Council-Manager Memo #15
Friday, March 4, 2011

CHARLOTTE.

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WEEK IN REVIEW:

Mon (Mar 7)	Tues (Mar 8)	Wed (Mar 9)	Thurs (Mar 10)	Friday (Mar 11)
4:00 PM Governmental Affairs Committee, Room 280 5:00 PM Council Workshop, Room 267 7:30 PM Citizens' Forum, Room 267			1:30 PM Budget Committee, Room 280 3:30 Economic Development Committee, Room 280 6:30 PM District 4 Town Hall Mtg. Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church, 101 W. Sugar Creek Rd.	

CALENDAR DETAILS:

Monday, March 7

4:00 pm Governmental Affairs Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: Federal update; National League of Cities Congressional Cities Conference; State update

5:00 pm Council Workshop, Room 267

7:30 pm Citizens' Forum, Room 267

Thursday, March 10

1:30 pm Budget Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: Financial partner review; Review of Mayor's Budget Task Force report; Review of March 23 Budget Retreat agenda

3:30 pm Economic Development Committee, Room 280
AGENDA: Independence Boulevard Area Plan; Charlotte-Mecklenburg Business Investment Program review

6:30 pm District 4 Town Hall Meeting, Sugaw Creek Presbyterian Church 101 W. Sugar Creek Road

March and April calendars are attached (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT).

INFORMATION:

Johnston and Mecklenburg Mills – Upset Bids Received
Staff Resource: Peter Zeiler, N&BS, 704-432-2989, pzeiler@charlottenc.gov

On February 4, four teams submitted bids to purchase the vacant Johnston and Mecklenburg mills. The high bid of $610,000.00 was submitted by The Community Builders, a national affordable housing developer based in Washington DC.

Bids also were received from three local teams: Merrifield Patrick Vermillion; ARK Management/Camden Development Partners; and M & J Realty comprised of the Conformity Corp, Argos Real Estate Advisors, Belmont Sayre, Aptus Management and The Benoit Group.

Per the Council approved process, the other bidders were given 10 days to submit upset bids. On Monday, February 21 Merrifield Patrick Vermillion submitted and upset bit of $925,000, thereby opening another 10-day period for upset bids to be placed.

On March 3, 2011 The Community Builders submitted an upset bit of $1,025,000. The receipt of this bid automatically opens a new 10-day window with upset bids due by March 14 with a

minimum upset bid amount of $1,127,500. Staff will inform Council of any further developments.

Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 Award – Bradford Street Apartments
Staff Resource: Pamela Wideman, N&BS, 704-336-3448, pwideman@charlottenc.gov

On February 15, 2011, Builders of Hope received notification that it had been awarded a $950,000 allocation of Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 funding from the North Carolina Department of Commerce – Division of Community Assistance. This funding will be used for the acquisition and rehabilitation of the Bradford Apartments located at 330 Bradford Street in the Thomasboro/Hoskins community in the Thomasboro Neighborhood Statistical Area, approximately four miles northwest of Uptown Charlotte.

The City was instrumental in Builders of Hope receiving this award due to its continued neighborhood revitalization efforts in the Thomasboro community. The infrastructure improvements through the Neighborhood Improvement Program and the continued efforts of Neighborhood & Business Services strengthened Builders of Hope's application to the State.

This project will preserve and transform existing housing stock into high quality, affordable, energy efficient homes. Builders of Hope will use an Extreme Green Rehabilitation model that minimizes construction waste and upgrades the energy efficiency of the development, resulting in a significant positive environmental impact.

The complex consists of 44 units that will be rehabilitated to serve households earning 50% or less than the area median income. Builders of Hope will renovate and manage the apartments. The project offers the opportunity to preserve and upgrade the existing units and maintain their long-term (20 years) affordability. This project is permissible as an exemption under the current Housing Locational Policy because it is a rehabilitation of existing housing.

Animal Care & Control Dog Tethering Ordinance Update
Staff Resource: Mark Balestra, CMPD, 704-336-4423, mbalestra@cmpd.org
Carrie Lynch, Corporate Communications & Marketing, 704-336-5863, clynch@charlottenc.gov

In September 2010, Council passed a new tethering ordinance protecting Charlotte area dogs. The new rules went into effect Tuesday, March 1 and are meant to keep pets free from injury and enhance their quality of life while they are restrained outdoors.

Animal Care & Control (AC&C) staff has collaborated with Corporate Communications & Marketing to create a strategic communications campaign lasting through June 2011. The campaign leverages existing partnerships to reach out to dog owners in the community. AC&C has integrated dog tethering education with programs and events and has developed a web page to answer FAQs, connect residents with the actual ordinance, and house videos demonstrating how owners can create outside areas compliant with new rules.

2011 March 4 State Legislative Update
Staff Resource: Dana Fenton, City Manager's Office, 704.336.2009, dfenton@charlottenc.gov

Attached (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT) is the March 4 State Legislative Update. Changes from last week's update are denoted in **bold face** type.

March 9 – Business*First* Charlotte 2011 Outlook Presentation and Reception
Staff Resource: Dennis Marstall, N&BS, 704-336-3980, dmarstall@charlottenc.gov

The release of the Business*First* 2011 Outlook Presentation will be Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in the Belk Action Center at the Charlotte Chamber. The annual Outlook presentation highlights responses from businesses that participated in the Business*First* growth and retention interviews. Information to be presented will focus on different aspects of the Charlotte economy, including business views on company growth, sales expectations, relocations, and hiring plans, among other survey data.

In addition to releasing the annual Outlook information, the March 9 event will also include details about the strategic focus of the Business*First* program for FY12. A reception will follow to thank the volunteers and companies that participated in the Business*First* program in FY11. All City Council members are invited to attend.

ATTACHMENTS (SEE TABLE OF CONTENTS ON LEFT):

Council Follow-Up Report

Contents include:
--Discovery Place Boiler Replacement

February 23 Budget Committee Summary