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AGENDA NOTES:

September 24 Combined Zoning and Business Meeting

Staff Resource: Julie Burch, City Manager's Office, 704-336-2241, jburch@charlottenc.gov

City Council amended the meeting calendar to cancel the September 17 Zoning Meeting and to make the September 24 meeting a combined zoning and business meeting. In today's packet, there are two agenda books: business and zoning.

The Business Agenda begins at 4 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber. Consent items will be considered first, followed by policy and business. Staff will make presentations on two items: Mecklenburg Mills Funding Request and the Blue Line Extension Light Rail Vehicle Order. The Mayor may designate the time for the dinner break, which will probably be between 5:15 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. depending on the flow of the meeting. Dinner will be set up in CH-14.

There is a Citizens Forum scheduled for 6:30 pm. Staff has contacted speakers and invited them to come at 5:30 p.m. so that the Citizens Forum may occur before the Zoning Meeting, which was advertised to begin at 6 p.m.

In order to facilitate the handling of consent items or other agenda items, Council members are asked to contact Ruffin Hall at 704-336-3403 or RLHall@charlottenc.gov by Monday at noon if they have questions so that an answer may be provided prior to the meeting.

Small Business Opportunity Policy Reference for Business Agenda

Staff Resource: Julie Burch, City Manager's Office, 704-336-2241, jburch@charlottenc.gov

In previous City Council Business Agendas, the SBO Policy Reference has been included as an attachment for items that referenced specific sections of the policy (e.g., Part C: Section 2.4 of the SBO Policy).

Beginning with the September 24 agenda, the SBO Policy Reference will be included at the end of the agenda, following Meeting Minutes or Property Transactions, which is before the tab for attachment 1.

INFORMATION:

October 3 – RevTech Labs Demo Day

Staff Resource: Brad Richardson, N&BS, 704-336-3857, brichardson@charlottenc.gov

RevTech Labs, the first program in Charlotte geared toward developing early stage technology companies, is hosting a Demo Day for its first class of companies. As part of the City's entrepreneurial strategy, staff would like to invite the Mayor and Council to attend.

Demo Day is an opportunity to learn about some innovative tech startups, make some early introductions, and to connect with the tech community in the city. For the companies, it's an opportunity to meet entrepreneurs, potential investors, and to celebrate the progress they've made in the last three months.

Startup North Carolina, the NC region of national Startup America Partnership, has partnered with RevTech Labs to host a startup expo along with the Demo Day event. Ten to 20 NC based startups will showcase their companies to the room of entrepreneurs, investors and media.

The event will be held Wednesday, October 3, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m. at Packard Place, 222 South Church Street. Council members may contact Angela Grier (704-432-1397) if they are interested in attending.

Midwood International Cultural Center and Public Parking Along Central Avenue Corridor

Staff Resource: Chris Hemans, N&BS, 704-432-3025, chemans@charlottenc.gov

Public parking is a challenge in the City's older commercial corridors. Neighborhood & Business Services (N&BS) has been working with various neighborhood and business associations to creatively identify solutions to keep these areas vital for local small businesses. The Central Avenue commercial corridor in Plaza Midwood is one of these areas. The dozens of area businesses are dependent on the limited public parking spaces provided by a single public surface lot and on-street parking. This condition impacts customers'/clients ability to support businesses in the corridor.

The City was approached by Midwood International Cultural Center, Inc. (MICC), a local non-profit, who was looking to convert the former Midwood Middle School located on Central Avenue into a community center for the international community. While considering the proposal, N&BS identified a way to provide public parking in the area.

The City has agreed to financially assist the MICC to fill a funding gap in the project. The request is for \$99,500 to be used to renovate the parking lot and meet ADA requirements for the events venue. Upon completion, ten spaces closest to Central Avenue will be reserved for public parking at all times and the remaining 80 parking spaces will be available to the public after business hours. The lot will have adequate lighting and signage, and MICC will carry liability insurance. Renovation of the building is anticipated to occur in early October.

The request is being funded through the Business Corridor Revitalization Fund and meets the following goals:

- Provides 90 public parking spaces for a commercial business district.
- Reuses a vacant site on a business corridor.
- Co-locates several important non-profits in one easily accessible and visible location.

The facility will include affordable office space for community non-profits, as well as a privately managed special events venue. The MICC is 70% pre-leased (or committed under Letter of

Intent) with the following tenants: International House; Latin American Coalition; Japanese Association of Charlotte (Japanese School); Bosnian and Herzegovinian Cultural Center; Time Out Youth and the League of Women Voters.

The Plaza Midwood Merchants and Neighborhood Associations have both reviewed the proposed parking plan and are in support of the project.

City Source Tells Stories of Citizen Service

Staff Resource: Sherry Bauer, Corporate Communications & Marketing, 704-336-2459, sbauer@charlottenc.gov

City Source is the City of Charlotte's unique 30-minute program for citizens to learn about the City's services as well as how its employees serve the community. The program airs the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. on Cable 16 (Time Warner Cable), AT&T U-verse and is streamed LIVE online at www.charlottenc.gov.

The Sept. 20 – Oct. 3 episode is a special edition that looks back on the week of the DNC. It includes interviews from City and County employees on services and operations. Topics include the Joint Information Center, Social Media including Rumor Control and Media Monitoring, Traffic, Community Safety, and the long-lasting benefits the Democratic National Convention has brought to Charlotte.

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.



City Source Flyer
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**Thursdays at 7 p.m.
on the GOV Channel**

(Cable 16, Time Warner Cable and AT&TUniverse)

Dan Hayes hosts City Source. It's a 30-minute show connecting you to local government news and information. You don't want to miss this special edition where we are looking back on the 2012 Democratic National Convention.



Curt Walton: DNC Success!

Hear what City Manager Curt Walton said about the DNC and the benefits to Charlotte.



**Episode Airst
9/20 – 10/3**
[Click For Schedule](#)



Collaboration

Working together to make this a historical moment for Charlotte.

Social Media Now

Learn how Social Media was used to gather and distribute timely accurate information.



Safety First

City & County Governments provided safety in many forms, one was drinking water stations to keep everyone hydrated.

City Liaison to the DNC

Meet the person who connected the dots between the City, partners and the DNC host committee.



You can also watch episodes
LIVE online at www.charlottenc.gov.