biosolids produced in the CMUD system. The two smaller plants, Mallard and McDowell, would maintain current operations to produce Class B biosolids. The construction cost to fully implement this plan is preliminarily estimated to be about \$100M and would be completed around 2020. These costs are already incorporated into CMUD's CIP and projected sewer rates. Producing Class A material could also increase on-going operating costs. Class A material would also likely continue to be land applied, but opportunities for other potential uses (such as conversion to commercial fertilizer) exist and will be pursued where they are practical and cost effective.

Treatment processes used to produce Class A biosolids would not remove PCB contamination. Class A material contaminated by PCB's would need to be disposed of in the same manner as contaminated Class B material.

There are several smaller communities in North Carolina producing Class A biosolids. There are also several that incinerate the sludge from their wastewater treatment system. However, the predominate practice for biosolids disposal is land application. Incineration of PCB contaminated biosolids is possible, but requires a special purpose incinerator to avoid PCB release into the atmosphere. Typical biosolids incinerators do not meet that requirement.

CMUD's land application process has an excellent track record. The program is certified to ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standards along with three of CMUD's wastewater plants.

ATTACHMENTS:

[City Council Follow-Up Report](#)

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- Age of Multi-Family Rehabilitation Units