

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina convened for an Action Review Meeting on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 5:04 p.m. in Room 267 of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, Matt Newton, Victoria Watlington and Braxton Winston II.

**ABSENT:** Councilmember James Mitchell

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## **ACTION REVIEW**

### **ITEM NO. 1: MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS**

**Marie Harris, Strategy and Budget** said are there any additional questions on any of the items?

**Councilmember Egleston** said I just want to make sure I know; Councilmember Graham tried to reach out but wasn't able to connect with the In Rem 5624, on Item No. 44. Has staff made him aware of the fact that even if we move this forward tonight that he is still able to continue making repairs and come into compliance?

Ms. Harris said yes sir; this is always an ongoing process and they have been in contact with the person. I believe there is a speaker on that item tonight as well.

Mr. Egleston said the property owner, I presume?

Ms. Harris said yes.

**Councilmember Winston** said to that end, I know we always have these questions around these In Rems, but should we vote to approve this action; I know we continue to work with them but that is Council giving staff the authority to take whatever means within the In-Rem process. That means that it won't come back to us should there be some type of misunderstanding with you and the property owner.

Ms. Harris said correct; this authorizes us to move forward but this would be a last-ditch effort, it wouldn't be a misunderstanding. We over communicate and over negotiate before it got to that point. But yes, to your point, this would be the final approval, not the end of the process by any means, but before you yes, you would be giving staff the authority.

Mr. Winston said the end of the process for us.

Ms. Harris said yes.

**Mayor Lyles** said are there any Consent Items that someone would like to comment on prior to approval, prior to adoption of the motion or anything for comment? The staff does not have anything that has changed. Is there any item for a separate vote?

Mr. Winston said the In Rems would separate votes or are they part of?

Mayor Lyles said it's a speaker so, yes. There will be a speaker on Item No. 44 for that In Rem, but not all of them.

Mr. Winston said Item No. 46 for a separate vote as well.

Mayor Lyles said 44, 46, 47?

Mr. Winston said no I just need 46.

Mayor Lyles said with that we will have a speaker on Item No. 44 and a separate vote on Item No. 46.

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## **ITEM NO. 2: AGENDA OVERVIEW**

**Marcus Jones, City Manager** said tonight we have a holdover from your last meeting and that is an update for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, a two-year outlook, and Taiwo will lead that discussion. This is a commitment that we've made to you to come back to you continuously to give you updates on where we are with the community engagement piece as well as the timeline for both the 2040 Plan and the UDO. Tonight, we also have Chief Putney and Angela Charles that will give you an update on where we are in terms of planning for the 2020 RNC. If there are no questions, I will turn it over to Taiwo.

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## **ITEM NO. 3: 2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TWO-YEAR OUTLOOK**

**Taiwo Jaiyeoba, Assistant City Manager and Planning Director** said I'm going to walk us through a few slides today, but I will focus really on just a few of them as we go towards the end of the presentation. Tonight, I will give you an overview of where we are today and where we plan to be in the next 22-months or so of the plan. Give you a summary of the community engagement activities; this is new in terms of what we see as beginning to come out of the plan with regards to certain themes and our policy framework. Then I will share with you what our two-year project schedule looks like. The Manager talked about the Comprehensive Plan and the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) so I will share with you how those two works together over the next two-years.

Again, just to kind of reiterate for you, you have seen this slide before but this is really talking about the Comprehensive Plan as being a guiding light, if you will put it that way, for our City that really determines our goals and aspirations for the future and it is not just about the land use piece but what are those other things that the land use really connects with and connects to such as the facilities and services environmental sustainability, parks and greenways, transportation plans and things of that nature. While the Comprehensive Plan addresses the built environment, as we know and effectively the layout of our City, it really does help to shape where we live, where we play, where we work and where we do business on day to day basis, but what does Charlotte look like, or will look like in the next 20-years? That is the question here, but as we answer that question, I also want us to know that we are not answering it in isolation. There is a lot of good work that has been done in this community today with regards to smart planning, with regards to certain policy documents. There is also some good planning efforts ongoing right now and some that will continue to go on into the future. So, what you see on this slide in front of you is really telling the story. The Comprehensive Plan is just one piece of that, and it has to connect to all these other policy documents such as the Strategic and Energy Action Plan, the 2030 Transit System Plan, Charlotte Bikes, Charlotte Walks, the I-77 Mobility Plan. Some of what you see here is already taking place right now, such as you adopted the Strategic Energy Action Plan in 2018 and it is very important that the policies there are also folded or at least integrated with the Comprehensive Plan. We have a lot of these that have to do with how we move in the community whether by C-DOT Plan of Transit Plan. It is really about connecting land use with mobility tools.

We know because there are so many things going on in the community both within the City and also at the County level, that seamless integration is very important with this plan. Last week was very important for us in the Department because we started to meet with the County Department of Health, Parks and Rec, Economic Development and really trying to understand exactly where they are and how we can connect as part of this process. Especially sharing in project teams, leveraging community engagement where we can. You have seen this before, but I will just quickly say that it is a two-year process broken into four phases. We are in the fourth phase right now. You do have a detailed schedule in front of you and I will get to that in a minute.

It is hard to believe that we started this about 14-months ago; September of 2018 to be exact, and in that space, we've interacted with over half-million people. That is very huge for us as a City. I don't know if we've been at this level of robust engagement in the past. These are not people that we met face to face as much as those we interacted with on social media or other places. In terms of face to face interaction with folks, it is about 4,500 plus voices that we've had in the community. We've employed different forms of engagement including going out to where people are and engaging with them. Here we see in the next two slides are really areas where we feel that we can really focus on. If you want to breakdown the participants in terms of demographics you see that breakdown there in terms of 62% of population of white folks that we've been able to reach in the community and then about 30% to 35% African Americans and all the minority groups are really not showing up as well, but we will get to that again in a little bit. This the gap; we feel that we've done a really good job, but we still have some gaps in terms of how we are reaching people. You can see Latino Community, the population, really the demographics in the City is about 14%. While really less than seven percent have participated in our community meetings to date. Senior citizens are roughly about 10% of our City's population. We think we are doing fairly okay there but will try to improve that. The youth is an area where we definitely want to focus on. That is a major part of our demographics and we are really not doing very well there in terms of getting them out to meetings.

In the last week or so I was at Providence Day School, spoke to almost 200 kids and that same day we were at JCSU where we actually met with our college kids as well. So, we are really making an effort. By the time I come back to present this to you, you will see an uptick in these gaps. But this helps us and keeps us grounded in terms of, not just engaging the community but how are we really doing in blocks of our community that we are engaging.

In terms of outreach everything that you see there except for the red dots, is where we have really reached people whether through growing better places, board games or community workshops or through some of the Town Halls that you held in about 47 different pop-up events. The red dots are areas where we are going next in the next three phases. We deliberately strategized that to focus on Council District geographies so that we can actually come to your different Districts. This past Saturday we were in District 7 but that is not the last time we are going to be there. We are going to continue to go out into the community so next time I come in front of you we will be able to show you where we've been in relation to this. Every time we've gone out, we've tried to keep our goals and our vision in front of us and that is very important. The goal of creating a City that is authentic, that is equitable and that is integrated and so it is very important; those five elements are the top of the buckets where we really have been engaging different people. We came up with about 300 strategic advisors and ambassadors and we've really designed them to work on different elements up until this time and we will continue to do that. I will share with you some of the things we are beginning to hear from the community with regards to how they want us to grow that really fall into a number of those buckets.

The last time we came in front of you we talked about the growth strategies. If we are going to grow into the future how do we do that? Do we continue to do business as usual as we today which really follows the current growth patterns of centers, corridors and wedges or should we look at concentrating growth around our strong centers whether they be uptown, Eastland or North Lake Mall or SouthPark Mall or other areas in the City where we have actually have strong regional activity centers or should we talk about growing along corridors or in our neighborhoods? None of this is perfect so, we knew at the very beginning that it was going to be the future growth strategy was going to be a hybrid of maybe two or three of all of these or even all of them. What we discovered quickly once we started to pull out from information that we are getting from the communities are the imagine themes that we are hearing in terms of we want our growth to be focused along corridors as well as around our neighborhoods. If we are expecting over 320 some thousand people in terms of additional population over the next 20-years, it is about how do we accommodate that growth along the corridors, but we don't necessarily exclude the activity centers, and I will talk a little bit more about that.

There is also the appetite to embrace varieties of housing types in our neighborhoods, in our communities as well but especially they are designed around small to moderate mixed-use activity centers in our communities. Obviously, the outcome of that is that people want a community where they can bike, and they can walk more. Essentially a city that is designed around people and not necessarily vehicles. So, as we begin to talk about policy framework, this is what we are hearing; our community, Charlotteans essentially want us to create 10-minute communities if you can put it that way. We know that is not strange in the world of planning, but it could be very different from how we've been growing to date. We know that the Mayor of Paris about a couple weeks ago talked about its quarter-hour cities and a person should be able to have access to the things that make for busy quality of life in the city within 15-minutes of work. We know that Minneapolis and some of the other cities in the country are talking about 20-minute cities, but while this is what we are hearing because that 10-minute walk is how long it takes for you to do a half-mile, which is really what we have in terms of radius around the transit stations. We are hearing also the appetite to really treat trails and transit almost the same in terms of development around them. We had during the Annual Strategic Meeting, from the City of the Atlanta Beltline; that is really what they are doing in Atlanta, but we've seen that also across the country. This is a big bold idea for us in Charlotte, but they are not necessarily new ideas. While we are doing that obviously, Charlotteans also want us to retain the identify and the charm of our existing neighborhoods but also welcome different types of housing products in the community as well. Every community that we went to during our engagement process that is something that was consistent and the fact that every community, every part of our City needs affordable housing and if that is going to happen it has to start with the type of vision that we have for the community.

So, if anybody is asking what is coming out of the Comprehensive Plan today, there are a lot of policies that we are looking at right now, but these four big ones that I wanted to pull out share with you because they have implication of mobility, accessibility and connectivity. They have implication on how we invest our capital dollars in the future in our communities. They also have implication on the type of rezoning petitions that will come in front of you in the future in terms of focusing on walkability and bike-ability on trails, but also making sure that our community, what is uniquely Charlotte really is our neighborhoods and how to make sure that we continue to keep our neighborhoods where they should be.

So, over the next couple of years, really over the next 22-months because the plan is to deliver a public draft in September, but that is not the end of the story. So, what we've done today is we have this strategic advisor group that I mentioned earlier of over 300 of our community leaders and neighborhood leaders and business leaders in our community; they will be meeting this week and they will be reviewing some of these policies as well and we will be testing some of these ideas with them. We've been working on that but in the next several months as we draft these policies and strategies, we are going to be drafting them in partnership with our partner agencies within the City like C-DOT, like transit, and housing but also with our partner agencies outside the City like Parks and Rec because they are also working on their Master Plan right now. At the end of the day when we get to that implementation piece, that is when we will begin to talk about projects for selection into CIP and that is very important that people pay attention to that as we go into the process.

We found during the second phase that people fell in love with growing better places growth game so, we are introducing it for the future growth strategy. We are calling it Better Places Growth Game 2.0 where we go out but this time, we are going to focus on some of these policies areas that we are hearing from the community. Like I said we are meeting again with our Strategic Advisors and Ambassadors this week and we are also meeting with them in March and actually twice in April we are going to be meeting with them as well. It is very important that while the product to be adopted by you, we want to make sure that we engage the community at every level. I did talk about the fact that we may have some gaps with our youth, so we are introducing what we are calling Planning 101 where we are going to be having some boot camps with our young people in the community as well. So, this is not the end of the Comprehensive Plan.

This is a snapshot of the schedule where it interacts with the UDO. You do have a more detailed schedule in front of you, front and back, where we talk about interactions with the Council with the Transportation, Planning and Environmental Plan coming to you as well. We are also going to be interacting with our Ordinance Advisory Committee as part of the UDO throughout this process. So, you do have that in front of you. If you have any questions, I can definitely answer the questions related to that. Again, I started talking about this Comprehensive Plan being the guiding light for how our City is going to grow into the future and it is very important that we are deliberate and intentional with how we engage, not just yourselves, but our Planning Commissioner, our County Board of Commission, Parks and Recreation at the County, the community at-large as well. We've been doing that so well, I will say today, but we want to make sure that we ramp this up, especially these next two phases because for us to be able to deliver a public draft in September we want to make sure that nobody in Charlotte can actually claim that they did not know or were not aware of some of the ideas coming out of this. I will be glad to take questions. Thank you.

**Councilmember Newton** said thank you for that presentation Taiwo. So, as we kind of work through the slides, I appreciate all the hard work that has gone into this. I did note that I'm not seeing as much of an emphasis on economic development, particularly jobs. I know that we have business corridors where we want to encourage that development, Beatties Ford Road comes to mind. Of course, I work within prism of my District so, Albemarle Road, Independence Boulevard; we most recently during our Retreat saw that the east side, in particular, has a major shortcoming in as much as jobs are concerned. I think the area of our City that is second closest to the east side as twice as many jobs. So, second to the bottom, twice as many jobs from east Charlotte so, I do hope and I know there will be future meetings, but I hope that we also place alongside transportation, housing, we place emphasis of job creation and economic development in the areas where it is needed. You will probably hear I think in the future outreach locations in meetings that are going to occur. My hope is that we receive those dates and I don't know if you have finalized any of those, but we receive those as well. I also wanted to point that out and make sure that we don't forget that in this greater conversation of our Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said maybe I can respond to that quickly. Actually, part of the work is do a fiscal impact analysis; that is ongoing right now. We projected that over the next 20-years there will be 205,000 jobs added to our jobs in Charlotte. So, last week we spend an hour with the City's Economic Development Department to talk about the tools that we have right now today and also the game-changing tools that we can continue to have that will not only; I think I shared with you during the Annual Strategic Meeting our three-pronged approach in terms of making sure that we continue to leverage on areas that are successful today but also emphasizing corridors of opportunities while at the same time we are leveraging our community making opportunities in the City. These are tools and these are some things we are looking at so, while I did not mention them, work is going on. This week I will be speaking to Charlotte East and I will be drilling down on the jobs piece of this as well, especially as related to the east side. So, thank you for bringing that up.

Mr. Newton said I appreciate that; thank you.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said thanks for the presentation Taiwo and we got to see this in the TAP Meeting as well, which is great because the more that Councilmembers can listen to this the better as we approach the date of the draft. One question I had, and I don't want to overreach on Mr. Driggs' questions he may have for his District, but he had a great Town Hall meeting this past week where we talked about Ballantyne Reimagined and it was a lot of concern about the schools. I thought this was a great example of where, to the extent possible, you guys can give some guidance in advance of the Comprehensive Vision Plan getting passed because in a perfect world the Plan gets passed and it gets mapped out it would show where we want parks, where we want schools, where transit is going to be, that kind of things. But, when we have such a massive rezoning like this how can we work with our colleagues at the schools right now

because that is what I heard from the people in the District, their biggest concern was what impact it will have and where there be land left to put schools. So, how can we do that right now in the context of the planning for the Comprehensive Vision Plan?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said there is a lot we can do; the Ballantyne situation, the South District Area Plan was developed in 1993 and I think at that time, if I remember, it says there were high schools in the South District Plan in 1993. I'm not sure how much that has changed in terms of that infrastructure. I should have started by introducing Alicia; she is our new Project Manager for the Comprehensive Plan, she is also the Division Manager for the long-range and strategic group. She spent an hour last week with CMS staff in terms of finding out where they are challenges and there were some things that we found out in the process that we were not aware of and we felt that the Comprehensive Plan could actually help to push certain policies that can help us to be able to have more influence in terms of if you are expecting growth in certain areas we should start thinking about what education infrastructure should be going into those areas ahead of the growth. All of that to say that we are working with them. They might not have been there on Saturday, but we definitely are working with them and we heard that clearly. Again, I think that is part of the reason why we have 57 Area Plans in Charlotte and 12 District Plans in addition to 10 Station Area Plan. You don't find that in a progressive and very dynamic, growing, vibrant metropolitan area and that is why you need a Comprehensive Plan like this that will be able to prevent a situation where we are using a 1993 Area Plan or District Plan to evaluate a 2020 rezoning. It just doesn't work that way and that is the reason why we need to have this plan. So, we do understand that. I'm not promising that it is going to be easy, but we definitely understand the challenges and the fact that we don't have so much control as CMS but there are certain areas in this document where we can come up with policies that can influence that decision-making process.

Ms. Eiselt said I'm sorry; in this particular case, you will have staff that can work with CMS. This is such a big piece of Charlotte that would have been a major part of the Comprehensive Vision Plan so that is something that we can do on an Ad Hoc basis a little bit.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I'm not sure about the Ballantyne rezoning what we can do with these various plans specifically to that petition with regards to CMS issue. I'm sure there are some conversations going on between the developer and CMS but there is a lot we can do when it comes to policies from this point forward that can actually change that policy issue in the future.

**Councilmember Winston** said Ms. Eiselt; I'm going to kind of carry on from where you started. I don't have a question as much as I have a suggestion. We have a lot of meetings of groups here but what I don't see and what we haven't done, and it doesn't seem to be on hour horizon is some type of meeting between policy makers, between our Boards, between the City Council, County Commission, School Board and other municipalities that are going to be affected by this. I would suggest that we have a retreat of sorts, a workshop where we can do a deep dive in this. The effects of the Comprehensive Vision Plan can't stop at our borders. It is not going to be successful if we don't have county informed, the School Board informed and them understanding what changes are coming to the community. Right now, is the time to do it in this Phase Three where we are developing policies and strategies, we need to be talking to other policymakers and other strategy makers. Specifically, there are two things that came up in the slide. We are failing in getting youth, 18 and under, they only make up three percent of our participants, although they make up a quarter of Charlotte. Engaging CMS so that a large majority of folks in our City under the age of 18, it would be a very useful tool if we can engage CMS and they found relevant areas and avenues that they can engage the people that they deal with, which are children and their families. You also mentioned one of the priorities that has been stated is retain our identity and charm. We know that the smaller towns in this county are important in terms that they are different than Charlotte and there are things that make Davidson, Davidson for instance. Main Street in Davidson, we want to stay there because that is beneficial to the growth of Charlotte because it is a destination. It is something that works in relation. In the same what do, we often run into when we are doing big things, big changes, this Great State of Mecklenburg, this Great State of

Charlotte. If we can engage other policymakers from other towns, other counties, especially as it relates to transit as we are thinking regionally. We are looking to extend our light rail into Union County and Gaston County; we need them to understand that while certain changes can't stop at our borders, there are certain things, like retaining identity and charm of the surrounding area that is going to be important to the growth of Charlotte. So, I think we should find a way or framework to have a deep dive retreat, probably a day-long thing where we are bringing those other policy makers to the table along with their senior staff so they can be thinking about what we are doing, and we can be thinking about things from their perspective as well. It seems like if we get out of this Phase Three where we are focusing on policy and strategies, we will have missed an opportunity to do that. I hope my colleagues agree with that and I hope we can figure out a way to take the lead on this and get that done.

**Councilmember Driggs** said I wanted to talk about schools as well. One thing that was apparent on Saturday was you were saying that is CMS; that is NC-DOT, not us and it is just not good enough and people tell me it is not good enough. What I'm thinking about here is what exactly does that look like though? For example, do we ask them for their future plans for school capacity and expansion and then in some way take those on board when we think about what kind of growth we are targeting in certain areas. It doesn't really come into the conversation the way it should. We hear about schools at 140% or 150% and frankly, I would like to see them take responsibility for saying okay, we have our plans and you guys want to do this and that works for us. The way we do it now we get back a notice that says the schools are at 140% of capacity and it is not really actionable for us. I agree I think we ought to have a coming together with other elected officials and acknowledge our shared responsibility but what I'm really concerned about is what do we think the result of that is going to be? How do we add some real substance to the idea that there is coordination between their capital plans and our zoning activity? So, you have about 30 seconds to respond to that. Taiwo, it is a comment, okay, I'll just throw that out.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said there is a lot going on in my head that I can't really say. But there is some information that we do have that I would not want to share publicly, but I do know that for CMS it is very challenging for them to plan 10, 15, 20-years in advance. So, that is something we can do but what we are working with them on is understanding what the five-year horizon looks like for them. Understanding what that five-year horizon looks like for them and how they plan [inaudible] plan for some of those schools to be in, that will inform us in terms of what our model should take into consideration when we are generating this and that is a conversation, we had with them last week. That is also an ongoing conversation with them, which is why I said earlier it is not going to solve today's issue in terms of some petitions that come in front of us, but it is really about setting ourselves up for how we will respond to those things going forward once you have a Comprehensive Plan in place. I don't discount having a conversation across Boards and we've gone out to present this to the County Parks and Rec Commission for example. I think there is a conversation among our Planning Commission and Parks and Rec to sit down at some point in the future but our staff members, we have a responsibility to understand where they are to date in terms of their future plans and how can we roll those where they are; rollable, if I can use that word, into our Comprehensive Plan today and use whatever policies that you end up approving to influence how they make their decisions. That to me is really the extent to which we can go. It is really working with their five-year plan that they have, at least at CMS.

Mr. Driggs said again, I just think we need to have a responsible answer when these questions are put to us and it feels weak right now. The only other comment I wanted to make was I really like the big picture and the way this is taking shape, but there is a huge amount of information that is not apparent from what we've seen. So, you did a great job on Saturday and I appreciate it. You noticed the crowd was kind of interested and accepting. I think when we get down to the kind of details, and I've said this before, it could get more challenging. I would be concerned about going from this kind of big picture straight to draft language so, what I would ask you is, is it possible that we get a kind of a preview in synopsis form, not only of what we want to achieve but how are we going to go about doing it. We talked about the TOD for example, and the four Districts, etc. so it

is possible to create a high-level description of where you are going before we get handed the draft language that actually represents the intended ordinance.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said we will be sharing those with you. We're not there yet but we will. If you just think about how we went from the Station Area Plans to a Transit Oriented Development Ordinance to mapping the corridors along the Blue Line; that is the same process this is going to follow. So, we are still going to come to that point where we have enough information for you to be able to react to you, but not just for you, but also for the community as well.

Mr. Driggs said yeah, exactly.

Mr. Winston said I wanted to ask the Mayor; perhaps can we send this issue to Intergovernmental Committee where we can work with staff to figure out a plan to engage these other Boards on our Comprehensive Plan?

**Mayor Lyles** said we already have a Committee that is an Intergovernmental Committee that is a Planning Coordinating Committee that is made up of representatives from each body of government as well as the Planning Commission. I talked to Taiwo about this because the Committee has not worked very well in the past and what his point was, it is now time for that group to come together. My suggestion would be to take this issue to that Committee and ask them how best to work because then the planning would include the two other governmental bodies as well as the Planning Commission.

Mr. Winston said who is on this Committee?

Mayor Lyles said there are two representatives from the School System, two representatives from the County, two representatives from the Planning Commission, usually, it is the Chair and the Vice-Chair. I know that Julie is on it as well as Ed; three people are on it from the City, but I don't recall the County's representatives, I think one is Elaine, but before I go any further; Taiwo wants to activate that Committee and in the past that Committee has met twice a year and it is a group whose charge is to do exactly what you said. So, that is already in place, it is just that I think we need to have them come and learn and have this kind of presentation and discussion and then they can work through the City's request for a deeper dive or however they would structure something like that.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said yes, the Planning Coordinating Committee which is not just for Mecklenburg County, but all the towns within the County as well. Our last meeting was in the Town of Davidson and we kind of present different items. Like I told the Mayor; it is not very well attended at least since I've been here, we've had four, but it meets twice a year. The staff also meets twice a year of all these jurisdictions as well. The staff meet more regularly than the Board and Commission but I'm trying to use this as an opportunity to really energize that group going forward. So, that will be the platform, the avenue which we actually take this and really share that. The last meeting, we had we had our Planning Commission as we had Chair Dunlap from the County and then we had representation from a couple of the towns. If they know there is something major like this coming in front of them, I'm sure there will be more people that will show up.

Mayor Lyles said I think it is managing the agenda and getting the time and those folks in the room so that we can get that accomplished.

Mr. Winston said I think we also need to think about; I don't know how those meetings are set up but again, this is a topic that you could spend a whole day on with getting everybody on the same page. Do we have the ability to compel that type of meeting and that type of a commitment and that type of a structure around the meeting so that it is effective?

Mayor Lyles said they usually meet for a half-day and they have always kind of done that. I think the key is that actually Taiwo's role is to set that up and I don't think there is an issue with structure or content. I think the issue is are we organized and ready to take this



forward and Taiwo's response to me was yes, I am, and it is time. So, I think it is consistent with what we have been doing and he is ready and prepared to move this discussion forward. But the retreat of days and time have been always something around learning something and working in a collaborative way. I think that this particular effort is what they are being challenged by is perfect and the past history for it and now I think Taiwo is challenged to put that together and activate it. So, let's go there and if doesn't seem to work then we have to take another methodology, but we already have appointments to that.

**Councilmember Ajmera** said Taiwo; can you go to slide #4 where you've got all the plans in one slide; at the bottom left you've got Meck Playbook, could you elaborate on what that is.

Mr. Jaiyeoba said the Meck Playbook is the Parks and Rec Master Plan that the County Parks and Rec Department started a few months ago. I think they are in the second phase of it right now, supposed to be adopted by the County this summer.

Ms. Ajmera said does that also include arts and cultural institutions?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said I don't think it necessarily includes what may be; I think it may be strictly on Parks and Recreation and the funding program is based on how the County Parks and Rec Program is being funded right now, not necessarily arts and cultural initiatives, so I don't think so.

Ms. Ajmera said when you are talking about creating great places for our community what plan would touch on including the cultural component out of those?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said that is a very good question; one of the things I said to you several months ago when I first started the conversation around the Comprehensive Plan was to kind of take a look at what Denver did in their Comprehensive Plan where the hard word is creative districts. Last week we started to visit that as part of our Comprehensive Plan and we need to start having a dialogue around what are these creative districts, what do they look like but, we don't want to make it late into the UDO and be talking about that until we have a conversation around this. If you look at this slide here where I had the goals and the elements, it does talk about vibrant arts, cultural and education as one of the fundamental goals of the success of the Comprehensive Plan. In that place that is where we envisioned coming up with policies around those arts and culture initiatives and then we can start to talk about the type of zoning regulations that will allow those places to happen. It does not have to live in the Park and Rec's Master Plan for the County, some of those policies can live here in this Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Ajmera said I'm glad that it is included in our overall comprehensive planning because I think overall the cultural part plays an important role in the comprehensive planning. The challenge I hear from some of the participants who have attended some of these meetings is that there is planning meeting, there is a plan in place, we have the plan, we have the policies, it is really the implementation that is where the rubber meets the road. How do we ensure that all of the plans that we have in place are going to get implemented? I know we still have to work through the planning phase first but as we are going through the planning process we've got to also consider the implementation and make sure that we are implementing, whether it is the Bike Plan the Walk Plan or the SEAP or the cultural institutions where we really have a solid plan in place to ensure that we are delivering on our promises.

**Councilmember Bokhari** said just to start with a point; Councilmember Winston and I spend some time with a few School-Board Members last week, just discussing at a high level where we have touchpoints that are needed. This is clearly one of them. I think the answer with some work is probably something along the lines; no-one knows exactly what their investments are going to look like 10 or 15-years from now but on a map with today's information we can probably rule out some areas and I think when you do that you can take a simpler approach where year over year we partner with them and we keep ruling out areas based on where growth is happening, what they are seeing so that at least

when we come to a new decision for higher density or whatever and we see the overcrowding of schools in that area we know if it is in the area that is going to get benefit or not. Hopefully, you guys can come up with a better idea than that, but I think that is a baseline idea where we are at least basing it on some kind of process. So that is just a point there.

I don't want to critique this because I have a lot of faith in you Taiwo and I know that you guys have designed this well. I think there is a flaw here and I think the flaw in this is designed almost in its entirety and I'll take Mr. Driggs' point into account with this, which is there is a lot we are not seeing but this seemed designed to go out month over month through 2021 and just do everything possible from board games to pizza parties to engage the community and to make them care about this. I think the bottom line is Ballantyne is probably a little more activated to care about this right now because the entire Ballantyne area is being developed, built and rezoned and changed. So, yeah, they are paying attention. No-one else is going to actually pay attention. It doesn't matter how creative it is or whatever. Here is a way you can replace this whole thing with one step; send a postcard to every house in town and say join us at this date; we are thinking about putting a Dollar General on your block. The point is, no matter what and no matter how hard we go we are spending a lot of time going over and over and over above trying to get a group to engage and while you will get more people to engage there, just like we experienced with the TOD stuff and what we change, they are really not going to activate until something happens in their backyard and then it is a matter of I want to defend against this rather than figure out ways to say not what you want your area plan and the ultimate UDO to protect against because we know we need more density, we know we need more height in this town. What it is, if that happens in one of those corridors, what is it that makes that acceptable to you? What other investments or things, walkability or amenities, and to be honest they are going to have to step up and be part of this solution themselves in the communities and organize, not just to say we are against this, please Council vote it down. But instead say we need more of this type of job or this type of park or whatever it is that makes that level of density work. At the end of the day if the community doesn't realize this, when this is all said and done no matter what the process looks like or whatever, I can almost guarantee you the answer is going to mean this City can be more dense and higher and I don't think anyone would dispute that. Taiwo; would you dispute it is not going to be less dense and less high at the end of this 2040 Vision Plan?

Mr. Jaiyeoba said it is going to be smarter and more compact.

Mr. Bokhari said we can say anyway we want; it is the stuff that makes neighbors freak out when they realize it is impacting them. All I'm saying is I see so much baked in here about proactive outreach; we are never going to get them all. So, some of it has got to be experts coming in and saying here is what it is and them saying well, these are my demands like we do on a regular zoning negotiation for concessions of okay, well if you do that will you do this, but you've got to institutionalize that, not make it about people. I know that is vague, but I see a lot of community board games.

Mayor Lyles said Taiwo; the CIAA has middle school day and a high school day. I think it is either at Bojangles or the Crown Ball Room; there are thousands of kids there to take your survey or test. We will get you that information.

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#### **ITEM NO. 4: REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION UPDATE**

**Angela Charles, Assistant City Manager** said Chief Putney and I are here to provide a high-level update regarding our RNC preparation. We will discuss the Committee structure, we will provide a brief update and then answer any questions at the end.

This is the basic structure of our organization. The Executive Management Team provides overall and next to RNC Executive Management Team, that is the internal name of the team provides oversight for the event. It is comprised of the six-team leaders from six

committees in our organization. We have a Safety and Security Team, an Operations Team, a Permit and Parade and Event Management Team, City Host and Coordination, Integrated Communication and Marketing and an Administrative Work Group. Those are the six Internal City Teams led by City folks who are planning and preparing for the event. Then we have dotted lines to other groups. We have a dotted line to the RNC Host Committee, the CRVA and also to Charlotte Center City Partners. When I talk about the Internal six teams that we have we also have folks from other organizations in our community, so we have for example, on the Public Works Operation Team, we have folks from Duke Energy on that team, we have folks from the County, we have folks from Parks and Rec on those teams so we will begin with Safety and Security and that is where the star of the show will come up and discuss that, Chief Putney.

**Chief Kerr Putney, CMPD** said these are the high points; first one most important to me, near and dear to my heart, we are having a lot of people who are willing to come assist us and make this a safe event; much better than I anticipated actually. Along those lines, we have a lot of people here willing to volunteer. I'm told the latest is about 550 ambassadors specific to CMPD. Those are the people who are going to help us because as long as we have people who can keep us hydrated and well-fed our attitudes are a lot better, even I will smile on occasion if they do their jobs right. So, about 550 volunteers which is pretty impressive.

Hotels and equipment, contracts have been out, and we are looking pretty good there. We were concerned because as you know a big event a lot of hotels are snapped up pretty quickly, but we are going to have plenty of space to house our people and to get them the equipment they need to be safe. Most important, the grant, it has been submitted as of January 15<sup>th</sup>. You see the bulleted item under it talking about waivers, that is specific to any sole source. For instance, our vehicles. We want to make sure we get those approved so that we can get Ford or whoever it is to deliver those vehicles directly to us without it delaying our process. The last one is one that is more contentious; everybody wants to know what the footprint is. So, let me say this for the 28<sup>th</sup> time this week. Sometime in the summer, we will know more clearly what the footprint is. What I can tell you; here is the secret and those zooming in right now. The secret is going to be similar to 2012. So, we are already in conversations with people who will be impacted. We have a head start because of the work that we did back then so, I can assure you nobody will be surprised about the impact to their business or their operations because those conversations are already ongoing. Most importantly though, this is a joint effort. We have a lot of partners, mainly the Secret Service; this is an NSLC, so they are primarily focused on the dignitaries. We have supported dignitaries in everything outside of the perimeter so that partnership is good. A lot of those people actually had retired and were hired back. I was not afforded that luxury, but we do know that those relationships will help us through some tough times, and I can assure you the plan is going well, and we will be prepared to have a safe event.

**Councilmember Driggs** said I understand the \$50 million has actually been approved in Committee or authorized so there is not a lot of uncertainty about the availability of those funds, is that right?

Chief Putney said that is my understanding sir. Right now, it is just tightening up the waivers that we need for solar sourcing, but the funding is there, yes.

**Councilmember Winston** said has there been any decision on what detention centers will be used for folks that might be getting arrested, whether they be protesting or not? Is it going to be detention center north, or the central detention center?

Chief Putney said still underway. I think it is being adjusted as we speak but for the most part it might be north. I don't have it nailed down completely yet and there will be no protestors arrested, only people who violate law. So, if you are just protesting you should have no issues.

Mr. Winston said obviously depending on the perimeter what can our Mecklenburg County residents expect in terms of access to government facilities at that point in time,

people are going to have court dates, people are going to have appointments that they need to get to in the Government Center. Are there any considerations from other entities to postpone events during this time period depending on that perimeter or how will the citizens do their business?

Chief Putney said as far as the courts, our officers will be tied up so they won't be in court so, my understanding is that they probably won't have that obligation for that week, especially since our people can't attend but as far as normal services, all of those things are being worked out and we don't anticipate a shut-down of business because that was never the case in 2012 nor should it be in 2020. All of those things are being worked out so that the minimal impact to people for core services.

Mr. Winston said have the courts or any other entities talked about any type of circumstances where court dates would have been postponed or anything like that and if so, how will we communicate that with the citizens of Charlotte?

Chief Putney said the impact will really be to our officers who are coming as witnesses in those cases and we've already expressed the fact that we are out that week and I anticipate that the docket would be very light if any during that week.

Mr. Winston said how are we handling our homeless population uptown? I've had a lot of concerns being asked of me, especially around Romare Bearden Park, around Trade and Tryon Streets? There have been some folks from the homeless communities have said when there have been planning exercises around the RNC, folks have been removed from those areas. Can you speak to that at all, any strategies that we have to our homeless populations uptown as it relates to RNC?

Chief Putney said well, I can tell you there are none relative to the RNC, but I can tell you we are intentional about our work with partners to provide services to the homeless. There has been no movement of them and there is no relation to any strategy that is connected to the RNC reference the homeless. We know homelessness is not a violation of law, but we do have some opportunities to talk to you at greater detail, especially in community safety around aggressive panhandling but there is no movement of homeless in preparation for RNC. That is absolutely not the case, nor is there a strategy that would do so.

Mr. Winston said is there anything that we have in terms of certain events going in general around town that the RNC might fall under that same umbrella?

Chief Putney said relative to homeless?

Mr. Winston said yes.

Chief Putney said no sir, not that I'm aware of, no sir.

Mr. Winston said is staff or the planners of this event considering any ordinance changes or suggestions from staff that we on Council might need to consider as we move to closer to this event?

Chief Putney said not that I'm aware of, but I can assure you if there are that come up you will be the first to know, but right now, none that I'm aware of, no.

Mr. Winston said so nothing extraordinary event ordinance or free speech zones or anything like that?

Chief Putney said no sir; I'm still the person who was in agreement for getting rid of that ordinance as you recall. You were there too and that was one time that I think you and I were on the same page, so thank you, sir. There are no ordinance changes that I'm aware of right now relative to this event.

**Councilmember Ajmera** said my question was asked by Mr. Winston about extraordinary events ordinance but it looks like there will be enough security where you feel that we will be able to keep all of our residents and visitors safe as is with all our ordinances?

Chief Putney said yes ma'am that is absolutely the case.

**Councilmember Graham** said if I can make a quick comment in reference to Mr. Winston's question. There is a working group that Liz Chandler and the other individuals within the homeless community, non-profit sector are working to address some issues relating to the homeless and RNC, street homelessness, increased capacity for daytime and evening sheltering, proactive media strategy and hotel/motel price of inventory for those who are living in our hotels that they won't be kicked out because of the RNC coming. So, there is a small working group working towards trying to address some of those issues pertaining to the homeless population.

Chief; you didn't mention the Airport so, will there be any extraordinary type of attention, security relating to the Airport visitors coming and leaving?

Chief Putney said absolutely, not just from a law enforcement perspective, but also ambassadors so there will be people directing people where to go and you will see a significant presence of law enforcement there as well, yes. Brent would have it no other way.

Mr. Graham said not a security question, but that was my second part for the Aviation Director in terms of all the construction that is going on, are we working towards ensuring that the presentation that we are making for the world to see that there is an eve movement the visitors coming in. I know entrance doors are closed and those things so are we preparing in terms of our presentation based on the construction that is occurring?

**Brent Cagle, Aviation Director** said yes sir, we are already look at the construction schedule so the primary project that will be underway during the RNC will be the Terminal Lobby Expansion. That project will still be active, but we are working now with the Construction Manager to time out the construction phasing so that it is at a minimum, but there will be some impacts to the Lobby during the RNC. The construction that you see inside the building are post-security, right now, the C Concourse, for example, is being renovated. All of the concourse renovation work will be complete, and the concessions will be up to speed so all of the concessions will be open. The primary impacts that you will see are in the Terminal Lobby Expansion Project, and we are taking steps to ensure proper ingress and egress.

**Councilmember Bokhari** said we had a pretty amazing opportunity last week with the highly publicized trip for the President coming here for Opportunity Zones and HBCU's, well-attended event, well known ahead of time. I'm just curious to your take, I got to walk from uptown to CPCC's Campus so I got to see the magnitude of the partnership between CMPD and the other agencies and it was really impress, blocking off roads for particular periods of time, ensuring safety getting in and out so, one I'm curious on your take on lessons learned from that and was it handled in your mind as well as it looked like it was handled and then two, just noting the fact that it was publicized ahead of time, can't be a more divisive time nationally than we have right now. The protest seemed incredibly minimal and well contained with what did exist. So, comments on those two.

Chief Putney said first one yes; second one yes, I agree.

Ms. Ajmera said there are groups that have reached out to me. They are interested in organizing events or a peaceful protest etc. Who should they reach out to, to plan out events throughout the convention?

Ms. Charles said there is a permitting process that we've been working on and actually you can obtain a permit by going to [charlottenc.gov/rnc2020](http://charlottenc.gov/rnc2020). That is one of the projects

that our team has been working on and so we want to electronically allow people to submit to get a permit.

Ms. Ajmera said I think this is great; also, would there be opportunities for groups to collaborate with other groups that might already be doing the same thing? Would that information be on the website?

Ms. Charles said it will be on the website.

Ms. Ajmera said great, thank you.

Ms. Charles said I would like for the Executive Committee to stand. We have folks who have been meeting. If you guys would stand and be recognized. They have been meeting since August and will continue to meet. So again, if we could just give them a round of applause.

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#### **ITEM NO. 5: BALLANTYNE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

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#### **ITEM NO. 6: ANSWERS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL CONSENT ITEM QUESTIONS**

There were no consent agenda item questions.

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#### **ITEM NO. 7: CLOSED SESSION**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to go into closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143.318.11 (a) (3) to consult with the City Attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the City Council.
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The meeting was recessed at 6:13 p.m. to go into closed session in Room 267. The closed session recessed at 6:21 p.m. to move to the Meeting Chamber for the regularly scheduled Business Meeting.

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### **BUSINESS MEETING**

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina reconvened for a Business Meeting on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 6:31 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center with Mayor Vi Lyles presiding. Councilmembers present were Dimple Ajmera, Tariq Bokhari, Ed Driggs, Larken Egleston, Julie Eiselt, Malcolm Graham, Renee Johnson, Matt Newton, Victoria Watlington and Braxton Winston, II.

**ABSENT:** Councilmember James Mitchell.

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### **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Councilmember Driggs gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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## AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

### ITEM NO. 10: 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PROCLAMATION

Councilmember Eiselt read the following proclamation:

**WHEREAS**, February 2020, marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters of Charlotte Mecklenburg; and

**WHEREAS**, the year 2020 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution of the United States giving women the right to vote; and

**WHEREAS**, the League of Women Voters of Charlotte Mecklenburg, as well as the League of Women Voters of the United States, was founded in 1920 to help 20 million new women voters carry out their new responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the League of Women Voters has worked for 100 years empowering voters, protecting democracy by providing nonpartisan information on candidates and issues for elections, encouraging voter registration and informed voting, helping generations of citizens understand the structure and function of government, providing nonpartisan, balanced information on public policy issues to citizens, and working to achieve government policies that promote public interest; and

**WHEREAS**, the League of Women Voters of Charlotte Mecklenburg will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding and of women's right to vote on February 29, 2020 at a gala event:

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim February 29, 2020, as a special day to celebrate

#### **“THE 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS”**

in Charlotte and commend its observance to all citizens.

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## PUBLIC FORUM

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote

**Delores Johnson Hurt 8210 David Lee Lane** said I am President of the League of Women Voters of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Thank you, Mayor, for proclaiming February 29<sup>th</sup> a special day to celebrate 100-years of the League of Women Voters and the right of women to vote in the United States. Our gala starts at 6:00 p.m. that evening at the Le Méridien Hotel uptown. It is a fundraiser and you can support the work of the League by going online to [goleaguego.org](http://goleaguego.org) to purchase tickets. I would like to take a moment to talk about the League's history. I believe that today women's right to vote is taken for granted. Some may even believe that women could always vote however; that is far from true. The predecessors of the founders of the League, including women of color, fought for over 70-years for that right. They were berated and physically assaulted as they struggled to have a say in how they were governed. They held countless demonstrations, they marched in blizzard conditions in front of the White House. They went on hunger strikes, they lobbied male legislators, they were arrested. Finally, in 1920 all women could vote. For women of color, it was not until the 1964 Civil Rights Act that we were effectively enfranchised. Today, membership in the League is open to all residents of the United States, men as well. We have men on our local Board, we work to protect voting rights

for everyone, in particular, we advocate for fair elections and an end to gerrymandering and voter's oppression. Valentine's Day, February 14<sup>th</sup> is the actual birthday of the League, but we are celebrating on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Everyone in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County should celebrate with us on this auspicious occasion. Thank you very much. Members of the league, thank you as well.

### **Current Street Car Project**

**Morgan Williams, P.O. Box 12051** said I am here tonight on behalf of the Elizabeth Community Association; thank you for hearing us tonight. We are here to talk about the Street Car Project and the adverse impact that it has had upon our community and to ask for your assistance. You are going to hear tonight from Shawn Gaddy, Ann Lambert and Sarah Crowder as well and they are going to share a couple of core points for you. First and foremost, just to make sure that everybody is aware of the project, it stretches on Hawthorne Lane from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Sunnyside Avenue. It is roughly a 2,785 foot stretch of property which has been under construction for over 1,000 days. It has left our community divided, it has left us without a bridge, and it has left us, to be honest with you, dealing with dangerous conditions on an ongoing basis. We have oftentimes sought assistance from the City and we were able to engage with Mr. Jones or Mike Davis, we get quick responses, but unfortunately, the project management is not strong enough to ensure that their ongoing support is really sustainable. So, what we oftentimes deal with is issues that get bubbled up and are quickly addressed but then quickly revert back to exactly the same level of danger if not greater than before. Our community is deeply concerned by these, additionally, we are concerned that our quality of life has been impaired for over three-years now. So, for 1,000 days we've had to put up with ongoing sporadic nighttime work. We are not really as much concerned about organized efforts as we are ad hoc projects that show up in the middle of the night, disrupt our daily routines and our nightly routines, wake our children, disrupt our businesses and potentially hinder our sleep. We are deeply concerned that the City is not enforcing its noise ordinance and frankly, we have heard that they have waived the noise ordinance for the duration of the project.

### **Street Car Project and the Elizabeth Neighborhood**

**Shawn Gaddy, 1701 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street** said I live in the Elizabeth Neighborhood at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Hawthorne Lane in a historic landmark home, the Harry Golden Home. Prior to the onset of this project, I met with the Project Managers as well as the Historic Landmarks Commission related to the home construct and intended construction project and how it may impact my particular home. Additional structural work was done on the home to somewhat try to protect it. One of my big concerns, not only has been safety, but also the construction practices. Lots of shaking, especially on the second level of the house, stucco cracks, structural failures, plaster pops and tile cracks as well. This information has been passed on to the City Managers and they have been more than accommodating as far as coming out and speaking with me, answering phone calls. I understand the project is going to go further through the Plaza Midwood area. There are also historic homes there as well so, I would just ask for you guys to be open to hearing our side as far as damages that have occurred and possibly look at construction practices and how that may further impact additional historic properties in the Elizabeth Neighborhood.

### **CityLYNX Gold Line**

**Ann Lambert, 950 Hawthorne Bridge Court** said I am an Elizabeth resident, voter and taxpayer. I'm here tonight as a resident of Hawthorne Court and a member of the Hawthorne Court Homeowners Association. I want to add my comments about the City's management of the Street Car Project. As others have noted there is a very clear safety hazard posed by this project and the lack of supervision and oversight. I have seen open fencing, missing barriers, it is very concerning. Hawthorne Court has also dealt with other safety issues including improperly calibrated stop lights resulting in heavy delays getting to Central, cars channeled into our dead-end private street and debris left in the street, uneven roads, unsafe moving equipment and unsafe storing of materials in the public right-of-way. As most are aware the project experienced problems with the girder



installation, in addition, we experienced powerful unabated overnight lighting. Although I am informed the contract requires the contractor to use screens, we have yet to see any. The noise that was referenced has been at times so loud both day and night it has made it difficult to maintain a reasonable quality of life. Late last year there were days when construction was ongoing for 22-hours a day. Additionally, concerning is that the work is so sporadic, intense periods of work for week or 10-days followed by months of no activity. We have cracks in our stucco, we have drywall cracks and settling, our green areas and curbs have been damaged as a result of vehicles turning into our private drives. We have engaged the City but are concerned with the lack of concrete details regarding the future. We need a clear path forward. I want to ask that the City reimburse us for the use of a licensed professional engineer to inspect our property. I want to ask that the City assign a representative to help process the claims associated with any damage by the City or contractor and I want to join the others tonight that have expressed a need for improved coordination by the City with the community concerning this project. We need to have a sense of partnership and understanding how the City will leave our community and accountability for the commitments we understand, including the hours of the operating of the Street Car.

### **Current Street Car Project**

**Sarah Crowder, 2050 Greenway Avenue** said I am President of the Elizabeth Community Association, I'm a lifelong resident of Charlotte and I currently live on Greenway Avenue. There are many reasons my husband and I bought our home in Elizabeth nearly 38-years ago that I can assure you it was not so that we could live along a road that has been torn up and almost impassable for nearly three-years so that our children could run through an open barricade to a 30-foot drop off to a freeway so that heavy equipment could be parked almost in our front yard for 1,000 days so that our historic home would be damaged by construction vibrations or so that we could have a Street Car rumbling by our home after mid-night and worry about what those vibrations could do to our houses. These are just a few of the awful conditions that Morgan, Anne and Shawn and their neighbors and the businesses and churches along Hawthorne Lane have endured for years. They are suffering so we want you to step up enforce your contract with Johnson Brothers Construction Company and your City ordinances. Make this company remedy the unacceptable conditions on this poorly managed construction site. It needs to be cleaned up and made safe starting tonight. Establish a timeline for completing this project that will not subject the neighbors to intolerable conditions. Commit to an independent safety inspector to walk the site weekly and don't dismiss the concerns of the people who live with this project day and night. You would not want to live with this project in your front yard. Commit funds, as Anne asked for the neighbors to hire a structural engineer to assess the damage to their homes and then expedite those damage claims.

Mayor Lyles said earlier today Mr. Williams send me an e-mail about whether we would meet immediately after this meeting and what I've asked is if you would consider a meeting later this week. We will have staff resources there, the City Manager's Office will be represented, we will be in touch with you to arrange that. Thank you.

### **Allocation of Public Money**

**Scott Bryan, 2139 Norton Road** said first let me thank you so much for your public service. I'm here tonight to share some thoughts on the subject of allocation of public funds, particularly the tourism and occupancy tax dollars and ask about the City seek a broader balance in its distribution of these funds, provide greater public education and transparency as it relates to its allocation and speaking more broadly. I would like for you to consider how large public subsidies to organizations already operating under enormous tax-exempt advantages, player role, and inequality. First, the public always welcomes more transparency and stronger public education, whether that be on your government website or in the media regarding the usage of public dollars. But, moving on it appears that the City has a deal on the table with MLS and its partnership with Mr. Tepper for an allocation of tourism tax funds and upgrades and revitalization. It is certainly exciting to have a pro-sports team, particularly Soccer in the City and of course it is wonderful to

have revitalization in areas such as the Eastland Mall and some on the west side that is long overdue. However, there are a few concerns that I'm sure you recognize but it worth bringing before you tonight regarding the bigger picture of inequality and fairer distribution of resources. As the City continues to negotiate these complex real estate deals and operations deals with various entities, I encourage you to take into consideration the enormous tax breaks already afforded to these corporations and individuals on various levels. Take Mr. Tepper's near \$4 million stadium tax reduction recently. I know that is by the County but imagine if that was spread around in these other businesses didn't have to shoulder the burden of that lost tax revenue or take the loss of City revenue from renting the land to the Stadium for \$1.00 which has to be spread out to other businesses to make up that difference. Even on the state level, Mr. Tepper does not contribute any income tax to the North Carolina Treasury because he primarily resides in a tax-free state, which is Florida. So, when local governments commit valuable tax funds or offer these breaks it is less money.

### **Sky Chefs and American Airlines**

**Bobby Kirkpatrick, 504 Tribune Drive** said I work for LSG Skychef, which is catering company here in Charlotte. We cater airlines. We cater mainly American Airlines which is a monster of a company. We put food and beverages on airplanes and the sodas and food that you eat has names on them. Those are my co-workers and most of them live in the poverty and work in a poverty wage. I've been working at LSG Skychef for 38-years and I make \$16 an hour. That is terrible. What I'm asking is my City government to do is help those employees at LSG Skychef which primarily deal with American Airlines, we are not asking you for anything that you won't want for yourselves. We need a living wage. The poverty that my people are under because they are dedicated people, they go to work every day and they shouldn't be taken advantage of. So, I'm asking my Council to urge American Airlines and to urge LSG Skychef to help and seek a better living wage. Most of my co-workers can't afford healthcare. A lot of them have subsidy healthcare through the government and that is putting more burden on my City. Thank you very much.

### **Charlotte Global School Strike for Climate**

**David Rosen, 3134 Hiram Street** said I'm here today on my 25<sup>th</sup> birthday to talk about our climate and what is being passed between yall is a copy of Asheville's Climate Emergency Resolution that was passed two week ago by the City of Asheville as well as a letter that we sent to the Mayor every Friday since December 6<sup>th</sup>, asking for a meeting. This was as a representative of Theatre Charlotte. We are incredibly grateful to be meeting with the Mayor and her staff tomorrow and wanted to use this as an opportunity to tell the rest of the Council about why we are here and what we are looking for. We know that by the time that I'm 55, which will be in 2050 that we are aiming to be a low carbon City. We also know that by then I will be older than a lot of the people that I'm looking at in front of me. What we want to make sure is that there is transparency and accountability to our wonderful Strategic Energy Action Plan and be a sustainable and resilient Charlotte by 2050 resolution. We know that our leaders have their hearts in the right place and are trying their best to make sure that we have a livable future, a future where we don't have to deal with the tornados that kept me from getting to my home on Clanton Road for up to two hours earlier in the month. We have a platform, a list of tasks that we would love to work together with you to try to figure out ways to make sure this stays accountable, including adding youth to the SEAP working group, making sure that we have environmental impacts statements coming out of the Committee that now has purview over the environment and making sure that we have our budget accountable to the goals of the SEAP so that by 2030 we've reached the City's goal. Thank you so much.

### **Charlotte Global School Strike for Climate**

**Kate Harrison, 10154 Foxhall Drive** said I am a representative of Charlotte Youth Environmental Leaders. This fall an estimated 2,000 youth and Charlotte residents have participated in the Global fight for future or School Strike for Climate move in Charlotte, NC demanding climate action. We all would like to thank the City Council for unanimously

passing the Strategic Energy Action Plan last year, but in order to properly act in a crisis, we must first recognize that we are in one. We need to change our approach tackling the climate and ecological crisis. As David mentioned, before you today is a resolution endorsing the declaration of a climate emergency, an emergency mobilization effort to restore safe climate from the Asheville City Council. The first city in North Carolina to pass such a resolution and we can't afford for it to be the last. Recognizing our ongoing climate emergency, the first step in fixing it, this recognition and realization is essential in implementing the bold action and plans that come along with it, including the implementation of SEAP. We've seen the growing voices for change coming throughout the City of Charlotte and the rest of the world. We understand the urgency of this crisis and the little time remaining in fixing it. The youth here representing earth uprising [inaudible], Sunrise Movement Charlotte, [inaudible], and NC Climate Strike have read this open letter signed by residents of Charlotte to illustrate the needs for recognition of the emergency we face and actions that come with addressing it. Thank you for your time.

### **Charlotte Global School Strike for Climate**

**Pratyussh Pol, 355 West Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard** said I am with David and Kate as a representative of Fair Charlotte Youth Environmental Group. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on something that I'm particularly concerned about. What is environmentalism? To me, it is not saving the earth, or protecting trees, or improving by diversity, or anything generally about animals. It is more so about the human experience. Environmentalism is about what are the disparities, health issues, economic burdens, social disruptions and more. Environmentalism is about ensuring that extreme weather patterns like the tornado we saw last week do not grow exponentially and out of control. Environmentalism is about ensuring clean access to water and a dependable access to electricity and medical services that won't be hindered by torrential rains, pollution, reduced groundwater levels and other such climate and environmental disasters that will be there when I'm 30 or 40-years old. Environmentalism is about ensuring that the future generations in Charlotte don't have to go out wearing pollution masks like the apoplectic pictures we see coming out of Shanghai, Beijing and Deli. Environmentalism is about ensuring that the working class Charlottean is not disadvantaged because of the burdens that will come with climate change. I and I believe I speak for all youth climate groups, adult climate group and concerned citizens urge all of you and those beyond the walls of this group to respond to climate change for the same attention that is provided through affordable housing, health problems and other issues that affect us. The current vacuum and national environmental leadership is only making it worse and there is an unfortunate precedent being set that the environment does not matter, and that rapid uncontrolled development is the way to go. That false rhetoric is not only damaging to the current generation but is setting the pace for gross disrespect to science data and research evidence. The need for Charlotte to become environmentally conscious could not be greater at this point of time and we need to turn the tide before it crushes us. As Councilmember Driggs mentioned at the beginning of this meeting we need to strive for a better and a more sustainable future. To end I will leave you with a small analogy, environmental concerns to society is like a crossfire, sure you can drive on flats but for how long. Thank you.

Mayor Lyles said so to this group I would like to say I'm looking forward to our meeting tomorrow with you at 1:00. I would like to invite anyone at the dais to please join me with the group and the staff. We will be talking about our SEAP program which we have sought as a priority when we approved the housing framework, we approved an Environmental Action Plan and that Action Plan is underway and we've also addressed the issue of mobility and how we are going to make the world, at least this City, and hopefully more cities in our region more environmentally friendly with mobility options and choices. So, I look forward to meeting with you tomorrow at 1:00 and please feel free to join us at the meeting.

**Councilmember Ajmera** said could we get an update on the SEAP working groups and how youth is engaged in that group?

Mayor Lyles said I was going to say one more thing, we are going to have on March 4<sup>th</sup> at our Budget Workshop an update of the SEAP Plan that is on the agenda and we can address the question about youth engagement at that time. Thank you very much.

### **Airport Union Regulations**

**Damiana Dendy 1900 Crossbeam Drive** said I am a Research Analyst with Unite Here, the Airline Catering and Airport Concession Worker's Union. The report that I am giving to you right now shows that American Airlines receives public subsidies in the form of capital improvements, non-airline terminal revenue and tax exemptions. Since 2015 the Charlotte City Council has approved over \$103 million dollars in spending on Airport projects that have benefited American Airlines more than any other airline at CLT. Between 2016 and 2018 the City gave American Airlines \$63.5 million of non-terminal airport revenue. Tax breaks on jet fuel that were implemented back when airlines were struggling benefit American Airline an estimated cost of \$27 million per year. On top of these public subsidies, American's cost per emplaned passenger is only \$1.26 at CLT, lower than any of its other hubs and CLT's passenger facility charge is only \$3.00, lower than every single large hub airport in the entire country. While American makes billions here in Charlotte, Charlotte residents pay a price. Charlotte flyers must pay 16% more for domestic airfare than the national average which is also higher than any other American hub. Subcontracted airline catering workers serving American Airlines will be paid as low as \$11 per hour as of February 28<sup>th</sup> of this year and must pay premiums over \$500 per month for employer-provided family health insurance. At the end of my report, I've included questions that I encourage the Council to ask the City, the Airport and American Airlines. Thank you.

### **Asthma and Pollution**

**Leo Amon, 13524 Carleen Way Drive** said I am here tonight because there is a climate crisis; it is not change. People are calling it denial, it is not denial; you are not going to deny what is the truth. It is climate crisis that we are talking here. And first of all, the broad apocalypse. It was like last spring and I would like everyone, everyone who has asthma or some type of breathing problems, me included, were having serious issues because pollen is more of a main allergen that all humans suffer from, which is not a good thing. If I want to say something, I'm going to say this stuff so, you know what I'm going to say, I'm going to say this, that after Tuesday something breakfast something, something that George Dunlap was at last week, what happened, he said climate change is not our best priority. Wrong. That is so wrong, this should be your most priority and I understand how people are testifying about like construction, yeah, that is true, but I think climate change should be our main crisis thing going on right now. Because this is what depends on how we live. Do you want to live the full human life span? I think you do. Do you want every kid in this world to die at ages 10 or 11? I don't think so, but how the actions of people that they've been doing are saying that you guys don't care.

Mayor Lyles said I want to say thank you, Mr. Amon, for your passion and your delivery and we do see this as a crisis. We talk about it as a crisis so I'm glad that this community is living and speaking up. I think the biggest change that we can make is having engagement by people in this community to say to this and do it the way that makes a difference.

### **Asthma and Children**

**Tina Katsanos, 13524 Carleen Way Drive** said Leo Amon is my son and what he failed to tell you is that he forgot that increased pollen counts are because of decreased CO2 due to fossil fuel burning. IPCC report nine years climate emergency, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, nine months pregnant admitted into the for-profit industrial medical complex. My sheer screams of labor pains puncture the silent nurse's corridor, nasty, nasty, nurses placing bets that I take the poison epidural. I am relentless for natural birth. Nasty, nasty nurses taunt me by blowing in the poison epidural cart enraging me into further resolve. My screams become petitions to the doctor, let me stand up, let me stand up, let me give birth the way my grandmothers have from millennia.

Liability risk, no lay down, liability risk, no lay down. My petitions turned to screams for autonomy over my body. The doctor relents, I stand up, I squat, my ancestors dream of me, my beautiful son crowns, leaving the nature of my womb only be thrust into a cold building on a dying planet. Xanthogenic climate change sustained by politicians and corporations, short term profits trump my son's future. The future of all my children, my son belongs to the world and all children belong to me. The screams of my fight continue into the annals of Government Centers and in front of dark age Duke Headquarters. I watch in horror as my elected followers allowed greedy developers to rape and pillage the tree canopy of my home. I watch in horror as the "Repugnacans" colonize the commons, the air, the land, the water. Shut up the economy they say, shut up; the economy they say, I watch in horror the wolves dons the sheepskins of Democrats. Plastic people faking the funk skunk. My horror is my resolve, [inaudible] holding actions, monkey ranch [inaudible]. And a turning of the collective conscious. Thank you.

\* \* \* \* \*

### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with the exception of Item No. 44 which was pulled for discussion and Item No. 46 which was pulled for a separate vote.

The following items were approved:

**Item No. 34: Resolution of Intent to Abandon an Alleyway between Westwood Avenue and West Summit Avenue**

(A) Adopt a Resolution of Intent to abandon an alleyway between Westwood Avenue and West Summit Avenue, and (B) Set a Public Hearing for March 23, 2020.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page 407.

**Item No. 35: Resolution of Intent to Abandon an Unopened Portion of Bryant Street**

(A) Adopt a Resolution of Intent to abandon an unopened portion of Bryant Street, and (B) Set a Public Hearing for March 23, 2020.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page 408.

**Item No. 36: Billy Graham Parkway Street Lighting Installation**

Authorize the City Manager to approve a payment to Duke Energy in the estimated amount of \$1,800,000 for the installation of street lights along Billy Graham Parkway.

**Item No., 37: Architectural Services for City Facilities**

(A) Approve unit price contracts for architectural services for an initial term of three years with the following: A.L.R Architecture, PC (SBE), C Design, Inc., Integra Architecture, PLLC d/b/a F&D Integra (MBE), Odell Associates, Inc., and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew each contract for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

**Item No. 38: Cooperative Purchasing Contract for Generators**

(A) Approve the purchase of generators from a cooperative contract, (B) Approve a unit price contract with Southern Vac for the purchase of Caterpillar generators for a term of two years under the Sourcewell contract #120617-CAT effective 1/29/2018-1/29/2022, (C) Approve a unit price contract with Cummins Inc. for the purchase of generators for a term of two years under the Sourcewell contract #120617-CMM effective 1/29/2018-1/29/2022, and (D) Authorize the City Manager to extent the contracts for additional terms as long as the cooperative contract is in effect, at prices and terms that are the same or more favorable than those offered under the cooperative contracts with possible expenditure adjustments.

**Item No. 39: Professional Engineering Services for Minor Storm Drainage Improvement Projects**

(A) Approve unit price contracts for professional engineering services for an initial term of three years to the following: Armstrong Glen, PC (SBE), Dewberry Engineers, Inc., ESP Associates, Inc., Hazen & Sawyer, HDR Engineering, Inc of the Carolinas, Kimble-Horn and Associates, Inc., LaBella Associates, P.C., NV5 Engineers and Consultants, Inc., STV Engineers, Inc., and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contracts for up to two, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contracts consistent with the purpose for which the contracts were approved.

**Item No. 40: Little Sugar Creek Tributary to Central Business District Sanitary Sewer Construction**

Approve a guaranteed maximum price of \$34,945,497.69 to Sander Utility Construction Company, Inc. for Design-Build construction services for the Little Sugar Creek Tributary to Central Business District Sanitary Sewer project.

**Item No. 41: Toby Creek Sanitary Sewer and Reuse Line Construction at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte**

Approve a guaranteed maximum price of \$10,471,640.90 to R. H. Price, Inc. for Design-Build construction services for the Toby Creek Sanitary Sewer and Reuse Line projects for UNCC.

**Item No. 42: Ultrasonic Water Meters**

(A) Approve a unit price contract to the lowest responsive bidder Badger Meter, Inc. for the purchase of ultrasonic water meters for an initial term of two years, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to three, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the purpose for which the contract was approved.

**Summary of Bids**

Badger Meter, Inc.	\$2,453.00
Consolidated Pipe and Supply Company	\$3,546.27

**Item No. 43: Federal Transit Administration Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Subrecipient Contracts**

(A) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute contracts with the following organizations as subrecipients for Federal Transit Administration System 5310 grant projects for FY18 Allocation: Metrolina Association for the Blind (operating) in an amount not to exceed \$76,000, Mainstream Consultants, Inc. dba Disability rights (capita) in an amount not to exceed \$98,638, Iredell County Area Transit System (capital) in an amount not to exceed \$308,520, Iredell County Area Transit System (operating) in an amount not to exceed \$110,000, Union County Transportation (operating) in an amount not to exceed \$126,192, Centralina Council of Governments (capital) in an amount not to exceed \$83,432, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute contracts with the following organizations as subrecipients for Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 grant projects for FY17 Allocation: Centralina Council of Governments (capital) in an amount not to exceed \$159,333, Metrolina Association for the Blind (capital) in an amount not to exceed \$96,000, Metrolina Association for the Blind (operating) in an amount not to exceed \$120,260, Union County Transportation (operating) in an amount not to exceed \$100,000, Mainstream Consultants, Inc. dba Disability Rights (capital) in an amount not to exceed \$136,683, and Iredell County Area Transit System (capital) in an amount not to exceed \$159,060.

**PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS**

**Item No. 45: In Rem Remedy 637 Morningside Road**

Adopt Ordinance No. 9741-X, authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 637 Morningside Road (Neighborhood Profile Area 330).

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 730.

**Item No. 47: Property Transactions – Gibbon Road Sidewalk, Parcel #12**

Acquisition of 903 square feet (0.021 acre) in Sidewalk Utility Easement, 1,210 square feet (0.028 acre) Temporary Construction Easement at 3500 Oxford Hill Court from Eva E. Withers, for \$15,275 for Gibbon Road Sidewalk, Parcel #12.

**Item No. 48: Property Transactions – Gibbon Road Sidewalk, Parcel #23**

Resolution of Condemnation of 696 square feet (0.016 acre) of Temporary Construction Easement at 5518 Nevin Road from Rupert Alan Balentine, Nancy Rebecca Balentine and Robert Harris Balentine for \$375 for Gibbon Road Sidewalk, Parcel #23.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 409.

**Item No. 49: Property Transactions – Gibbon Road Sidewalk, Parcel #24**

Resolution of Condemnation of 20 square feet (0.0005 acre) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 360 square feet (0.008 acre) Temporary construction Easement at 3540 Gibbon Road from Earl G. Brown, Jr. for \$175 for Gibbon Road Sidewalk, Parcel #24.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 410.

**Item No. 50: Property Transactions – Tom Hunter Streetscape, Parcel #19**

Acquisition of 1,648 square feet (0.038 acre) Storm Drainage Easement, 2,403 square feet (0.055 acre) Sidewalk Utility Easement, 2,723 square feet (0.063 acre) Temporary Construction Easement, 863 square feet (0.02 acre) Sidewalk Utility/Storm Drain Easement at 6701 North Tryon Street from Devita Investments, LLC for \$17,500 for Tom Hunter Streetscape, Parcel #19.

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**Item No. 44: In Rem Remedy 5624 Lawnmeadow Drive**

**Mark Poulton, 5000 Calder Court, Indian Land, SC** said I on 5624 Lawnmeadow Drive. It's been vacant for at last seven years and maybe 10. It is coming here to ask you for a demolition order. We've owned it for about 45 days now. We've pulled trade permits on it, some of them have even been finished. We are constantly improving it. The City has come out and looked at it. I've given them open access to go into any time to take a look at it and I'm just asking that you vote no to issue this demolition order. It has been seven to 10-years, let's go the 90-days, just give me some time to get this finished. It is going to make a nice home for somebody, and I just think if you guys vote yes on this demolition order it really complicates my life a little bit more than I think it needs to be. It has been 10-years, what is another 90-days?

**Jane Taillon, Housing and Neighborhood Services** said I am your Code Enforcement Division Manager. Mr. Poulton and I actually had a conversation last Thursday. He is correct, he was gracious enough to allow me access to the property so we could look and see the work that had been completed. There is still some significant work that needs to be done and really what we are asking is to go ahead and have the ordinance passed this evening and enter into a consent agreement with Mr. Poulton. He indicated to me on the phone last week that he would like 60-days; I think it would be more prudent to enter into that consent agreement for 90-days to make sure we have enough time to make sure that all the repairs are completed.

**Mayor Lyles** said Mr. Poulton; did you hear our response to 90-days consent order that you would sign for the repair?

Mr. Poulton said I will do what I have to do to make this work. I prefer not to have that part of the process involved. I'm sure the Code Enforcement comes to you several times a year. It can always be brought up the next time. If you guys feel that order needs to go through, I think it is unnecessary. Obviously, I'm going to work with the City Code Enforcement to try to resolve this.

Mayor Lyles said I take that as a maybe. I didn't hear a yes or no in it. I want to be clear. They are asking that you do a consent order for 90-days.

Mr. Poulton said yes.

Mayor Lyles said what does that require for us to have a consent order? Approve the demolition and for 90-days or does it say for 90-days?

Ms. Taillon said we would ask you to pass the ordinance this evening. We will enter into a written agreement with Mr. Poulton with certain milestones, with ultimately a 90-day compliance date, and then once that is done the ordinance would never be executed.

**Councilmember Bokhari** said Mr. Poulton, are you going to be able to complete the work in 90-days?

Mr. Poulton said it is a reasonable amount of time that we should be able to get it done. Right now, the trade work is kind of being slowed down because we don't have the electricity hooked up so, we are waiting on some final inspections to happen before Duke Energy can come out. I think 90-days is a doable amount of time.

Mr. Bokhari said you have only owned it for 45-days; is that correct?

Mr. Poulton said we have officially owned it for about 45 days?

Mr. Bokhari said did you walk into this situation understanding the dire nature of the kind of repairs necessarily or are you just learning about them?

Mr. Poulton said I knew about the code enforcement actions. I don't think they are dire at all. I have pictures that it is not a dilapidated house at all. It is in very good shape, all the windows are there, it is a good-looking house even, you know it's not a health hazard to the community.

Mr. Bokhari said I've worked with our staff on a number of these now and I know that they have been pretty fair in the things they've sited so I would say if you think you can achieve in 90-days, I think this is reasonable. I know they will work with you and we will make sure as we check in that you get every fair chance on those 90-days as possible.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bokhari, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and to adopt Ordinance No. 9740-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 5624 Lawnmeadow Drive (Neighborhood Profile Area 260).

The vote was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton and Watlington.

NAYS: Councilmember Winston.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 729.

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**ITEM NO. 46: In Rem Remedy 4704 West Sugar Creek Road**

Motion was made by Councilmember Bokhari, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, to adopt Ordinance No. 9742-X authorizing the use of In Rem Remedy to demolish and remove the structure at 4704 West Sugar Creek Road (Neighborhood Profile Area 282).



The vote was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton, and Watlington.

NAYS: Councilmember Winston.

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## **BUSINESS**

### **ITEM NO. 16: PRIVATE LAND DONATION**

**Mayor Lyles** said I wanted to introduce this, and I see the family members here. Earlier, it's probably been several months ago, Mr. Baker will recall; I had a visit from Ann Bass, one of the children of John Jerry, who all of us that remember him called him Jerry Blackmon, and she came in; I didn't know, with her brother, and she didn't really say anything about this, and she said, you know my dad just passed away and of course we are very sorry and condolences for that, and she said he cared deeply about this community. I knew that anyway, and we all knew how much he cared because of his service to this community, and she said that he has been watching; cause he had been well for a while, and he had been watching the work of this Council, and he had been watching our work around the issues of affordable housing, and he said he wanted to do something. I don't think anyone of the siblings had any idea of what would be done, but tonight we are here, and I would like to read something about Jerry Blackmon because he did something that is fairly remarkable in this community. And I want you to know, Malcolm Graham and I were talking about this earlier today and Malcolm said something that I'm going to let him say again about Jerry Blackmon before I begin to read this.

**Councilmember Graham** said thank you Madam Mayor and to the family members; I never served with Jerry as a member of the North Carolina State Senate but certainly, as an inspiring public official of this community I certainly knew who he was. We shared a lot of things in common, one of those things that we did was our political affiliation, but it really didn't matter. Jerry was a statesman and he always wanted to do what was right for this community and I learned from him, I watched him and certainly, I followed in his footsteps so I'm here to say that I am sorry for your loss, that he made an impact on this community. He made an impact on this former State Senator and Councilmember and what our community needs more of, what our state needs more of, what our country needs more of is statesmen like Jerry Blackmon. Madam Mayor; he was quite a unique individual in this community.

Mayor Lyles said so, I'd would like to enter the following statement into our records tonight. Jerry Blackmon of Charlotte passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 9, 2019. He was born December 23, 1928 in Asheville and was raised in South Carolina. After graduation from high school he joined the US Navy and became a springboard to the University of South Carolina where in his words, the best thing in my life happened, I met Irene. Irene and Jerry were married for 66-years. In 1954 he earned a Mechanical Engineering Degree from the University and worked in that field for seven decades, becoming a successful businessman in Charlotte and starting his own company 50-years ago, J. G. Blackmon Associates, Blackmon Services and Carolina Products. While Irene and Jerry were raising their four children John, Rick, Ann and Dill he contributed to the community through the politics serving as a North Carolina State Senator and serving on the North Carolina Ethics Commission and on the Board of Mecklenburg County Commissioners. As Mr. Graham said, he enjoyed working with both sides of the aisle to get things done and was glad to be a part of vision and planning for Interstate 485 and Charlotte's light rail system. He had a knack for looking into the future and acting on it in the present. If there was anything that disappointed him it was the ranker in present-day politics and the inability of both sides to work for the common good of their constituents. St. John's Episcopal became the Blackmon's church home and he served the Vestry there. In thankfulness for his life, Jerry was generous and he believed that the ability to

give does not elevate one person above another. He asked that these words from Emily Dickerson's poem be used in his obituary. "I'm nobody, who are you? Are you nobody too? Then there is a pair of us, don't tell". Jerry and Irene were remembered for their wisdom, kindness, generosity and they had a great gift of family and friends. We have here his children, John, please. John is not here. Susan and her husband Dale, their son William and the Attorney who did all the legal. The gift of land that the City of Charlotte is entirely consistent with the generosity that Jerry exhibited through his life which he instilled in his family. His memory will live through this donation; on behalf of the citizens of Charlotte we accept this donation as a part of this gift of giving back.

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Graham, and carried unanimously to adopt a resolution accepting the donation of two parcels of real property on East Arrowood Road and South Boulevard from the John G. Blackmon Revocable Trust.

Mayor Lyles said that makes me so grateful to serve this community, to follow in the legacy of someone like Jerry Blackmon so, thank you very much.

Susan said both of my parents would be thrilled that this was happening.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 406.

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## POLICY

### ITEM NO. 11: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

**Marcus Jones, City Manager** said I have the 30-day memo for you and as the Mayor alluded to earlier, it provides the agenda for not only the next Business Meeting but the next Strategy Session as well as the next Budget Workshop and what you will see is the 2020 Legislative Agenda for the 24<sup>th</sup> as well as the Circular Charlotte update, Stormwater Pollution Control Ordinance and a closed session as necessary. One of the keys with this next 30-day memo is that you have one Business Meeting in the month of March so, we are trying to get a number of items done in February. So, not only the Business Meeting but also the Strategy Session which we will discuss the violence reduction framework and an affordable housing update. There will be some nine percent and four percent credits that will come to your attention this week so, we would like to make sure that we stay on top of that with you. Then, for the next Budget Workshop, we will have compensation and benefits discussion, public safety compensation discussion and a Strategic Energy Action Plan update, as well as two of the enterprise funds, the water and stormwater budget overview. We really appreciate the way that Council handled the first Budget Workshop. There were a lot of items there and it will be somewhat of a repeat on March 4<sup>th</sup>. That is what I have in terms of the 30-day memo Mayor, and I would like to have one recognition for one of wonderful employees if you would allow me to do that.

**Mayor Lyles** said yes, please.

Jones said I am going to welcome Ron Hargrove down; he is the Deputy Director of Charlotte Water and he serves as the Director of American Water Works Association and he has a presentation.

**Ron Hargrove, Deputy Director of Charlotte Water** said I am also a member of the Board of our North Carolina American Waterworks' Association and Water Environment Association. It is the water and wastewater professional organization here in the state. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize one of our very own members here of the City. Our association is very lucky to have the talent and support of many extraordinary volunteers and water professionals. We enjoy recognizing the most exceptional volunteers and the best and brightest of North Carolina's Water Industry. On behalf of the Collection, Distribution Schools' Committee and the Board of Trustees we

recognize Ms. Angela Charles, Assistant City Manager as the recipient of the Everlasting Thanks Award, issued by that Committee. This award recognizes a long-term committee member that has given significant contributions to the activities of the Committee which mainly focuses on quality education and training in the areas of meter operations, water distribution, wastewater collections and cross-connection control. Before stepping away from the Committee is 2019 Ms. Charles served on the Collection Distribution Schools Committee for more than 20-years. During her tenure, she served in an official capacity as an instructor for multiple classes, coordinated for distribution classes and held multiple positions on the Board of Trustees. I think Angela said she taught her first course in 1993. Unofficially and probably more important, Ms. Charles has served as a champion for the Distribution Collection Schools Committee by recruiting new members and always fighting to keep the needs of our operations personnel at the forefront and maintaining values of the Committee in the work that she has done through various local and national roles. She has served as a mentor and role model for fellow Committee members, Association staff and numerous industry professionals. Also, as we celebrate African American History Month the Board of Trustees would like to recognize that Ms. Charles was the first African American female in North Carolina to serve as its Chair in 2017. She was also the first African American female in North Carolina to be awarded the Prestigious George Warren Fuller Award that is given for sound engineering, diplomatic talent and constructive leadership and the Arthur Sidney Bedell Award and the Raymond Red Everett Award for outstanding in the water/wastewater field. In closing the Board of Trustees expresses its sincere appreciation to Ms. Charles for her continued support of the North Carolina American Waterworks' Association, Water Environment Association and the water industry.

Mr. Hargrove presented Ms. Charles with a plaque.

Mayor Lyles said Ms. Charles; you are the only Assistant City Manager with a crew. All of us want to say thank you for the work that you've done. You have really created what we would call a great value proposition for the entire organization, not just in Water, but as a leader in this organization and we look forward to many more years of that support, diplomacy and smart work. So, thank you, everyone.

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## **BUSINESS**

### **ITEM NO. 12: CITY BRIDGE INSPECTION CONTRACTS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to (A) Approve a contract for \$124,791.26 with WSP USA, Inc., for the inspection of bridges not qualifying for federal funds, (B) Approve a contract for \$642,834.33 with WSP USA, Inc. for the inspection of bridges that qualify for federal funds administered by the North Carolina Department of Transportation, (C) Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Municipal Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation to share the cost of inspecting 179 city-maintained bridges and culverts in the amount of \$514,267.46 and (C) Adopt Budget Ordinance No. 9739-X appropriating \$514,267.46 from the North Carolina Department of Transportation for bridge inspections.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 402-402.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 62, at Page(s) 728.

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### **ITEM NO. 13: NORTH TRYON STREET ROUTE CHANGE REQUEST**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Winston, to adopt a resolution endorsing rerouting a portion of North Tryon Street (US 29/NC49 to a portion of North Church Street between Keswick Avenue and Matheson Avenue in Mecklenburg County and support the North Carolina Department of Transportation's amendment to the official United States and North Carolina highway system maps accordingly.

**Councilmember Egleston** said this is a great change that is going on in the North End and one of the things that I want to note that is positive about it, it increases our pedestrian and cyclist network and safety with bike lanes, better sidewalks, planting strips and things of that nature along North Tryon Street and North Church Street. We've got a lot of places that really need this and that was very obvious last week. We lost another life on a part of The Plaza near Matheson Avenue, not too far actually from this corridor where we've got these improvements. It is not the first time we've lost somebody on that section of the Plaza, it is certainly not the first time we've lost somebody cycling or jogging or walking in our community, it happens far too often. We've got roads like Independence Boulevard and Brookshire Freeway and our interstates that are limited access and there are certainly not people walking on the sidewalks there or trying to ride a bike there; they are designed to move cars as quickly and efficiently as possible, but we've got routes like North Tryon Street and The Plaza and Central Avenue and Albemarle Road and others that people need to be able to walk and bike and utilize safely to get from their place of residence to their place of work to wherever they want to recreate or school or wherever. This Council, this last term and I think the current term Council will carry it forward and has done more probably for bicycle infrastructure and pedestrian infrastructure than we've seen in recent history, but we can't do it fast enough. I know there is a cry from the community and has been for some time but specifically, we heard it again in the wake of the loss of life last week. So, I hope that we will continue the good progress that the last Council made on this Council and we can work with staff to try to find a way to expedite a lot of this work because every day that we don't have these sort of infrastructure improvements that we are approving here for North Tryon Street and North Church Street on lots of corridors like this in our City where cars are doing 50-miles an hour, not the posted speed limit of 35, but yet people are trying to walk and bike alongside that, we will continue to lose citizens in this community and every single one of those is tragic and unacceptable.

**Councilmember Winston** said I do have a question, but I did want to comment on what Mr. Egleston said. I actually own a house right there on Anderson Street and The Plaza and one of the early Consent Agenda items last term we identified dangerous corridors that we were going to invest in and I remember I went to Danny Pleasant's Office and said that this portion of road needs to be on there and because we do things by data and data-informed stuff, since the data wasn't there we did not consider that stretch of road, and two people have been killed on that since I brought that stretch of road up. So, I know we like to do things data-informed and we like to be methodical about things we have to take common sense, qualitative feedback on things and figure out how to get things done when the community is speaking to us from real-life experience. I have a question about this item; is this a permanent change because I know they've already changed the right-of-way on this street? I thought it was temporary so, are we saying that traffic is going to move along Church Street and Tryon Street in that configuration from here on in?

**Liz Babson, Department of Transportation Director** said Mr. Winston; as I understood your question; yes, this is changing the route designation as it will ultimately be what we call a one-way pair and so, in its final configuration we need to designate US-29 and NC-49 on that new constructed facility.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said to that point, I know you prioritize the high injury network, but do we literally assign away to our capital spending decisions because of it being a high injury network or do we bump them up when the scores get worse?

Ms. Babson said I'll generally answer that question by saying yes, but specific to this project, this project is not related to some of the issues that Councilmember Egleston just mentioned on The Plaza.

Ms. Eiselt said I meant the stretch that Mr. Winston was talking about.

Ms. Babson said I believe that was the same stretch on The Plaza, which is different than the project we are talking about where we are reassigning the route designation.

Ms. Eiselt said okay, I just wondered in general if we are really adjusting our capital spending because of an increase and something that gets bumped up higher in the higher injury network.

Ms. Babson said yes ma'me we are, and we can continue to provide you that information through our Vision Zero updates. You hear us talk a lot about that. I think we have done a couple of those with you in the last year to highlight some of those projects and in the way that we consider how we invest our capital spending. I was with you earlier last week during the budget presentation, for example, and the streetlighting efforts that we are now undertaking are very much influenced by that data.

**Mayor Lyles** said I have another question Liz, and this may be one in the world of your expertise and your requirement to leadership, if there is truly something that is genuinely assessed and made a decision, as Traffic Engineer for the City do you have the right to make immediate improvements no matter what or does it require the Council's approval?

Ms. Babson said I think it would depend on the level of investment and current Council policy and if there was something within that current Council adopted policy that we were able to proceed with then we could certainly do that and wouldn't wait for Council direction, but if there was something outside of that then, we would need your direction and your approval.

**Councilmember Driggs** said just a brief comment; Mayor, you may remember in 2014 I was riding a bike on Carmel Road and a driver didn't see me because the site lines weren't very good, drove right in front of me and I hit the car at about 22 miles an hour, went over the roof and hit deck and somewhat dislocated a shoulder. I was lucky to get away with less than that, but these are the dimensions of the thing; the road I was on was actually quite wide and so the traffic on the road I was on wasn't the issue but the way the corner was arranged you couldn't see. I think we need to improve riding site lines and those considerations in our efforts to improve pedestrian and bike safety.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 403.

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#### **ITEM NO. 14: EXCHANGE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG THE LYNX LIGHT RAIL CORRIDOR**

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, to (A) Adopt a resolution authorizing an exchange of right-of-way between the City of Charlotte and 2151 Hawkins, LLC or its successors involving Parcel Identification Number 121-031-12, and (B) Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to complete the exchange of right-of-way between the City of Charlotte and the Property Owner.

**Councilmember Winston** said I'm going to vote to approve this, but I did have some questions; I understand we are getting pieces of land, exchanging it, but this is something that we have made discussions and I've brought up a couple different times last term. I think we need to have a policy that deals with how we negotiate when our land is in deals. There is going to be office space built here, I know of no plans to include affordable workspaces in there nor is there any affordable housing in this deal. I think everything that we put our assets in should get to our goals around affordability and lessening that

equity gap. I know this swap will help this deal go through, but I don't know how this gets us closer to the priorities that we've stated overall with our use of land.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book 50, at Page(s) 404-405.

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**ITEM NO. 15: KNIGHT FOUNDATION AWARD FOR FIVE POINTS PLAZA PROGRAMMING**

Motion was made by Councilmember Graham, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, to accept the awarded funds from the Knight Foundation in the amount of \$394,200 to support the programming of the soon to be constructed, Five Points Plaza for the three years following its completion.

**Councilmember Graham** said this is a tremendous opportunity for us to receive over \$394,200 to support the Five Point Plaza Park which is right across the street from Johnson C. Smith University. It is directly going to impact the Westley Heights, Biddleville, Seversville communities and it does a couple of things in terms of objectives helping to establish events and programming for the community, ensuring that the Five Points Plaza is an active space reflective of the identity, culture and heritage of the Historic West End and it also creates a volunteer-based programming model that is self-sustaining. I would like to thank the Knight Foundation for this generous grant to the City. The Park and the Plaza will be done by the end of the year, in addition, there are a number of other projects that are coming to fruition on the West Trade Street/Beatties Ford Road Corridor; the I-77/West Trade Street Underpass project is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. The Streetcar project, we are keeping our fingers crossed that I'll say January of next year, but certainly, on the paper, it is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, more likely January 2021. The Rozzelles Ferry Pedscape Project is due to be completed by the end of the year, the State Street Pedestrian Improvement Plaza is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year and just two weeks ago the Council authorized the Manager to spend over \$2 million with Duke Energy for the street lighting. So, long story short, this is a great grant and we are talking about programming which means that these projects are slowly but surely coming to an end and I think it is really going to remake the lower part of the Beatties Ford Road Corridor so, I urge Council to approve this.

The vote was taken on the motion and was recorded as unanimous.

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**NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Mayor Lyles** explained the rules and procedures of the appointment process.

**ITEM NO. 17: NOMINATIONS TO THE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The following nominations were made for two appointments for partial terms beginning upon appointment and ending December 31, 2021 and one appointment for a three-year term beginning upon appointment and ending December 31, 2022:

- Jamie L. Emmanuelli, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Newton and Winston
- Robin Faison, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- Eoin Sheil, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Johnson, Watlington and Winston
- Angela Stoyanovitch, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Newton, and Watlington

- Eric Zaverl, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera
- Jim Bower, nominated by Councilmember Eiselt
- Dustin Graham, nominated by Councilmembers Graham, Newton and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to appoint Jamie L. Emmanuelli, Eoin Sheil and Angela Stoyanovitch by acclamation.

Mr. Emmanuelli, Mr. Sheil and Ms. Stoyanovitch were appointed.

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#### **ITEM NO. 18: NOMINATIONS TO THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2021:

- Mclean Godley, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton, Watlington and Winston.

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to appoint Mclean Godley by acclamation.

Mr. Godley was appointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term for an At-Large representative beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2022:

- Matthew Choiniere, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Graham, Johnson and Winston
- Shenequa Thomas, nominated by Councilmembers Newton and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to appoint Matthew Choiniere by acclamation.

Mr. Choiniere was appointed.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Latin American Chamber of Commerce beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2020, and then continuing for a three-year term beginning April 29, 2020 and ending April 28, 2023:

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2020, and then continuing for a three-year term beginning April 29, 2020 and ending April 28, 2023:

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Black Chamber of Commerce beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2020, and then continuing for a three-year term beginning April 29, 2020 and ending April 28, 2023:

- Cathay Dawkins, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton and Winston.

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Cathay Dawkins by acclamation.

Ms. Dawkins was appointed.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the Asian American Chamber of Commerce beginning upon appointment and ending April 28, 2020, and then continuing for a three-year term beginning April 29, 2020 and ending April 28, 2023:

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term recommended by the National Association of Women Business Owners beginning upon appointment and ending April 20, 2020, and then continuing for a full three-year term beginning April 21, 2020 and ending April 20, 2023.

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

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#### **ITEM NO. 19: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE BUSINESS INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term for an At-Large representative for a Prime Construction Company beginning upon appointment and ending February 28, 2021 and one appointment for a two-year term for At-Large representative for a Prime Construction Company beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2022:

- Kimberlyn Gardner, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Eiselt, Graham, Watlington and Winston
- Chyna Green, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Johnson, Newton and Winston
- Stephanie Kegley Adlerk, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton, and Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to appoint Chyna Green, and Stephanie Kegley Adlerk by acclamation.

Ms. Green and Ms. Kegley Adlerk were appointed.

The following nominations were made for two appointments for a two-year term for an At-Large representative beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2022:

- Vilma Betancourt, nominated by Councilmember Eiselt
- Edison Cassels, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Graham, Newton and Winston
- Valerie Del, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera
- Monifa Drayton, nominated by Councilmembers Johnson and Watlington
- Charithy Kimmel, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston and Eiselt
- Vernetta Mitchell, nominated by Councilmembers Graham, Johnson, Newton, Watlington and Winston



Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to appoint Edison Cassels by acclamation.

Mr. Cassels was appointed.

The remaining appointment will be considered at the next Business meeting.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a two-year term for a Carolinas Asian-American Chamber of Commerce representative beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2022:

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term for a Hispanic Contractors Association of the Carolinas representative beginning upon appointment and ending February 28, 2020, and then continuing for a two-year term beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2022:

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term for from the Metrolina Minority Contractors beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2022:

Valerie Del, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton Watlington and Winston.

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to appoint Valerie Del by acclamation.

Ms. Del was appointed.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a two-year term for a Metrolina Native American Association representative beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2022:

- Jessie Jacobs, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Johnson, Newton and Winston.

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously to appoint Jessie Jacobs by acclamation.

Mr. Jacobs was appointed.

There were no nominations made for a two-year term for a Black Chamber of Commerce representative beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2022:

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

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## **ITEM NO. 20: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE INTERNATIONAL CABINET**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term for an At-Large representative beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2020, and then a three-year term beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2023 and one appointment for a partial term for an At-Large representative beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2021:

- Renemary Dubois, nominated by Councilmember Newton
- John Euvin, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Egleston
- Clarence Gadapati, nominated by Councilmember Watlington
- Eylas Mohammed, nominated Councilmembers Johnson and Winston
- Victor Rodrigues, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera
- Sean Smith, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton and Winston
- Indira Tinsley, nominated by Councilmember Driggs

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Bokhari, and carried unanimously to appoint Sean Smith by acclamation.

Mr. Smith was appointed.

The remaining appointment will be considered at the next Business meeting.

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#### **ITEM NO. 21: NOMINATIONS TO THE CHARLOTTE TREE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

The following nominations were made for three appointments for partial terms beginning upon appointment and ending December 13, 2020; one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending December 13, 2021 and one appointment for a three-year term beginning December 12, 2019 and ending December 13, 2022:

- Kawana Davis, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton, Watlington and Winston
- Sara Gagne, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston and Newton
- Sarah Hart, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs and Newton
- Stephen Johnston, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Driggs
- Charle'on Maria Macon, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton, Watlington and Winston
- Guy McBride, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston and Newton
- Nate Negrin, nominated by Councilmember Egleston
- Chris Steude, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Driggs
- Kim Hombs nominated by Councilmember Watlington
- Jay Banks nominated by Councilmember Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to appoint Kawana Davis and Charle'on Maria Macon by acclamation.

Ms. Davis and Ms. Maria Macon were appointed.

The remaining appointments will be considered at the next Business meeting

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#### **ITEM NO. 22: NOMINATIONS TO THE CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD**

The following nominations were made for two appointments for partial terms beginning upon appointment and ending July 31, 2020 and then continuing for a full two-year term beginning August 1, 2020 and ending July 31, 2023:

- Mary Susan Cox, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera
- Brittenay Causieestko-lee, nominated by Councilmember Bokhari, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton, Watlington and Winston

- La Becky Roe, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Graham, Johnson, Newton and Watlington.
- Brigit Taylor, nominated by Councilmember Driggs, Egleston and Eiselt
- Faith Watson, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs and Egleston

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to appoint Britteny C. Lee by acclamation.

Ms. Causieestko-lee was appointed.

The remaining appointment will be considered at the next Business meeting.

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#### **ITEM NO. 23: NOMINATIONS TO THE CITIZENS TRANSIT ADVISORY GROUP**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2020, and then continuing for a full two-year term beginning July 1, 2020 and ending July 31, 2022:

- Noah Gabriel Cartagena, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton and Winston
- Sherri Thompson, nominated by Councilmember Watlington

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to appoint Noah Gabriel Cartagene by acclamation.

Mr. Cartagene was appointed.

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#### **ITEM NO. 24: NOMINATIONS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending May 15, 2021:

- Patrice Funderburg, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton and Winston
- Mark Loflin, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
- Faith Watson, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera

Motion was made by Councilmember Newton, seconded by Councilmember Bokhari, and carried unanimously to appoint Patrice Funderburg by acclamation.

Ms. Funderburg was appointed.

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#### **ITEM NO. 25: NOMINATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2021 and two appointments for partial terms beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2022:

- Alexandra Alfaro, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
- Michael Baker, nominated by Councilmembers Johnson and Watlington

- Braxton Becoats, nominated by Councilmembers Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton, Watlington and Winston
- Lucy Brown, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Newton
- Monifa Drayton, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Graham, Johnson, Newton and Watlington
- Melanie Dunston, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera
- Ericka Gibson, nominated by Councilmember Bokhari
- Annette Habacker, nominated by Councilmember Bokhari
- Renee Johnson, nominated by Councilmembers Bokhari and Winston
- Brigit Taylor, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
- Stephanie Tyson, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs and Graham

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Graham, and carried unanimously to appoint Braxton Becoats by acclamation.

Mr. Becoats was appointed.

The remaining appointments will be considered at the next Business meeting.

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#### **ITEM NO. 26: NOMINATIONS TO THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORY BOARD**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending September 21, 2021 and one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending September 21, 2022:

- Bishop Anderson, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Newton
- Stefania Arteaga, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Newton
- Tracie Campbell, nominated by Councilmember Watlington
- Shantia Coley, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
- Faith Watson, nominated by Councilmember Driggs
- Deborah Woolard, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- Barbara Wooten, nominated by Councilmember Johnson

The remaining appointments will be considered at the next Business meeting.

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#### **ITEM NO. 27: NOMINATIONS TO THE HOUSING APPEALS BOARD**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term for an At-Large representative beginning upon appointment and ending December 31, 2021:

- Michael Bridges, nominated by Councilmembers Graham and Johnson
- Clarence Gadapati, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Newton
- Stephen Johnson, nominated by Councilmember Driggs

This appointment will be considered at the next Business meeting.

The following nomination was made for one appointment for a three-year term for a City within a City Tenant member beginning upon appointment and ending December 31, 2023:

- Regina Tinsdale, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Graham and Newton

This appointment will be considered at the next Business meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 28: NOMINATIONS TO KEEP CHARLOTTE BEAUTIFUL**

The following nominations were made for two appointments for partial terms beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2021 and one appointment for a partial term beginning upon appointment and ending June 30, 2020 and then continuing for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2023:

- Linda Ditrola, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- J. Michael Haithcock, nominated by Councilmember Egleston
- Charlie Lunan, nominated by Councilmembers Driggs, Graham and Winston
- Caroline Sawyer, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Graham, Newton, Watlington and Winston
- Lilly Taylor, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Newton
- Edieberto Torres, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Driggs, Graham, Newton and Winston
- Taylor Trush, nominated by Councilmember Johnson

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to appoint Caroline Sawyer by acclamation.

Ms. Sawyer was appointed.

The remaining appointments will be considered at the next Business meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 29: NOMINATIONS TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING GRANTS FUND**

The following nominations were made for two appointments for partial terms for Non-Profit Sector representatives beginning upon appointment and ending April 15, 2020, and then continuing for two-year term beginning April 16, 2020 and ending April 15, 2022:

- Randella Davis Foster, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera and Driggs
- Yvette Ingram, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- Shannon McKnight, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Newton and Watlington
- Kyle Pierce, nominated by Councilmember Driggs

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Watlington, and carried unanimously to appoint Shannon McKnight by acclamation.

Ms. McKnight was appointed.

The remaining appointment will be considered at the next Business meeting.

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**ITEM NO. 30: NOMINATIONS TO THE PRIVATIZATION/COMPETITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The following nominations were made for two appointments for two-year terms beginning March 2, 2020 and ending March 1, 2022:

- Andwele Beatty, nominated by Councilmember Johnson
- Stephen Johnston, nominated by Councilmember Bokhari,

- James Marascio, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton, Watlington and Winston
- George White, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Newton, Watlington and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Watlington, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and carried unanimously to appoint James Marascio and George White by acclamation.

Mr. Marascio and Mr. White were appointed.

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### **NOMINATIONS TO THE TRANSIT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term in the Suburban Employer Served by Charlotte Transit category beginning upon appointment and ending January 31, 2021:

- Scott Maciver, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Bokhari, Driggs, Egleston, Graham, Johnson, Newton, Watlington and Winston

Motion was made by Councilmember Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to appoint Scott Maciver by acclamation.

Mr. Maciver was appointed.

There were no nominations made for one appointment for a partial term in the Vanpool Rider category beginning upon appointment and ending January 31, 2022:

Nominations will be kept open until the next Business meeting.

The following nomination were made for one appointment for a three-year term in the Local/Express Service Passenger category beginning February 1, 2020 and ending January 31, 2023:

- Michael Bridges, nominated by Councilmember Graham
- Noah Gabriel Cartagena, nominated by Councilmember Ajmera, Driggs, Eiselt and Johnson
- Lawrence Hillebrand, nominated by Councilmember Egleston

This appointment will be considered at the next Business meeting.

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a three-year term in the Express Service Passenger category beginning February 1, 2020 and ending January 31, 2023:

- Daniel Macrae nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Driggs and Johnson.

This appointment will be considered at the Business meeting.

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### **ITEM NO. 32: NOMINATIONS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS**

The following nominations were made for one appointment for a partial term beginning immediately and ending June 30, 2020, and then continuing for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2023:

- Deborah Dryden, nominated by Councilmembers Ajmera, Egleston, Eiselt, Graham, Johnson, Newton and Winston
- Mark Loflin, nominated by Councilmember Driggs

Motion was made by Councilmember Egleston, seconded by Councilmember Driggs, and carried unanimously to appoint Deborah Dryden by acclamation.

Ms. Dryden was appointed.

\* \* \* \* \*

### ITEM NO. 33: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL TOPICS

**Councilmember Johnson** said March is Brain Injury Awareness Month. So, we will be observing Brain Injury Awareness in the Chambers. So, I want to invite any survivors to come and be recognized or be acknowledged.

**Councilmember Winston** said some writers have so confounded society with government as to leave little or no distinction between them whereas, they are not only different but have different origin. Society is produced by our wants and government by our wickedness. The former promotes our happiness positively by uniting our affections; the latter negatively by restraining our vices. The one encourages intercourse, the other creates distinctions. The first is a patron, the last a punisher. Society in every state is a blessing but government even in its best state is but a necessary evil. In its worse state an intolerable one for when we suffer or exposed to the same miseries by our government which we might expect in a country without a government, our calamity is heightened by reflecting that we furnish the means by which we suffer. Government, like dress is the badge of lost innocence. The palaces of kings are built upon the ruins of the bowers of paradise for where the impulse is of conscious clean uniform in a resistibly obeyed man would need no other law giver, but that not being the case he finds it necessary to surrender up a part of his property to furnish means for the protection of the rest and this he is induced to do by the same prudence which in every other case advises him of two evils to choose the least. Wherefore, security being the true design and end of government it unanswerably follows that whatever form they offer peers most likely to ensure it to us with the least expense and greatest benefit is preferable to all others. That is from Common Sense by Thomas Payne, 1776.

**Councilmember Newton** said Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife, Tiffany.

**Councilmember Driggs** said I just wanted to thank Kim Oliver and Melody McCullough for the great job organizing my Town Hall on Saturday and also to the presenters, really to the point, concise, great meeting. About 150 citizens were there and we talked about Ballantyne reimagined and road projects and the 2040 Plan, so the Manager had a chance to tell that story there. Councilmember Eiselt; thank you also for joining us, a good meeting.

**Councilmember Watlington** said I just wanted to invite folks out to my Neighborhood Showcase on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Movement School. We will be there for an overview of affordable housing and the City's role in it and also some peer to peer mentoring and conversation amongst neighbors about how the use Neighborhood Services tools to innovate within their space. Your invited and there's food.

**Councilmember Bokhari** said this weekend we had a really incredible event in our own backyard in Charlotte and South End. It was E-Sports gaming competition amongst some of the world's best call of duty players. If you are not familiar with E-Sports in Charlotte I definitely encourage you to ramp-up, pay attention, get to know it because it is something that is increasingly taking over markets in the worlds and it will have an impact one way or another on Charlotte very, very soon. I just wanted to relay a quick story, so you understand Charlotte's own history in E-Sports. In 2016 for six-months we had an E-

Sports Team named Envy, Team Envy in our own back yard for six-months and those owners who were forward thinkers had a franchise that was worth about \$10 million at the time and they went around town trying to raise the capital needed to be a large scale global competitor and no-one here in Charlotte understood what E-Sports was in 2016 and they weren't able to do it. A Dallas Oil Tycoon came and gave them \$20 or \$25 million, recruited them to Dallas and under four-years that franchise is valued at over \$200 million right now. Right now, aside from seeing a great event in our own back yard, we face another amazing opportunity. The owners of our local team, The Charlotte Phoenix right now are going after a major acquisition. Many of the investors saw the event on Saturday, what it could be, and all kinds of different high profile local investors that are investing in our community, I believe the money is going to be there, I believe that the right connections in the ecosystem players are all going to be there to either make this or another acquisition of magnitude happen in the very near term and we get to have an amazing do-over by winding the clock back to what we had in front of us in 2016. So other than being aware of that, if you don't know about E-Sports in the community I definitely encourage you to ramp-up, learn about it and if you do and you're a passionate competitor/player or just a fan, take a look at the games that are out there because there is an amazing opportunity for you to build groups and coalitions in town to say we want a Call of Duty League, or a Rocket League, or a Fortnite team, or whatever those maybe because kids are getting college scholarships to play that right now. So, we want to build a pipeline and we want to hear from you and see what teams you would most like to be recruited and grown into that league. Thank you.

**Councilmember Graham** said over the weekend, on Saturday, neighborhood development sponsored their 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhood Board Retreat. It was an amazing success. Over 19 community boards were represented throughout the city and it gave the boards the opportunity to come together and plan and pick policies and procedures and goals in place for the neighborhood organizations for the balance of the year. We will be doing it again in July. If there's any neighborhood leaders that are interested in participating and bringing your board together in a really great atmosphere to plan for your neighborhood's future and/or to instill some best practices from other neighboring organizations. I would encourage you to contact neighborhood development and sign up for July of this year.

**Councilmember Egleston** said I said part of mine earlier, about the need for safety for our cyclist and pedestrians. But on a happier note; councilmember Newton and I had the chance; a few nights ago, to go and see a preview of the exhibit that is now open on Antarctic Dinosaurs at the Discovery Place. While we were there, we had a great time. Two newly discovered species from the Antarctic continent of Dinosaurs. It's a really cool exhibit. So, I encourage people if your into science as an adult or if you have young people who are, take them down to see it while it's here. It is a world-class exhibit and once again something that the Discovery Place is bringing to our city that we would not have otherwise. Thank you to them for that.

**Councilmember Eiselt** said a couple councilmembers have mentioned tonight, the tragic accident with the cyclist this past weekend and prior to that even happening, I was going to mention this on Friday, within the course of an hour I was within feet of two really bad car accidents within an hour. One where, driver decided he needed to get past the light rail arm faster than the arm. It didn't quite work, and he ripped it off. And then the other, another car was darting out into traffic and tried to turn left and went too fast and overcorrected, rolled into the median into incoming traffic. It was just really lucky that nobody was killed or hurt bad in either of those and it just makes me more aware of when we drive around Charlotte, yes, we have a lot we've got to do for infrastructures to make Charlotte a safer city for pedestrians and walkers. We're dealing with a city that was designed a log time ago that wasn't meant for that, so it's a very expensive proposition to have to make all those corrections. To make it safer, but in the meantime, the community has to help us. We have to slow down. I have to slow down and take time because we don't know who's going to jump out in front of you. It could be a child. It could be a cyclist and we have to all do our part to not run the red light just because you know none's there



and slow down at intersections and at pedestrian, crosswalks while we're trying our best to try to make this city safer for cyclist and walkers.

**Mayor Lyles** said I have two things that I wanted to mention. One of those really ties to the idea of what we are doing with mobility and transportation. Remember we talked about a 90-day what's easy to do to fix something that would make a difference. So, I like to see where we are on that. The second thing is that, we're coming up on our budget deliberations and we have a plan for a housing bond that will be on the agenda this fall. Two years ago, when we were trying to determine how to make affordable housing dollars go further, we did a lot of work and we created a housing framework. I'd like to ask our great Neighborhoods Committee to review that framework, look at an assessment, get some ideas around it, and recommend any changes that we should be making for the upcoming. I'll write all of this down and send it to you Mr. Graham. For that committee to really take a hard look at what we done on affordable housing and look at our framework to say, what is this to go and move forward and any revisions we needed. So, that will be one of the things I wanted to bring up as result of were we are to getting ready for the budget.

**Councilmember Driggs** said just a quick comment on that. I think we're way behind on NOAHs. We had an idea when we create the framework, they would be about 40% new Construction, 40% NOAHs. So, I think there's already a suggestion that were going to see how the whole program is tracking what was in that framework. But just for openers I think the NOAHs situation is one we haven't properly addressed.

Mayor Lyles said and we don't know why. It that's one of the things again, when we started out, we had lots of NOAHs saying, we went to many meetings, and people said I've got NOAHS for you and I'm not quite sure. That's why I think this idea of looking at the framework we may have thought something was practical at this point but maybe not. Looking forward to kind of a review and assessment.

Mayor Lyles said on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, the City Council held a closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statue 143.318.11 (a)(6), to consider the competence, performance, character, fitness, and conditions of appointment of an individual public officer or employee. Mainly, our City Manager, Marcus Jones. During that meeting, council considered a compensation adjustment for Mr. Jones.

Motion was made by Councilmember Ed Driggs, seconded by Councilmember Egleston, and carried unanimously to (A) approve a 6% merit base increase for the City Manager; provide up to the dollar value of a family tier coverage annually for the traditional PPO Plan – Wellness (currently labeled as PPO Plan D), dental plus, and compensation plan. This action is to be retroactive to July 1, 2019.

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## ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Newton, seconded by Councilmember Ajmera, and carried unanimously adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.



Stephanie C. Kelly, City Clerk, MMC, NCCMC

Length of Meeting: 3 Hours, 13 Minutes  
Minutes Completed: March 6, 2020