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**WEEK IN REVIEW:**

<b>Mon (May 27)</b>	<b>Tues (May 28)</b>	<b>Wed (May 29)</b>	<b>Thurs (May 30)</b>	<b>Fri (May 31)</b>
MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY	11:45 AM Council-Manager Relations Committee, Room 280  5:00 PM Council Business Meeting, Room 267  6:30 PM Citizens' Forum, Meeting Chamber	12:00 PM Budget Straw Votes, Room 267		

## CALENDAR DETAILS:

### Monday, May 27

MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

### Tuesday, May 28

11:45 AM Council-Manager Relations Committee, Room 280

**AGENDA:** Continued discussion of roles, responsibilities and ethics of Council appointed committees

5:00 PM Council Business Meeting, Room 267

6:30 PM Citizens' Forum, Meeting Chamber

### Wednesday, May 29

12:00 PM Budget Straw Votes, Room 267

[Click here to view the May and June calendars.](#)

## AGENDA NOTES:

### **Agenda Item #2 – 2030 Transit Plan Update with the Transit Funding Working Group Recommendations**

*Staff Resource: Carolyn Flowers, CATS, 704-336-3855, [cflowers@charlottenc.gov](mailto:cflowers@charlottenc.gov)*

At Tuesday evening's Dinner Briefing the Co-Chairs of the Transit Funding Working Group, Mayor Jill Swain of Huntersville and Council member David Howard of Charlotte, will present the results of the MTC Transit Funding Work Group.

[Click here to view the report.](#)

### **Agenda Item #7 – CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 2**

*Staff Resource: Carolyn Flowers, CATS, 704-336-3855, [cflowers@charlottenc.gov](mailto:cflowers@charlottenc.gov)*

The Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) met on May 22, 2013 and City Manager Carlee presented a report on the proposed CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 2 initiative and requested action from the MTC on the following items:

- Authorize CATS to pursue all federal grant and/or financing opportunities that are or become available that might reasonably advance any part of the 2030 Transit Plan.
- Brand the 2030 Transit Plan Streetcar project as the CityLYNX Gold Line.
- Accept the City of Charlotte's pledged contribution (pending City Council approval) of the 50% local match funds required to compete for the now available Tiger V federal

grant and/or any other future federal grant opportunities for the 2.5 mile Streetcar segment, under Section VIII. E. of the Amended Transit Governance Interlocal Agreement.

The MTC discussed the proposal and unanimously approved the action with the following provisions:

- That the Gold Line project be managed in the same structure as the LYNX Blue Line Extension project;
- The City will be responsible for all operating costs of Phase 2 of the Gold Line in a similar manner as previously agreed for Phase 1 of the Gold Line.

## **INFORMATION:**

### **May 29 – TreesCharlotte Tree Canopy Action Summit**

*Staff Resource: Gina Shell, E&PM, 704-336-4648, [gshell@charlottenc.gov](mailto:gshell@charlottenc.gov)*

TreesCharlotte will host the second annual Tree Canopy Action Summit on Wed., May 29. The meeting is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mahlon Adams Pavilion at Freedom Park.

Topics for this year's summit are:

- Reporting the collective successes of the TreesCharlotte collaborative, including planting events.
- Creation of Charlotte's Urban Forestry Management Plan.
- Review of the i-tree analytical tool.
- TreesCharlotte's goals for the upcoming year.

TreesCharlotte is a collaborative initiative between the City of Charlotte, Foundation For The Carolinas, and community partners. TreesCharlotte leverages Council's goal of "50% Tree Canopy in 2050," Council's tree planting budget and the work of a dedicated group of community volunteers who have coalesced under the umbrella of Foundation For The Carolinas to raise private dollars to plant trees, educate and energize the community.

In attendance at the summit will be TreesCharlotte Board members, City staff and community partners. City Council members are welcome to attend.

### **MUMPO Votes to Add Capacity on I-77 North**

*Staff Resource: Norm Steinman, CDOT, 704-336-3939, [nsteinman@charlottenc.gov](mailto:nsteinman@charlottenc.gov)*

On May 22, the Board of the Mecklenburg-Union Metropolitan Planning Organization (MUMPO) voted to amend the current Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in order to allow NCDOT to continue to seek bids from companies to build and operate new high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes on I-77 north. The unanimous vote by MUMPO's Board followed over two years of technical analyses and public

involvement activities, as well as a unanimous recommendation for this project from MUMPO's Technical Coordinating Committee. In 2011, MUMPO first voted for HOT lanes on I-77 (by voting to convert the existing HOV lanes to HOT lanes, one in each direction). In 2012, MUMPO voted to endorse NCDOT's request to build more HOT lanes on I-77 (by doubling the number of future HOT lanes between I-85 and Exit 28, to two HOT lanes in each direction).

The project proposed by NCDOT would add capacity to I-77 between the Brookshire Freeway in Charlotte and NC 150 in Mooresville through a public-private partnership (P3) project. There are two innovations associated with this proposal.

The first innovation is that the capacity of I-77 would increase through the implementation of high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes. Use of the proposed HOT lanes would be restricted to carpools or vanpools carrying three (3) or more persons, transit buses, and private motor vehicles whose drivers are willing to pay tolls. The tolls would vary by time of day and day of week in order to maintain uncongested speeds of 45 – 50 MPH in the HOT lanes.

The second innovation associated with NCDOT's proposal is that NCDOT would enter into a contract with a company (yet to be selected) to build, operate and maintain the HOT lanes for possibly 40 – 50 years. The private company (or team of companies) would collect tolls in order to pay for the costs of construction, operation, maintenance, initial capital investment, interest payments, and profit.

MUMPO's decision achieves the following:

1. Allows the implementation process to continue to the next step – which is scheduled for September when NCDOT is expected to receive bids from companies interested in the P3 HOT lanes project.
2. Establishes the maximum amount to be programmed for this project by MUMPO.
3. Makes it possible for substantial capacity to be added to I-77 before 2020.

At the MUMPO meeting, opponents expressed strong objections to the I-77 proposal. Their concerns included opposition to charging tolls, favoring use of general purpose lanes, the impact on congestion, and funding. Staff had responded to their comments and objections in prior discussions.

### **Charlotte Green Tour Wins National Award**

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

The City of Charlotte Green Tour was selected as a winner of the Public Technology Institute's 2012-2013 Technology Solution Award in the Sustainability category. The Charlotte Green Tour tells the story of environmental sustainability investments in Charlotte through a map organized around six (6) categories:

1. Energy

2. Water
3. Solid Waste
4. Air & Transportation
5. Parks & Green Space
6. Envision Charlotte Program Sites

The Green Tour includes both a mobile tour that generates a walking route for use in Uptown Charlotte and a desktop computer story map version. The application detects the type of device from which the link is accessed and presents either the desktop or mobile version. A special “Green Star” theme highlights environmentally-friendly features along Tryon Street, Charlotte’s main central corridor. Visitors and residents taking the Green Star tour can visit sites such as LEED-certified buildings, electric vehicle charging stations, and recycling locations.

The environment is one of the City’s five Focus Areas. While Charlotte has a rich array of environmental assets, the Charlotte Green Tour provides a unique and interactive experience to highlight green assets to the citizens with a compelling story. The City of Charlotte collaborated with Mecklenburg County on content development for the environmental features. The direct link to the Charlotte Green Tour is <http://maps.charlottenc.gov/greentour>.

### **Pedestrian Safety Action Plan**

*Staff Resources: Danny Pleasant, CDOT, 704-336-3879, [dpleasant@charlottenc.gov](mailto:dpleasant@charlottenc.gov)  
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The Charlotte Department of Transportation (CDOT) has developed a comprehensive pedestrian report that includes information on documented pedestrian crashes over the last five years and an action plan to create a more walkable community. CDOT completed this report based on City Council discussions regarding pedestrian safety at various Council meetings over the last few months.

The Pedestrian Safety Action Plan focuses on the five E’s: engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation techniques to address the pedestrian challenges in the evolving built environment. Engineering strategies can range from low cost solutions like signs, pavement markings, and signals to larger Capital Improvement Program projects that rebuild entire roadway corridors. Education, encouragement, and enforcement strategies involve greater collaboration with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, Charlotte Area Transit Systems, Planning Department, North Carolina Department of Transportation, and many other stakeholders.

The ultimate goal of the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan is to reduce the citywide per capita rate of pedestrian crashes, injuries, and fatalities while encouraging walkability. The plan builds on existing efforts to improve the pedestrian environment. Implementation of the plan will increase safety and quality of life for all users of Charlotte’s streets.

**[Click here to view the full report.](#)**

### **May 24 State Legislative Update**

*Staff Resource: Dana Fenton, City Manager's Office, 704-336-2009, [dfenton@charlottenc.gov](mailto:dfenton@charlottenc.gov)*

The Week 17 Legislative Report, which includes updates on bills of interest to the City of Charlotte. Among the highlights of the past week is that the State Senate passed its version of the State Budget and has sent it to the House of Representatives. The State of North Carolina share of funding for the Blue Line Extension in FY2014 and FY2015 is funded in the NCDOT Public Transportation division budget. During the week of May 28, subcommittees of the House Appropriations Committee will start meeting to consider the Senate budget recommendations. Also, the State Senate is expected to release its recommended tax reform plan, entitled the North Carolina Tax Fairness Act of 2013. [Click here to view the report.](#)