



DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Building Community: Placemaking Grant Opportunity

Staff resource: Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Planning Director, 704-336-5158, Taiwo@charlottenc.gov

The City of Charlotte, through the recently launched [Placemaking Program](#), invites Charlotte residents and neighborhood organizations to apply for placemaking grants for community building projects in their neighborhoods. We are striving to create places that are “uniquely Charlotte” – enhancing neighborhoods and bringing the community closer together.

In the spirit of CLT250, the city’s focus on community-building in Charlotte’s 250th birthday year, these projects are intended to implement quick-win transformative projects throughout the city that create and enhance community vibrancy, safety and creative identity.

A total of \$50,000 has been dedicated to the Placemaking Grant Program, which will provide project funding and technical support to residents and organizations. Individual projects are eligible for up to \$10,000 in funding.

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Painted traffic circles & crosswalks
- Community and urban gardens
- Wall or street murals
- Sidewalk dining (for businesses)
- Street furniture
- Parklets
- Large format games
- Decorative lighting
- Decorative signal cabinet wraps
- Pocket parks
- Bike parking
- Other projects will be considered

Interested applicants should submit an initial Letter of Intent by Oct. 22, 2018.

[View more information on program guidelines, select project ideas and how-to-guides here.](#)

LYNX System Update Center City Charrettes October 8 – 12

Staff resource: John Lewis, Transit Director, 704-336-3855, john.lewis@charlottenc.gov

Charlotte Area Transit System is hosting a week-long workshop to begin the initial phases of idea generation and planning for incorporating LYNX Silver Line, West Corridor, Charlotte Gateway Station and North Corridor with the existing LYNX Blue Line, CityLYNX Gold Line, and bus services in Center City Charlotte. This effort is part of the CATS LYNX System Update studies and will be taking a deep look into technical topics and specific locations associated with bringing additional rail corridors throughout Uptown Charlotte. Council is invited to drop in and experience and be a part of this critical planning phase.

CATS has identified times during the week that would be best for interested council members to drop in and take part in this holistic planning effort. CATS staff will be available to educate you on progress made and answer any questions you may have. At the end of the week there will be presentation showcasing information that was gathered and next steps.

There are only a certain amount of slots available during specific times throughout the week. [Please use this link](#) and select the slot that works best with your schedule.

Housing & Neighborhood Services Job Fair achieves record results

Staff Resource: Pamela Wideman, Housing & Neighborhood Services Director, 704-336-3488, pwideman@charlottenc.gov

On Thursday, Sept. 20, Housing & Neighborhood Services (HNS) partnered with Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation to host a Job Fair at West Charlotte Recreation Center. These events help youth and young adults ages 16-24 connect to employment and career interests. The job fairs offer wrap-around services including free assistance with resume and cover letter writing, one-on-one career coaching and a digital room to submit online job applications. Results of this recent fair include:

- 35+ employers and vendors participated.
- 300+ pre-registered with 250+ applicants attending the job fair.
- 25 applicants hired on the spot.

HNS has hosted more than 2,094 applicants at 12 job fairs and have placed 306 applicants since launching the events in April 2017. The next job fair will take place on Friday, Nov. 30 at the Charlotte Convention Center.

Out of School Time Resource Fair

Staff Resource: Pamela Wideman, Housing & Neighborhood Services Director, 704-336-3488, pwideman@charlottenc.gov

Housing & Neighborhood Services will host the Out of School Time Resource Fair on Tuesday, Oct. 2, from 6 – 7:30 p.m. at the Charlotte Solid Waste Services Headquarters, 1105 Otts St.

This event will include an interactive format that enables residents to connect to essential youth resources, including the Mayor’s Mentoring Alliance (MMA), Mayor’s Youth Employment Program (MYEP), the Mecklenburg County Youth Coalition (MCCYC) and MeckEd.

[Find more information about the resource fair here.](#)

CityLYNX Gold Line construction update – Friday, Sept. 28, through Friday, Oct. 5

Staff resource: John Lewis, Transit Director, 704-336-3855, john.lewis@charlottenc.gov

Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) will provide ongoing updates (as needed) to council on the status of the Gold Line construction project. Below is the most current summary of work taking place.

- West Trade Street, between Rozzelles Ferry Road /West Fifth Street in the Historic West End and College Street in Center City, will experience various traffic shifts beginning Monday, Oct. 8, through Monday, Nov. 26, for continued Gold Line streetcar work. [Detour information can be found here.](#)