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INFORMATION:

October 24 – Neighborhood Leadership Awards

Staff Resource: Azania Herron, N&BS, 704-336-3955, aherron@charlottenc.gov

On Thursday, October 24, the City of Charlotte will host the First Annual City of Charlotte Neighborhood Leadership Awards from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center. Council members are invited to attend and greet attendees during the reception from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. and to attend the ceremony that will begin at 7:15 p.m. The event, which will celebrate Charlotte residents and neighborhood associations who have taken a lead role in community improvement projects, will take place in the lobby and Meeting Chamber. This is a part of the Good Neighbor Month celebrations.

Nominations were open to the general public and City of Charlotte staff for seven categories, including Community Ambassador, Youth Leadership, Sustainability and more. Ninety-four nominations were received and a winner will be announced for each category. More information about the Neighborhood Leadership Awards can be found at:

<http://charmeck.org/city/charlotte/nbs/communityengagement/Pages/Neighborhood-Leadership-Awards.aspx>

November 1 – The Retreat At Renaissance Grand Opening

Staff Resource: Pamela Wideman, N&BS, 704-336-3488, pwideman@charlottenc.gov

On November 1, 2013, Mayor and Council members are invited to attend the Grand Opening of The Retreat At Renaissance, the first phase of a larger mixed-income community which was formerly known as Boulevard Homes. The event will be held at 3240 New Renaissance Way, near the intersection of West Blvd. and Billy Graham Parkway, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The Retreat At Renaissance is the product of one of the country's last HOPE VI Awards. In the summer of 2010, the Charlotte Housing Authority was awarded a \$21 million Hope VI Grant for the revitalization of Boulevard Homes. The revitalization creates 334 units of high-quality, mixed-income housing for both seniors and families and includes an educational village for grades K-8 as well as a child development center.

Additionally, the community will be environmentally sustainable and is being built and certified to EarthCraft standards. As a result, it is expected to be 15% to 30% more energy efficient than standard code-compliant new construction. Further, the redevelopment includes new infrastructure, streets, and a new portion of the County greenway system. The greenway extension will connect with the Southview Recreation Center, encouraging connectivity and outdoor recreation.

The City's partnership includes \$12 million for both housing and infrastructure development.

CharMeck 311 Message Regarding Affordable Care Act

Staff Resource: Janice Quintana, CharMeck 311, 704-336-4001, jquintana@charlottenc.gov

At the request of the Mecklenburg County Business Support Services Public Information staff, CharMeck 311 staff met to discuss how 311 could help create awareness regarding the Affordable Care Act to assist local residents in the enrollment process. It was agreed that a short message would be placed on the 311 main menu advising residents how to obtain information and where to apply. The message, the text of which is included below, was initiated on October 1, 2013 and will be removed on Friday, October 25, 2013. As a federally adopted program, providing citizens information on the Affordable Care Act is no different than providing information regarding Social Security Benefits, Veteran Benefits, etc.

"Open Enrollment for the Affordable Care Act for North Carolina residents begins October 1st. Applications can be completed by mail, online at www.healthcare.gov and by phone by contacting the 24 hour customer service line 1-800-318-2596. To schedule a face-to-face appointment call 1-855-733-3711."