

Follow-Up Items
City Council Action Review and Business Meeting
Monday, Feb. 11, 2019

Agenda Item	Requestor	Mayor and Council Questions	City Response	Staff Lead
School Zone Policy Update	Phipps	Review markings of cross walks, Tom Hunter Road.	An investigation of the intersection showed multiway stop signs are in place, working properly, and there is an existing crosswalk across Tom Hunter Road. The crosswalk aligns with the existing sidewalk. A review of crash data shows that since the multiway stop signs were installed last June crashes have been reduced.	Liz Babson Charles Abel Danny Pleasant
Tree Canopy Coverage Update	Ajmera	What role do we play in funding other land conservancy efforts?	<p>In Fiscal Year 2019, Council provided a total of \$350,000 in endowment and operating funds to TreesCharlotte. The city also provides approximately \$400,000 in in-kind support for TreesCharlotte efforts annually.</p> <p>The city purchases seedlings for Creek ReLeaf, a program of the Charlotte Public Tree Fund, at an average cost of \$1,800 per year.</p> <p>The city has conservation and stewardship agreements with Catawba Lands Conservancy to manage the city's Tree Canopy Preservation Program properties in perpetuity. To date the city has placed 224 acres under conservation easement with the Conservancy at a cost of \$82,600. These agreements and funding are approved by Council at the time of property acquisition.</p> <p>Grants to neighborhoods for cankerworm tree banding averaged \$30,000 through Fiscal Year 2018.</p>	Gina Shell Kim Eagle Mike Davis
	Newton	Where are we experiencing most tree canopy loss?	This analysis is underway and the question is being addressed in the Environment Committee.	
	Winston	Are there recommendations for increasing the canopy via green roofs?	The tree ordinance currently offers a green roof option instead of saving trees on-site for developers in some parts of the city. The option has been in place since 2012; to date, no developer has utilized the option. Approaches to further encourage green roofs may be possible.	

Tree Canopy Coverage Update (cont.)		Have we looked at tree canopy as a public safety/affordable housing issue in low income neighborhoods?	Trees are associated with quality of life and Charlotte is fortunate to have substantial tree canopy coverage across all income levels. Studies show that the presence of trees can have positive impacts on crime reduction and personal perceptions of safety.	
	Mayfield	Requested information on how neighborhoods will be involved in upcoming tree canopy program.	Council provided \$25,000 for assistance with large private trees. Staff used this funding to develop and pilot a program in the Wesley Heights neighborhood. If funding is available for further work, staff will work with Council to determine an outreach approach, relying on our knowledge of the aging canopy and quality of life data regarding neighborhood incomes.	
Mayor and Council Topics	Harlow	Requested information on temporary use permits related to fire code and processes. Also requested was data around carport/code enforcement.	<p><u>Temporary Use Permits</u></p> <p>The city has seen a dramatic increase in the number of special events that would require temporary use permits. The term “Special Event” only applies to the gathering of people outside or inside locations not known to be approved place of assembly venues. To apply for a special event permit, the event planner or promoter submits an application online through the city’s website. In some instances, they submit an application through the county’s website. Special events often require the approval of several city and county agencies based on the size of, street closures, temporary structures, ABC sales, and live or recorded entertainment. Each agency has their own set of rules and regulations. Some agencies require permits, some do not. Currently, for the most part, each agency works independent from the other agencies, which can be a burden to the event planner/promoter. The city does not have a formal event approval process that ensures all approving agencies get involved upfront.</p> <p>Promoters do not realize who is required to approve their event. Often, they start with one agency, receive approval and believe they are “good to go”. Without successful communication between the agencies the applicant can become caught in the middle and left without a permit.</p>	<p>Pam Wideman Sabrina Joy-Hogg Ben Krise Chief Johnson</p>

Mayor and Council Topics (cont.)

A comprehensive special event ordinance with clear objectives to ensure public safety should be created. While individual department ordinances exist, a comprehensive ordinance could prove useful and effective for applicants.

Some areas that need evaluation and clarification are:

- Events held at non-approved locations such as single-family homes and apartments
- Defined process for permit approvals
- Cost recovery program for city staff (user fees)
- Increase in civil penalties for life safety violations of the fire code

Date compiled by the Fire Department shown below:

Examples of Special Events:

Parades, Planned Protests, Outdoor Concerts, Carnivals/Fairs, Food Truck Rally's, NCAA Events, Panther's Games, Christmas Village, Temp. Use of Buildings, Tents for Assembly, Bar Crawls, Firework Shows, Temp. Outdoor Market, Gallery Crawls, Temp. ABC Permits, Sport Event Tailgating and Trade Shows

City Fire Special Event Statistics

	Special Events				
	Tent Permits	Fireworks	Other	Trade Shows	Sp. Event Inspections
2015	409	44	3	134	578
2016	475	55	2	116	623
2017	425	53	1	112	688
2018	450	63	4	106	690

Further data needs to be gathered from other departments such as, Transportation, Police, and Engineering & Property Management (Real Estate).

<p>Mayor and Council Topics (cont.)</p>			<p><u>Zoning Use Permits for Temporary Uses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning use permits are required for temporary uses such as mobile food vending, roadside sales and mobile carwash detailing. • When an application for a zoning permit is received, Housing & Neighborhood Services Code Enforcement division verifies zoning compliance (required setbacks, separation from residential use, etc.) through on-site inspections of mobile food vendors, mobile detailers and roadside sales. • Depending upon the intended use, additional permits and inspections may be needed. For example, a Mobile Food Unit Operating Permit must be issued by the Mecklenburg County Health Department for all mobile food vendors, and the vendor is subject to an inspection by the county. Similarly, vending in center city requires that an additional application be submitted to and approved by Charlotte Center City Partners. <p><u>Carport Code Enforcement</u></p> <p>The zoning ordinance classifies carports as accessory structures, along with accessory dwelling units, storage buildings, sheds, and any other additions to a structure not meeting setback requirements. While we are unable to delineate notice of violations issued specifically for carports, data exists on violations for accessory structures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the past five years (2014-2018), 1,495 notices of violations have been issued for accessory structures that violated setback requirements and/or that were constructed without a permit. • In response to the current rewrite of the Comprehensive Plan, the Unified Development Ordinance and the changing dynamics of older neighborhoods, enforcement of carport violations are being reassessed. 	
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Mayor and Council Topics	Mayfield	Provide an update on aging in place program and review of HUD standards.	<p><u>Aging in Place Program Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Aging in Place program is currently accepting pre-applications. <p>As of Feb. 15, 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 1,000 311 callers have expressed interest in the program. • More than 325 emails have been sent to interested residents. • 81 pre-applications have been received and are being reviewed by staff to determine eligibility to participate in the program. Of these, the average applicant age is 73, average gross yearly income is \$35,000, and average property value change is 63 percent. • Staff has been conducting program outreach by attending various neighborhood meetings and community events, including partnering with Mecklenburg County at listening sessions. • To be eligible for the program, applicants must be 65 years of age or older, have lived in and owned their home located in city limits for at least five years, have documented gross household income more than \$30,200 but not exceeding 80% AMI, and be able to demonstrate a significant financial burden that threatens continued homeownership due to substantially increased property tax bill due to the revaluation (tax bills scheduled to be mailed by the county in July). • The program will only count toward the city portion of property tax. • The application deadline is September 30, 2019. • Program information can be found at charlottenc.gov/housing 	<p>Pam Wideman Sabrina Joy-Hogg</p>

Mayor and Council Topics (cont.)			<p><u>Review of HUD Standards</u></p> <p>The Aging in Place program qualifications, including income requirements, are based on HUD's approved income household AMI metrics.</p>	
Mayor and Council Topics	Mayfield	Interested in Beatties Ford Road corridor economic development ideas.	<p><u>Urban Main</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A technical assistance program being brought to the city by National Main Street Center that can assist area businesses, neighborhood residents and the city in the development of transformational strategies for the Beatties Ford/Lasalle Business District (compact area); 50% funded by the Knight Foundation. • Economic Development department has convened internal city departments, area businesses and institutional partners to form an Advisory Committee; neighborhood sub-committees will soon be formed to help design a redevelopment strategy for Beatties Ford/LaSalle. <p><u>Pro Neighborhoods</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with Carolina Small Business Development Fund (CSBDF) for a planning grant to develop equitable economic development metrics (examples – # of businesses that grow capacity, job training enrollments, job placement goals, affordable housing units) for the Beatties Ford/West Trade Corridor from I-77 to I-85. • CSBDF has received \$100,000 grant to do the work from JP Morgan Chase. • Successful planning grant could lead to additional funding from JP Morgan Chase. <p><u>Inclusive Procurement Training Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolina Small Business Development Fund has received a grant from JP Morgan Chase to conduct training classes at Johnson C. Smith University 	Tracy Dodson

<p>Mayor and Council Topics (cont.)</p>			<p>(JCSU) for small businesses interested in doing business with the city. It is a six-week training program.</p> <p><u>Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Program (CNIP) Infrastructure Projects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Trade/Rozelles Ferry and Sunset/Beatties Ford Road • Expansion of Gold Line Street Car to JCSU • Signal Wrap Project • 4 traffic signal boxes along the corridor will be wrapped with artwork done by community artists • Corridor Grant Program • Available to businesses on the corridor 	
<p>Mayor and Council Topics</p>	<p>Mayfield</p>	<p>Expressed concerns around the revaluation for neighborhoods close to uptown.</p>	<p>This will be looked at throughout the budget development process as data is further analyzed.</p>	<p>Sabrina Joy-Hogg</p>
<p>Public Forum</p>	<p>Mayfield</p>	<p>Speaker 2 – Jaena Howey – spoke about working conditions at the airport. Council follow up was requested.</p>	<p>Ms. Howey is a Piedmont Airlines employee that works on Concourse E as a gate agent. Ms. Howey spoke about several issues, including; higher pay for employees of airport tenants, employee parking, the designated smoking area at the Terminal, and her/employees’ discomfort with the temperature on the concourse during very cold and/or very hot days.</p> <p>On Jan. 21, 2019, Mr. Ernest Taylor with American Airlines made the Aviation Department aware of employee complaints related to cold temperatures inside the E concourse.</p> <p>The Aviation Department is aware that the concourse temperatures can fluctuate (especially near the gate boarding doors) when a large number of the exterior doors are opened at the same time to board and deplane passengers from the aircraft. In the coldest of days, the interior temperature in the concourse will drop into the lower 60’s or high 50’s while the doors are open. The converse of this occurs during the summer.</p>	<p>Brent Cagle</p>

<p>Public Forum (cont.)</p>			<p>The airport constantly monitors the interior temperatures in the terminal building and balances the system as much as possible, but with opening the exterior doors on Concourse E with no jet bridges to connect to the aircraft it allows more outside air into the building.</p> <p>We are currently working on upgrading the size of the heating and cooling units that serve the E concourse, which will help to maintain a more constant temperature throughout the summer months. The Aviation Department is also working with American Airlines to determine if they will support a capital project to add passenger boarding bridges to all gates on the E concourse.</p> <p>Regarding the additional items that Ms. Howey discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employee Pay - The Aviation Department has no legal authority to specify or mandate pay levels for its tenants.• Employee Parking - The Aviation Department had meetings with employees from American Airlines to discuss the improvements that are being implemented in the Employee Parking Lots. The improvements will be complete in late spring.• The Smoking Area – The Aviation Department is evaluating options for banning the use of tobacco products on Aviation Department property – this ban would apply only to tenants and contractors doing business at the Airport – it would not apply to passengers and visitors.	
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