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## INFORMATION:

### **Scheduling of New Public Hearings for Rezoning Petitions 2013-001, 2013-002, and 2013-005**

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North Carolina General Statutes require three forms of notification for zoning map amendments. These include first class mailed notices, a published newspaper notice, and posted sign notification. A notification error was brought to staff's attention regarding the posting of the rezoning signs for the following petitions:

1. **Petition No. 2013-001** (Outside City Limits) **by Steele Creek (1997) Limited Partnership** for a change in zoning for approximately 82.0 acres located on the west side of Interstate 485 and surrounded by Shopton Road, Dixie River Road, Steele Creek Road, and Trojan Drive from R-3(LLWPA), I-1(CD)(LLWPA), CC(LLWPA), & CC(SPA)(LLWPA) to CC(LLWPA) & CC(SPA)(LLWPA), & MUDD-O(LLWPA).
2. **Petition No. 2013-002** (Outside City Limits) **by Steele Creek (1997) Limited Partnership** for a change in zoning for approximately 114 acres located on the east side of Interstate 485 at the intersection of Sandy Porter Road and Interstate 485 from R-3 to O-1(CD) and I-1(CD).
3. **Petition No. 2013-005** (Council District 2 - Mitchell) **by Charlotte Knights** for a UMUD-O site plan amendment, for approximately 8.42 acres surrounded by Graham Street, West 4th Street, Mint Street, and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

The required mail and newspaper notifications were provided. However, signs were not posted for the subject rezonings prior to the public hearings for these cases. The City Council heard Petition No. 2013-005 on January 22, 2013 and heard Petition No. 2013-001 and Petition No. 2013-002 on February 18, 2013. Because of the failure to post signs for these rezoning petitions, City Council will need to hold new public hearings for each petition so that the rezoning process for each case complies with all General Statute requirements.

Since being alerted to this issue, Planning staff has been working with the petitioners for the affected cases. Petition No. 2013-005 has been scheduled to be reheard on March 18, 2013, with an expedited decision on March 25, 2013. Petition No. 2013-001 and Petition No. 2013-002 has been scheduled to be reheard on April 15, 2013 with an expedited decision on April 22, 2013.

The required rezoning signs for 2013-001 and 2013-002 were placed on the subject properties on Thursday, February 21, 2013 and the rezoning signs for 2013-005 were placed on Monday, February 25, 2013. The mailed notices and newspaper notice will be provided, consistent with General Statute requirements, for the new hearing dates.

Staff does not believe that the petitioners should be penalized by this error, and will make all efforts, as has been done with other cases, to minimize any project delays by expediting other city reviews and approval processes. Staff is also implementing additional quality control measures to prevent this from happening in the future.

## **CATS Services During CIAA Basketball Tournament**

*Staff Resource: Olaf Kinard, CATS, 704-336-2275, [kkinard@charlottenc.gov](mailto:kkinard@charlottenc.gov)*

As in previous years, CATS has made preparations for visitors during the CIAA Basketball Tournament. Starting Thursday and lasting through Saturday night, CATS Ambassadors will be on hand at key LYNX stations to assist customers during the afternoon and evening hours. In addition the LYNX Blue Line will operate with two-car trains throughout the day and night during the tournament. Extra train service is planned to accommodate heavy ridership at the Time Warner Cable Arena and other anticipated large events. On Friday and Saturday, March 1 & 2, trains will run every 10 minutes during the peak of the events with the last train leaving the Uptown area at 1:30 a.m.

The Gold Rush Red Line is operating on extended hours beginning February 26 through March 2, from Johnson C. Smith University to 4th & McDowell Streets. The schedule is as follows:

February 26 & 27 – 6:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

February 28 & March 1 – 6:30 a.m. to midnight

March 2 – 11:00 a.m. to midnight

The Gold Rush Orange Line will operate according to its regular schedule during the CIAA Basketball Tournament.

In addition, the initial phase for constructing the Poindexter crossing across the LYNX Blue Line was completed over the past weekend. CATS plans no service disruption regarding the Poindexter crossing during the CIAA Tournament activities for the week or weekend. Thus the LYNX Blue Line will operate normally along the entire line.

## **March 23 – Earth Hour Observed From 8:30-9:30 p.m.**

*Staff Resource: Rob Phocas, City Manager's Office, 704-336-7558, [rphocas@charlottenc.gov](mailto:rphocas@charlottenc.gov)*

The City of Charlotte is partner with Envision Charlotte this year to commemorate Earth Hour – the world's largest public environmental action. On Saturday, March 23, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., the City will join more than 7,000 cities across the globe in switching off the lights in buildings for one hour. By taking part in this global 'lights out' event, the City will acknowledge its commitment to personal and operational actions that benefit the environment and the economy.

The City will participate by turning off all non-essential lighting at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, the Davidson Street parking deck, and Old City Hall during Earth Hour. Envision Charlotte is coordinating efforts with the business community. Expected participants include Duke Energy Center, Wells Fargo Center, and other high-profile buildings in the uptown skyline.

For more information on Earth Hour, view the official video at [www.youtube.com/earthhour](http://www.youtube.com/earthhour). The City encourages employees and their families and friends to switch off their lights for Earth Hour on Saturday, March 23, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.