



<b>WHAT'S INSIDE:</b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
Calendar Details .....	2
<b><u>Information:</u></b>	
CATS Begins Public Review of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Blue Line Extension .....	2-3
Business Investment Program .....	3-4
Maintenance of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Properties .....	4

**WEEK IN REVIEW:**

Mon (August 16)	Tues (August 17)	Wed (August 18)	Thurs (August 19)	Friday (August 20)
			3:30 PM Economic Development Committee, Room 280  6:30 PM Towing Ordinance Public Meeting, Room 267	

## CALENDAR DETAILS:

### Thursday, August 19

- 3:30 pm Economic Development Committee, Room 280  
**AGENDA:** SBO Task Force Report, ED Strategic Plan, Historic Properties
- 6:30 pm Towing Ordinance Public Meeting, Room 267

### ATTACHMENT:

August and September Calendars (*see left side table of contents for attachment*)

## INFORMATION:

### **CATS Begins Public Review of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Blue Line Extension**

*Staff Resource: Danny Rogers, CATS, 704-432-3033, [drogers@charlottenc.gov](mailto:drogers@charlottenc.gov)*

Charlotte City Council members will receive a packet in the mail next week regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the LYNX Blue Line Extension (BLE), an 11-mile extension of the existing light rail line to serve the Northeast Corridor from Center City Charlotte to I-485 at North Tryon Street. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) have prepared the Draft EIS, which is a comprehensive environmental analysis and impact assessment of proposed transportation alternatives within the Northeast Corridor.

The analysis and impact assessment in the Draft EIS considers potential effects on traffic, ridership, accessibility, land use, neighborhoods, visual and aesthetic resources, noise and vibration, natural resources, endangered species, economics, water resources, air quality, energy, hazardous materials, cultural and historical resources, acquisitions and displacements, and also on secondary and cumulative effects. Proposed mitigation measures to reduce anticipated localized impacts are also detailed in the document.

Public review and comment is from August 27, 2010 until October 12, 2010. Comments received will be responded to in the Final EIS. The Draft EIS is available electronically on CATS' website at [www.ridetransit.org](http://www.ridetransit.org). Additionally, bound copies of the Draft EIS are available for public review at CATS' office at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center and in the following libraries: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Library – Main Branch, Sugar Creek Branch, and University City Regional Branch; Cabarrus County Public Library – Concord Branch and Harrisburg Branch; CPCC Library – Central and Cato campuses; and the UNC Charlotte – J. Murrey Atkins Library.

Oral and written comments will be received at a public hearing on September 22, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center in Room 267. Written comments will

also be accepted at CATS' public meetings. The public meetings are from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the dates and locations listed below. The same information will be presented at both public meetings.

Dates and locations:

**Thursday, September 9**

Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church  
101 West Sugar Creek Road  
Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, September 14**

Oasis Shriners Center  
604 Doug Mayes Place

The attached advertisement for notice of availability and upcoming public meeting dates will be in local papers beginning August 22.

**ATTACHMENT:**

CATS Public Announcement (*see left side table of contents for attachment*)

**Business Investment Program**

*Staff Resource: Brad Richardson, N&BS, 704-336-3857, [brichardson@charlottenc.gov](mailto:brichardson@charlottenc.gov)*

Council recently requested an update on the City's budget for the Business Investment Program (BIP). The BIP is a joint program of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County that provides grants for new and expanding companies that meet policy guidelines for capital investment and job creation.

The following is a summary of the FY2010 – FY2012 program budget and outcomes:

- In FY10, seven companies qualified for a grant disbursements totaling \$180,662. Collectively, these companies added \$232 million to the local tax base and created 1,497 jobs with an average annual wage of \$71,511. Total payments in FY10 were less than the approved budget of \$479,496 because two companies that were expected to qualify in FY10 had not yet completed their capital investment. Staff expects these companies to qualify in FY11.
- The approved FY11 budget is \$601,556 and assumes payments to 10 businesses, including three that are expected to receive their first payments. These three businesses are expected to add \$43 million to the tax base and create 441 new jobs.
- The projected budget for FY12 is \$883,665 and assumes payments to 12 companies, including six that are expected to their first payments. These six businesses are expected to add \$77 million to the tax base and create 1,200 new jobs.

Council policy includes provisions that no payments will be made unless investment and hiring targets are met. Grant agreements also include claw-back provisions that obligate a business to

repay a portion of the grant if it removes its investment from Charlotte within four years of the end of the grant term.

**Maintenance of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Properties**

*Staff Resource: Walter Abernethy, N&BS, 704-336-4213, [wabernathy@charlottenc.gov](mailto:wabernathy@charlottenc.gov)*

Within the last 30 days, Code Enforcement has received five citizen complaints about high grass at schools in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg system. These were handled either with a written notice to CMS or direct contact with a school representative.

CMS responded to the City's notices and either cut the grass or scheduled it for cutting within the next week. CMS did indicate that it had fallen behind with grass cutting temporarily, because of contractor issues and weather. The CMS Facility Maintenance Superintendent has asked that staff contact him directly if further issues arise.