



Community Investment Plan Newsletter

Issue 4

November 5, 2014

Charlotte Voters Approve City Bonds

Tuesday, voters approved \$146 million in City bonds for public improvements, housing and neighborhood improvements.

Bond Package	Voted Yes
Charlotte Public Improvement Bonds	70.18%
Charlotte Housing Bonds	63.59%
Charlotte Neighborhood Improvement Bonds	71.08%

Statistics provided by North Carolina State Board of Elections.

Projects like the Cross Charlotte Trail, new police stations, sidewalk and pedestrian safety improvements and the Northeast Corridor Infrastructure program are funded with public improvement bonds. The city's Housing Diversity program is funded through the housing bonds, and the Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Program (CNIP) is funded with the neighborhood improvement bonds.

Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Program Kicks into High Gear



The Northeast Corridor Infrastructure program held two highly attended public meetings recently. Nearly 200 residents got the opportunity to learn more about the program and receive updates on the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) LYNX Blue Line Extension (BLE) project.

Proposed 2014 General Obligation Bonds \$146 Million

Transportation: \$110,965,000

Housing: \$15,000,000

Neighborhoods: \$20,000,000

*The Community Investment Plan
accomplishes several goals:*

- Creating jobs and growing the tax base
- Leveraging public and private investments
- Enhancing public safety
- Enhancing transportation choices and mobility
- Ensuring housing diversity
- Providing integrated neighborhood improvements

The program is a collection of projects selected to improve pedestrian, bicyclist and motorist access to the BLE. This investment will help implement station area plans along the BLE as well as provide broader connections to other community investments like the Cross Charlotte Trail and Mecklenburg County greenway system. It will also contribute to the safe and functional access to key academic, cultural, and creative class destinations along the northeast corridor, like UNCC, NoDa and the envisioned Applied Innovation Corridor area just outside uptown.

Employees from Engineering & Property Management, CATS, Planning, Charlotte Department of Transportation and Corporate Communications & Marketing, and Councilman Greg Phipps attended the meetings to provide key information on the program and answer any additional questions about projects.

Making Connections

The University Pointe Connection (I-85 South Bridge) project continues to move forward as staff plan to begin Real Estate acquisitions in early 2015 and will send out for construction bids around the beginning of the summer. Construction is expected to begin in late summer 2015. This project will provide an east-west connection over I-85 and provide connectivity between University Research Park, the IKEA/Belgate development, and the BLE on North Tryon. It will also provide an alternate option to Harris Boulevard that is low-speed and more conducive to bicyclists and pedestrians.

A recommendation will be made to Council at the Nov. 10 business meeting to approve a contract amendment in the amount of \$400,000 for engineering services to support the project. The amendment is needed due to scope being added to the project, consisting primarily of improvements on Charlotte-Mecklenburg School property at James Martin Middle School and Vance High School. These funds will provide services for final bridge and roadway design, construction administration, and additional utility relocation design. The new total contact value including amendments is \$1,350,000.

Continued Success in Communities



With a total of 23 pop-up meetings completed for the Cross Charlotte Trail, the City will begin the planning process which is expected to take up to 18 months and move forward with the design and implementation of key trail segments. LandDesign will lead the planning effort and Kimley-Horn and Associates will start design of the trail section from Woodlawn to Tyvola. The Cordelia Park section is being designed through Mecklenburg County and is expected to be constructed by the summer of 2016. So far, more than 175 residents have provided an email address to be notified when Cross Charlotte Trail updates are available.

Land Acquisition and Street Connections

Investments in new street connections, streetscapes, sidewalk and bikeway improvements will address recommendations in the Independence Boulevard Area Plan and will focus on streetscape improvements along Monroe Road, development of key catalyst sites, and connections to neighborhood services for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit users.

Through a partnership with American Engineering, who specialize in land acquisition and street connections, the scope of work under this project will include:

- A Community Engagement Strategy designed to increase and enhance opportunities for the community to engage in informed discussion with City Staff and community partners.
- Market impact analysis for each of the projects to achieve program goals including trade area demographic trends and forecasts, the market potential for retail, office, institutional, and residential uses at each.
- Conceptual planning and engineering services.
- Development of a priority rating system for evaluating each project that will support program goals.

Work also includes interchange modifications at Wendover Road and providing alternate access to Independence as private redevelopment occurs next to Wal-Mart and the Pierson Drive Connection to Monroe Road.

Keeping our Sidewalks Safe

The Sidewalk and Pedestrian Safety Program is included in the Community Investment Plan to address ongoing pedestrian safety issues for the more than 790,000 current residents. Funding allocated for this program will be used to construct 10 to 12 miles of new sidewalks and to support the City's goal of constructing 15 new pedestrian crossings per year.

Currently, there are 19 active sidewalk projects within the Sidewalk & Pedestrian Safety Program. Of those projects, five are in the advanced planning phase, eight are in design and six are under construction. See the table on the next page for specific projects and statuses.

Sidewalk and Pedestrian Safety Program Project Status Update

Project	Current Phase	Project Type
North Sharon Amity @ Craig Ave.	Advanced Planning	Thoroughfare
Tom Short Rd.	Advanced Planning	Thoroughfare
Brown Grier Rd. and Gallant Ln.	Advanced Planning	Thoroughfare
Little Rock Rd.	Advanced Planning	Thoroughfare
Sardis Rd. North	Advanced Planning	Thoroughfare
Sunset Rd. North SW (C-5543)	Design	Thoroughfare
Providence Rd. SW (C-5541)	Design	Thoroughfare
Tryon St SW Tyvola/Woodlawn (C-5542)	Design	Thoroughfare
Nevin Rd/Gibbon Rd SW (C-5540)	Design	Thoroughfare
Remount Rd SW (West Blvd-RR)	Design	Thoroughfare
Sugar Crk SW (Eastway-Anderson) (Statesville)	Design	Thoroughfare
Nevin Rd SW (Lake Rd-Alpine Ln) (Statesville)	Design	Thoroughfare
Scaleybark Traffic Calming Project Ped Imp	Design	Thoroughfare
Dresden SW	Construction	Local Street
Markland/Wedgefield Dr SW	Construction	Local Street
Nations Ford Rd SW Tryon/Tyvola	Construction	Thoroughfare
West Blvd SW (Dawnalia-RR)	Construction	Thoroughfare
Manning/Wintercrest Sidewalk	Construction	Local Street
W Tyvola SW (Old Steele Crk-West) (Statesville)	Construction	Thoroughfare