CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Monday, June 5, 2006

Room 267

5:00 p.m.    Dinner

5:15 p.m.    Economic Development: Update on Cultural Facilities

6:45 p.m.    Community Safety: High Point Red Light Camera Case: Recommendations for SafeLight and SafeSpeed Programs

7:15 p.m.    Economic Development: Presentation of Public Art Work Plan

7:30 p.m.    Citizens’ Forum
(Room 267)

8:00 p.m.    Environment: Inter-basin Transfer

8:15 p.m.    Environment: Briefing on North Carolina “Clean Cars” Legislation

8:30 p.m.    Adjourn
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

TOPIC: Update on Cultural Facilities

COUNCIL FOCUS AREA: Economic Development

RESOURCES:
Ron Kimble, Assistant City Manager
Bob Bertges, Wachovia
Jim Schumacher, Engineering and Property Management
Lee Keesler, Arts & Science Council

KEY POINTS:

• City Council approved the Strategy for Funding Cultural Facilities and a Memorandum of Understanding for the Development of the South Tryon Street Cultural Facilities on February 27, 2006.

• Since that action, all of the cultural affiliates, City staff, and Wachovia have been working to develop schematic designs for the facilities as well as drafting development and lease agreements.

• The purpose of the presentation is to provide an update on the design process, the ASC’s Capital Fundraising Campaign, the status of the Rental Car tax, and the various development, financing and lease frameworks.

COUNCIL DECISION OR DIRECTION REQUESTED:

The Economic Development and Planning Committee will review the draft development and lease agreements at its June 13 meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

TOPIC: Future of the SafeSpeed and SafeLight Programs

COUNCIL FOCUS AREA: Community Safety

RESOURCES: Keith Parker, Assistant City Manager
Doreen Szymanski, CDOT
Captain Dave Haggist, CMPD
Bob Hagemann, Senior Assistant City Attorney

KEY POINTS:

- On May 16, the North Carolina Court of Appeals ruled that the “clear proceeds” of civil penalties collected under a red light camera program must be paid to the local board of education. The Court further stated that in determining “clear proceeds”, a city may deduct no more than 10% for the cost of collection. The ruling impacts SafeSpeed-type programs as well.

- On May 22, staff presented Council with information regarding the legal issues and case status, the City’s financial exposure, and the process and timetable for decisions. Each day the programs remain in place exposes the City to estimated financial liabilities of $7,200 to $8,200. The Council granted the City Manager and Police Chief the authority to suspend the programs until the June 5 Council meeting.

- On May 26, the City Manager, Police Chief and Director of CDOT agreed to suspend the SafeSpeed and SafeLight programs until June 5.

- Staff from CDOT and CMPD will:
  - Provide information on the effectiveness of the SafeSpeed and SafeLight programs
  - Highlight the impact of continuing/discontinuing the programs
  - Identify and describe options for consideration

COUNCIL DECISION OR DIRECTION REQUESTED:
City Council will be asked to provide direction regarding the future of the SafeSpeed and SafeLight programs. Staff will provide several options and a recommendation for Council consideration.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

TOPIC: Presentation of Public Art Work Plan

COUNCIL FOCUS AREA: Economic Development

RESOURCES: Jean Greer, Vice President, Public Art
Arts & Science Council
Mike Adams, Chair-Elect Public Art Commission

KEY POINTS:

• City Council approved the current Public Art Ordinance on May 27, 2003.

• On June 20, 2005, City Council approved the annual agreement with the Arts & Science Council and the Public Art Commission for administration of the Public Art Program.

• The proposed FY2007 Public Art Allocation is
  o General Government $114,700
  o Water/Sewer $100,000
  o Aviation $472,750

• The work plan provides:
  o Description of the artwork completed, obtained or commenced in FY2006
  o Description of the CIP project categories designated for inclusion of public art in the upcoming year
  o Budget for the income and expenditures for such projects
  o Description of the art plan for the upcoming year

COUNCIL DECISION OR DIRECTION REQUESTED:

On June 12, City Council will be asked to approve the FY2007 Public Art Work Plan and the annual agreement with the Arts & Science Council – Charlotte Mecklenburg, Inc. and the Public Art Commission for administration of the Art program.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.
TOPIC: Interbasin Transfer

COUNCIL FOCUS AREA: Environment

RESOURCES: Doug Bean

KEY POINTS:

- Senator Clodfelter has introduced legislation to change the state regulations concerning interbasin transfers.
- Interbasin transfer (IBT) occurs when water taken from one river basin (such as the Catawba) is not returned to that basin (such as treated wastewater that is discharged into Mallard Creek in the Rocky River basin).
- This presentation will describe how the proposed changes could impact Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

COUNCIL DECISION OR DIRECTION REQUESTED:

None. This presentation is for information only.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.
TOPIC: Briefing on North Carolina “Clean Cars” Legislation

COUNCIL FOCUS AREA: Environment

RESOURCES: Christa Wagner, Sierra Club

KEY POINTS:

- Air quality is one of four categories of the City’s environmental policy framework. The framework is under study now by the Council Environment Committee as they develop environmental principles for Council adoption.

- In 2004, the EPA designated the Charlotte region a “non-attainment area” for failing to meet ozone pollution standards. Ozone exposure is harmful to human health and also damages natural ecosystems and vegetation.

- At the April 24 meeting, Council member Foxx, Chair of the Environment Committee, requested a briefing by the Sierra Club on legislation pending in the NC Legislature related to clean vehicle standards. A bill related to clean vehicle standards was introduced in both the Senate and the House last session.

- The proposed legislation would establish vehicle emissions standards that are more stringent than the Federal standards. California was the first state to adopt more stringent standards. Ten other states have or are in the process of adopting them.

- Mecklenburg County Commissioners endorsed a resolution in support of the legislation last fall.

- Christa Wagner of the Sierra Club will make a presentation on “Clean Cars, Cleaner Air for North Carolina.”

COUNCIL DECISION OR DIRECTION REQUESTED:

None. This presentation is for information only.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.