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## **INFORMATION:**

### **Federal Funding For Capital Investment Grant Programs**

*Staff Resource: Carolyn Flowers, 704-336-3855, [cflowers@ci.charlotte.nc.us](mailto:cflowers@ci.charlotte.nc.us)*

The Federal Transit Administration has published a summary of funding for capital investment grant programs for fiscal years 2013 and 2014. The Blue Line Extension (BLE) light rail project is included for funding in both fiscal years.

The President's FY13 budget requested \$70 million for the BLE project. Congress had originally recommended no funding for the project in FY 2013. However, the April 12, 2013 publication from the Federal Transit Administration identifies an appropriation of \$66.2 million for the BLE project in FY 2013.

On April 10, 2013, CATS staff reported to Council that the President has recommended \$100 million funding for the BLE project in FY 2014. The request will go through the normal congressional review prior to final recommendation and appropriation of funds for FY 2014.

### **City Source tells stories of citizen service**

*Staff Resource: Nancy Ryan, GOV Channel/Corporate Communications & Marketing, 704-336-3969, [nryan@charlottenc.gov](mailto:nryan@charlottenc.gov)*

City Source is the City of Charlotte's unique 30-minute program for citizens to learn about City services as well as how City employees serve the community. The program episode premieres the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. on Cable 16 (Time Warner Cable), AT&T Uverse and is streamed LIVE online at [www.charlottenc.gov](http://www.charlottenc.gov)<<http://www.charlottenc.gov>>. It runs for two weeks periodically.

In the Apr. 18 – May 1 episode citizens will get to know new City Manager, Ron Carlee, as he talks with host, Bea Thompson, in the field. Also, Stephen McMickens, a once troubled teen who's now an inspiration to others, will be featured. Patsy Kinsey and John Autry discuss affordable housing, why furry friends need help to prevent heartworms, and more.

This information is also promoted in CMail, the City's electronic newsletter emailed to more than 1,100 subscribers and distributed by City departments whose services, programs and employees are featured in an upcoming episode. Please see the attached City Source Flyer.

[Click here to view the City Source Flyer](#)

## **“Biggest Flipper” Energy Challenge Began Tuesday, April 16**

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

The City of Charlotte is partnering with Smart Energy Now to pilot a new energy saving initiative called the Biggest Flipper Challenge. Designed as a sequel to the successful “Crab, You’re It” campaign, the Biggest Flipper recognizes City employees for practicing energy-saving behaviors. Employees are encouraged to reward colleagues with a toy flip-flop for “flipping the switch” and saving energy by taking simple steps including:

- Using natural lighting
- Powering down devices during the day
- Using the power save mode
- Turning computer monitors off when not in use
- Using the stairs
- Turning off non-essential equipment at night

The Biggest Flipper Challenge begins Tuesday, April 16, and will be coordinated by team captains assigned to each floor in the Government Center and Old City Hall.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

March 18 Housing and Neighborhood Development Committee Summary

[Click here to view the March 18 H&ND Committee Meeting Summary](#)

April 3 Budget Committee Meeting Summary

[Click here to view the April 3 Budget Committee Meeting Summary](#)

City Council Follow-up Report

[Click here to view the City Council Follow-up Report](#)