

1. Gold Line

Provide comprehensive overview of the streetcar project construction timeline.

The CityLYNX Gold Line Phase 2 Project was awarded a Small Starts Grant Agreement in May 2016. The construction and vehicle procurement were awarded in November 2016 and construction began in late February 2017. The project includes a significant improvement to the underground public utilities (water, sewer, stormwater, etc.) and the installation of track, the overhead wiring (Overhead Catenary System, OCS) and the Traction Power Substations (TPSS) that power the streetcar. It also includes the replacement of the Hawthorne Lane Bridge over Independence Blvd. The underground improvements occurred first and are being followed by the foundations for the OCS poles and trackwork. To date, approximately 85% of the underground work is complete, 55% of the OCS foundations have been installed and 60% of the track has been constructed. The Hawthorne Lane Bridge was delayed nearly a year due to an error in the contractor's manufacturing of the girders. New girders have been manufactured and are being delivered and installed. The bridge is scheduled for completion by April 2020. Track installation is continuing, the OCS Poles should begin installation in the next 2-3 months followed by the installation of the overhead wire. These will be connected to the TPSS units that are being delivered and will result in the substantial completion of construction in the summer of 2020. Testing will begin in late summer/early fall 2020 and will be completed in late 2020 early 2021. The Project opening will follow Charlotte Area Transit System's (CATS) pre-revenue testing of the entire system in early 2021.

When will the construction around JCSU be completed?

5 points to Dixon will be completed by February 2020. Substantial Completion of construction by summer 2020.

Is the project on time and under budget?

The project is behind schedule. The planned completion date was Aug. 31, 2020; however, the delay has placed the contractor behind in delivering the project to the city to complete its overall testing and pre-revenue testing. The city has been granted a 1-year extension of the grant agreement to Aug. 31, 2021 by the FTA and are working to deliver the project in early 2021.

Will power lines in front of JCSU be buried as a part of the project? If not why?

No. The relocation of overhead power lines to underground were not included along any portion of the CityLYNX Phase 2 Project due to cost. However, most of the other private utilities (AT&T, Spectrum, other telecoms, etc.) choose to relocation their lines either underground or on parallel streets at their expense.

Will Students at JCSU have a ride share program similar to students at UNCC as it related to the green line?

This is outside the scope of the project; however, CATS Marketing is available to discuss a similar ride share program with JCSU, Johnson and Wales University and any other large entities that are interested in a similar benefit for their students, faculty and staff.

What’s the anticipated completion date and road opening on Beatties Ford Road.

5 points to Dixon by February 2020. Substantial completion of construction by summer 2020.

What’s the relationship with JCSU regarding community improvement projects, support, etc.

The city has worked closely with JCSU throughout the entire project development and construction process via an advisory committee. Additionally, the art created for the Historic West End stops were largely inspired by the archives at JCSU. The artist, George Bates, worked closely with the university in this capacity.

2. Please provide the current affordable housing projects currently underway and in the planning stages in district 2. What’s the city relationship with the Charlotte housing authority and key housing programs. Funding, programs, collaboration, etc.

Current HTF developments underway or planned in District 2.

Development	Units	Address	Funding	Status
Rosewood Commons	85	6405 West Sugar Creek	\$1,425,000	Under Construction
Old Concord @ Blue Line	198	5625 N. Tryon	\$5,100,000	Under Construction
Brookshire Blvd.	96	7326 Bellhaven Blvd.	\$4,224,000	Pending Closing
Abbingtion Westside	46	2230 Township Rd.	\$1,575,000	Pending Closing
Rosewood Commons II	52	6405 West Sugar Creek	\$520,000	Pending Closing
Abbingtion on Mt. Holly	102	3230 Mt. Holly-Huntersville	\$2,000,000	Pending Closing
Total	579		\$14,844,000	

CHA Structure/Governance:

- The city and the Charlotte Housing Authority (CHA), now INLIVIAN, are two separate entities. However, City Council is responsible for appointing CHA’s governing board. CHA has a 7-member Board of Commissioners, two of whom are appointed by the mayor and the remaining 5 are appointed by the City Council.
- Both the city and the CHA address the need for affordable housing. CHA has historically provided affordable housing for very low-income households and they also have a wholly-owned affordable housing development affiliate that develops mixed income housing.

Funding

- The city does not provide an annual allocation of funding to CHA, however, the city often provides housing trust fund dollars, in the form of gap financing, to CHA to assist in subsidizing their affordable housing developments which are completed through their development known as Horizon Development.

Collaboration

- During the most recent round of HTF awards, CHA agreed to provide Project Based Vouchers (PBV) for use by two of the selected developments. This PBV cooperation is reflected in a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and CHA. Another example of city/CHA collaboration is when CHA acts as the bond issuer for affordable housing development projects utilizing tax exempt bond financing. The city issues a resolution approving the bond issuance.
- Another form of collaboration is in connection with CHA's Family Self Sufficiency Program (FSS). FSS is designed to provide families training, childcare, and other assistance to achieve economic independence. Many of the families that graduate from FSS can purchase homes using the city's down payment assistance program.

3. Please provide update and overview of the main street project, that's focus on Beatties ford road & Lasalle Street.

- UrbanMain is commercial revitalization program of the National Main Street Center that aims to restore economic vitality to under-resourced historic neighborhoods
- The city is working with NMSC and the Beatties Ford community to examine the feasibility of creating an UrbanMain district at Beatties Ford and LaSalle. The NMSC is providing technical assistance and providing connections to their national network of UrbanMain districts
- The city's Economic Development department aims to bring business and community together to rebuild a vibrant commercial district centered at Beatties Ford and LaSalle
 - This district is very busy and has a high level of pedestrian activity, but we can make it a vibrant place with neighborhood-serving amenities
 - The district boundaries are centered at LaSalle and extend from St. Luke St to Gilbert St. The program focuses on commercial and non-residential properties
- This feasibility study started in Fall 2018 and is scheduled to wrap up in early spring 2020 with a work plan that includes potential transformation strategies and recommended organizational structure
- The UrbanMain program is built on the NMSC's 4-point approach to commercial revitalization:
 - Economic vitality
 - Design
 - Organization
 - Promotion
- The UrbanMain initiative has benefitted from great community engagement. Over 120 people attended the kickoff meeting last fall. The city recently completed three-part workshop series on Nov. 9.
 - On Sept. 19, 60 people made up of residents, business owners and community leaders from the corridor attended a visioning and consensus workshop

- On Oct. 12, 30 community members participated in a full-day workshop that provided deep dives in each of the four points
- On Nov. 9, attendees discussed the vision they created on Sept. 19 and applied lessons learned in October to develop a work plan for the initiative going forward
- Next steps include development of a work plan, identifying quick wins and priority transformation strategies and determining the organization and structure for implementation
- More information about the program can be found at www.CharlotteNC.gov/UrbanMain and recent presentation material from the Oct. 12 meeting can be downloaded here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/9jk1edvwyrv5p4w/AADMgUhPnlUQ67Zc0nOrnEpa?dl=0>

4. Who owns the shopping center where Food Lion is located on the corner of BFR & LaSalle? Contact info needed.

The owner is A&B University Park LLC. Their mailing address is 4038 Camrose Crossing Lane, Matthews, N.C. 28104.

5. Are there any short and/or Long term public investment planned for BFR & LaSalle?

- The UrbanMain initiative is a commercial revitalization strategy for the commercial corridor centered at BFR and LaSalle
- W.E. Grow is an equitable economic development strategy for the Beatties Ford Rd corridor. This strategy was created in summer 2019 and submitted to the JPMorgan Chase ProNeighborhoods grant program for potential funding.
 - The strategy was created in conjunction with the neighborhood, business and nonprofit leaders along with representatives from the banks and CDFIs that work in or on the corridor. The funding partner was Carolina Small Business Development Fund and the consultants were APD Urban.
 - The strategy lays out a comprehensive approach to small business support and commercial revitalization targeted along the corridor between I-77 and I-85
 - The final WE Grow application can be viewed here https://www.dropbox.com/s/yd10o6h5ex0v31v/CharlottePRO_Application-WE_Grow-FINAL-sml.pdf?dl=0
- Economic Development provides Business Matching grants to businesses and property owners investing in their property. These grants include façade improvements, security enhancements, brownfields revitalization and business district organization support. The BFR corridor falls within the City's Business Corridor Revitalization Geography. Economic Development most recently awarded a façade and security grant to 2004 Beatties Ford Rd which is located very close to the LaSalle St intersection.

6. Is there a district 2 city scope of work, plan of action? What areas of uptown is within dist2?

There are no specific city council district plans, but there are, however, area plans for several parts of the city:

<https://charlottenc.gov/planning/AreaPlanning/Plans/Pages/Home.aspx>

7. What's the budget and staff size of the city small business program? Is there a Loan program? If so how much was lend out for the past two years? What line of business are there minority goals, not small business? What's the turn around time for payment of invoices for small businesses?

Question: What is the budget and staff size of city small business programs?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

In the Economic Development Department there are three staff that work on supporting and advocating for small businesses – Holly Eskridge, Jerrienne Jackson and Christi Floyd. The mission of this team is to serve as small businesses advocates and champions by convening the ecosystem around supporting and celebrating business owners in ideation, start-up, and growth. The FY20 budget for small business-related activities in the Economic Development department is \$802,500. Funding supports the staff team in their implementation of the following projects.

Continuation of Amp UP! Charlotte

Program Summary

- Designed by Economic Development Department, Procurement Office, and Charlotte Business INclusion to be a business growth program featuring Interise's StreetWise MBA Curriculum.
- Prepares ethnic minority business owners for growth and expansion through business education and a supportive network.

Year 1 Program Success

- In partnership with the National Basketball Association (NBA), graduated first cohort of 15 business owners in December 2018.
- Second cohort in partnership with Charlotte Douglas Airport graduated 15 business owners on October 29.
- Anchor institution partner for the third cohort will be announced in December 2019.

2018 Alumni "Impact Report Card"

- 100% reported "likely" or "very likely" to recommend the program to a fellow business owner
- 56 total jobs created or retained
- 100% of businesses reported being profitable

- \$481k in new contracts secured

Strengthening CharlotteBusinessResources.com

Site Overview

- Web portal that helps individuals start and grow a business.
- Over 25 partners engaged and together on the site annually report “State of Small Business” metrics.
- Active social media as well as podcast and video libraries.
- Annual Kick-Off to Small Business Month event where 350+ small businesses are in attendance.
- Industry best practice is 3-5% increase in site visits annually – CBR’s standard is a 10% increase annually.

FY 20 Improvements

- Rebranding (with crown)
- Video series expansion with the focus of why Charlotte is small business friendly
- Women’s business owner page
- Additional “non-partner” resources
- Adding surrounding cities and towns
- Chatbot

Launching CLT Labs (new initiative under design)

Purpose

- Support Charlotte’s growing entrepreneurship ecosystem
- Increase inclusiveness and accessibility

Vision

“An inclusive hub where the entrepreneurial ecosystem comes together to ideate, grow, and scale sustainable businesses.”

Following three components achieve the vision:

Component #1: MWSBE U

- Combines business capacity-building education, training about navigating procurement processes and targeted outreach to MWSBEs.
- CharlotteBusinessResources.com partners will be major part of this work.
- Elements under consideration,
 1. Small Business Incubator pilot with customized programming
 2. Joint-Venture training curriculum and certification
 3. “CEO Mindset” training
 4. Program series/tracks for specific stages of business development

Component #2: P3 Disruptor

- Year-round, living laboratory for entrepreneurs to work with city departments on identifying, cultivating, and testing innovations.
- Designated demonstration fund to test.
- Exploring best practices in peer cities.

Component #3: Innovate Charlotte Partnership

- Nonprofit that connects entrepreneurial initiatives, activities, and strategic relationships to cultivate a better ecosystem for the benefit of all Charlotteans.
- City will support the following:
 1. MIT Venture Mentoring Program
 2. Exit CLT (local founders that have sold their companies and want to give back)
 3. Ecosystem building grants and events

Expansion of B2U Podcast Series

Overview

- New vendor hired to produce 8 podcasts
- Podcasts will be videoed and used on YouTube
- Adding “commercials” featuring Resource Partners

Podcast Host: Vanessa Matthews

- Small business owner
- Volunteers to host podcasts
- Involved in other Economic Development projects
- Instructor at CPCC’s SBC

FY20 Topics

- Helping you become investible
- Checking in with businesses featured in CBR videos – Where are they now?
- Mentorship and paying it forward
- How to market your business
- Starting and growing in Charlotte – The steps to move from idea to incorporation
- Greater Charlotte Region – TechWorks in Gaston County
- Business expansion story – Focus on Not Just Coffee (from one kiosk to multiple locations)
- Small Business Month – What’s in it for small business owners?

CHARLOTTE BUSINESS INCLUSION – CITY PROCUREMENT

- 2020 Charlotte Business INclusion (CBI) budget is \$1,087,153.00

- CBI staffs nine (9) Full Time Employees (FTE), tasks with providing equity and inclusion support including but not limited to certification, outreach, goal setting, utilization, training, diversity management system administration, and policy and procedure compliance.
- City departments have the following inclusion staff:

Charlotte Water	3 FTEs
Aviation	3 FTEs
CATS	2 FTEs
General Services	2 FTEs

Question: Is there a loan program? If so how much was lent out for the past two years?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Charlotte Business Inclusion manages the loan programs for the city. Please see their answers below.

CHARLOTTE BUSINESS INCLUSION – CITY PROCUREMENT

The City of Charlotte currently has two (2) Loan programs designed to assist Small Businesses.

- In 2003, the City of Charlotte joined forces with community partners to establish the Charlotte Community Capital Fund (CCCF). The CCCF provides loan guarantees to support the equipment, inventory and working capital needs to traditionally underserved small businesses in the Charlotte region. The fund is administered by Self-Help Credit Union. The program’s third-party lenders are Self-Help Credit Union and Carolinas Small Business Development Fund.
- In 2012, the Small Business Mobilization Loan Program was established to assist owners of City-certified Small Business Enterprises (SBEs) with acquiring short-term, low rate financing to support their temporary working capital needs, e.g. payroll, inventory and materials required to perform on the contract.
- The CBI program has provided funding totaling of \$353,500 to two (2) SBEs during the most recent two (2) year period.

Question: What line of business are there minority goals, not small business.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Charlotte Business Inclusion leads this work for the city. Please see their answers below.

CHARLOTTE BUSINESS INCLUSION – CITY PROCURMENT

The City of Charlotte sets minority participation goals based on the number of available minority firms in construction; architecture, engineering, and surveying; other professional services; goods and commodities; and other service commodity codes applicable to the specific project.

Question: What is the turnaround time for payment of invoices for small businesses?

The city pays invoices on a net 30-day schedule.

8. Is there any city/county collaboration around Parks & Rec, excluding greenways?

The city and Park and Rec coordinate on efforts such as large festivals that include park property and city streets. Areas of coordination include police, fire, traffic and solid waste.

9. There has been 85 homicide to date, how many were in district 2? How many involved guns? Is there any local gun ordinances?

For the period January 1 – November 18, 2019 there have been 98 homicides.

For the period January 1 – November 18, 2019 there have been 21 homicides in District 2.

For the period January 1 – November 18, 2019 there have been 81 homicides with a firearm within the CMPD's jurisdiction.

For the period January 1 – November 18, 2019 there have been 20 homicides with a firearm within District 2.

Local gun ordinances:

- a. Shooting in the City Limits –Section 15-13. Shooting in the city limits is prohibited except at licensed shooting galleries (and except by Law Enforcement). This not only includes firearms but also includes bow and arrows and slings as well as spring guns or instruments of any kind (which would include bb guns and paint ball guns). City Council can authorize exceptions to this ordinance.
- b. Section 15-14 Possession of Dangerous Weapons. This includes firearms and prohibits weapon possession of all property owned or leased by the city (unless the city is leasing the property out to a 3rd party). This includes public parks and government buildings but does not include sidewalks or public streets. Specific individuals are exempt from this ordinance –such as Law Enforcement, National Guard, etc. An exception is also made to allow individuals to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon into the Airport for the sole purpose of legally shipping it.
- c. Section 15-272 prohibits the possession of a dangerous weapon on any public transportation vehicle (including the Light Rail and CATS buses).

- i. Section 19-313 states that participants in a “public assembly or a parade picketing” are subject to all State and Federal laws and specifically refers to the State Law listed above (NC GS 277.2) which prohibits possessing Dangerous Weapons at such event.

There are numerous North Carolina General Statutes Laws regarding firearms.

10. What’s the local (public) budget for the 2020 RNC? Where’s the funds coming from? What’s the federal share, and what will be raises privately? Who’s on the local organizing committee?

The RNC is funded through a \$50 million federal security grant.

The RNC framework agreement is attached.

The best point of contact for questions regarding fundraising would be Jill Burleson, Communications Director for the Charlotte 2020 Host Committee - Jburleson@charlottein2020.com

You can find more info on the host committee staff here - <https://www.charlottein2020.com/staff>