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INFORMATION:

Track Maintenance Scheduled for LYNX Blue Line

Staff Resource: Rocky Paiano, CATS, 704-432-5020, rpaiano@charlottenc.gov

During the period of August 8-20, 2010 a rail grinder will be out on the LYNX Blue Line smoothing the tracks on the entire 9.6 mile line. The vehicle equipment is integrated into a special rail car. Attached is an image of the equipment. The grinding produces sparks therefore a fire suppression unit is built into the machine. As a safety precaution, CATS maintenance staff will follow the grinder keeping a close watch on the area.

Rail grinding removes tiny irregularities in the rail surface caused by normal train operations allowing rail car wheels to roll over the track more smoothly, which in turn reduces the noise a train may make. Train tracks should undergo this process every 3-5 years to continue to provide a safe and enjoyable ride for light rail customers.

Since rail grinding is a slow moving process in which the machine moves at a rate of 1.0 miles per hour and produces noise, the work will occur mostly overnight to mitigate delays to service; except in the high residential area from New Bern Street to Seventh Street. The grinding work on this section is planned to occur on Sunday, August 8, during daylight hours. Noise levels are no greater than 85 decibels at 25 feet from the center of the track. This is equivalent to noise generated by a vacuum cleaner or hair dryer. Service will continue to operate on a single track in this section on Sunday. Full service will resume by 5:00 p.m. to transport customers to a concert at the Time Warner Cable Arena.

(see attached image, left side table of contents)

New Companies Hiring in Charlotte

Staff Resource: Brad Richardson, 704-336-3857, brichardson@charlottenc.gov

Staff recently provided information to Council member Howard to communicate to citizens inquiring about job openings at Siemens Energy, Husqvarna, Electrolux and Zenta. These companies have recently announced significant expansions or relocations to Charlotte.

Each of these companies is currently advertising multiple job openings, and citizens can find descriptions as well as directions on applying at the following websites:

- Siemens Energy (www.usa.siemens.com/en/jobs_careers/us_jobs.htm)
- Husqvarna (<http://corporate.husqvarna.com/career>)

INFORMATION (continued):

- Electrolux (www.electrolux.com/career_opportunities.aspx)

- Zenta at (www.careerbuilder.com, search for “Zenta”)

The Charlotte Chamber also maintains a list of companies that are expanding or relocating to Charlotte on their website (<http://www.charlottechamber.com>).

FY 2011 Federal Appropriations Update

Staff Resource: Dana Fenton, City Manager’s Office, 704-336-2009, dfenton@charlottenc.gov

With the August recess for the US Congress fast approaching, now is a logical point to update the Council on the status of the City’s requests for earmarks in the various appropriation bills. While the Congress has completed substantial amounts of work on most of the twelve spending bills, it is not expected to take final action on most of the bills until after the November 2010 elections.

Attached is the FY2011 Federal Appropriations Report. Included in this report is a chart outlining for each of the City’s earmark requests, the amounts requested by individual members of our Congressional Delegation and the amounts recommended for inclusion in the final bills by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees or one of their subcommittees. It is not expected that any of the appropriations bills cited in the attachment will be finished with the conference committee process and subsequently sent to the President for his signature until after the November 2010 elections.

(see attached, left side table of contents)



STIMULUS INFORMATION:

Thursday, August 5 - Center City On-Street Recycling Program Kick-off

Staff Resource: Rob Phocas, City Manager’s Office, 704-336-7558, rphocas@charlottenc.gov

The public kick-off of Center City On-Street Recycling will be held on Thursday, August 5, 11:15 a.m., on the Square at Disc Plaza (corner of Trade and Tryon). Invited speakers include the Mayor, County Commission Chair Jennifer Roberts, Michael Smith, Charlotte Center City Partners (CCCP) and representatives of Coca-Cola and Harris-Teeter.

STIMULUS INFORMATION (continued):

This initiative is one of 17 City projects funded under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. It is being conducted in partnership with CCCP which is responsible for the marketing and outreach of the program to uptown residents, visitors and workers. Fifteen recycling receptacles will be placed alongside current waste bins within the public right-of-

way. Pick-up of the recyclables will occur four times a week, including weekends.

Center City recycling coincides well with the City's implementation of single-stream residential recycling last month. The two initiatives together should considerably increase citizen awareness of the need to recycle and boost the amount of material recycled in the coming year.