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## AGENDA NOTES:

### **Amendment to Mecklenburg County Solid Waste Plan**

*Staff Resource: Ron Kimble, Deputy City Manager, 704-336-4169, [rkimble@ci.charlotte.nc.us](mailto:rkimble@ci.charlotte.nc.us)*

City staff has postponed the Solid Waste Plan Amendment action item from the November 8 City Council agenda.

The item will be rescheduled for consideration once more details of the technology to be utilized for the waste to energy facility at the existing Clariant site are made available. Staff will still provide answers to Council and citizen questions raised at the November 1 Council Workshop as soon as possible.

## INFORMATION:

### **Edwards Branch Phase III Stream Restoration Project Construction**

*Staff Resource: Matthew Gustis, E&PM, 704-336-6183, [mgustis@charlottenc.gov](mailto:mgustis@charlottenc.gov)*

The Edwards Branch watershed is one square mile in area, and is roughly bounded by Central Avenue to the north, Sharon Amity to the east, Independence Boulevard to the south and southwest, and Norland Road to the northwest. Staff is currently working on the third phase of the Edwards Branch project, which will enhance the stream and generate stream mitigation credits, improve water quality, and increase habitat diversity.

The construction of a stream restoration project requires trees to be removed along the existing stream as well as the new location of the stream. When choosing the best new stream path, the City tries to protect as many of the larger trees as possible, taking into consideration input from the community in addition to the regulating agencies. In areas where the trees could not be saved, the City plants new trees to re-establish the forest after construction is complete.

Following vegetation removal activities along a portion of the project, City staff identified that the contractor had removed trees (approximately 42) that were shown on the plans to be protected. The trees were removed along approximately 900 feet of stream near Winterfield Elementary.

The contractor has been told there will be repercussions for the unplanned tree removal. Staff is working on a tree mitigation plan that will specify the types, sizes, and spacing of the trees the contractor will replant. Due to survivability issues, the size of the tree replacements will be smaller than the trees removed. To get these trees in and maturing as soon as possible, staff will ask that the contractor strive to plant in this area by the end of this planting season (March 2011).

Even though more trees than planned have been removed in this area, this will not impact the amount or quality of water in this area long term. During construction, the contractor will manage the water with erosion control measures, such as silt fence. Once construction is complete, a buffer will be replanted in this area that will ensure good water quality and habitat environment.

Staff regrets unnecessary trees were removed and are working to make sure procedures are in place to help prevent this in the future.

**November 11 - Veteran's Day Appreciation**

Staff Resource: Keith Richardson, Corporate Communications, 704-336-5865,  
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Council members are invited to attend a Veteran's Day Appreciation event to be held on November 11 to recognize the contributions of military veterans among the City's workforce. The event begins at 2 p.m. in the Council Chamber followed by refreshments and music in the Government Center lobby.

The event will feature remarks by Maj. Gen. James Mallory (USAR), Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, a multi-service color guard and music from the 208<sup>th</sup> Army Reserve Band, which is based in Concord. It also will serve as an opportunity to recognize the City's important role as an employer that supports employees who serve in the military guard and reserve.